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Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

COUNCIL MEETING

7.30 pm Wednesday, 20 July 2011
Council Chamber - Town Hall

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

**Acting Assistant
Chief Executive**

**For information about the meeting please contact:
Ian Buckmaster**



Please note that this meeting will be webcast.

**Members of the public who do not wish to appear
in the webcast will be able to sit in the balcony,
which is not in camera range.**

AGENDA

1 PRAYERS

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3 MINUTES (Pages 1 - 34)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 25 May 2011 and to authorise the Mayor to sign them.

4 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Members are invited to declare any interests they may have in the business now before the Council.

Members may make a declaration at any time before the consideration of the relevant business.

5 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR, BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL OR BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

6 PETITIONS

Councillors Denis Breading, Gillian Ford, Clarence Barrett and Frederick Thompson have each given notice of an intention to present a petition.

7 CAPITAL PROGRAMME - ADJUSTMENT (Pages 35 - 36)

Note: the deadline for questions about, or amendments to, the attached report is midnight, Monday 18 July 2011

8 ANNUAL REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ETC (Pages 37 - 130)

Note: the deadline for questions about, or amendments to, any of the attached reports is midnight, Monday 18 July 2011

9 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS (Pages 131 - 136)

To consider Members' Questions, and the replies to them.

10 MOTIONS FOR DEBATE (Pages 137 - 138)

To consider the motions set out in the attached order paper.

**SUPPLEMENTARY
AGENDA**

3 MINUTES

Procedural motion on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

Page 12C, Minute 17: Motions for Debate

To give an accurate account of events, amend the last sentence in the second paragraph by adding the words in bold, so that it reads:

"Following exchanges and interventions by other Members **and an unconstitutional instruction from the Mayor ordering Councillor Jeffrey Tucker to leave the Chamber**, the Members of the Independent Residents Group then retired from the meeting".

Note – the minute would then read:

17 MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9.1(a), the Mayor announced that, in view of the time, he intended to modify the length of speeches to 5 minutes for those Members proposing a motion or amendment, and to 2 minutes for those participating in any general debate.

Councillor Jeffrey Tucker, on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group, objected to the likely effect of the Mayor's ruling on the debate of the motion concerning the Local Government Funding Formula and withdrew it. Following exchanges and interventions by other Members and an unconstitutional instruction from the Mayor ordering Councillor Jeffrey Tucker to leave the Chamber, the Members of the Independent Residents' Group then retired from the meeting.

Councillor Keith Darvill, on behalf of the Labour Group, withdrew the motion on Youth Services Cuts.

7 CAPITAL PROGRAMME - ADJUSTMENT

1. Correction

In the printed version of the agenda, the title of the report has by inadvertence been printed as "ROMFORD LEISURE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS". The correct title is as shown above.

2. Question

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.7, Councillor Clarence Barrett has submitted the following question relating to the content of this report:

Would the Leader give assurance that:

- a) Interim ice skating facilities will be made available to users, within the borders of borough, during the period of construction?
- b) Ice rink users will be fully consulted on alternative provision during the period of construction?



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING

Havering Town Hall, Romford
25 May 2011 (7.30 p.m. – 10.40p.m.)

Present: The Mayor (Councillor Pam Light) in the Chair at the start of the meeting

Councillors June Alexander, Michael Armstrong, Clarence Barrett, Robert Benham, Becky Bennett, Sandra Binion, Jeff Brace, Denis Breading, Wendy Brice-Thompson, Dennis Bull, Michael Deon Burton, Andrew Curtin, Keith Darvill, Osman Dervish, Nic Dodin, David Durant, Brian Eagling, Ted Eden, Roger Evans, Gillian Ford, Georgina Galpin, Peter Gardner, Linda Hawthorn, Lesley Kelly, Steven Kelly, , Mark Logan, Barbara Matthews, Paul McGeary, Robby Misir, Ray Morgon, Eric Munday, John Mylod, Pat Murray, Barry Oddy, Denis O'Flynn, Fred Osborne, Ron Ower, Gary Pain, Roger Ramsey, Paul Rochford, Geoffrey Starns, Billy Taylor, Barry Tebbutt, Frederick Thompson, Lynden Thorpe, Linda Trew, Jeffery Tucker, Linda Van den Hende, Melvin Wallace, Keith Wells, Damien White, Michael White and John Wood

Colonel Markham Bryant DL, Hon. Aldermen Ivor Cameron, Wilf Mills, Graham Price, Andrew Rosindell MP, Louise Sinclair and Angela Watkinson MP, John Cruddas MP and approximately 60 guests, members of public and press also attended.

The Reverend David Banting of St Peter's Church, Harold Wood 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 **MAYORALTY**

Motion on behalf of the Conservative Group (Agenda Item 3A)

That Councillor Melvin Wallace be elected Mayor for the Municipal Year 2011/12.

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

That Councillor Melvin Wallace be elected Mayor for the Municipal Year 2011/2012

Councillor Melvin Wallace, 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 his Mayoress would be **Mrs Joan Wallace**.

The Leader of the Council and other Members expressed the thanks of the Council to Councillor Pam Light for her services in 2010/11. Councillor Light suitably replied.

2 DEPUTY MAYOR - Appointment

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, the Mayor signified in writing his appointment of **Councillor Lynden Thorpe** 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 Thorpe made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office accordingly. The Mayor indicated that the Deputy Mayor's Consort for the year would be **David Thorpe**.

3 MINUTES

Council noted the following corrections to the minutes:

- In minute 79, deletion of an erroneous reference to a declaration of interest by Councillor Linda Van den Hende
- in minutes 68 and 71, Councillor Robby Misir being recorded as having declared an interest and not Councillor Billy Taylor, as shown
- the addition among the names of those present of Councillor Eric Munday

It was **RESOLVED:**

That, subject to the corrections now listed, the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 30 March 2011 be signed as a true record.

4 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR AND BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Mayor made the following announcement:

Thank you very much for electing me to be the 48th Mayor of the London Borough of Havering. You have made me very proud and I will do my utmost to uphold the proud tradition of this office and to serve the community to the best of my ability.

Having been Deputy Mayor for two years, I am reminded of what Gary Player, the South African golfer said back in 1974 when he won the British Open: “Do you know what? The more I practice, the luckier I get” – and tonight I feel very lucky!

I would like to thank both Roger Ramsey and Pam Light for all their help and consideration over the last two years when I was their Deputy. I would also like to thank my daughters and all my friends for supporting me today, and a very special welcome to Mr Barry Anderson, former Mayor the London Borough of Lewisham.

Lastly, my main charity this year will be St Francis Hospice. I will throughout my year consider other charitable organisations with a view to trying to help the lesser known.

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

5 STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Council received a Statement by the Leader of the Council (attached as **Appendix 1** to these minutes).

6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Members present named in minutes 3, 4 and 10 (the Mayoralty and various Committee Chairmanships) who were candidates for offices attracting a Special Responsibility Allowance, each declared a personal interest under paragraph 8 of the Members' Code of Conduct as they would benefit from the Members' Allowance Scheme 2011.

7 AWARDS FOR EMINENT SERVICE TO THE BOROUGH

The Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael White) proposed that the Honorary Freedom of the borough be conferred upon Mrs Joyce Leicester in recognition of her service to the borough, particularly as Secretary of the Gidea Park & District Civic Society.

Councillor Andrew Curtin seconded the proposal.

The proposal was **AGREED** by 53 votes to 0 (see voting division 1) and it was **RESOLVED**:

To confer upon Mrs Joyce Leicester the Honorary Freedom of the Borough.

The Mayor then congratulated Mrs Leicester, who was present at the meeting, and Members applauded.

Councillor Ray Morgon proposed that the Honorary Freedom of the borough be conferred upon Ms Sue Ospreay in recognition of her service to the borough as leader of the Lightning Drama Group.

The Leader of the Opposition (Councillor Clarence Barrett) seconded the proposal.

The proposal was **AGREED** by 53 votes to 0 (see division 2) and it was **RESOLVED**:

To confer upon Sue Ospreay the Honorary Freedom of the Borough.

The Mayor then congratulated Ms Ospreay, who was present at the meeting, and Members applauded.

The Leader of the Labour Group (Councillor Keith Darvill) proposed that the Honorary Freedom of the borough be conferred upon Mr Tom Horlock in recognition of his service to the borough, both as a dedicated supporter of the Labour Party and in supporting youth activity in Upminster.

Councillor Denis O'Flynn seconded the proposal.

The proposal was **AGREED** by 53 votes to 0 (see division 3) and it was **RESOLVED**:

To confer upon Tom Horlock the Honorary Freedom of the Borough.

Mr Horlock was unable to be present at the meeting and the Mayor announced that a suitable event would be held in due course to mark the conferment of the award.

8 **APPOINTING THE COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL**

There was before Council a report of the Chief Executive concerning the appointment of the Committees of the Council, and advising upon political balance issues. The report referred in particular to the consequences of the decision made at the last meeting of the Council to abolish the Partnerships Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to reconstitute the Adjudication & Review

and Appointments Committees as Sub-Committees of the Governance Committee.

The report was **AGREED** without debate or division and it was **RESOLVED**:

That:

- (1) The Committees listed in Appendix 2 to these minutes be appointed for the 2011/12 Municipal Year.**
- (2) Those Committees be appointed with:**
 - (a) the membership sizes and**
 - (b) the political balance**indicated in Appendix 2 of the report submitted and its annexes (including the note to the table in annex B) and that it be noted that this includes an increase in the size of the Governance Committee to 13 (8:2:2:1)
- (3) The voting co-optees, the two representing Church of England and Roman Catholic interests and the 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 Appendix 1 to the report be confirmed.**

9 PROCEDURAL MOTION

A procedural motion on behalf of the Administration, that the following matter, the appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees (agenda item 9) be dealt with by vote only was **AGREED** by 43 votes to 2 (see division 4) and it was **RESOLVED**:

That the following matter, the appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees (agenda item 9), be dealt with by vote only.

10 APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

A. Motion on behalf of the Administration

1. That the following Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen be appointed –

Committee	Chairman Councillor	Vice-Chairman Councillor
Audit	Georgina Galpin	Osman Dervish
Governance	Frederick Thompson	Rebecca Bennett
Pensions	Eric Munday	Damian White
Licensing (3 Vice-Chairmen)	Peter Gardner	1 Georgina Galpin 2 Linda Trew 3 Lynden Thorpe
Regulatory Services	Barry Oddy	Barry Tebbutt
Highways	Billy Taylor	Frederick Thompson
Children's & Learning Overview & Scrutiny Learning	Sandra Binion	
Environment Overview & Scrutiny	Jeff Brace	
Individuals Overview & Scrutiny	Wendy Brice-Thompson	
Towns and Communities Overview & Scrutiny	Frederick Osborne	
Value Overview & Scrutiny	Robby Misir	
Crime & Disorder Overview & Scrutiny	Ted Eden	
Health Overview & Scrutiny	Pam Light	

- 2 That the Governance Committee be delegated authority to appoint the Chairmen and the Vice-Chairmen of the Adjudication & Review and Appointments Sub-Committees

B. Amendment on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

- 1 That the following Chairman be appointed –

Committee	Chairman Councillor
Audit	Michael Deon Burton
Governance	Michael Deon Burton
Pensions	Michael Deon Burton
Licensing	Michael Deon Burton
Regulatory Services	Michael Deon Burton
Highways	Michael Deon Burton
Children & Learning Overview & Scrutiny Learning	Michael Deon Burton
Environment Overview & Scrutiny	Michael Deon Burton
Individuals Overview & Scrutiny	Michael Deon Burton
Partnerships Overview & Scrutiny	Michael Deon Burton
Towns and Communities Overview & Scrutiny	Michael Deon Burton
Value Overview & Scrutiny	Michael Deon Burton
Crime & Disorder Overview & Scrutiny	Michael Deon Burton
Health Overview & Scrutiny	Michael Deon Burton

2 Sub-Committees of the Governance Committee:

That Council appoint the Chairmen of the Adjudication & Review and Appointments Sub-Committees and that the following appointments be made accordingly:

Sub-Committee	Chairman Councillor
Adjudication & Review	Michael Deon Burton
Appointments	Michael Deon Burton

C. Amendment on behalf of the Residents' Group

- 1 Licensing Committee: one vice chairman position -
Replace Councillor Linda Trew with Councillor Brian Eagling
- 2 **Insert** following Overview & Scrutiny Committee Vice-Chairmen -

Committee	Vice-Chairman Councillor
Children & Learning	Gillian Ford
Environment	John Mylod
Individuals	Linda Van Den Hende
Towns & Communities	Linda Hawthorn
Value	Ray Morgon
Crime & Disorder	John Wood
Health	Brian Eagling

In accordance with the procedural motion (minute 9 preceding), the motion and amendments were dealt without debate.

With the consent of the Council, the nominations for appointment as Chairman set out within the Independent Residents' Group amendment (B 1 above) were **WITHDRAWN**.

The proposal within the Independent Residents' Group amendment (B 2 above), that Council retain responsibility for the appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Adjudication & Review and Appointments Sub-Committees and that the Group's nominee be appointed Chairman of those Sub-Committees, was **LOST** by 4 votes to 39 (division 5).

The Administration motion (A above), except so far as concerning the appointment of the Vice-Chairmen of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees and of one Vice-Chairmen of the Licensing Committee, was then **CARRIED** by 49 votes to 0 (division 6).

The proposed appointments set out in the Residents' Group amendment (C 2 above), other than that of the second Vice-Chairman of the Licensing Committee, were **AGREED** without division.

The Residents' Group amendment (C 1 above) relating to the appointment of second Vice-Chairman of the Licensing Committee was put to the vote. There were 32 votes for Councillor Linda Trew (Administration nominee) and 18 votes for Councillor Brian Eagling (Residents' Group nominee) (division 7). Councillor Linda Trew was duly **DECLARED ELECTED**.

It was accordingly **RESOLVED**:

1 That the following Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen be appointed:

Committee	Chairman Councillor	Vice-Chairman Councillor
Audit	Georgina Galpin	Osman Dervish
Governance	Frederick Thompson	Rebecca Bennett
Pensions	Eric Munday	Damian White
Licensing (3 Vice-Chairmen)	Peter Gardner	1 Georgina Galpin 2 Linda Trew 3 Lynden Thorpe
Regulatory Services	Barry Oddy	Barry Tebbutt
Highways Advisory	Billy Taylor	Frederick Thompson
Children's & Learning Overview & Scrutiny Learning	Sandra Binion	Gillian Ford
Environment Overview & Scrutiny	Jeff Brace	John Mylod
Individuals Overview & Scrutiny	Wendy Brice- Thompson	Linda Van Den Hende
Towns and Communities Overview & Scrutiny	Frederick Osborne	Linda Hawthorn
Value Overview & Scrutiny	Robby Misir	Ray Morgon
Crime & Disorder Overview & Scrutiny	Ted Eden	John Wood
Health Overview & Scrutiny	Pam Light	Brian Eagling

- 2 That the Governance Committee be delegated authority to appoint the Chairmen and the Vice-Chairmen of the Adjudication & Review and Appointments Sub-Committees

11 **APPOINTMENT OF THE STATUTORY LEAD MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

Motion on behalf of the Administration

That the Cabinet Member for Children & Learning be appointed Statutory Lead Member for Children's Services and Champion for the new Diploma Scheme.

The motion was **AGREED** without division, and it was **RESOLVED**:

That the Cabinet Member for Children & Learning be appointed Statutory Lead Member for Children's Services and Champion for the new Diploma Scheme.

12 **APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBER CHAMPIONS**

Motion on behalf of Administration

That the following be appointed Champions as indicated:

For Diversity	Councillor Osman Dervish
For the Over Fifties	Councillor Pam Light
For the Historic Environment	Councillor Andrew Curtin
For Standards	Councillor Wendy Brice- Thompson
For the Voluntary Sector Compact	Councillor Andrew Curtin
For Younger Persons	Councillor Garry Pain

The motion was **AGREED** without division, and it was **RESOLVED**:

That the following be appointed Champions as indicated:

For Diversity	Councillor Osman Dervish
For the Over Fifties	Councillor Pam Light
For the Historic Environment	Councillor Andrew Curtin
For Standards	Councillor Wendy Brice- Thompson
For the Voluntary Sector Compact	Councillor Andrew Curtin
For Younger Persons	Councillor Garry Pain

13 **PETITIONS**

Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 23, a petition was presented by Councillor Fred Osborne from residents of Rush Green, seeking a new bus route to run from Dagenham Civic Centre to Hornchurch Town Centre via the Tesco store at Roneo Corner.

It was noted that the petition would be passed to Committee Administration & Member Support for attention in accordance with the Petitions Scheme.

14 **DELEGATION OF POWERS TO THE NATIONAL ILLEGAL MONEY LENDING TEAM**

A report of the Governance Committee concerning action taken to deal with illegal money-lending was considered. Previously, the Council (and others) had delegated authority to Tower Hamlets Council to investigate and prosecute instances of illegal money-lending within Greater London but the arrangement had now been superseded by a national arrangement, led by Birmingham City Council.

As a matter of some urgency, the Council needed to delegate appropriate authority to the City Council and the Governance Committee had made recommendations accordingly.

The Committee's recommendations were **AGREED** without debate or division and it was **RESOLVED** that the Council:

- 1 **In pursuance of Section 101(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2000 and Regulation 7 of the Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2000, delegates to Birmingham City Council:**
 - (a) **Enforcement of Parts III and IV of the Consumer Credit Act 1974, and**
 - (b) **The enforcement functions and powers under Parts XI and XII of the Consumer Credit Act 1974, and**
 - (c) **The power of prosecution under section 222 of the Local Government Act 1972**

all in connection with money-lending or the activities of money lenders and/or their agents and associates, and the laundering of the proceeds of illegal money-lending.
- 2 **Agrees that Part 3, Section 2.3 of the Constitution (functions exercised by another authority on behalf of this authority) be amended accordingly**

- 3 **Authorises the Acting Assistant Chief Executive to agree the terms of the delegation agreement with Birmingham City Council.**
- 4 **Agrees that the Council will enter into a joint Cross Border Working Protocol with Birmingham City Council in respect of illegal money lending.**
- 5 **Notes the exercise by the Chief Executive of her powers within Part 3, Section 3.1.8 of the Council's Constitution temporarily to delegate the above powers to Birmingham City Council to allow an investigation to proceed prior to this meeting.**

15 **THE COUNCIL'S CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2011-2014**

There was before the Council a report of the Leader of the Council concerning the Council's Capital Programme 2011-2014. A question was asked in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.7 and replied to, but no amendment was proposed and the recommendations of the Leader were **ADOPTED** without debate or division. It was, accordingly, **RESOLVED:**

That the Council's Capital Programme for 2011/14 as now proposed by the Cabinet, be approved.

16 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

16 questions were asked and replies given. Following the main period for questions, as there remained time at the conclusion of ordinary business (see minute 18 following), the Mayor continued the time for questions until closure of the meeting.

The texts of those questions and their answers, together with those not asked and replied to orally, are set out in **Appendix 3 to these minutes**.

17 **MOTIONS FOR DEBATE**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9.1(a), the Mayor announced that, in view of the time, he intended to modify the length of speeches to 5 minutes for those Members proposing a motion or amendment, and to 2 minutes for those participating in any general debate.

Councillor Jeffrey Tucker, on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group, objected to the likely effect of the Mayor's ruling on the debate of the motion concerning the Local Government Funding Formula and withdrew it. Following

exchanges and interventions by other Members, the Members of the Independent Residents' Group then retired from the meeting.

Councillor Keith Davill, on behalf of the Labour Group, withdrew the motion on Youth Services Cuts.

Mayor
20 July 2011

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

**APPENDIX 1
(Minute 7)**

LEADER'S STATEMENT TO THE COUNCIL

Mr Mayor, I would like to begin by congratulating you on becoming First Citizen of the borough. I know I speak for everyone here, when I say that our best wishes go with you for your term of office as Mayor. I'm sure you will be a tremendous ambassador for Havering in the year ahead.

Mr Mayor, before I begin to deliver my annual address to Council, I wish to bring to colleagues' attention a milestone of 25 years' service to our community that Councillor Barbara Matthews has reached. Normally after 25 years a councillor would be awarded the freedom of the borough, however many of you will remember that I proposed that a couple of years ago. Therefore, tonight, I would like to mark this anniversary by having it recorded in the minutes, and by commending Cllr. Matthews for being a great ambassador for Havering. We have got you a small token of the Council's appreciation of your work (*at which point the Leader presented a bouquet to Councillor Matthews*).

Mr Mayor, if we ask ourselves in this Chamber 'why did we stand for elected office?' I think our answers would be very similar. Whatever political party we represent, we took a decision to enter into public office because of a personal sense of civic duty. A desire to make things better for local people. A hope that in some small way, we could improve Havering for the people who live here.

That desire to make improvements leads us to make new investments. Over the last few years, we have seen new libraries, improved parks, better sports facilities and a whole host of other improvements to the fabric of our towns and communities.

So far, so good.

But now the landscape has changed. As councillors returned in last year's election, we face a new challenge - the challenge of unprecedented cuts to our budget. These cuts were not of our making. The country's finances were running out of control and something had to be done to restore the balance. I agree entirely with the steps that this Government is taking. But none of us stood for elected office because we wanted to manage budget reductions, or say 'no' to new investments. I'm sure if we can agree on one thing across this chamber, it's that we wouldn't choose to be in this position. But this is the position we are in.

The people of Havering are now looking to us to make the best of this situation. They want us to make the right decisions about how to spend the money we have. They want us to invest wisely, in projects and services that have the most impact on their lives. And they want us to be sensible about the savings we have to make. They understand that savings have to be made, but they want to know that we won't slash and burn the services that they cherish; and they want to know that there is a clear rationale behind the decisions we make.

In short they expect us to behave responsibly.

Three years ago, I stood in this chamber and outlined our *Living Ambition* for Havering. It was a long term ambition to improve the quality of life for residents, built around five goals;

- to improve our environment – making our communities cleaner, greener and safer
- to provide excellent standards of education, and learning opportunities for young and old alike
- to develop thriving towns and communities,
- to look after vulnerable individuals
- and to deliver value for money to local taxpayers.

Our Living Ambition sets out what we stand for in this Administration. And I can sum that up in one word - we stand for aspiration: aspiration for our communities; for our residents; and for what we can achieve as a Council.

So we face a dilemma.

How can we build a better and brighter future for Havering - at a time when our budgets are falling so sharply?

How can we make the right decisions about saving money - and still work towards our Ambition to provide our residents with the highest possible quality of life?

In short: how can we balance responsibility on the one hand, with aspiration on the other?

I want to look first at the need for responsibility and what that means in our borough.

Last year, I spoke about the likely impact of the emergency budget that followed the general election. I said that it would take some time to evaluate the impact on Havering of the inevitable cuts in funding to councils. Since my speech to annual council last year, the scale of the funding cuts has become apparent. We calculated that this council needed to reduce its running costs by around £40 million by 2014 if we were to balance our books. We were faced with a real and immediate need to act and I am very pleased to say that we did.

While some councils dithered, we were decisive. The Cabinet and the lead officers had already set in train far-reaching changes to the way Havering does business. Changes that would make the machinery of the Council more flexible, more streamlined and crucially, cheaper to run. So last year, we were able to set out plans to reduce our running costs by £19 million and we started to deliver those plans straight away.

In July, we will announce further proposals to save millions more. The process of change is not a big bang - but rather a measured and considered effort to become the most efficient organisation we can be. Every year to 2014 and beyond, we will become more and more cost-effective, through innovation and new thinking.

That will mean we can meet our savings targets, of course. But far more importantly, it means that we will be able to deliver better and better value for money to our residents.

We will do this by becoming a fitter and more flexible organisation - one that is able to work smarter and adapt more quickly to the needs of our residents and the circumstances of the times.

Our residents expect us to meet this challenge in a responsible way and we need to be clear about what 'responsibility' looks like, at a time when difficult decisions are being made. The responsible thing to do - and the right thing to do - is to cut our running costs first, to protect frontline services where we can.

That's why we have introduced new back-office systems that eliminate paperwork and bureaucracy.

It's why every service area in the Council has reviewed its structures and costs.

And it's why we are looking at sharing some functions with other Councils - whether that's collection of business rates, shared with Barking & Dagenham, or the management of IT services, shared with Newham.

It is said, that the greatest asset of an organisation are the people that work in it - and this is definitely the case in Havering. Our staff have had to deal with a lot of change and uncertainty over the last year, but I am always incredibly impressed by the professionalism and commitment they show and the hard work that they put in for the community. Good Public Service is extremely important and is something that our officers take very seriously. I would like to pass my thanks to our staff for the work they do and to thank Cheryl and the Corporate Management Team for their efforts in managing the transformation of the council and its service delivery.

Mr Mayor, Greater efficiency is at the heart of everything we do, to squeeze every last penny of value out of taxpayer's hard-earned money. But efficiency alone won't be enough to bring down our costs. We also need to look at the way we deliver services. In the future, we will need to focus our efforts where they will do the most good.

That means protecting the most vulnerable in our society, but it also means tackling problems before they take root – whether that's in families, or in communities.

Nowhere is this focused approach to services more apparent than in adult's and children's social services – under the stewardship of Cllr Steven Kelly and Cllr Paul Rochford, respectively.

For some time, we have been developing more personalised services for vulnerable adults. We have been giving more and more older and disabled residents greater control over their care, by handing the budget over to them and providing real choice as to how they receive support and care. That's both more effective than one-size fits all services and it's also less costly, because it recognises that not everyone needs, or wants the same level of care.

I would like to tell you about Lillian and Debbie. Lillian is nearly 90 and lives in her own home. That's very important. The fact that Lillian lives in her own home is good for the taxpayer - because it's a lot less expensive than if she lived in a care home. And, more importantly, it's great for Lillian - because it means she can still enjoy her independence. Debbie works for our Telecare service. It's the work of people like Debbie in the Telecare team that allows Lillian and many more like her to remain in their own homes - but still be kept safe from harm.

A little while ago, Lillian had a fall at home and suffered severe head injuries. Thankfully, she had her telecare alarm around her neck and was able to press the button. A short while later Debbie arrived and saw to it that Lillian got to hospital. Within a few weeks, Lillian was back at home, still independent and enjoying life.

Lillian said about the incident: "I'd only had the alarm a few days when I had the fall. I didn't know what to do at first then I remembered the alarm around my neck and the next thing I knew, Debbie was here.

"She was wonderful; she took care of me and called an ambulance. I am extremely grateful to her and the Telecare Service. The alarm saved me - I won't take it off."

The work of the Telecare team is one of a number of support services we provide either directly or through the voluntary or private sector to help people stay in their own homes for longer.

That achieves two ends – it improves the quality of life for some of our more vulnerable residents and it saves taxpayers' money. It balances responsibility, with aspiration.

In children's services, we are also changing the way we deliver services. We are moving away from the provision of a single, universal service to all and instead focusing our efforts to where they will do the most good.

That means working with the young people who are most at risk. This approach is the most cost-effective one, but it will also help deliver our ambitions not just for individuals, but also for communities - and I'll return to this work later on. This change to our work with young people demonstrates how these decisions may be clearly thought through, but that does not make them easy decisions to make.

We have seen voices raised against these proposals this evening, because they will have an impact on the way we deliver youth services.

I understand people's feelings on this issue. But I would return to the theme of this speech. We must balance aspiration with responsibility.

Unless we can make some sensible and responsible savings, we will simply not have enough money to preserve - let alone improve the quality of life in Havering.

Focusing our efforts where they will do the most good – whether that's child protection or helping older residents live longer in their own homes – is one side of a balancing act. The other side is allowing local people and local communities to help themselves more and this is another thread that runs through the Council's strategy.

So we'll shortly be launching a new, more interactive website to allow people to do business with the Council at a time that suits them. Again, this cuts down on bureaucracy and costs, but it also provides a level of service from the Council that people have come to expect, at time when they can do their supermarket shopping, book a holiday or tax their car online.

It's an aspirational, as well as a responsible, new development.

So 'responsibility' means cutting our costs first, where we can.

It means helping local people to help themselves, where they can.

And it means focusing our efforts where they will do the most good – to squeeze every bit of impact, from every pound we spend.

It also means listening to our residents.

Earlier this year, we undertook a hugely successful survey, called "Your Council, Your Say". Well over 11,000 people took the time to respond – and we are very grateful to all of them. The survey was a fascinating insight into what makes Havering tick.

We wanted to know if people were satisfied with their local area. And the overwhelming majority are.

We wanted to know if residents are satisfied with our key services and they clearly are.

And we wanted to know what our residents felt should be the priorities for the Council and its partners in the years ahead.

Quite clearly, our residents place great importance on local health services – so we need to work with the local health providers to make sure Havering is well served by the NHS and other agencies.

They want to see us continue to invest in our roads and pavements.

We've invested many millions of pounds in recent years to upgrade roads and pavements, but it's a big task – made worse with every cold winter. So our investment in roads and pavements has to continue - and it will.

Crime is low in Havering. We're one of the safest boroughs in London. But the fear of crime remains a factor for some of our residents.

If people don't feel safe in their local town centre, they won't be convinced otherwise by any statistics, or by pretty graphs showing the trends in crime going down.

They need to know we are taking action to address their concerns.

That's why the Council is forging ahead with new schemes - in close partnership with the police in Havering - to tackle anti-social behaviour in our town centres.

A few weeks ago, I welcomed the Mayor of London to Romford to give his backing to some of the cutting edge work that we're doing to tackle the handful of drunken idiots that spoil a night out for others. We are ahead of the game and our work is being noticed across the Capital, because this is an issue faced by virtually all councils. Our residents can be assured that this Administration will continue to work closely with the police to make Havering even safer. And I'd like to thank Cllr Geoff Starns for the work he does driving the anti-crime agenda forward.

So I've spoken about responsibility and how we are doing our level best to make the right decisions about where to spend and how to save money in the years ahead.

There is no consensus on how to save money at a time like this. All of the decisions we take will be difficult and no decision is likely to be universally applauded.

But if we are able to demonstrate some clear principles, explain the logic behind our decisions and show local people that we are approaching this challenge responsibly – we have a very good chance of avoiding the sort of division and anger that can really damage communities.

So if that's how we can deal with these cuts responsibly and repay the trust put in us by our residents, how can we hope to deliver on our goals?

Where does aspiration belong in a time of austerity?

The root of aspiration for Havering comes from understanding what makes the borough special and making sure we don't lose sight of that, in the name of saving money. We have not simply run the rule over our services, protected those that we are legally obliged to provide and cut the rest -and nor do we intend to do that in the future. The quality of life in this borough is about more than meeting obligations.

And the quality of life in this borough is also not entirely within the gift of the Council to improve.

If we look at some of the most valued and cherished aspects of life in Havering, we see that many are not directly managed or maintained by the Council. We are often involved, either through direct support, or by providing the right encouragement to allow enterprise and community groups to flourish. But many aspects of life are part of a bigger picture involving the community, business, the voluntary sector and others.

So we see the success of the Queen's Theatre. Hugely popular with visitors and successful in retaining Arts Council funding. We see the success of the new Havering Museum – particularly in building links with schools and helping provide our children with an understanding of Havering's past. We see the many programmes in the borough that rely on volunteers – from support groups, to neighbourhood watch schemes – and we see the work of HAVCO and others in encouraging and developing more volunteers.

We see the coming together of groups of like-minded residents to work with us and with each other to develop and improve their neighbourhood through Friends of Parks groups, allotment societies, the Older People's Forum and many more.

The Prime Minister talks about the power of the Big Society – and we can see that power at work in Havering right now.

As we look to the future, we must harness that power to drive up the quality of life we enjoy still further.

Our aspiration, then, will be delivered through new partnerships with the other public bodies, the voluntary sector, the private sector and with communities and individuals across Havering.

We need to set out a new understanding with our residents about what the Council can do within the confines of its funding and what local people can do to build on the work of the borough's public bodies. Working together will be the key to our future success and to achieving our aspiration for the borough.

That aspiration is still defined by our Living Ambition and its five goals. And it will be supported by the work of this Council and ten new projects being taken forward across the term of office for this Administration.

These projects, like their predecessors in the Administration's last term are designed to develop further the quality of life for our residents and to improve the facilities available to the people of Havering – as far as we are able. The projects are managed by Cabinet colleagues and focus on either improving Havering's infrastructure, or on developing the Big Society in the borough.

So, I would like to set out how the Living Ambition goals are evolving, how they are supported by these ten projects and what that means for the communities and individuals we serve.

The **Goal for Environment** remains at the heart of our Ambition for the Borough.

Keeping our borough clean, safe and green is not only what the residents of Havering expect from their Council – but it is also probably the most fundamental thing we can do to improve the local quality of life.

Travelling around Havering should be a pleasure – so we need to keep the borough moving, keep it looking good and keep it safe. And we need to find new ways to improve still further our impressive rates of recycling and our energy efficiency. So keeping our streets, parks and open spaces clean and tidy remains a top priority, under the watchful eye of Cllr Barry Tebbutt as Cabinet Member for Environment and Cllr Andrew Curtin as the lead member for our award-winning parks.

Our partnership work with the police, meanwhile is the responsibility of our Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Cllr Starns and I've already highlighted some of the excellent partnership work that we're doing in Havering.

But our aspiration for our environment should go further than simply maintaining clean and safe streets and open spaces, within the budgets we have available. We need to work with our communities to explore how they can build on the work we deliver and have a greater say in how they would like their neighbourhoods to be maintained and kept safe.

So the first of our projects is called **Neighbourhood Responsibility**, led by Cllrs Tebbutt and Starns, and it is looking at new ways to improve the borough's street scene and safety.

We are piloting a scheme on the Briar Road Estate in Harold Hill to give residents there more of a say in how their estate is cleaned and what more can be done to improve the safety of its residents. The scheme is backed by the Home Office, through Baroness Newlove, who visited Briar Road recently to see the project for herself.

If successful, it could provide a model of how we can involve communities more in the management of their neighbourhoods.

Our **Goal for Learning** remains aspirational – we want our young people to benefit from an excellent education, and we want our older residents to have access to first class opportunities to continue their education, or learn new skills. Lifelong learning and the acquisition of new skills is going to be crucial to our local economy in future years and I'm sure we all want to see our young people given every chance of future success.

The new Government has made education reform a centrepiece of their plans and so we need to be flexible enough to support education in Havering in the most effective way. We have already seen a new Academy open in Harold Hill and other schools opt for Academy status and it is likely the future will see the shape of schooling in the borough change still further.

As a Council, we will support our young people and our schools in whatever way is most appropriate to help achieve that Goal for Learning, overseen by Cllr Paul Rochford, Cabinet Member for Children & Learning.

Our **Goal for Individuals** sets out our desire to value and enhance the lives of local people.

We will do this by getting to know and understand the needs of different groups and individuals within our borough, so that we can identify and provide the right range of services for them. We may be focussing services to where they will do the most good, but we will also make sure that we are fair to the people who most rely on us for support.

Cllr Steven Kelly is Cabinet Member for Individuals – not to mention an invaluable deputy leader - and he oversees the excellent work done by our social care team which I touched on earlier. He is also in charge of developing a new, joint information service with other providers of support from across the voluntary and charitable sector that will help people in need of support find the most appropriate service for them – even if that is not via our own social services team.

I spoke earlier about our approach to children's services, under the guidance of Cllr Paul Rochford. As part of the changes to the way we deliver care and support to young people, Paul will work alongside Cllr Lesley Kelly who spearheads the second project - called **Think Family**.

This innovative approach to working with families which include children at risk of being taken into care, or getting into trouble with the police is aimed at both preventing long term dependence on the state and also improving child safety.

The savings that can be made by preventing the need for a child to go into care or becoming involved with the youth justice system are considerable, but the social benefits of keeping families stable can be huge – not just for the family members, but also for the neighbourhoods they live in and the schools they attend. This is a responsible solution to a problem, but one that aspires to go further and make a real difference to communities across Havering.

Our **Goal for Towns & Communities** covers a lot of ground and takes in economic, social and cultural activity across the borough. We want Havering's towns and communities to be green places of culture, commerce, community and beauty of which residents will be proud. And we know that we cannot achieve this on our own.

We have high aspirations for our towns and communities, so we need to work with local people, local groups, a wide range of public and voluntary sector partners, the business community and government - at both a regional and national level. We will encourage local people to play a more active part in shaping the places where they live. We will make it easier for individuals and community groups to meet their own needs locally, by getting rid of barriers that might prevent or discourage local communities from acting for themselves.

In short, where local people are willing and able to help themselves, we will do our best to get out of the way.

And now more than ever, we need to persuade businesses and industry to locate themselves in Havering. And we must encourage the entrepreneurship and innovation that will kick-start new enterprises in the borough and build a more confident and successful local economy.

Working towards our **Goal for Towns & Communities** are a spread of services and functions of the Council overseen by several colleagues – including Cllr Andrew Curtin, Cabinet Member for Culture, Towns & Communities; Cllr Robbie Benham, Cabinet Member for Community Empowerment and Cllr Lesley Kelly, Cabinet Member for Housing.

Housing is another area of our work which is subject to changes in government policy, but it remains our aspiration that Havering residents should have access to good quality affordable housing. So we will be making full use of the government's new proposals to respond to the needs of local people - particularly in allocating and managing social housing for local families.

A number of our new projects are geared towards our goal for Towns and Communities. Three projects focus on pulling together the efforts of the Council and its partners in specific areas of the borough:

Two of these will build on previous achievements.

The Harold Hill Ambitions project, led by Cllr Steven Kelly has been transforming both the fabric of Harold Hill and also the lives of its residents. This project will continue. We can look forward to a new library and a new state-of-the-art youth centre, as well as improvements to the park and shopping centre.

One of the most satisfying aspects of the Ambitions project is the way the community has joined in and been part of the discussion about the area's future – and the next phase of the work will be reliant as ever on the support and contribution of local residents.

In the south of the borough the **Rainham Compass project** – under Cllr Mike Armstrong - has sought to bring together the efforts of the Council, Thames Gateway Development Corporation, London Development Agency and others to deliver real and lasting improvements to Rainham and South Hornchurch.

Much has been achieved and more is just around the corner. Including better access to the Marshes and the riverside, improvements to the Village and a new Tesco distribution centre that will bring nearly 1,000 new jobs to the area and underline the importance of business and enterprise in the south of the borough.

Romford now has its own project, aimed at capitalising on the town's many strengths – not least its position as major centre for retail and leisure.

Together with Councillors Benham, Tebbutt and Curtin, I will be leading the Romford project and working towards encouraging new investment in the town centre, the promotion of Romford's heritage and cultural attractions and helping to promote the town across London.

Tying together the work on developing the infrastructure of some specific towns are two new projects that build on our greatest asset – our residents.

The **Civic Pride project**, under the leadership of Cllr Benham will seek to maximise the benefit we can derive from national and local celebrations.

We all saw the great outpouring of pride in the street parties across the borough to mark the Royal Wedding - and I suspect next year's Diamond Jubilee for Her Majesty the Queen will prompt many more residents to take to the streets in this most positive of ways. Next year too sees the Olympics come to London and the Civic Pride project will look at how we can ensure that Havering benefits from the worldwide interest in the city. And the project will also oversee a number of our own events that bring our residents together and give us an opportunity to celebrate life in our corner of Greater London.

Meanwhile, Cllr Andrew Curtin leads the **Community Action** project – aimed squarely at achieving as much as we can through our partnerships with the voluntary and community sector and our efforts to encourage local residents to have a real stake in the future of their borough.

Through Cllr Curtin's project we will be able to see just how much of an appetite there is in Havering for the Big Society and how we can become a Council in the forefront of this shift of power from the state to our communities.

Value for money is the driving force behind all that we do, but two members are focused most of all on achieving our **Goal for Value**. They are Cllr Roger Ramsey, Cabinet Member for Value and Cllr Mike Armstrong, Cabinet Member for Transformation.

The challenges we face are very real and they are evolving all the time. We must ensure we are able to make the best use of new legislation, new technology and new ideas to improve our effectiveness and the value for money we offer taxpayers.

Three new projects push us on towards our Goal for value:

Open Government is a project led by Cllr Paul Rochford that will see Havering become more open and transparent. Already, we publish every invoice we pay over £500 and we list the pay of senior officers and the allowances of elected members.

In the future we will assess how we can make our decision-making even more open and accountable. The government believes that open data will lead to more and better analysis of public information, that might actually help us in our decision-making – so we will consider how greater transparency can help the council, as well as provide greater accountability to local taxpayers.

Council effectiveness – Cllr Starns' project – will consider how we can do more to put our customers – council taxpayers and their families - at the heart of our decision-making. It will consider how, in the new age of less centralised target-setting, we can ensure we meet the needs of our residents.

And finally **Future Financing** – a project overseen by Cllr Roger Ramsey will consider the impact of the changing face of local government funding. This is a more academic project than the others, but it is absolutely crucial that we understand how Havering will be affected by changes to the funding regime and how we can ensure that our borough and our residents benefit from the changes and are not penalised by them.

These projects will allow us to develop a new understanding with our residents about the role of the Council, the role of our partners and the role of the community.

If we are to succeed in our Living Ambition; and if our aspiration for Havering is to lead to real and lasting benefits for our residents, then we need a new contract with local people.

We need to show our residents exactly what they get from the council and its partners, in return for their council tax. But we also need to demonstrate that something special can happen when we work together with local people and local communities.

Together, we can do more than just provide public services – we can really improve the quality of life in Havering.

Together – even in a time of austerity – we can balance responsibility with aspiration.

Thank you.

**APPENDIX 2
(Minute 9)**

SEAT ALLOCATION

COMMITTEES		CONSERVATIVE	RESIDENTS	LABOUR	IND LOCAL RESIDENTS
Governance	13	8	2	2	1
Licensing	11	7	2	1	1
Regulatory Services	11	7	2	1	1
Highways Advisory	9	5	2	1	1
Standards	9	5	2	1	1
Pensions	7	4	1	1	1
Audit	6	4	1	1	0
Children's OSC	9	6	2	1	0
Crime & Disorder OSC	9	5	2	1	1
Towns & Communities OSC	9	5	2	1	1
Environment OSC	7	4	2	0	1
Health OSC	6	4	2	0	0
Individuals OSC	6	4	2	0	0
Value OSC	6	4	2	0	0
Total seats allocated	118	72	26	11	9

- All Groups are represented on the Governance, Highways Advisory, Licensing, Regulatory Services and Standards Committees
- Committee seats are allocated, and each Committee is balanced, as “reasonably practicably” as possible

SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE		CONSERVATIVE	RESIDENTS	LABOUR	IND LOCAL RESIDENTS
Adjudication & Review	10	6	2	1	1
Appointments	7	4	2	1	0

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Note: *All Questions were answered at the meeting, except 11, 13, 15 and 17, which, in the absence of their respective questioners, were treated as if put for written answer,*

The Questions are listed in the order in which they were taken at the meeting.

1 "YOUR COUNCIL, YOUR SAY": SATISFACTION LEVELS

To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael White)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

Is the Leader of the Council able to provide an explanation as to why in the "Your Council, Your Say" survey, the top three wards by satisfaction with their local area were Cranham, Hacton and Upminster Wards?

Answer:

I wouldn't want to second guess the good people of Cranham, Hacton and Upminster, but having looked at some statistics, there are a few reasons why they might be particularly satisfied to live where they do:

- Cranham and Hacton have the lowest crime rates in the borough
- 83% of Upminster residents said that people in their neighbourhood get on well together more than anywhere else in the borough
- Upminster and Cranham have the lowest levels of deprivation in Havering and Hacton is not far behind
- Upminster has the lowest level of child poverty in the borough
- More people in Upminster have access to a vehicle than in other wards
- Cranham and Upminster have more retired people than any other wards and, in all three wards, pensioners are more likely to own their own homes than in other wards
- Life expectancy in these wards is amongst the highest in Havering

In response to a supplementary question, the Leader of the Council referred to the 0.5% reduction in the Council Tax for 2010/11 and there being no increase in 2011/12 as other reasons for residents' satisfaction.

2 CLAMPING COMPANY

To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Jeffery Tucker

A well known South Ockendon clamping company continues to clamp local residents in Parkway, Rainham, including family members visiting the houses and flats.

Does this Council intend to take any action or can this Council advise local residents what further steps they should take when pressured to pay many hundreds of pounds and in some cases lose their cars?

Answer:

The clamping taking place in Parkway, Rainham is deplorable. The signs indicating that clamping will occur are almost inconspicuous, the amount of time before a car is clamped and towed away is minimal, and the release fees are extortionate.

This is causing misery to countless motorists. Unfortunately the clamping is taking place on private land owned by a property management company. The clamping company claims to have received authorisation from the owners and occupiers of the private flats.

Whilst the clamping is of dubious legality, there is very little the Council can do to prevent this occurring. The Council has written in the strongest of terms indicating that the clamping is unlawful. However, ultimately the owners/residents of the block of flats and any individuals who have been clamped are the best placed to take any legal action and would need to seek their own independent legal advice.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member indicated that he was unable to advise the car owners in question what further they could do.

3 BRIDGEWATER ROAD, HAROLD HILL: ROAD WIDENING

To the Cabinet Member for Community Empowerment (Councillor Robert Benham)

By Councillor Pat Murray

What is the estimated cost of the proposed widening of Bridgewater Road and how will the cost be funded?

Answer:

As part of the redevelopment of the garage site at the eastern end of Bridgewater Road, the part of the road from its junction with Montgomery Crescent is to be widened to give access to emergency vehicles and provide parking on both sides of the road. The costs are being met in full by the developers of the garage site, East Thames Housing Association. There is no requirement for the Council to contribute towards the costs of these works. East Thames are currently pricing up the works.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member confirmed that due process would be followed when the works were being planned.

4 NEW HOMES BONUS

To the Cabinet Member for Housing (Councillor Lesley Kelly)

By Councillor Barbara Matthews

Further to the £397,000 new Homes Bonus awarded to Havering for 2011/12, and in line with government guidance which states that local councillors should be involved in the expenditure plans, would the Cabinet Member set out how this process will work?

Answer:

The Council Tax setting report referred to the New Homes Bonus. Local Councillors were therefore involved in discussions around it's use. As this is non-ring fenced funding, is one-off money, and the Council still has to deliver some very significant savings over the rest of the comprehensive spending review, this money will be used to support the delivery of the rest of the savings.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member re-iterated that the money would be best used to support the savings programme.

5 CCTV CAMERAS

To the Cabinet Member for Community Safety (Councillor Geoff Starns)

By Councillor Jeffery Tucker

Is Rainham Village still in line to receive CCTV as promised by this Council and how much longer does this part of the borough have to wait before they are installed?

Answer:

The installation of CCTV into Rainham village has not previously been formally considered or agreed, and there are no formal plans for the consideration of CCTV provision in Rainham Village at this time.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member affirmed that CCTV programme had been in being for some years but the possibility of installing it in Rainham had not previously been raised. He denied that Rainham had “drawn the short straw”.

6 SPEED ENFORCEMENT CAMERA AT THE JUNCTION OF NOAK HILL ROAD, STRAIGHT ROAD, LOWER BEDFORDS ROAD AND BROXHILL ROAD

To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Denis O’Flynn

Is the Speed Enforcement Camera at the junction of Noak Hill Road, Straight Road, Lower Bedfords Road and Broxhill Road functional and if so how many drivers have been prosecuted for exceeding the speed limit during 2009 and 2010?

Answer:

Speed enforcement cameras fall outside the jurisdiction of Havering Council and are the responsibility of the Police.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member expressed doubt that the police would be willing to provide information about the operation of the camera or prosecutions etc arising from it.

7 GERPINS LANE RRC – PRODUCTION OF IDENTIFICATION

To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

In respect of the recent requirement to provide a driving licence and Council Tax bill to use the Gerpins Lane RRC, would the Cabinet Member explain:

- (a) While accepting the need to limit the use of Gerpins Lane RRC to those residing in the ELWA (East London Waste Authority) area, why no consultation was undertaken with councillors regarding the imposition of new entry requirements?
- (b) Why a permit scheme (given out free with the council tax demand) could not have been introduced, as successfully used in many other councils?
- (c) What measures are being taken to deal with the potential increase in fly-tipping?

Answer:

ELWA have provided the following response:

- a) Management of the Recycling Centres is the responsibility of the ELWA rather than the individual boroughs. As such, ELWA Members were fully consulted about the new entry requirements, and a briefing note was sent to all councillors in the individual boroughs prior to the implementation of the new rules.
- b) A permit scheme was considered. However, the driver for this change is the achievement of cost savings, and ELWA found that significant resources are required to implement, maintain and monitor a permit system.
- c) ELWA is aware of the possibility of increased fly-tipping, although anecdotal evidence from other councils that have made similar changes suggests there will not necessarily be a notable increase. The boroughs’ enforcement teams have been alerted to the changes to ensure they are prepared.

Havering has also installed covert CCTV on the roads around Gerpins Lane to catch any fly-tipping activity in that area, and ELWA will be monitoring reported fly-tips to gauge the impact of this change.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member confirmed that leaflets had been available to users of the site prior to the implementation of the change.

8 FOOTBALL PITCH CHANGING ROOMS: HOT WATER

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

By Councillor Michael Deon Burton

How many of our football pitches, as a percentage, have changing rooms with hot running water that our football clubs can use?

Answer:

The percentage of all football pitches (including mini soccer) that have changing rooms with hot running water is 28.3%

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member undertook to write to the questioner with information relating to storage facilities at changing rooms.

9 SERVICE CUTS IN EARLY YEARS AND PARENTS IN PARTNERSHIP SERVICES

To the Cabinet Member for Children & Learning (Councillor Paul Rochford)

By Councillor Paul McGearry

Will the Cabinet Member for Children & Learning make a statement about the recent reduction of 6 members of staff in the Early Years Service and 1 member of staff in the Parents in Partnership Service with particular reference to the need for parental support for children with Special Education Needs?

Answer:

The Service Manager for Early Years took responsibility for the Parents in Partnership Service (PIPs) in August 2008 following a restructure of Social Care & Learning. Nationally, PIPs and Family Information Services have become aligned over the years as a similarity exists within roles around Information, Advice and Guidance.

With the need to identify efficiency savings and with the removal of Area Based Grant (ABG) for the Choice Adviser post with effect from 1 April 2011, it was considered appropriate to implement a restructure. This strengthened the links between the two services further by fully integrating them into the renamed Foundation Years & Independent Advice Service (FYIAS).

Whilst the number of posts within the overall service has reduced (6 in total, 3 already vacant), the number of personnel providing Parents in Partnership Services has increased from 2.6 FTE to 4 FTE and primarily undertaken by:

Parent Partnership Lead Officer 1FTE
Senior Information Officer x 3 FTE

As part of the restructure consultation, parents who accessed the service were asked if they would have any particular concerns and none were noted. To conclude the restructure effectively, legal training and professional training has been provided to all staff, the new ways of working will be fully evaluated and the findings reported in spring 2012.

The service is in daily contact with parents to provide advice and support to families with children with Special Educational Needs; those parents remain satisfied with the quality of service provided.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member re-affirmed that effort was being made to provide the best possible service, having regard to the circumstances.

10 FUNDING FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE DISABILITIES

To the Cabinet Member for Individuals (Councillor Steven Kelly)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

Would the Cabinet member confirm what impact there will be on the Council, if any, as a result of the recent High Court decision made against Birmingham City Council which reduces funding to the disabled unless they were assessed as having "critical" needs?

Answer:

The full judgement in the Birmingham City Council case has not yet been published; however, it appears that the decision under challenge was an increase in the threshold for access to care services from "substantial needs" to "critical needs". The Court held that the Council had failed to have due regard to its equality duties and accordingly that decision will need to be reconsidered in the light of a lawful equality impact assessment.

In Havering there is no plan to adjust the threshold for access to care services so there is no directly comparable set of circumstances. However, the case reinforces the need for the Council to have due regard to its equality duties whenever decisions of this nature have to be taken. Equality impact assessments are already embedded in practice within the Council and these will continue to be carried out and duly considered wherever appropriate.

I would just like to emphasise that we have no plans to reduce "substantial". We are quite proud of our Social Services and we will find money to provide care for the vulnerable.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member gave assurance that the Council would consult fully on any proposals. He reminded Council that no judicial review had been granted against the Council on social care issues where consultation arrangements had been challenged.

12 PENALTY CHARGE NOTICES: APPEALS

To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Clarence Barrett

In 2010/11, 32,885 Penalty Charge notices were issued for parking offences of which 16,193 were via the CCTV enforcement vehicles and 16,692 via handheld units. Would the Cabinet Member set out the number of appeals as set out below:

	Number of appeals	Successful appeals
16,193 (CCTV)	x	y
16,692 (handheld)	x	y

Answer:

As at 31st March 2011, 464 cases were appealed to the Independent Parking and Traffic Appeals Service in 2010/2011.

As at 31st March 2011 the Independent adjudicator declined 173 appeals. The number is made up of 115 CCTV and 58 Handheld Penalty Charge Notices.

As at 31st March 2011 the Independent adjudicator upheld 107 appeals. The number is made up of 60 CCTV and 47 Handheld Penalty Charge Notices.

The remainder of the cases are waiting to be heard by the Independent adjudicator. It should be noted that some appeals heard in 2010/2011 may refer to Penalty Charge Notices issued in previous financial years.

14 CCTV ENFORCEMENT

To the Cabinet Member for Community Safety (Councillor Geoff Starns)

By Councillor Ron Ower

The Havering Council Code of Practice for the operation of CCTV Enforcement Cameras (paragraph 2.3.5) states that 'Relevant camera enforcement signs should be displayed in areas where the system operates. The signs will not define the field of view of the cameras but will advise that CCTV camera enforcement is taking place in the area.' Would the Cabinet Member confirm that this guidance is adhered to across the borough?

Answer:

This guidance is adhered to across the borough. We are not aware of any areas not covered, however, if any member is aware of any area not covered, please make it known.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member undertook to respond to the questioner on any sites identified where appropriate signage had not been provided.

16 WITHDRAWAL OF YOUTH SERVICES

To the Cabinet Member for Children & Learning (Councillor Paul Rochford)

By Councillor Gillian Ford

Would the Cabinet Member advise this Council what impact studies have been carried out prior to the proposal to withdraw 19 youth service posts, the withdrawal from Angel Way development and the reorganisation of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award service?

Answer:

The Integrated Youth Service has a target to achieve £500k of savings as part of the Havering 2014 Transformation programme. A robust Equalities and Fairness Assessment was undertaken. However the savings schedule had to be brought forward to start in 2011, to achieve immediate and extensive savings.

The result meant that the work which was scheduled for major consultations and full impact analysis was affected. However, a robust Equalities and Fairness Impact was undertaken within this round of savings.

The assessment looked at the likely impact each saving would have and what measures could be brought which took account of the following: 1. The need to reduce the universal aspects of the service in a move towards transformation of the service towards preventative work; 2. How to make the least impact on the numbers of young people likely to be affected by reductions in provision; 3. Targeting admin and officer reductions wherever possible; 4. Creating opportunity to reduce service provision by bringing in new ways of working; 4. Creating temporary funding aimed at capacity building within the voluntary youth sector to assist them in the expansion of the universal youth offer. Such measures will be assisting programmes like the Duke of Edinburgh's Award now that temporary capacity funding is likely to be made available.

18 **QUALITY OF HIGHWAY REPAIR WORKS**

To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

Would the Cabinet Member confirm what steps are taken by this Council to ensure that repairs undertaken to roads and pavements following works carried out by utility companies and Council contractors meet the relevant standard set by this authority?

Answer:

All Utilities reinstatements & works are strictly monitored and checked as per the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 & the Traffic Management Act 2004.

A criteria of 30% is set or generated for inspections on all notices via a sample inspection system, and routine inspections, 3rd party reports & investigatory inspections are extra to those already set by the Act(s).

100% of all planned maintenance works are checked to ensure the works meet the specification, and a proportion of the reactive works are checked due to the volume and nature of the works.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member reported that, in the past 12 months, there had been several instances of utilities being requested to carry out further reinstatement.

19 **COUNCIL TAX ARREARS**

To the Cabinet Member for Value (Councillor Roger Ramsey)

By Councillor Ron Ower

Would the Cabinet Member confirm the level of residential Council Tax arrears as at 1st April 2011 and what measures are in place to recover these debts?

Answer:

The total arrears outstanding at 1st April 2011 amounted to £17.6m. This is a cumulative figure and includes arrears from previous years. Furthermore we are in the upper quartile of council tax collection for London Boroughs.

With the deepening effects of the current recession, along with many authorities, the collection of Council Tax has proven to be increasingly difficult. This is coupled with the constraints placed upon the Council to the extent of the recovery action taken, as there is a growing call to avoid the use of Committal and bankruptcy as deterrents.

Additionally a number of initiatives were taken within the last couple of years to validate data within the Council tax records, primarily the removal of invalid single person discount and other fraudulent claims, which have added retrospective arrears to accounts.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member reported that he had joined a debt management board monitoring the Council's recovery of debts. A range of steps had been taken including bankruptcy and committal to prison in efforts to pursue recovery of arrears and debts. The Council was doing all it could to achieve recovery but, in current financial circumstances, it could not achieve 100% recovery.

The following Questions were not answered orally at the meeting.

11 SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAMS - REDUCTIONS

To the Cabinet Member for Community Safety (Councillor Geoff Starns)

By Councillor David Durant

There is concern that elected Police Commissioners will undermine the operational independence of the Police, but the Government say they "will be more responsive to local needs"!

In London this post would be taken by the GLA Mayor Boris Johnson who was elected on a promise to represent outer-London, but who may make cuts to the Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

If cuts are made to the Safer Neighbourhood Teams would this negate the claim that elected Police Commissioners "will be more responsive to local needs"?

Answer:

There are no moves to cut the overall numbers of Safer Neighbourhood Team staff. In February this year the London Mayor Boris Johnson announced that Safer Neighbourhood Teams are set to be protected in every borough, even in the larger wards. The Metropolitan Police are currently reviewing the deployment of Safer Neighbourhood Teams, to consider whether the question of whether their deployment in the numbers and the localities currently determined is the most effective and efficient use of resources. The results of the review have not yet been made available.

13 ONGAR WAY, SOUTH HORNCHURCH – VILLAGE GREEN APPLICATION

To the Cabinet Member for Community Empowerment (Councillor Robert Benham)

By Councillor Michael Deon Burton

Is it true that the South Hornchurch Conservatives have delivered leaflets supporting Village Green status for the land at Ongar Way and was this cleared with Councillor Michael White?

If yes, why is the Council determined to ignore Ongar Way residents who want the garages developed but the open space retained?

Answer:

Yes, a joint leaflet was delivered by the Parliamentary candidate Simon Jones and the South Hornchurch Conservative Action Team, to that effect.

The leaflet was not cleared nor written by Cllr Michael White. But was promoted by their election agent as per election rules.

With regards to the rationale behind the garage developments, I have answered this question on at least three occasions now, so will refer you back to my previous answers. Furthermore Cllr Steven Kelly, Cllr Lesley Kelly and I have spoken about this topic on several occasions outlining why we are doing this, so I shall not repeat old ground.

15 PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: ENFORCEMENT

To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael White)

By Jeffrey Tucker

There are all day Monday to Saturday parking restrictions outside the Rainham Village shops. However a Rainham resident who parked outside the shops on Bank Holiday Monday May

2nd was outraged when he received a parking ticket for doing so, because he thought Sunday rules applied on Bank Holidays. He paid the fine but felt morally cheated.

How many parking tickets were issued on Bank Holiday Monday 25th & Bank Holiday Friday 29th April and do you think penalising unsuspecting motorists on quiet days in our smaller shopping centres is a good policy?

Answer:

Traffic and Parking Control issued 109 Penalty Charge Notices on 29th April 2011 and 142 on 2nd May 2011.

Parking restrictions are by default and active 24 hours seven days a week unless signs inform otherwise.

Parking issues are present in many areas on all days and so the importance of enforcement in keeping congestion to a minimum, and maximising safety is ever present. It is not unreasonable to expect motorists to park legally and safely on all days, including Bank Holidays and / or Public Holidays

Traffic and Parking Control aim to ensure our roads are safe, traffic flows freely and our Civil Enforcement Officers enforce using common sense.

17 FUTURE OF WILL PERRIN COURT

To the Cabinet Member for Housing (Councillor Lesley Kelly)

By Councillor Jeffery Tucker

A proposal has been brought to the attention of residents for a change of use of the empty Will Perrin Court, Guysfield Drive into a hostel. In this respect, I would ask:

- (a) To bring this intention to fruition, are any consents required and, if so, what are they?
- (b) Are residents to be officially notified by the Council about this change?

Answer:

- (a) Use of the vacant sheltered housing complex Will Perrin Court as a hostel would involve a material change of use requiring planning permission. Planning permission would also be needed for any extensions to the building.

Separate consent would be needed for any physical works or alterations to the building which fall under the Building Regulations.

- (b) Should a planning application be submitted, neighbouring properties would be notified and invited to submit their written comments on the proposal.

<i>DIVISION NUMBER:</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
The Mayor [Cllr. Melvin Wallace]	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
The Deputy Mayor [Cllr. Lynden Thorpe]	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
CONSERVATIVE GROUP							
Cllr. Michael White	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Michael Armstrong	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Robert Benham	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Becky Bennett	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Sandra Binion	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Jeff Brace	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Wendy Brice-Thompson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Dennis Bull	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Andrew Curtin	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Osman Dervish	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Ted Eden	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Roger Evans	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Georgina Galpin	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Peter Gardner	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Lesley Kelly	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Steven Kelly	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Pam Light	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Robby Misir	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Eric Munday	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Barry Oddy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Frederick Osborne	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Gary Pain	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Roger Ramsey	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Paul Rochford	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Geoffrey Starns	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Billy Taylor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Barry Tebbutt	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Frederick Thompson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Linda Trew	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Keith Wells	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Cllr. Damian White	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
RESIDENTS' GROUP							
Cllr. Clarence Barrett	✓	✓	✓	○	✗	✓	✗
Cllr. June Alexander	✓	✓	✓	○	✗	✓	✗
Cllr. Nic Dodin	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
Cllr. Brian Eagling	✓	✓	✓	○	○	✓	✗
Cllr. Gillian Ford	✓	✓	✓	○	✗	✓	✗
Cllr. Linda Hawthorn	✓	✓	✓	✓	○	✓	✗
Cllr. Barbara Matthews	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
Cllr. Ray Morgon	✓	✓	✓	✓	○	✓	✗
Cllr. John Mylod	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
Cllr. Ron Ower	✓	✓	✓	○	○	✓	✗
Cllr. Linda Van den Hende	✓	✓	✓	✓	○	✓	✗
Cllr. John Wood	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
LABOUR GROUP							
Cllr. Keith Darvill	✓	✓	✓	✓	○	✓	✗
Cllr. Denis Breading	✓	✓	✓	○	○	✓	✗
Cllr. Paul McGeary	✓	✓	✓	✓	○	✓	✗
Cllr. Pat Murray	✓	✓	✓	✓	○	✓	✗
Cllr. Denis O'Flynn	✓	✓	✓	✓	○	✓	✗
INDEPENDENT LOCAL RESIDENTS' GROUP							
Cllr. Jeffery Tucker	✓	✓	✓	○	✓	○	○
Cllr. Michael Deon Burton	✓	✓	✓	○	✓	○	○
Cllr. David Durant	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	○	○
Cllr. Mark Logan	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	○	✗
TOTALS							
✓ = YES	53	53	53	43	4	49	
✗ = NO	0	0	0	2	39	0	
✓ = For Administration nominee							32
✗ = For Residents' Group nominee							18
○ = ABSTAIN/NO VOTE	1	1	1	9	11	5	4
ID = DECLARATION OF INTEREST/NO VOTE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
A = ABSENT FROM MEETING	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	54	54	54	54	54	54	54

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CABINET

CAPITAL PROGRAMME - ADJUSTMENT

At its meeting on 15 June, Cabinet considered reports on the issues relating to the in principle proposal to sell the Rom Valley Way ice rink site to a retail developer and to consider the proposed allocation of the capital receipt to the building of a new leisure centre in Romford Town Centre. Cabinet approved the proposal, subject to Council approving the addition of this scheme to the capital budget in July 2011.

To enable officers to continue to develop detailed proposals, and to proceed in line with the decisions of Cabinet, approval needs to be sought from Council for the addition of the Romford Leisure development project to its capital programme.

Council is asked to approve the addition of the following to the Council's capital programme:

- an additional scheme for the Romford Leisure development with an estimated spend budget of £24.774m
- associated funding for this scheme from a combination of capital receipts and application of funds from the Strategic Reserve, totalling £22.7m
- application of further funds of around £2m from within the Corporate Transformation Fund and/or the Corporate Contingency Fund, or from the use of prudential borrowing, to bridge the funding gap.

The financial arrangements required to deliver the scheme would be overseen by the Group Director Finance & Commerce, and approved by the Leader and the relevant Lead Members.

Recommendation

Cabinet recommends that Council amends the Council's Capital Programme to include:

- **an additional scheme for the Romford Leisure development with an estimated spend budget of £24.774m**
- **associated funding for this scheme from a combination of capital receipts and application of funds from the Strategic Reserve, totalling £22.7m**

Council, 20 July 2011

- application of further funds of around £2m from within the Corporate Transformation Fund and/or the Corporate Contingency Fund, or from the use of prudential borrowing, to bridge the funding gap.



ANNUAL REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ETC

Council is invited to receive the following Annual Reports:

Children & Learning Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Crime & Disorder Committee

Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Individuals Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Towns & Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Value Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Audit Committee

Pensions Committee

Member Champion for Standards (on behalf of the Standards Committee)

Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education

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CHILDREN & LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

SUMMARY

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

It is planned for this report to stand as a public record of achievement for the year and enable Members and others to note the Committee's activities and performance.

The Annual Report of the Corporate Parenting Panel is included at the conclusion of this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council note the 2010/11 Annual Report of the **Children & Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee**.

That Council note the 2010/11 Annual Report of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

REPORT DETAILS

During the year under review, the Committee met on 8 occasions and dealt with the following issues:

1. SCRUTINY TOPIC GROUPS.

1.1 LEARNING VILLAGE

1.1.1 At its meeting on 16 February 2011, the Committee considered the final report of the Learning Village Topic Group; the work of which had

Council, 20 July 2011

transferred from the previous Council as part of the Committee's predecessor, the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

- 1.1.2 The Group had been formed in 2009 to monitor and review the process of Kingswood School becoming the Draper's Academy. The Topic Group, in the course of its work, sought to investigate best practice and made numerous visits, spoke to various stakeholders and presented a number of recommendations for the Committee's approval.
- 1.1.3 The Group's recommendations were for consideration by the Drapers' Academy Governing Body and/or Council officers and therefore they were not submitted to Cabinet. One recommendation, regarding a visit by the Topic Group to the Academy during and after construction is currently being organised and it is expected that the first of these visits will take place before the summer holidays.

1.2 CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN

- 1.2.1 This Group is an open Topic Group, meetings of which all members of the Committee are welcome and encouraged to attend, however, the core group of members comprises: Councillors Sandra Binion (Chairman), Wendy Brice-Thompson, Robby Misir, Garry Pain, Billy Taylor and co-opted member Anne Ling.
- 1.2.2 The Group was formed at the Committee's meeting on 11 November 2010 and has met on three occasions during the Municipal Year to scrutinise Havering's Children & Young People's Plan, which has been under development, led by Havering's Children's Trust.
- 1.2.3 The Group has met with officers from Social Care & Learning, including the Assistant Director (Commissioning) to discuss the formation of the Plan and the consultation process. The Group identified one theme (of the three in the Plan) that it would like to explore in the greater detail ("Breaking Negative Cycles").
- 1.2.4 A further meeting was held with the Service Manager, Prevention and Intervention to examine key services in greater depth, namely the Intensive Family Intervention Service and the role of the Fathers' Officer. Arising from this meeting the Group identified a number of areas that it would like to pursue further, including planned visits to Children's Centres to gain a greater understanding of their role in prevention and intervention.
- 1.2.5 The Group's work is ongoing.

2. REQUISITIONS

Council, 20 July 2011

- 2.1 The Committee held a special meeting on 14 March 2011 to consider two requisitions of executive decisions regarding the Integrated Youth Service.
- 2.2 The first decision concerned the closure of school based youth facilities, which would affect three sites in the borough. The second decision concerned the withdrawal of funding for the re-provisioning of the Angel Way development to accommodate the youth facilities previously at Century Youth House (which in turn was being transferred for the use of the Pupil Referral Unit).
- 2.3 After a detailed debate, members were informed that the move away from fixed based services would enable greater flexibility and nuance in service delivery through a street-based provision. Also, the Council planned to establish an (as yet unspecified) sum of money to encourage and enable the voluntary sector to take over the running of some youth services. Members were also reassured that there would be no anti-social behaviour implications as a result of the changes.
- 2.4 The Committee voted not to uphold the requisitions by 9 votes to 1 with 2 abstentions in respect of the first decision and by 7 votes to 3 with 2 abstentions in respect of the second decision.

3. ADMISSIONS REPORT

- 3.1 At its September meeting, the Committee considered a report from the Manager of Additional Education Needs regarding the statutory provisions underpinning school admissions.
- 3.2 The Committee considered the statutory framework underpinning the school admissions process, noting the role of the Admissions Forum and the School Admissions Code in ensuring that the admission arrangements of all schools in the borough were fair and equitable. The Committee was also informed about the role of community, foundation, voluntary-aided and academy schools in relation to the admissions team.
- 3.3 Particular attention was given to the security of the system and its propensity for abuse by those wishing for their child to go to a certain school. Officers informed the Committee that the admissions team was rigorous in ensuring that fake addresses did not allow certain people an unfair advantage and that council tax records were used where possible.
- 3.4 When considering the impact of future school place pressure, particularly in areas such as Harold Hill, the Committee was informed that an extra 1000 places would be needed in the coming years. This problem was exacerbated by the fact that the number of secondary schools in the area had decreased dramatically. Officers stated that a long-term strategic planning report was being prepared which would address issues of future

school places as well as the broader question of community infrastructure to accommodate an increased population.

4. SOCIAL CARE & LEARNING ANNUAL COMPLAINTS/COMPLIMENTS REPORT

4.1 At its meeting in September 2010, the Committee received a report, presented by the Head of Children & Young People's Services, regarding the complaints received by Children and Young People's Services in the previous council year.

4.2 The report outlined information around the numbers and types of complaints handled by Children & Young People's Services and how they dealt with these to minimise the impact of justifiable concerns and to reduce the likelihood of future complaints.

4.3 The Committee noted that the overall number of complaints was around 120 (37 matters raised by MPs and Councillors), which was relatively low given the nature of the services involved and against a backdrop of a significant increase in referrals to social care in 2009/10. In addition, the Pre-Stage 1 process (45 matters raised) had been very successful in resolving many initial concerns, with both more handled through that process and with none moving from that stage to the formal stage 1 process.

4.4 Members were pleased that the overall number of Stage 1 complaints had decreased from the previous year by 15. Members felt that this reflected the proactive work that had been carried out in dealing with Pre Stage 1 complaints: 32% of Stage 1 complaints were upheld. However, the Committee was concerned that compliments were not captured consistently, but in some areas they were received to quite high levels. Members noted that compliments usually related to a specific event or service dimension, but wished for more work to ensure that all were captured and reported.

5. SCHOOL ADMISSION APPEALS

5.1 At its meeting in November 2010, the Committee considered a report from the Committee Administration Manager regarding the administration of the statutory provisions underpinning the process by which parents could appeal against decisions relating to the admission or permanent exclusion of children from school.

5.2 The Committee noted that each year the Council, as Local Authority for education purposes, arranged for the admission of children to schools in the borough, the vast majority of which were dealt with to parents' satisfaction. In Havering, the appeal processes were managed by

- Committee Administration in Legal & Democratic Services. This arrangement had applied since the appeal system was set up in 1982. All Committee staff were trained to be Appeal Panel clerks and administrative support staff played an essential role in preparing for, delivering and following up appeals.
- 5.3 In relation to admission, although the parents' right was often loosely referred to as being the exercise of "choice", it was in fact no more than the right to express a "preference" and, as such, the Admission Authority (the LA for Community Schools, the Governors for Voluntary Aided and Foundation Schools) were entitled to refuse admission if to do so would cause "prejudice to the provision of efficient education or use of resources". This meant, in practice, that once the School had admitted children up to its declared Admission Number, it could only admit more if directed to do so by the Local Authority under its Fair Access Protocol (generally in relation to children who are being Looked After by a Local Authority, or who require a managed move on disciplinary grounds) or by an Appeal Panel allowing an appeal. Admission to Infant Classes (years Reception, 1 and 2) was further restricted by the statutory limitation of Infant Class sizes to 30 pupils.
- 5.5 The Committee further considered various statistical data relating to the number of appeals heard in Havering. The Committee noted the fluctuating numbers and considered the various reasons as to why this would happen. The Committee noted that a total of 707 appeals had been received, but only 398 of those had gone to a full hearing.
- 5.6 Members asked questions relating to the cost of the appeals process, to the Council. The Committee was informed that as of 1 April 2011 Havering would receive £93,000 from the Dedicated Schools Grant to administer the appeals process in the borough. The average cost of an appeal leading up to the point of a hearing was around £110, whilst another £50 pounds would be added to this total after the hearing.
- 6. 14-19 LEARNING PATHWAYS**
- 6.1 At its meeting in November 2010, the Committee received a report, presented by the 14-19 Strategy Manager, regarding the commissioning and delivery of 14-19 Learning Pathways since the functions were assimilated by local authorities after the abolition of Learning and Skills Councils.
- 6.2 The Committee noted that the Coalition Government was proposing further changes to education, which could affect 14-19 services and commissioning. The Committee noted that The Local Government Association (LGA) was involved in key discussions with ministers on the issue; the main mechanism for taking these discussions forward was the

Ministerial Advisory Group (MAG) which was convened by Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Education. The MAG comprised ministers, leading councillors representing the LGA and individual local councils, representatives of the Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS), the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives, school and academy representatives. The MAG's role was to advise the Secretary of State on how the role of Local Authorities might need to change in the light of the government's programme of reform and the current economic climate. It covered the whole age range of 0-19 and would input to the education white paper (currently expected on 1 November). This meant that there would not be a replacement for the National Commissioning Framework until the white paper was issued.

- 6.3 Locally, work was continuing to develop local commissioning statements and 14-19 strategy and the LGA and YPLA have both confirmed that it was crucial that this continues, despite the withdrawal of the National Commissioning Framework and the national policy uncertainty. Local Authorities continued to have a legal duty to secure provision and should continue to work towards this. Havering continued to build positive relationships with local providers, including through the 14-19 Partnership and those relationships would remain fundamentally important.
- 6.4 The Committee acknowledged the background to the 14-19 pathways at Havering. The Local Authority had never had a full 14-19 team, operating for years through various secondments and short-term consultancy support with no-one on core staffing budget. The Local Authority had however benefited from the recent appointment of a 14-19 Commissioning Officer (Dedicated School Grant funded) to support employer engagement, a secondment from Havering College of Further and Higher Education as a Diploma Lead Assessor (DfE Grant funded) and the 14-19 Senior Inspector in HIAS (which was core funded). The current focus for this last role was quality assurance, inspection and developmental support as undertaken under the auspices of HIAS.

7. BUDGET SCRUTINY

- 7.1 In both August 2010 and January 2011, the Committee met jointly with the other Overview and Scrutiny Committees in order to scrutinise aspects of the Council's proposed budget for the coming year. The meetings scrutinised several issues of relevance to this Committee.

8. SCHOOL'S PERFORMANCE

- 8.1 The Committee received a report from the Principal Inspector of Havering's Inspection & Advisory Service (HIAS) for schools, on the performance improvements in primary and secondary schools supported by the service.

- 8.2 The Committee noted that the core purpose of HIAS was to challenge and support all schools to improve. Overall attainment at all Key Stages in 2010 remained above the national average for each of the main national attainment measures in each Key Stage and was higher than the performance of Havering's statistical neighbours.
- 8.3 There was a particularly pleasing improvement in Key Stage 4, where Havering's improvement was greater than that of other local authorities and using the measure 5+A*-C GCSE grades with English and maths Havering was performing within the top 20% of all 150 Local Authorities for the first time for four years. In Key Stage 1 Havering's performance in reading, writing and maths remained within the top 20% of all Local Authorities. During 2009-10 primary and secondary schools receiving support improved in all cases more quickly than those schools not in receipt of support. Improvements were particularly significant in supported secondary schools.

9. EDUCATION COMPLAINTS

- 9.1 The Committee considered a report providing information regarding the numbers and types of complaints handled by the Learning and Achievement Department and Schools for the Future during 2010 and how they were dealt with to minimise the impact of justifiable concerns and to reduce the likelihood of future complaints.
- 9.2 The Committee noted that the Council currently had a corporate complaints model that captured non-social care complaints, principally education, and Children's Services activity. Attached to that are separate regulated processes, for the Children's Social Care and Adult Social Care Service (including health aspects). These complaints systems are statutory and have separate defined and differing regulated processes. A review was currently assessing how the current arrangements could be more effectively structured and managed for the future within the Social Care and Learning Directorate. There was an intention to explore the possibility of a more comprehensive single reporting process for the directorate.
- 9.3 Members noted the number of enquiries received from MPs and councillors and officers explained that a large proportion of these related to letters responding to refused school places. Often parents would go to elected members seeking support for their application/appeal for a school place. Members wished to see a briefing take place for all members on the school admissions process to assist them in supporting constituents.
- 9.4 On 10 March 2010, a briefing was organised for all councillors at the invitation of the Chairman of the Committee. The briefing sought to explain

to members the school admissions process so as to better equip councillors with the knowledge and expertise with which to assist their constituents.

10. CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT

- 10.1 The Committee received a report, presented by the Service Manager of the Foundation Years & Independent Advice Service, regarding the borough's second Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, which was required to be completed and published by April 2011.
- 10.2 The Committee noted that under Section 6 (1) of the Childcare Act 2006, local authorities have a duty to ensure that there is sufficient childcare in their areas. The findings from the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) would enable the Local Authority to draw up an Action Plan aiming to narrow the gaps in childcare provision as highlighted. The LA, in line with good practice had produced annual reviews of its first CSA and made these available to the public to clearly show that priorities were being met. Havering's reviews were published in April 2009 and in April 2010.
- 10.3 Members were gratified that the LA was meeting its sufficiency duty as the availability of childcare on a Borough wide basis continues to outstrip the number of 3 and 4 year olds in Havering.

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

ANNUAL REPORT 2010/2011

SUMMARY

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

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

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

REPORT DETAILS

- 1.1 Since the Panel's previous Annual Report, there had been both a Local and General Election, which had in turn led to changes in the membership of its parent body, the Children & Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee, including a new Chairman. This has resulted in new membership of the Panel and consequently its early work was concerned with building an understanding of the Panel's role and responsibilities as well as the wider care system.
- 1.2 The Corporate Parenting Panel met 4 times throughout the Municipal year, and made two visits, firstly to the Leaving Care Club to talk to those who had left or who were about to leave care and secondly to the Children in Care Council. Some members of the Panel also made visits on the Panel's behalf to the accommodation of a number of children in care to scrutinise the standard of provision. The Panel's visit resulted in some of the young people being re-housed in more suitable accommodation, as well as a review of the service provided by some of the Council's contractors. A member of the Panel also made a visit to a Corporate Parenting Conference and highlighted a number of important matters for the Panel's consideration.

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- 1.2 At its meeting in September 2010, the Panel met with officers from Social Care to consider and be advised and the roles and responsibilities of the Panel, noting that all councils, and particularly all elected members, carried responsibility for ensuring good outcomes for children looked after by their authority. They [members] were required to consider whether the standard of care provided would be good enough for their own children and, if not, to take steps to improve it. The Panel was informed that their role applied to all children defined legally as “looked after”, which a legal term was created by the Children’s Act 1989 to describe all children in the care of the local authority. The Panel also considered the various reasons why children were taken into care as well as the various legal sub-categories by which a child was in care.
- 1.3 At its meeting in November 2010, the Panel met with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Havering Foster Carers’ Association to discuss their work and the quality of foster care in the borough, as well as satisfaction amongst the foster carers. Members were keen to establish the difficulties and challenges faced by social workers. The foster carers responded by talking of arranging normal necessities such as doctors appointments and school day trips could be difficult. This was particularly the case when the parent of the child was still the legal guardian. Where the LA had care of the child then this process was easier. Carers would often place children under their own doctor, for ease and for emergencies approval was not required. Members were informed that pocket money for children would come out of the Carers Allowance. Child Benefit money would stop once the child was placed in care, though the parent would receive the payment for six weeks after the child had been placed. Most children in care were eligible for the Education Maintenance Allowance (this has since been abolished and replaced by a £180 million bursary scheme).
- 1.4 In January 2011, the Panel attended a visit to a group of care leavers, who formed a voluntary group comprised of young people who have left or who are about to leave care. The group would meet every so often at the Council’s Midland House. Members discussed with the young people their concerns and the positive things about the care system in Havering, as well as their individual aspirations and how the Council could help them to achieve it. There was also some discussion of the accommodation provided for the young people leaving care in independent living, whether in shared accommodation or supported lodgings; many experiences of the accommodation was negative. Many stated that the hostels provided were of better quality; there was a consensus that the shared lodgings were not up to standard, and examples included broken windows, broken locks, blocked toilets, broken front and rear doors; as well as the accommodation being situated in areas with high-levels of crime and deprivation. In one case the young person lived in a flat that was so small that it could only fit a double bed. The debate was wide-ranging and whilst many expressed an extremely negative view of the care services; it was also clear that

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- each young person's experience of the care system was unique. There was some extreme polarisation in terms of the general view of the care system which seemed to vary significantly depending upon age. The older amongst them seemed to have a more positive attitude to the care service than the younger
- 1.5 At its meeting in March 2011, the Panel met with a representative from the Council's Housing Department to discuss the allocation of houses to young people, particularly in light of issues arising from the members' visit to the Leaving Care Club. The Private Sector Leasing (PSL) Scheme had been operating for over six years and had built up a portfolio of 820 good quality properties to meet ongoing demand from groups in high housing need such as Young People Leaving Care. Under the scheme, properties were leased from private landlords across the borough for a period of three to five years and then let to the new tenants on a non-secure council tenancy. The Council managed the properties and the tenants were required to comply with conditions of their tenancy which were broadly the same as tenancies for council-owned accommodation. The Panel noted that in March 2010, a Service Level Agreement was made between the Housing Service and the Leaving Care Team that the PSL Scheme would accommodate all Young People Leaving Care, with certain exceptions. The Panel was informed that so far, the PSL Scheme had accommodated 22 Young People Leaving Care and there was currently a further 13 clients that had been referred to the scheme and were awaiting accommodation.
- 1.6 Also at its March meeting, the Panel met with Havering's Virtual Head Teacher to consider his annual report for the last year. The role of the Virtual Head Teacher was described as providing support to schools and social workers to narrow the attainment gap between LAC and their peers, which was typically pronounced. Designated Teachers also oversaw the Personal Education Plan for every LAC in their respective schools. Personal Education Plans were documents which highlighted the primary needs for each LAC in terms of their education and learning. The PEP commenced at foundation state (age 5) and ran through to GCSE. The PEP needed to track attainment and was added to every 20 days. The Virtual Head Teacher oversaw each PEP. The process for reviewing the PEPS was underway, though only 50 of the 160 PEPs had been received. The Panel noted the various achievements and areas targeted for improvement.
- 1.7 Towards the end of March 2011, the Panel attended a meeting, by invitation, to Havering's Children in Care Council where members participated in a discussion with young people about the Panel's role and responded to a series of questions and requests made by the young people.

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- 1.8 Throughout the year, the Panel received statistical data on children in care. The information provided included information on the number of children in care; and the patterns of fluctuating numbers, the ethnicity, care status and age-ranges of the children in care. The purpose of the data was to allow members to judge how effectively the service was providing for the looked after children in the borough.



CRIME AND DISORDER COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT, 2010/11

During the year under review, we have met as a Committee on 4 occasions (including 1 special meeting) and dealt with the following issues.

1. TOPIC GROUPS

1. After its initial meeting the Youth Crime Topic Group, the membership of which are Councillors Rebecca Bennett, Georgina Galpin, Linda Van den Hende, Melvin Wallace and John Wood, agreed that it would concentrate on anti-social behaviour in young people and the work of the Council and its partners in preventing young people progressing from ASB to youth crime. It has met on three occasions receiving reports from the Community Safety Service, Youth Offending Service and the Integrated Youth Service.
2. The Topic Group has also received written reports from the London Fire Brigade and Metropolitan Police concerning their work with young offenders, and agreed arrangements to progress its work into the new Council year.

2. INTRODUCTION TO OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY AND THE SPECIFIC POWERS RELATING TO CRIME AND DISORDER

1. **At its meeting in July 2010, the Committee received an introduction to Overview and Scrutiny, including the work and function of topic groups, the requisition process and the Committee's role in budget scrutiny.**
2. **The Community Safety Manager delivered a presentation which explained the make up of the Havering Community Safety Partnership, whose work the Community could scrutinise. In agreeing the work plan for the year the Committee decided to invite each of the 'responsible authorities' to meetings to explain their role in the Community Safety Partnership.**

3. DISPOSAL OF FORMER POLICE STATIONS

1. The Committee were advised of proposals for the disposal of the former Collier Row, Rainham, Upminster and Harold Hill Police Stations. The Borough Commander had explained that all assets were owned by the

Metropolitan Police Authority and they had carried out an assessment which had indicated that these former police stations were under-used; they had, therefore, engaged a consultant to carry out consultations on the proposed disposal.

2. Concern was expressed at the disposal of the stations at Collier Row and Harold Hill. The Borough Commander explained the rationale behind the decision not to have a front counter service at the Safer Neighbourhood offices. If a counter service was provided this would need to be manned thereby reducing the number of officers on the street. The way the Safer Neighbourhood Teams worked ensured the public had easy access to the police.

4. POLICING IN THE 21ST CENTURY

1. The Committee received a report from the Community Safety Manager, Metropolitan Police Authority and the Borough Commander on the Home Office consultation. Having considered the reports the Committee agreed that the council's response should be included as part of the joint response submitted on behalf of the Havering Community Safety Partnership.

5. INTEGRATED OFFENDER MANAGEMENT

1. The Committee received a report from the Assistant Chief Officer, London Probation Service on the work of the Barking/Dagenham and Havering Local Delivery Unit and more specifically his work as Chairman of the Integrated Offender Management Group of the Havering Community Safety Partnership.
2. The Committee noted that 1% of the two boroughs' population was being dealt with by the Probation Service. Under the terms of the Community Payback Scheme over 78,000 hours of unpaid work had been carried out by people on probation in the last 12 months.

6. LICENSING ISSUES

1. The Committee received a report from the Licensing and Health & Safety Manager on the work of the Licensing Team and how it impacted on crime & disorder in the borough. The report also sought the Committee's views on the proposed changes to the Statement of Licensing Policy. Key issues for the Committee were:
 - The introduction of times when regulated activities would normally be permitted:
 - Until 11.30 pm in residential areas,
 - Until 00.30 am in mixed use areas, and
 - No limit in leisure areas.

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- The introduction of a saturation policy for St Andrews ward because of the effect of the number of licensed premises in that ward on crime and disorder
 - The introduction of a saturation policy for Romford, within the ring road, because of the affect of the number of late night venues on crime and disorder.
2. The Committee also considered the consultation document 'Rebalancing the Licensing Act,' issued by the Home Office. It was intended that these proposals would be introduced by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill. The key points in the consultation paper were:
- The presumption to grant licenses would be removed and replaced with local authorities and the police being able to respond to residents' concerns.
 - The cost of licensing would be reflected in fees and an additional charge to be levied for late night premises to help pay for policing.
 - More sanctions against premises selling alcohol to children, and
 - Banning the sale of alcohol below cost.

7. METROPOLITAN POLICE

1. On the 12 October 2010, the Borough Commander, Chief Superintendent Mike Smith delivered a presentation on policing in the borough. He talked about the challenges being faced by the police as a result of budget reductions in April and during the year and the discussions regarding the most efficient use of resources being held centrally. One of the options being discussed was brigading i.e. sharing resources across borough boundaries.

8. SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES FUND SPEND 2010-11

1. Throughout the year the Committee have scrutinised the way in which the Havering Community Safety Partnership had allocated the money designated for the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund. It looked at how the fund was allocated across the five themes identified as priorities by the Community Safety Partnership and how the limited amount of capital expenditure had been allocated to develop projects which fell within one of the following areas:
- Designing out crime
 - Addressing environmental crime
 - The purchase of technical equipment to address one of the priority themes identified in the Community Safety Plan.

9. COMMUNITY SAFETY EXTERNAL GRANT FUNDING 2009-10

The Committee reviewed the amount of external funding raised by the

Community Safety Section to help deliver key programmes in 2009-10. It was reported that approximately £320,000 of external funding had been raised. An update on the key projects was provided which included:

- The Vigilance Programme
- Counter Terrorism
- Beacon
- Nightlife awards
- Community Network TV
- Action Havering Campaign, and
- Romfest.

10. LONDON FIRE AND EMERGENCY PLANNING AUTHORITY

1. On 11th January 2011, Trevor Meers, Borough Commander delivered a presentation on the work of the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority in the borough. The Committee was informed that the borough was served by four fire stations following the opening of the new fire station in Harold Hill last year.
2. The Committee noted the different projects delivered under the auspices of the Community Safety Partnership especially the Life and Drive Safe, Stay Alive programmes. The Borough Commander advised the Committee of the latest financial position which was a 25% cut in the formula grant which represented 50% of the Brigade's funding. Additional cuts would occur in the 3rd and 4th years. Redundancy amongst front line staff was not, however, anticipated.
3. The Committee were advised that new Life Saving Equipment had been rolled out to Havering's fire stations. This would be carried on all fire engines and staff was fully trained in its use and were required to regularly re-qualify. The equipment was for use where the fire service were the first emergency service to arrive on the scene and could also be administered to fire fighters who may need emergency treatment themselves. It was not intended as a replacement to the provision by the London Ambulance Service, but as a supplement to their provision.

11. MET VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME

1. The Communications and Volunteer Programme Manager, Metropolitan Police attended the Committee to discuss the role played by volunteers in the Metropolitan Police. In 2010 volunteers had gifted 8,000 hours to Havering Police. They had assisted in CID operations, at community events, putting packs together, role plays and within office based roles throughout the borough.

12. YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE

1. The Committee received a report from the Havering YOS Service Manager outlining the work of the Youth Offending Service. The service was a multi-agency service which had the twin aims of:
 - Preventing offending (or re-offending) by children and young people
 - The welfare of the child or young person.
2. The report detailed the work of the two teams which comprise the youth Offending Team, i.e.
 - The Youth Inclusion and Support Panel Team
 - Youth Offending Team.

Concern was expressed at funding issues in the future. The ring fencing for Youth Offending had been removed and the Comprehensive Spending Review forecast reduced funding.

13. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

1. The Committee received a report and presentation on the Partnerships approach to tackling Anti-Social Behaviour. Hot spots in the borough included Collier Row, Harold Hill, Romford Town Centre, Durham Avenue, Hornchurch Town Centre, Elm Park Town Centre and Rainham Town Centre. In response to identified hotspots Problem Oriented Partnerships (POPS) were established to tackle specific issues. Membership of the POPS varied according to the issues to be tackled.
2. The Right Honourable Baroness Newlove, Champion for Active Safer Communities had chosen one of the partnership projects in Briar Road for funding and had visited the project on at least two occasions.

14. SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAMS – CONSULTATION

1. The Metropolitan Police had launched a consultation on the future of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams. The Committee discussed the issue at length and agreed that the Chairman should submit a response on behalf of the Committee and urged all members to submit their own individual responses.
2. The Committee expressed their strong support for the retention of the electoral ward basis of the safer neighbourhood teams. They were however convinced of the need for operational flexibility in deployment, although they would wish to see the retention of a minimum presence in each ward. The Committee also sympathised with the need to better employ sergeants by enabling them to manage two teams, making better use of this valuable resource.

15. METROPOLITAN POLICE AUTHORITY (MPA)

1. Natasha Plummer, Engagement and Partnerships Manager delivered a presentation on the role of the Metropolitan Police Authority and their expectations for the future.
2. Under existing arrangements the Mayor of London delegates the Chair of the MPA to the Deputy Mayor for Policing. Under the new proposed arrangements The Mayor will become Police and Crime Commissioner and be supported by the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime.
3. The GLA currently approved the MPA budget as precepting authority and appointed 12 GLA members to serve on the MPA. The MPA were responsible for scrutinising the Metropolitan Police Service, and responsible for the budget (£3.6m in 2010/11). It set the strategic direction for the Metropolitan Police and made senior appointments. It was also the responsible body on all Community Safety Partnerships.
4. After 1 October, London was expected to precede the rest of the UK the Mayor would assume his role as Police and Crime Commissioner. The functions of his office will be:
 - Power to hire and fire the Commissioner of Police,
 - Hold the policing budget,
 - Duty to consult commissioners (& victims) and to publish annual police and crime plan,
 - Power to make crime and disorder grants, and
 - Will no longer be a responsible authority, but will have a new power to 'call-in' poor performing Community Safety Partnerships (including ASB powers).
5. Under the new proposals the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime would be scrutinised by the GLA Police and Crime Panel. This Panel would also have responsibility for reviewing the draft police and crime plan and scrutinising the exercise of the functions of the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime. As yet no details were available as to the make up of the Police and Crime Panel.

16. HAVERING COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (HCSP) BUDGET 2011/12

1. As a result of the proposed transfer of responsibility for Policing to the Mayor's Office funding for all Community Safety Partnerships across London had been devolved to the Greater London Authority. The HCSP had submitted a spending plan to the Greater London Authority. The only criteria the Mayor had placed on the use of the funds was that they were utilised for 'community safety and crime reduction purposes only.

2. The spending plan had been approved and the HCSP would receive £220,194, which represented a 20% reduction from the level of funding available last year.

17. REVIEW OF RACE CRIMES AND INCIDENTS

1. The Committee were informed that the HCSP when agreeing its Control Strategy for 2011/12, had decided not to include racial violence. The reasons for this decision were:
 - The general trend for all incidents was downward;
 - That considerable activity and money had been allocated to this area in 2010-11;
 - That victims of this crime are dealt with by a specific police unit and well served;
 - That the proposed system to support repeat and vulnerable victims would identify and support victims of hate incidents
 - That for all the reasons mentioned a stand-alone group for this aspect may duplicate efforts and not add value.
2. Havering had maintained the long term contract with Stop Hate (UK) who provided third party reporting and monitoring. This contract was delivered in partnership with Barking and Dagenham.

18. NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

1. The Borough Commander advised the Committee of the various initiatives being delivered by the partners to improve the Night Time Economy in Romford Town Centre. He believed Romford was unique in that the partners delivered all three initiatives as a single package. This combination of initiatives was the reason crime in Romford Town Centre was on the decline.
2. The Committee was informed that 60% of the offenders in Romford Town Centre were from outside the borough but 60% of the victims were borough residents.

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ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT , 2010/11

SUMMARY

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Council note the annual report of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

REPORT DETAILS

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

1. THE ROLE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

- 1.1 At its first meeting in June 2010, the Committee sought to understand the role of Environmental Strategy. The Committee were informed that there were 12 members of the team and they worked closely with Public Protection and Streetcare. The functions included looking after the 90 miles of rural Rights of Way in Havering, links with Thames Chase Community Forest, Climate Change, School Travel Plans, Local Nature Reserves and Heritage/Listed Buildings.

2. THE ROLE OF STREETCARE

- 2.1 At its September meeting, the Committee received a presentation from the Head of Streetcare on the services covered by the different sections within the Streetcare Service. This covered areas such as Highways, Environmental Maintenance, Waste & Recycling and Parking. The Committee were informed how these areas had been improved and how they fed into the Council's Carbon Reduction Commitment which would feature throughout the work programme of this committee.
- 2.2 The Committee expressed interest in visiting the recycling plant at Jenkins Land and also the Bio-MRF at Frog Island.

3. CARBON REDUCTION COMMITMENT

- 3.1 At its September meeting, the Committee received a presentation from the Energy Management Officer on the Council's Carbon Reduction Commitment. The Committee were informed that Havering had already signed up and the commitment covered all council owned buildings including schools, which made up 53% of the Carbon Footprint for Havering, and were being supported by the new coalition government.
- 3.2 The Committee were informed that this was an energy reduction scheme and that it had a cash flow impact reduced to six months. The Committee were informed that in order to be energy efficient compliant, the Council have to have a Carbon Abatement Strategy, which had been approved by Cabinet in November 2007. The council were already looking at the more efficient use of council buildings and had moved staff from outlying office buildings into the core centre.
- 3.3 The Committee were informed at their meeting in February 2011 that the introduction of alternative technology was underway. They were informed that solar panels had been installed on the Town Hall roof, this installation had generated income of £3,500 per annum, meaning that the cost of the installation would be recovered over 11 years.
- 3.4 At its meeting in April 2011, the Committee were informed that the recycling element of the scheme had now been removed. They were informed that the first 3 years of the scheme the cost would be £12 per tonne, however in year 4 the credits would go on the open market, and therefore the cost could increase. The Committee noted that the tonnage use per year in Havering was 33,333 tonnes, which was a total cost of £400,000.

4. STREET LIGHTING ENERGY REVIEW

- 4.1 At its meeting in February 2011, the Committee received a report on the outcomes of the review of Street Lighting energy carried out by a contractor – Jacobs, on behalf of the Council. The review looked at alternative technology including ppl lights.
- 4.2 Members noted that ppl fluorescent lights use 10% less energy compared with the existing sodium lights, they last twice as long, and also cost less. It was felt that the change would assist in reducing crime levels, and because of the way they directed light, this would enable the number of columns to be reduced. This would again reduce costs.
- 4.3 During the discussions it was felt that the Council could reduce its overall carbon footprint by 15%. However with schools accounting for half the cost this would be difficult to enforce. Members raised concern about the replacement of both concrete and cast iron columns. The Committee were informed that this process had started but was programme would last until 2015.
- 4.4 At its meeting in April 2011, the Committee received an update briefing on the stock of street lighting within the Borough. The Committee noted that the current maintenance contract would be re-tendered at the end of October 2011, and the pre-tendering process was underway. The Committee were informed of the inventory issues that needed attention; these included the cast iron columns needing replacing, due to age and condition. The majority of these columns were over 40 years old, and the switches were located at the top of the column rather than the bottom.
- 4.5 During the discussions the Committee found that there were systems in place for motorists hitting and damaging columns, and that if motorist are insured then the Council are able to claim the cost of the damage to the column, the cost of the call out and the clearing of the debris.
- 4.6 Members agreed that a Business Case should be written to take forward a proposal to remove the second lamp from each of the private supply signages and a photocell added to achieve a saving.

5. PERFORMANCE REPORT

- 5.1 At its meeting in February 2011, the Committee were provided with details of service performance from a number of key services which fell within the Committee's remit. This would enable members to build a Performance Pack to meet their requirements.

5.2 The Committee agreed that the following Performance indicators should be included:

- Number of Fly Tips reported
- The average number of days taken to remove fly tips
- Total tonnage of household waste collected
- Residual household waster per household (NI 191 LAA2)
- Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting (NI 192 LAA2) report half yearly unless trend was to change
- Gerpins Lane green waste tonnage
- Wheeled bins green waste tonnage
- Number of missed collections
- Percentage of missed collections put right within target
- CRM reported Gullies cleared within 24 hours
- Average number of days to repair streetlights
- Environmental Health Substantial Responses sent within 15 working days
- Technical Services – service requests responded to within 5 working days
- Technical Services – (CMUs) Substantive responses sent within 15 working days
- Number of Accredited Members of Buy with Confidence 2010 - 2011
- Food Safety Inspections Non-Compliant A-B (High Risk) 2010 - 2011

6. BUDGET SCRUTINY

6.1 In both August 2010 and January 2011, the Committee met jointly with the other Overview and Scrutiny Committees in order to scrutinise aspects of the Council's proposed budget for the coming year. The meetings, chaired by the Chairman of the Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee, scrutinised several issues of relevance to this Committee. These included savings in Street Lighting, the Depot Relocation and the Efficiency Savings in Waste Management in partnership with ELWA.

7. REALLOCATION OF WORKLOAD OF PARTNERSHIPS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7.1 At its meeting in April 2011, the Committee received a report on the reallocation of workload of the Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Following the announcement by the Leader of the Council that Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee would be abolished at the end of the financial year, the report invited the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee's to consider adding to their work programme items

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that were due to be considered in the future by the Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

- 7.2 The Committee agreed to add the Review of Waste Management Partnerships – Biffa, East London Waste Authority, Shanks, to their work programme for the next municipal year.

8. OTHER ISSUES CONSIDERED

- 8.1 Out of Hours Noise Topic Group – At its meeting in November 2010, the Committee received an update from the Public Protection Service Manager on the Out of Hours Noise Service. Assistance had now been sought from the Police for the busier summer months, and this had been agreed in principle.
- 8.2 Foxes and Rats Service – At its November meeting, the Committee received a presentation from the Housing and Public Health Divisional Manager on Foxes and Rats, and the service that the Council provided. The Committee were informed that the main rat culprit was the Norway rat (Brown Rat) which had recently migrated into Europe and was now the dominant species in the UK. The Committee were informed that foxes were protected under The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, and were not categorised as vermin by DEFRA, therefore there was nothing that the local authority could do as regards controlling fox numbers.
- 8.3 Reviews of Cabinet Reports – At its meeting in November 2010, the Committee received updates on Cabinet reports on Rainham Regeneration, Local Nature Reserve Declaration for Land at Bedford's Park and Ingebourne Valley Sustrans Connect2 Greenway.
- 8.4 At its April 2011 meeting, the Committee received an in depth update on the Climate Change Action Plan. The Climate Change Action Plan was a programme of actions for all council departments to work towards in order to reduce our energy. The Committee were informed that in 2008 all council departments adopted a three year plan which ran from 2009 – 2012. The achievement would be to decrease CO₂ emissions by 7% and a reduction of 2000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions by 2012.

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HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

SUMMARY

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

It is planned for this report to stand as a public record of achievement for the year and enable Members and others to note the Committee's activities and performance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council note the 2010/11 Annual Report of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

REPORT DETAIL

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

1. HEALTH SCRUTINY CORRESPONDENCE

- 1.1 During the year, the Committee Chairman has used regular correspondence with local Health Trusts as a key means of gaining information about local health services. A total of 23 letters were sent to local Health Trusts during the year covering issues such as delays at Queen's Hospital A&E department, maternity triage at Queen's and accessing treatment at Harold Wood polyclinic. All letters and responses are copied to all Members of the Committee in order that they receive the latest information.

2. CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTORY MEETINGS

- 2.1 At the start of the year, the Chairman met informally with the Chief Executives of all the local Health Trusts and with the Chair and coordinator of Havering LINK. These meetings proved extremely productive and served as useful introductions to more formal scrutiny sessions with each of the Health Trusts as the year progressed.

3. NHS HAVERING ISSUES

- 3.1 Role of the Trust - At its first meeting of the year, the Committee received a presentation from the Chief Executive of NHS Havering. This covered the overall role of the Primary Care Trust but also explained to Members plans for the redevelopment of the St. George's Hospital site. This was to include a new polyclinic, diagnostics and rehabilitation services. The Committee continued to scrutinise this project throughout the year and several Members attended a stakeholder event to discuss the plans in autumn 2010. The Committee will seek further updates on the redevelopment from the newly-established cluster Primary Care Trust – NHS Outer North East London.
- 3.2 ONELCS Transfer - The Committee has also investigated during the year the transfer of the Primary Care Trust's provider organisation – Outer North East London Community Services (ONELCS) to the North East London Foundation Trust. Representatives of both Trusts have attended the Committee to discuss the transfer which is now scheduled to take place in July 2011.
- 3.3 Polyclinic Issues – In August the Committee held a successful visit to the Harold Wood polyclinic as well as to the Orchard Village health centre. Members were impressed with the services and facilities at both sites although they were concerned that the polyclinic should be used to its maximum capacity. Members were therefore pleased to be informed at the Committee's March meeting that outpatient clinics had now commenced operation from the polyclinic. The Committee was disappointed that the proposed further polyclinics at Queen's and St. George's Hospitals had been put on hold.
- 3.4 St. George's Hospital Redevelopment – The Committee has kept a keen interest in the proposed redevelopment of St. George's Hospital throughout the year. Several Members attended a stakeholder event on the project in autumn 2010 as well as receiving regular updates at the Committee during the year. The Committee will continue to scrutinise the project as it is taken forward under the new NHS structures.

- 3.5 Changes in NHS Structures – At its March meeting, the Transition Chief Executive of NHS Havering updated the Committee on planned changes to the structure of NHS services. These included the establishment of two GP consortia to eventually undertake commissioning of health services in Havering and the introduction of a cluster PCT Board to replace the Boards of NHS Havering and of neighbouring Primary Care Trusts.

4. NORTH EAST LONDON NHS FOUNDATION TRUST (NELFT) ISSUES

- 4.1 New In-patient Facilities – In September, the Committee toured the site of the new inpatient mental health facilities at Goodmayes Hospital. The facilities were being built at the time and the visit gave Members a valuable opportunity to see the new accommodation that would be available to service users from Havering as well as to discuss the development with senior NELFT officers. Several members also attended the new unit's official opening in January.
- 4.2 Discussions with Chief Executive – The NELFT Chief Executive, with other senior Trust officers, attended the Committee's meeting in November. The Committee was therefore able to scrutinise with the officers, not just the new build at Goodmayes Hospital but also issues such as the transfer of ONELCS to NELFT and work on early identification of dementia amongst patients admitted to Queen's Hospital.
- 4.3 Dementia Strategy Topic Group Review – In conjunction with the Individuals Overview and Scrutiny Committee, members of the Committee undertook a topic group review of Havering's strategy for dealing with and supporting cases of dementia. The topic group formulated a number of recommendations in areas including developing the market for people with day opportunities, supporting GPs to make early diagnoses of dementia and closer working with Age Concern on dementia issues. These recommendations will be responded to by Cabinet, the North East London NHS Foundation and NHS Outer North East London in the new municipal year.

5. BARKING, HAVERING AND REDBRIDGE UNIVERISTY HOSPITALS NHS TRUST (BHRUT) ISSUES

- 5.1 A&E Visit – In addition to correspondence on A&E and maternity issues mentioned above, Members of the Committee also visited the A&E department at Queen's Hospital in July 2010. The Committee were able to view the various facilities and have discussions with clinical staff and Trust officers. Members also visited the department on a Friday night in May 2011 in order to see the department when demand was at its peak.

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- 5.2 Meeting with Chief Executive – At its March meeting, the Committee held discussion with the newly-appointed Chief Executive of BHRUT. Subjects discussed including the ongoing issues in A&E and maternity at Queen's as well as the financial problems facing the Trust.

6. HEALTH FOR NORTH EAST LONDON (H4NEL)

- 6.1 In addition to work on H4NEL undertaken as part of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (see section 8 below) the Committee undertook Havering-specific work on H4NEL. Updates were taken on the implications of the plans from NHS Havering and the local impact of H4NEL was also considered at the Committee's meeting in November. Areas discussed included poor communication about the plans, the role of walk-in clinics and the Committee's view that Queen's was failing to cope with its current workload. At a special meeting in March 2011, the Committee voted unanimously to refer the proposals to the Secretary of State. As a result of this and referrals by neighbouring Overview and Scrutiny Committees, a full review of the proposals has been initiated by the Independent Reconfiguration Panel.

7. CANCER SERVICES

- 7.1 At its October meeting, the Committee scrutinised proposed changes to local cancer services. It was planned to transfer breast surgery from Queen's to King George Hospital in order to allow greater concentration of surgical skills. A further proposal was to move breast screening from the Victoria Centre in Romford to the polyclinic at Harold Wood. Officers were questioned in detail on the plans and responded to local concerns that had been raised about the projects.

8. JOINT SCRUTINY

- 8.1 H4NEL – The Committee's representatives on the Outer North East London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) - Councillors Brice-Thompson, Dodin and Thorpe played a full part in scrutiny of the H4NEL proposals throughout the year. The JOSC, together with its counterpart for Inner North East London, remains the statutory consultee for the proposals and as such received regular updates on progress from H4NEL officers. This included a special meeting of the Joint Committee in December 2010 in order to give Members a further chance to comment on the proposals before final decisions were taken by a Joint Committee of Primary Care Trusts. Havering's members of the JOSC supported the majority decision of the Joint Committee in March 2011, to also refer the proposals to the Secretary of State for review.

- 8.2 Cluster Primary Care Trust – The Joint Committee met twice during the year with the Chief Executive of NHS Outer North East London whose geographical remit now closely matches that of the Joint Committee. This allowed consideration of the future role of GP consortia across the sector. The role of the cluster PCT in acute commissioning was also discussed with the Chief Executive at the Committee’s January meeting.
- 8.3 Acute Trusts – Chief Executives from both BHRUT and Whipps Cross attended the Joint Committee during the year. The new Chief Executive of BHRUT discussed issues facing the Trust as a whole while officers from Whipps Cross discussed problems that Trust had encountered with outbreaks of Norovirus, the development of a new A&E department at the hospital and the proposed merger of the Trust with those covering Barts and Newham hospitals.
- 8.4 Review of Children’s Heart Surgery – At its March meeting, the Joint Committee received a presentation from officers from the London Strategic Commissioning Group on the review of Children’s Heart Surgery. This was a national programme to rationalise the number of hospitals offering these services and it was anticipated that the number of London hospitals offering the service would reduce from three to two. The Joint Committee was pleased that several Councils from outside the Outer North East London area were able to send representatives to the meeting and hence allow scrutiny of the plans over a wide geographical area.

9. OTHER ISSUES SCRUTINISED

- 9.1 Childhood Obesity – In October, the Committee received a presentation from public health staff at NHS Havering concerning childhood obesity. This considered the link between childhood obesity and health problems in later life such as back problems, high blood pressure and risk of type 2 diabetes. Officers also explained work being undertaken to reduce childhood obesity such as the MEND programme teaching families about nutrition and healthy eating.
- 9.2 Cultural Activities and Health – The Head of Cultural and Leisure Services explained to the Committee how areas such as sport, the arts and parks could positively impact on people’s health. Activities offered by the Council that had been shown to improve physical or mental health included Walking for Health, music classes and reminiscence sessions at Havering Museum. Work on allotments had also been shown to improve people’s health and wellbeing.
- 9.3 Havering Local Involvement Network (LINK) – The Committee has continued to have a very productive relationship with Havering LINK.

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- Representatives from the LINK are present at all meetings of the Committee and the LINK Chair formally presented the LINK's annual report at the Committee's October meeting where key achievements of the LINK were discussed including the obtaining of an additional receptionist at A&E at Queen's and securing renovation of the relatives viewing area at the hospital. The Chairman was also pleased to speak at the LINK's AGM.
- 9.4 Anti-smoking Initiatives – At its May meeting, the Committee received a presentation from a member of Havering's Stop Smoking Service. This discussed a number of initiatives to reduce numbers of people smoking in Havering including work with local GPs, pharmacists and with local hospitals. The Committee expressed its full support for the service's work.
- 9.5 Bowel Cancer Project – The Committee also received details of a current campaign to highlight the symptoms of bowel cancer among residents of Havering, Barking & Dagenham and Redbridge. The campaign, developed in conjunction with local people, sought to use simple advertising messages to increase awareness of bowel cancer symptoms and also emphasise that effective treatments were available, provided that the disease was diagnosed at an early stage. The Committee was impressed with the campaign and its innovative strategies to raise awareness including the use of social networking websites and a tie-in with local betting shops who had agreed to display literature from the campaign.



INDIVIDUALS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

SUMMARY

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

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council note the report of the Individuals Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

REPORT DETAILS

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

1. THE ROLE OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE

- 1.1 At its first meeting in June 2010, the Committee sought to understand the overall role of Adult Social Care. The Committee noted information on the demographic pressures of the borough, and that Havering was very different in demographics to the rest of London. Havering was more like the coastal unitaries, in that there were a large number of older people residing in it.

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- 1.2 The Committee noted that while some residents were living with physical and sensory disabilities there was evidence that they were now also living longer, which impacted on the services provided.
- 1.3 The Committee were informed about the transformation programmes that were being carried out on Personalisation and by the adult Transformation Board. This was linked with Housing, Leisure and Recreational needs for vulnerable people.

2. NATIONAL DEMENTIA STRATEGY

- 2.1 At its June meeting, the Committee received a report on the National Dementia Strategy and its implementation from the Head of Mental Health Commissioning and the Operational Director from NELFT. The report described where Havering are with the objectives in the Strategy and where additional work needed to be done.
- 2.2 The aim of the Strategy was to ensure that significant improvements were made to dementia services across three key areas: improved awareness, early diagnosis and intervention and a high quality of care.
- 2.3 Following this presentation the Committee agreed that a joint topic group with Health Overview and Scrutiny to scrutinise this area in more detail would be beneficial.
- 2.4 At its meeting in April 2011, the Committee received the final report of the Dementia Strategy Joint Topic Group. The Committee agreed the recommendations should be referred to Cabinet, the North East London NHS Foundation Trust (NELFT) and other bodies as appropriate. The Committee requested that a review of progress be carried out by this committee in 12 months time.

3. PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE – CULTURE & HEALTHY LIVING

- 3.1 At its September meeting, the Committee received a report and presentation for the Head of Adult Social Care and the Head of Culture and Leisure Services, on the key strategies and initiatives that the Council and NHS Havering (the local Primary Care Trust) were jointly undertaking to empower individuals and communities in Havering to maintain their health and well-being, and create a culture of prevention.
- 3.2 The Committee were informed of the wider strategic context; highlighting that improving health and well-being was a key strategic objective of both the Council and NHS Havering, this would be achieved through objectives in the Council's Havering Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-13 and NHS Havering's Commissioning Strategy Plan 2010-2014.

- 3.3 The Committee noted key information relating to the demographics of Havering, and acknowledged that the borough had a significantly larger proportion of older people than the London average. The Committee also noted that Havering had a significantly less diverse ethnic mix than London as a whole and that the borough did not appear in the top 50 most deprived areas, as judged by the Indices of Multiple Deprivation.

4. BROKERAGE SERVICE

- 4.1 At its September meeting the Committee received a report from the Head of Adult Social Care and the Service Manager for Transformation, Adult Social Care on support brokerage and how it fitted with personalisation.
- 4.2 The Committee noted the definition of “brokerage” in the context of support brokerage. They acknowledged that its working definition was a way in which people could be helped to navigate the social care system to access the care and support they need, and how these needs might best be met at an affordable cost.
- 4.3 The Committee noted some of the activities and task carried out by the Support Brokers and the current provisions that Havering has in terms of brokerage. These included the direct payments team providing an element of support brokerage to citizens, the commissioning team undertaking residential, nursing and respite placements and the third sector organisations providing elements of informal brokerage.
- 4.4 The Committee discussed the brokerage service and agreed to meet with the Direct Payments User Group to assess that the systems were working efficiently. They also requested that any financial implications for the development of external Brokerage should be included within the Council’s Medium Term Financial Strategy.

5. ANNUAL COMPLAINTS

- 5.1 At its meeting in September 2010, the Committee received a report from the Head of Adult Social Care and the Adult Customer Care and Complaints Manager on Adult Social Care Complaints and Compliments for the 2009-10 Council year.
- 5.2 The Committee noted that it was a requirement for the Annual Report to be considered by the Committee and to then be published under the Local Authority Social Services and National Health Service Complaints (England) Regulations 2009.
- 5.3 The Committee noted this was the first year operating under the new regulations, and this was no longer a three-stage process. There were

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now two stages – local resolutions and Ombudsman referral. The aim was to resolve complaints locally in a flexible and customer focussed way.

- 5.4 The Committee noted that numbers of compliments received by the services had achieved an increase of 15% since 2008-09.

6. LINK ANNUAL REPORT & OVERVIEW

- 6.1 At its meeting in September 2010, the Committee receive the Annual Report and a presentation from the Chair of Havering LINK (Local Involvement Network). The Committee were informed that the LINK was a group of local health and social care service users who provided user-led scrutiny and feedback to providers.
- 6.2 The Committee noted that the following organisations were represented on the LINK Steering Group: Havering MEND, Age Concern Havering, NHS Havering and NELFT.
- 6.3 The Committee were informed of the key achievements of the LINK, including organising a public meeting to try to resolve car parking at Queen's Hospital, and campaigning an additional receptionist at Queen's Hospital Accident and Emergency Department. The Committee also noted the planned future activity of the LINK which included a transport meeting for patients to raise concerns about travel to and from the hospital. The LINK was also negotiating with BHRUT to provide computer access to inpatient children on long term sickness in local hospitals.

7. OMBUDSMAN'S ANNUAL REVIEW

- 7.1 At its meeting in September, the Committee received the Ombudsman's Annual Review regarding complaints received about the Council in 2009-10. The Annual Review provided a summary of the complaints dealt with about the Council and included comments on the Council's performance and complaint handling arrangements.
- 7.2 The Committee noted that the Ombudsman received 114 complaints against the Council; advice was given in 28 cases and 32 were considered to be premature because the Council had not been given a reasonable opportunity to deal with them.
- 7.3 The Committee further noted that the Ombudsman made decisions on 59 complaints against the Council. Ten were outside the jurisdiction of the Ombudsman to investigate and another ten were closed for lack of grounds.

8. DIAL-A-RIDE UPDATE

- 8.1 At its meeting in November, the Committee receive a presentation from the Project Manager, Finance and Commerce on Havering and Supported Transport. This included the Independent Mobility Assessment, Taxi Card, Passenger Travel Services, Dial-a-Ride and the role of the Hospitals Trust.
- 8.2 The Committee were informed that Taxi card was a Havering scheme with a budget of £383,000 per annum and this was topped up by TfL by approximately £600,000 per annum, however TfL had decided to cap this budget, and as a result London Councils had prepared a number of proposals to put forward for consideration. These included:
- Increase minimum user fare from £1.50 to £2.50
 - Reduce maximum trip by £1
 - No stage coaching (adding trips together to get one long trip)
 - Waiting list introduction
 - London Councils to provide consultation with users
- 8.3 The Committee noted that if the London Councils proposals were not agreed by the London Boroughs at Transport for London's Transport and Environment Committee, Havering would then have to put measures in place to ensure the borough remained within the budget.

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

At its meeting in November, the Committee receive a briefing from the Equality and Diversity Manager on the work of the Diversity Standards Team. The Committee noted that the role of the team was to recognise the change in the borough in regard to its distinctiveness. i.e. the proportion of people age 65+ and the low percentage of ethnic minorities in the borough (10%).

The Committee acknowledged that it was an important aspect of the work to ensure that the Council is compliant with the law and furthermore that all colleagues complied with the law and the service provision reflected the needs of the community.

The Committee were informed that there were eight strands of the Equality Act 2010 and that Age and Disability were high priorities for Havering. The eight strands were: Age, Disability, Gender reassignment, Marriage and civil partnership, Pregnancy and maternity, Race/ethnicity, Religion & belief, Sex and Sexual orientation.

10 ADULTS SAFEGUARDING

- 10.1 At its meeting in November 2010, the Committee received a report from the Quality & Safeguarding Service Manager on how current local arrangements work to safeguard adults in Havering.
- 10.2 The Committee noted the definition of “Safeguarding” as set out by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) as “the responsibility of relevant bodies to protect people whose circumstance make them particularly vulnerable to abuse, neglect or harm”. The Committee noted that whilst this was the key responsibility of the Local Authority, and had been developing rapidly over the last 10 years, the responsibility lay with everybody through the following:
- Prevention and Awareness Raising
 - Inclusion
 - Personalised Management of Independence and Risk
 - Specialist Safeguarding Services
- 10.3 The Committee were informed that the multi-agency Safeguarding Adults Board included partners from Health, Police, Fire Service as well as Children’s representatives, Community Safety, Legal Services, Providers and User Groups.

11. SOCIAL INCLUSION – EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES/ SUPPORT

- 11.1 At its meeting in November, the Committee received a report from the Group Director, Social Care and Learning and the Mental Health Social Inclusion Commissioning Manager on employment opportunities and challenges for adults with Mental Health problems and Learning Disabilities.
- 11.2 The Committee noted that given the current employment market, there would be a major challenge in the short/ medium term to prioritise getting more people with learning disabilities into paid employment. The Committee acknowledged that there were excellent links and relationships between Schools, Colleges and Employers for people with learning disabilities, to ensure that support was in place throughout their education and employment, and that Day Centres also had a role to play in assisting users to encourage their children to take the next steps into employment.

12. REABLEMENT REVIEW

- 12.1 At its November meeting, the Committee received a report from the Preventative Care Services Manager on the Reablement Review. This formed a key part of the Adult Social Care transformation programme (personalisation). The Committee noted that the overall objective of

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reablement was to assist people to remain living in their own homes, to achieve maximum independence, to prevent hospital admissions/re-admissions and where appropriate, to reduce the level of care needed in the longer term.

- 12.2 The Committee noted that the Reablement service was a short term service, of up to 6 weeks of intensive support for people with poor physical or mental health. This service was to assist patients, who due to illness need to learn/ re-learn the skills necessary for daily living. It also achieved the patient's potential in terms of a stable level of independence with the lowest appropriate level of ongoing support.
- 12.3 The Committee acknowledged that there was a lower turnover of people returning to reablement, however the cost was the same as the previous year, but the service was able to deal with cases on a much quicker turnaround.

13. BUDGET SCRUTINY

- 13.1 In both August 2010 and January 2011, the Committee met jointly with the other Overview and Scrutiny Committees in order to scrutinise aspects of the Council's proposed budget for the coming year. The meetings, chaired by the Chairman of the Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee, scrutinised several issues of relevance to this Committee. These included the Social Care IT Upgrade, the Review of Adult Social Care Services, Supporting People and the Fairer Charging Policy.

14. SOCIAL WORK TASK FORCE (ADULTS/ CHILDREN)

- 14.1 At its meeting in April 2011, the Committee received a report on the National Social Work Taskforce (NSWT) Social Work Reform Board (SWRB). The Committee noted that the NSWT was formed following further and wide spread criticism of the profession during and after the public enquiry into the death in Haringey of Baby P.
- 14.2 The Committee were informed that the NSWT had made fifteen recommendations which had been endorsed by the Government. Of these fifteen recommendations, the SWRB had identified five areas of reform directly linked to the NSWT recommendations. These areas were around the competencies and capability of the core social work roles.

15. SECTION 75 PARTNERSHIP REVIEWS – LEARNING DISABILITIES/ MENTAL HEALTH

- 15.1 At its meeting in April 2011, the Committee received an update on the current Section 75 Partnership Arrangements operating in Adult Social Care. This covered the Section 75 agreements between the London

Borough of Havering and North East London NHS Foundation Trust (NELFT) to provide services for adults with mental health problems and the Section 75 agreement between NHS Havering and the London Borough of Havering to provide support to Adults with Learning Disabilities.

- 15.2 The Committee noted that the progress of the partnerships was going well and they were both within budget. The Committee were informed that there was active engagement with service users of the mental health services and that the Head of Service was actively involved and integrated with the services users. The Committee noted that service users had reported that they are able to deal with the services easily and any criticism is taken on board. The Committee also noted that NELFT were a three-star performing organisation.
- 15.3 The Committee were informed that the Learning Disabilities Service works closely with clients with Autistic Spectrum Disorder, who also have learning disabilities. Officers informed the committee that where possible, clients with learning disabilities were encouraged and supported through employment. The Committee found that there was evidence that people with learning disabilities stayed with the employer for a long period of time.
- 15.4 The Committee noted that the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board worked with hospitals to ensure that staff were able to deal with patients who had learning disabilities, and that all clients were provided with an information pack which they could keep with them, which explained their situation should they be admitted to hospital. Officers informed the Committee the people with learning disabilities were entitled to have a yearly health check up with their GP and whilst there was progress in this area, more improvements were needed and engagement with GPs and the Consortium were being planned.

16. REALLOCATION OF WORKLOAD OF PARTNERSHIPS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- 16.1 At its meeting in April 2011, the Committee received a report on the reallocation of workload of the Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Following the announcement by the Leader of the Council that Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee would be abolished at the end of the financial year the report invited the relevant overview and scrutiny Committees to consider adding to their work programmes items that were due to be considered in the future by the Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 16.2 The Committee were asked to scrutinise the Impact of Personalisation of Social Care on the Voluntary Sector. The Committee agreed to add this to their work programme for the next municipal year.



PARTNERSHIPS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

SUMMARY

This report is the annual report of the Committee, summarising the Committee's activities during its year of operation ended May 2011.

It is planned for this report to stand as a public record of achievement for the year and enable Members and others to have a record of the Committee's performance.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the 2010/11 Annual Report of the Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

REPORT DETAIL

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

1. OVERVIEW OF PARTNERSHIP WORKING

- 1.1 At its first meeting in June 2010, the Committee sought to develop an understanding of what were the key partnerships involved in the Council's work. To this end, the Assistant Director for Transformation, Customer and Community Engagement gave a detailed presentation on relationships with the Council's key partners. This included discussions of the role of Homes in Havering, business organisations such as the Hornchurch and Romford Town Centre Partnerships and the Council's working with NHS

Havering. Also considered were issues relating to land use covered by the Borough's Local Development Framework and the role of Transport for London in the borough. Finally, the Committee also considered the role and function of the Havering Strategic Partnership representing key Havering organisations in the public, private and voluntary sectors.

- 1.2 As a result of the presentation, the Committee was able to consider areas for its work programme and it was decided to concentrate on issues including the role of Homes in Havering, partnership working as applied to Romford Town Centre, relationships between the Council and the voluntary sector and the role of Transport for London.

2. ROLE OF HOMES IN HAVERING (HiH)

- 2.1 At its September meeting, the Committee received a presentation from both the Chief Executive of HiH and the Head of Housing and Public Protection. This explained the distinction between those services, for example repairs, voids and rent collection carried out by HiH as an Arms Length Management Organisation (ALMO) and those such as lettings and housing strategy that were dealt with by the Council's retained service.
- 2.2 The Committee scrutinised in particular the partnership working between the Council and HiH and the benefits this had brought which included a review of the Tenancy Agreement and improvements to the repairs service. The Committee also considered the shortfall in Decent Homes Funding received for Havering and how this was being addressed.

3. PARTNERSHIP WORKING IN ROMFORD TOWN CENTRE

- 3.1 At its September meeting, the Committee received an initial presentation on the role of the Romford Town Centre Partnership (and its equivalent body covering Hornchurch). This explained that the Partnership, involving local businesses, the Council, churches and Police representatives sought to promote and market the town centre as effectively as possible. The Partnership was heavily involved in redevelopment schemes that affected the town centre.
- 3.2 In order to develop a greater understanding of the issues facing Romford Town Centre, the Committee decided to visit the town centre itself and this was undertaken, in conjunction with officers, on 19 November 2010. Members visited all four major malls as well as the marketplace and this proved an invaluable opportunity to hold discussions with traders face to face on their views and the issues they faced. Members were pleased to note that most traders seemed satisfied with their current location etc. although concerns were raised over accessibility issues in Romford

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Shopping Hall as a result of the building works that were ongoing at that time.

- 3.3 Immediately following the town centre visit, the Committee met formally and held further in-depth discussions on the issues affecting Romford Town Centre. Members felt that there been generally positive feedback from the traders they had spoken to although traders in Romford Shopping Hall and parts of the market were unhappy with the amount of footfall they were receiving. They felt the Shopping Hall was not sufficiently visible to the public and some market traders were dissatisfied with the recent positioning of stalls.
- 3.4 Members were of the view that the Romford night time economy, although healthy, could have put off some people from visiting the town centre, even during the day. It was also felt that the market had stagnated to some extent in recent years and perhaps needed to become more diverse.
- 3.5 The Committee returned to this subject at its final meeting and heard that work to revitalise the market area was ongoing. This included trials of a new market layout with improved signage, clearer sightlines and more efficient clearance of rubbish. Efforts were also being made to attract new themed markets to Romford.

4. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE COUNCIL AND THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR

- 4.1 The Committee has prioritised a wish to understand the relationships the Council has developed with the voluntary sector in Havering. As such, the Committee's meeting in March scrutinised this area in depth. The Council's Policy, Partnership and Performance Manager explained a number of aspects of the local voluntary sector including the Compact agreement between the Council and voluntary groups and the anticipated impact of the Government's Big Society reforms. The Assistant Director for Commissioning (Adult Services) then explained the links between strategic commissioning and the voluntary sector. In a challenging funding environment, an emphasis had been placed on commissioning around community needs with an increasing uptake of personal budgets allowing service users more choice in the care and activities provided.
- 4.2 The Chief Executive of HAVCO also explained the work of her organisation (an umbrella body for the local voluntary sector). She felt that there was now an effective relationship between Havering and the voluntary sector and was surprised this had not been reflected in recent surveys that had been carried out. The Committee noted with interest that

the recession had seen a marked increase in the numbers of people wishing to volunteer their time.

- 4.3 The Chief Executive of Havering Crossroads – a charity offering respite breaks and other support to carers also presented to the Committee. The Chief Executive confirmed that there was now a better dialogue with the Council and that the charity had been consulted on issues such as personalisation of care. Members felt however that the work of organisations such as Crossroads should be publicised further although it was noted that the charity was involved in a joint road show event with officers from Adult Services.
- 4.4 The Committee felt that the role of the voluntary sector merited further scrutiny and to this end developed a scope for a topic group review of this sector concentrating in particular on the level of support the Council provides to the voluntary sector. This scope is now being considered for addition to the work programme of the Towns and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

5. THE ROLE OF TRANSPORT FOR LONDON IN HAVERING

- 5.1 The Council's Development and Transportation Manager explained at the Committee's September meeting the role of Transport for London (TfL) within Havering. The Committee noted that there were good relationships between the Council and TfL at officer level but that these could be improved at Member level. The Relationship Manager at TfL did however meet regularly with both Council officers and the Cabinet Member for Environment in order to discuss current projects and issues affecting the borough.
- 5.2 Members noted the presentation but felt that more direct access to relevant officers at TfL would be of assistance in resolving issues at ward levels and it was agreed that officers would forward TfL contact details to the Committee.
- 5.3 In October, members of the Committee also visited City Hall in order to observe a meeting of the Transport Committee of the Greater London Authority. Discussions were also held with an officer supporting the Committee and this allowed Members a useful insight into how transport issues were scrutinised on a pan-London basis.

6. LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMME

- 6.1 At its final meeting of the year, the Committee scrutinised the latest update on the progress of the legislative programme as it affected local government. The Committee considered the key points of the Localism Bill which would enable local control over housing and planning decisions and

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for example allow local residents the right to approve or veto excessive Council Tax rises. Also considered were changes to Social Housing such as Councils being given the power to set waiting list policies and the introduction of new Housing Benefit rules which aimed to reduce cost and promote fairness in the housing benefit system.

- 6.2 The Committee also considered elements of the Welfare Reform Bill which would lead to a major overhaul of the Welfare system and the White Paper on Open Public Services which sought to facilitate private and third sector organisations being given the right to compete for services with any public body.

7. BUDGET SCRUTINY

- 7.1 In both August 2010 and January 2011, the Committee met jointly with the other Overview and Scrutiny Committees in order to scrutinise aspects of the Council's proposed budget for the coming year. The meetings, chaired by the Chairman of the Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee, scrutinised several issues of relevance to this Committee. These included the sharing of ICT with London Borough of Newham and potential savings in shared procurement via the Council's participation in the East London Shared Services consortium.

8. OTHER ISSUES CONSIDERED

- 8.1 Havering Strategic Partnership – In both June and September, the Committee scrutinised the work of the Havering Strategic Partnership (HSP) – an organisation representing key Havering organisations in the public, private and voluntary sectors. The Committee heard that a change of Central Government had meant significant change to the Partnership's work including the ending of Local Area Agreements for which the HSP had previously been responsible for delivering. The Committee noted a number of structural changes to the HSP including the establishment of a Health & Wellbeing Board and felt that the HSP would merit further scrutiny in the future.
- 8.2 Changes to Partnerships and Performance Regime – At its November meeting, the Committee scrutinised recent legislative changes relating to the measuring of local government performance. It was noted that several measures such as the Comprehensive Area Assessment and the Place Survey had been abolished and that the emphasis was now much more on Councils to measure their own performance.
- 8.3 Committee's Future Work Programme – In light of the Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee ending at the close of the 2010/11

municipal year it was agreed that officers would pass outstanding work programme items to the relevant other Overview and Scrutiny Committee in order for that Committee to consider taking on scrutiny of these matters.

The specific work programme items and the Committee to which they were referred are as shown below:

Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Review of Waste Management Partnerships – Biffa, East London Waste Authority, Shanks

Individuals Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Impact of Personalisation of Social Care on Voluntary Sector

Towns and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

Site Visit to Orchard Village Development

Cultural Partnerships (Culture Forum, Havering Museum, Queen's Theatre, Sports & Leisure Management)

Proposed Topic Group Review - Council Support for the Voluntary Sector.

Value Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Havering Strategic Partnership



TOWNS AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT, 2010/11

SUMMARY

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

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

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council note the 2010/11 Annual Report of the Towns and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

REPORT DETAIL

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

1. OVERVIEW OF CULTURE AND LEISURE SERVICES

1.1 At its first meeting in July 2010, the Committee sought to develop an understanding of what services the Council offered to residents.

Members received a presentation from the Council's Head of Culture and Leisure Services. The presentation covered the following areas

- Library Services
- Council owned leisure centres
- Community Halls
- Health & sports development
- Arts
- Heritage

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- Parks and open spaces
- 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games
- Community engagement

- 1.2 As a result of the presentation, the Committee was able to consider areas for its work programme and it was decided to continue the work of the Living Ambitions topic group.

2. OLYMPICS/PARALYMPICS 2012 – THE EFFECT ON HAVERING

At its October meeting, the Committee received a presentation from the Council's Head of Culture & Leisure Services outlining the impact that the Olympics and Paralympics would have on the borough.

- 2.2 Members were advised that there was an annual budget of £50,000 for planning for the events but no additional posts had been created. Approximately twenty companies based in Havering had been awarded contracts for the supply of materials and help in building the main Olympic Park and associated venues.

3. HOMES IN HAVERING – TENANCY AGREEMENT REVIEW

Members of the Committee received a presentation, from the Council's Housing Needs & Strategy Manager and Homes in Havering's Head of Housing Services, detailing a review of tenancy agreements.

Members were advised that the last review of tenancy agreements had taken place nine years ago and part of the recent audit inspection had recommended that a review take place to ensure that the management of tenancies remained robust.

Homes in Havering (HiH) was undertaking the review as part of the existing terms of the Management Agreement with the Council.

It was proposed that following agreement that the Council's Cabinet would be asked to consider the approval of amendments to the tenancy agreement at its meeting in December 2010 and that subject to consideration of any further comments by Cabinet the new tenancy agreement would come into effect from 1 April 2011.

4. PETITION RE PROPOSED DEMOLITION OF SEVEN SHOP UNITS IN HILLDENE SHOPPING CENTRE

- 4.1 In October, members of the Committee considered a petition that had been submitted to the Council.

- 4.2 The petition dealt with the proposal to demolish seven shop units in the Hilldene shopping centre.

The demolition of the shop units was to make way for a new library in Harold Hill.

The Council was taking steps to relocate the seven shop-keepers in the shopping centre in comparable or in some cases better trading locations.

Officers advised that given the significant benefits of the new library proposal it was recommended that the Council continued to develop this important proposal, as such, the Committee decided to take no further action on the petition.

5. REVIEW OF “FRIENDS OF GROUPS” FOR PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

- 5.1 In December the Committee received a briefing from the Parks & Open Spaces Manager. They were advised that there were currently 21 Friends Groups in Havering of whom 10 had achieved Official Friends status. The presentation outlined the objective of the Official Friends Programme which was to improve the way in which the Council work with the Friends groups across Havering.

Details of the type of works undertaken by Friends groups was provided and members were invited to attend the next Parks Open Forum.

6. DISABLED FACILITIES GRANTS

- 6.1 The Committee considered a report setting out the Council's responsibilities to assist people in the private sector, who need assistance to enable them to live in their own homes.

The provision of the Disabled Facility Grant (DFG) was governed under the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996. The range of works and adaptations were closely prescribed under the Act and subsequent amendments made under statutory instrument.

The award was mandatory provided that the relevant criteria had been met and was available for residents, including home owners, tenants and their families who were or could be considered disabled to make their home more suitable for independent living. The Committee were informed that there was a £30,000 ceiling on the level of mandatory grant.

- 6.2 Details of the budget for 2010/11 were provided together with an indication that an extra £400,000 was required to meet a shortfall in this year.

The officer provided details of the steps taken to improve the financial situation and the case for continued Disabled Facilities Grant support. The Committee were advised that a report had been submitted to the Cabinet that day to deal with possible solutions to the financial shortfall.

7. OVERVIEW OF PLANNING ENFORCEMENT IN HAVERING

- 7.1 In March the Committee received a presentation from the Council's Head of Development & Building Control. The presentation outlined the steps that the Council took to ensure planning breaches were dealt with.
- 7.2 Members noted that The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 defined "development" that required planning permission. Section 172 of the act read "where there has been a breach of planning control then the authority, if they consider it **expedient** to do so having regard to the provisions of the development plan and to any other material considerations, may issue a notice requiring the breach to be remedied." Thus the Council did not always consider it appropriate to issue a notice
- 7.3 Following the presentation Members agreed to the creation of a topic group to scrutinise planning enforcement in the borough. The topic group would focus on the reasons why enforcement action could be a lengthy process and deal with what the public perceived as delays in taking action.

8. BUDGET SCRUTINY

- 8.1 In both August 2010 and January 2011, the Committee met jointly with the other Overview and Scrutiny Committees in order to scrutinise aspects of the Council's proposed budget for the coming year. The meetings, chaired by the Chairman of the Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee, scrutinised several issues of relevance to this Committee. These included the sharing of ICT with London Borough of Newham and potential savings in shared procurement via the Council's participation in the East London Shared Services consortium.

9. OMBUDSMAN'S ANNUAL REVIEW

- 9.1 At its meeting in September, the Committee received the Ombudsman's Annual Review regarding complaints received about the Council in 2009-10. The Annual Review provided a summary of the complaints dealt with

Council, 20 July 2011

about the Council and included comments on the Council's performance and complaint handling arrangements.

- 9.2 The Committee noted that the Ombudsman received 114 complaints against the Council; advice was given in 28 cases and 32 were considered to be premature because the Council had not been given a reasonable opportunity to deal with them.
- 9.3 The Committee further noted that the Ombudsman made decisions on 59 complaints against the Council. Ten were outside the jurisdiction of the Ombudsman to investigate and another ten were closed for lack of grounds.

10. LIVING AMBITIONS TOPIC GROUP

- 10.1 Throughout the year the topic group has made several visits to activities and programmes provided throughout the borough.
- 10.2 Visits have included
- Havering Music School
 - Abbs Cross Music School
 - Library reading group
 - Havering sports centres
- 10.3 The Chairman of the Committee has also made several visits to sports centres and parks throughout the borough to check on the facilities offered and possible areas of improvement

11. INCLUSIVE AND ACTIVE 2

- 11.1 The Committee received a presentation from the Council's Health and Sports Development Co-ordinator - detailing the Inclusive and Active 2 project.
- 11.2 Inclusive and Active 2 was co-owned by the Greater London Authority, NHS London and Interactive and was supported by key regional and national agencies.
- 11.3 The scheme worked strategically to influence policy makers, opinion shapers and providers to achieve an increase in participation levels. The scheme supported both providers and strategy setters to ensure more opportunities existed for disabled people to participate in sport and physical activity and also supported those who directly worked with disabled people to advocate being active as a viable lifestyle choice.

12 LICENSING ENFORCEMENT

- 12.1 The Committee received a presentation from a member of the Council's Licensing team outlining licensing enforcement throughout the Borough.
- 12.2 The work of the team was to oversee all licensing activities of the Council which included both the Licensing Act 2003 and the Gambling Act 2005. The team also dealt with animal licensing which included boarding, breeding, pet shops, dangerous wild animals and zoos. Members were advised that the team also dealt with special treatment licences, street trading, poisons, Part B premises and the administration of the stray dogs collection contract.



VALUE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT, 2010/11

SUMMARY

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

It is planned for this report to stand as a public record of achievement for the year and enable Members and others to note the Committee's activities and performance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council note the 2010/11 Annual Report of the Value Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

REPORT DETAIL

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. THE ROLE OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

At its first meeting in July 2010, the Committee received a briefing on the role of Overview and Scrutiny. This covered function of topic groups, the requisition process and the Committee's role in budget scrutiny. The

Committee's role in scrutinising aspects of the Local Area Agreement and, where appropriate, dealing with Councillor Calls for Action was also considered. The Committee noted that Council had recommended that only one topic group be run under the auspices of each Committee at any one time.

2. HEAD OF SERVICE INTRODUCTORY PRESENTATION

The Committee received a presentation that outlined the main areas that were covered by the Committee's remit. As regards customer access at the Council, the Committee was informed that the aim was to encourage customers towards self service as much as possible whether over the telephone or via electronic means whilst retaining current channels that included face to face contact.

As part of the new E-government and ICT strategy that allows the use of mobile IT and a greater amount of shared services. The Council had an arrangement that was unique across London, the ICT head of service was being shared with London Borough of Newham. This would allow more efficient use of skill sets.

The Committee was also responsible for overall scrutiny of financial issues. This included the Medium Term Financial Strategy, budget management and internal audit. Also covered were Human resources issues that included learning & development, recruitment and workforce information such as sickness levels.

Asset management including property acquisition and disposal came within the Committee's remit as did facilities management including cleaning, hall keeping and the reception service at Council buildings. Other areas which the Committee was responsible for scrutinising included communications, and legal & democratic services. The Committee had overall responsibility for scrutinising partnership working taking place under the Local Area Agreement. This included shared services in areas such as ICT and National Non-Domestic Rates.

3. COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee agreed that the following items would be placed on its work programme for the year".

- Expenditure on agency staff
- Relationship with London Councils
- Performance management information

The Committee agreed that, at later meetings during the municipal year, it should receive updates from officers on other areas, such as emergency planning and business continuity that had previously been scrutinised by the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

4. USE OF AGENCY STAFF BY THE COUNCIL

At its meeting on 30 September 2010, the Committee received a presentation from the Business Development Manager on Vendor Neutral Managed Service (VNMS) a tool used within the council to provide Agency workers.

The Committee was informed that the Council in 2006 began a competitive tender process to appoint Vendor Neutral Managed Services (VNMS) for provision of temporary agency workers. Figures provided stated that the council spent in the region of £15million annually using approximately 450 temporary agency workers. The Committee was also informed that the contract for the use of agency staff by the Council started in August 2007 and expired in August 2010 with an option to extend. The contract was extended at that point for a further year until August 2011.

5. NATIONAL INDICATOR OUTTURNS 2009/10

At its meeting on 30 September the Committee received a presentation on the Council's latest performance information from the Policy, Partnership & Performance Manager that outlined how the Council measures performance across a wide range of services and policy areas. This report also provided the Committee with a final outturn for 2009/10 of the National Indicators for which the Council was responsible.

The Committee was informed that within the publication of the new Government's Coalition Agreement was a commitment to reducing 'bureaucracy' and central government led targets. The Council was therefore undertaking a review of Performance Indicators in use across the council with a view to streamlining its approach to performance management.

The report outlined that the overall performance of the Council last year was very good. Of the 84 indicators reported, 61% met their targets, with a further 11% within the 5% 'tolerance range' of targets.

This represented a 75% achievement rate and to put this into a national context, if the council's performance was still benchmarked by the Audit

Commission, these results would probably have placed Havering in the top quartile of all councils in England.

6. CUSTOMER SERVICES PRESENTATION

The Committee received two interactive presentations relating to how Complaints and Customer Services are dealt with within the Council.

The first outlined the process that staff undertook when a corporate complaint was received. The Committee was informed that the service defined a Corporate Complaint as “Any expression of dissatisfaction, whether oral or written, and whether justified or not, from or on behalf of a resident about the Council’s provision of, or failure to provide, a service”.

The Committee made the following comments and suggestions:

- The importance to breaking down categories of complaints in order for Overview & scrutiny Committees to address any issues
- That Members are provided with one email address to direct all their enquiries.
- That complaint data is incorporated in the performance pack

The presentation on the Customer Services Transformation Programme explained the following key features of the programme:

- That the aim was to enable those customers who can to access services by themselves.
- That for those customers who cannot, the council would provide targeted, quality and cost effective services.

The Committee was informed that through better customer services efficiencies in service delivery would be achieved.

7. HAVERING’S MEMBERSHIP OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (LGA) LONDON COUNCILS AND OTHER BODIES

The Policy, Partnership & Performance Manager presented a report that examined the Council’s membership of the Local Government Association London Councils and any other bodies which the Council was currently a member of. The report outlined in detail the functions of the LGA and London Councils, and the relative benefits to Havering of being a member of such organisations.

The report also detailed the cost of membership subscription to the LGA. Membership subscriptions were based upon the size of the authority and the population that it represented and thus differed from council to council. In 2009 the LGA froze its member subscriptions whilst at the same time maintaining services to members and continued to lobby on their behalf to safeguard or secure additional government funding.

The presentation led to the Committee agreeing to run a topic group on the Council's relationship with London Councils in order to scrutinise this area in more detail. The Topic Group has since agreed its objectives and the scope of the review which is currently underway.

8. REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

The Committee received a report that gave a summary of the national policy changes in relation to the local government performance management framework, as well as updating Members on the Council's review of performance management and what the council's new performance framework might look like from 1 April 2011.

9. UPDATE ON THE COUNCIL'S REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT INDICATORS AND THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE SINGLE DATA LIST FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

An update was taken by the Committee on the Council's review of the amount of performance indicators it currently used. The report also updated Members on the new Single Data List produced by the Department of Communities and Local Government, which had identified 463 pieces of data which local authorities would be expected to collect on behalf of Central Government.

The Committee requested that further information on Performance Indicators relevant to the Value Overview & Scrutiny Committee be produced for members at the next meeting on 14 April 2011.

10. SHARED SERVICES PRESENTATIONS

At its meeting on 8 March 2011, the Committee received two presentations that informed them about Internal Shared Services (ISS) and the Havering & Newham Council ICT Services partnership. The presentation informed the Committee that ISS was due to go live on 4 April 2011.

The Committee was informed that future plans for ISS included the following:

- Bringing in more work
- Providing services to other public sector bodies
- Providing the solution to other London Boroughs

The second presentation informed the Committee of the objectives of the Newham & Havering shared ICT arrangements. The Committee was informed that Havering & Newham had already made significant revenue savings over the last 3 years equal to about £1million and highlighted an estimated £11M ICT cost saving for the 2 boroughs over the next 5 years.

11. RESPONDING TO THE COUNCIL'S EMERGENCY BUDGET AND THE POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF THE COALITION AGREEMENT

In both August 2010 and January 2011, the Committee met jointly with the other Overview and Scrutiny Committees in order to scrutinise aspects of the Council's proposed budget for the coming year. The meeting scrutinised several issues of relevance to this Committee. These included the sharing of ICT with London Borough of Newham and potential savings in shared procurement via the Council's participation in the East London Shared Services consortium.

At a joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting the Committee considered the Councils' emergency budget and the proposed changes to services and their funding.

Members of the Committee scrutinised a number of issues pertaining to its remit including centralisation of property management, the extent of the Council Tax base, the ending of the Council's subscription to the Local Government Information Unit (LGIU) subscription, the value of local land charges and issues relating to facilities management.

12. REQUISITION

In accordance with paragraph 17 of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee Rules, a requisition was considered by the Committee on 6 December 2010.

The requisition related to the Council's asset management plan that all council owned property assets were kept under review to ensure that they met the agreed criteria for retention.

The following Cabinet Member decision dated 12 November 2010 was called in:

Council, 20 July 2011

1. To authorise the proposal that land comprising 2 separate sites (as detailed below) be proposed for appropriation to planning purposes under section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972, and that such intended appropriation would be advertised in accordance with Section 122(2A) of the Local Government Act 1972.
 - Land at Ongar Way/Rainham Road, South Hornchurch
 - Land at Gooshays Drive, Harold Hill

In summary, the reasons for the requisitions were:

To give Members the opportunity to give detailed consideration of the alternative public uses that both parcels of land may be put to other than development for housing purposes and to consider issues around obtaining planning consent in respect of the land at Gooshays Drive.

Following a scrutiny of the issues concerned, the Committee resolved not to uphold the requisition.

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Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

**ANNUAL REPORT ON THE
WORK OF
THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

April 2011

Council, 20 July 2011

1. Introduction

1.1 This report covers the period April 2010 to March 2011 and outlines:-

- Information relating to the Audit Committee;
- The coverage of work undertaken by the Audit Committee;
- Key issues arising;
- Actions taken during the year, including training, to ensure the effectiveness of the Audit Committee; and
- Future planned work and challenges.

2. Background

2.1 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 Audit Structure

Audit Committee Cllr Georgina Galpin (Chair from May 2011)
 Cllr Osman Dervish
 Cllr Roger Ramsey
 Cllr Frederick Thompson
 Cllr Clarence Barrett
 Cllr Paul McGeary

Internal Auditors Internal Service

External Auditors PricewaterhouseCoopers

4. Audit Committee coverage

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

4.2 Regular Work

The Committee has regularly reviewed:

- Progress against the audit plan and performance;
- Key findings/issues arising from each audit undertaken;
- Progress against implementation of the recommendations;
- Anti fraud and corruption activity, including frauds identified;
- The Corporate Risk Register; and
- Progress against External Audit's Plan.

4.3 Specific Review / Reports

There were several during the year including a review and approval of:

- the Risk Management Strategy;
- the Anti Fraud and Corruption Strategy;
- the Statement of Accounts including Annual Governance Statement;
- the Internal Audit Strategy; and
- the Annual Audit Plan,

The Committee also received assurances via:

- Annual Report from Internal Audit;
- The work of External Audit;
- Annual report on schools audit activity and findings;

5. Key issues arising

- 5.1 Members of the Audit Committee have been regularly briefed on the objection to the Statement of Accounts by a resident and the subsequent enquiry by PwC.
- 5.2 Members expressed concerns regarding the number of outstanding audit recommendations and were subsequently briefed on a successful exercise to clear these.
- 5.3 Debt recovery in Private Sector Leasing was highlighted as an issue. Members were briefed by the Head of Housing and Public Protection on this matter and will continue to receive regular briefings
- 5.4 The Committee received regular reports from Officers on the progress against the implementation of the International Financial Reporting Standards and on Treasury Management matters.

6. Work to ensure effectiveness of Committee

- 6.1 The Committee has received dedicated training and awareness sessions on, The role of Audit Committee, Treasury Management, Risk Management, and Fraud and corruption during the year.
- 6.2 In February the annual review of the committee's effectiveness was undertaken. The Committee completed a self assessment against CIPFA best practice guidance and noted the outcome and areas for possible improvement. No significant issues arose as a result of this exercise.
- 6.3 The Chairman met with the Internal Audit and Corporate Risk Manager during the year to gain assurance regarding the independence of the team and to advise that direct channels of communication are accessible should they be needed.

7. Priorities and work plan for the forthcoming year

- 7.1 The Audit Committee is currently planned to meet on five occasions over the next municipal year. There are specific reports planned throughout the year, running through a mix of quarterly progress reports and annual reviews of specific strategies and policies within the remit of the Committee, together with progress reports from the Council's external auditor.
- 7.2 Officers will ensure any new members on the Committee in the new municipal year are adequately trained in their new role.
- 7.3 All members of the Committee will continue to be briefed regarding the implications of the change to compliance with the International Financial Reporting Standards as this will be necessary to allow the Committee to fulfil its role in approving the accounts.
- 7.4 The Committee will be involved in the consultation process regarding "The Future of Public Audit"
- 7.5 Committee will continue to focus on ensuring Value for Money and challenging weak areas that have been highlighted by the work of Internal Audit.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS
FROM APRIL 2010 TO DATE**

13th April 2010

- Benefit Subsidy Grants Report
- Internal Audit Charter and Terms of Reference
- Internal Audit Interim Progress Report
- Annual Review of Whistleblowing Arrangements
- CRB
- Urgent Business

23rd June 2010

- Annual Statement of Accounts 2009/10 containing Annual Governance Statement
- Annual Audit Letter
- External Audit Fee Letter
- External Audit Progress Report
- Annual Treasury Management
- Annual Head of Internal Audit Report
- Internal Audit Progress Report
- CRB
- Urgent Business

23rd September 2010

- Annual Statement of Accounts
- Housing and Council Tax Benefit Fraud update
- Internal Audit Progress Report
- Annual Review of Schools Internal Audit 2009/10
- Treasury Update
- Urgent Business

7th December 2010

- Update on objection to the Accounts
- Annual Audit Letter
- IFRS Accounts closedown update
- Annual Review of Risk Management arrangements
- Internal Audit Progress Report
- Annual Review of Risk Management Arrangements
- Fraud Progress Report
- AGS update report
- Treasury Management Strategy and Update
- Urgent Business

1st March 2010

- Update on Objection to Accounts Action Plan
- External Audit Plan
- Housing Benefit Fraud Progress Report
- Annual Review of the Audit Committees Effectiveness
- Internal Audit Progress Report
- Internal Audit Charter and TOR

Council, 20 July 2011

- Internal Audit Plan 11/12 and Strategy
- Grants Report
- IFRS Update
- Urgent Business

AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBERS TRAINING / AWARENESS

Timescale	Session	Coverage
June 2010	Session 1	Annual Accounts
September 2010	Session 2	The Role of Audit Committee
November 2010	Session 3 (not linked to Committee Meeting)	Treasury Management
December 2010	Session 4	Risk Management
March 2011	Session 5	Fraud and Corruption
May 2011	Session 6	Schools Finance and Audit Programme.

AUDIT COMMITTEE – FORWARD PLAN / TRAINING

FORWARD PLAN	AGENDA ITEM	PLANNED TRAINING
23 rd June 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Accounts - TBC • AGS - TBC • External Audit Fee Letter • Annual Letter 2010/11 • External Audit Progress Report • Internal Audit Progress Report • Money laundering annual review • Head of Audit Annual Report and Opinion • Treasury Management Report 	Shared Services – TBC
September 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Accounts • External Audit Annual Plan • Internal Audit Progress Report inc Outstanding Recommendations Report • Housing Benefit Fraud Progress Report • Annual School Report 	Annual Accounts - TBC
December 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Review of Risk Management Arrangements • Annual Audit Letter • Internal Audit Progress Report • Fraud Progress Report • Treasury Management Report 	Treasury Mgt Refresher (Nov) TBC Risk Management & Assurance - refresher
March 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External Audit 11/12 Plan • Internal Audit Draft 12/13 plan and strategy. • Internal Audit progress report • Housing Benefit Fraud Progress Report • Annual Review of Audit Committee Effectiveness • Internal Audit Charter and Terms of Reference • Annual Grants review • 	Fraud and corruption update
April 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim Internal Audit Progress Report • Whistle blowing • Annual Report of Audit Committee • Fraud progress report inc. NFI update 	TBC



Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

HAVERING PENSION FUND

**BUSINESS PLAN/REPORT ON THE WORK
OF THE
PENSIONS COMMITTEE**

2010/11

INTRODUCTION

The Havering Pension Fund (the 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 a Business Plan/Annual report to all Council Members on the Havering Pension Fund and the work of the Pensions Committee.

The Business Plan looks forward over the next three years and will be reviewed and updated annually. This report also covers the period 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011 and outlines:

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

The financial position and the performance of the Havering Pension Fund for 2010/11 is featured as part of the formal Annual Report of the Fund itself and not included here. The Annual Report is prepared later in the year when the pension fund accounts have been finalised.

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 financed by contributions from employees, employers and from profit, interest and dividends from investments.

The Council had delegated the responsibility for investment strategy and performance monitoring to the Pensions Committee.

The Havering Pension Fund has adopted a benchmark for the overall fund of Gilts + 2.9% (net of fees). The Fund had six different fund managers (who have specific mandates) for the majority of 2010/11 and performance is monitored against an agreed benchmark. This was reduced to five managers following the termination of the mandate with the Global Equities manager in February 2011. The positioning of the fund as at March 2011 follows:

Manager and target percentage of total Fund awarded	Mandate	Tactical Benchmark (what managers are measured against)	Out performance Target
Standard Life 20%	UK Equities	FTSE All Share Index	2%
State Street (SSgA) (Account 1) 15%	UK/ Global Equities - Passive	UK – FTSE All Share Index Global (ExUK) – FTSE All World Ex UK Index MSCI All World Index	To track the benchmark
State Street (SSgA) (Account 2) 25%	UK/ Global Equities - Passive	UK – FTSE All Share Index Global (ExUK) – FTSE All World Ex UK Index MSCI All World Index	To track the benchmark
Royal London Asset Management (RLAM) 25%	Investment Grade Bonds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 50% iBoxx Sterling Non Gilt Over 10 Year Index• 16.7% FTSE Actuaries UK Gilt Over 15 Years Index• 33.3% FTSE Actuaries Index-Linked Over 5 Year Index	0.75%
UBS 10%	Property	IPD (previously called HSBC/AREF) All Balanced Funds Median Index	To outperform the benchmark
Ruffer 5%	Multi Asset	Not measured against any market index – for illustrative purposes LIBOR (3months) +4%	To outperform the benchmark

Fund Managers present performance updates on a quarterly basis. They report every 6 months at the Pensions Committee and on alternate quarters meet with officers for a formal meeting, with the exception of Ruffer and State Street who will attend two meetings per year (one with officers and one with the committee).

The Fund also uses the services of WM Performance Measurers to independently report on fund manager performance.

FUND MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

Day to day management of the fund is delegated to the Director of Finance and Commerce. The Committee also obtains and considers advice from the authority's officers, and as necessary from the Fund's appointed professional adviser, actuary and performance measurers who attend meetings as and when required.

The membership of the Pensions Committee reflects the political balance of the Council and the structure of the Pensions Committee during the period March 2010 to April 11 is as follows:

Cllr Robby Misir (Chairman) - Conservative Group
Cllr Eric Munday (Vice Chairman) - Conservative Group
Cllr Benham - Conservative Group
Cllr Melvin Wallace - Conservative Group
Cllr Clarence Barrett - Residents Group
Cllr Linda van den Hende - Residents Group
Cllr Jeffrey Tucker - Independent Local Residents Group

Non voting Union Members:

Brian Long (Unison) replaced by John Giles
Sean Ramsden (TGWU)

Non voting Admitted/Scheduled Body Representative:

David Holmes – Havering College of Further and Higher Education

There were some changes made to the elected members of the committee following Local Elections held in May 2010 as follows:

Cllr Eric Munday (Chairman) – Conservative Group
Cllr Damian White (Vice-Chairman) – Conservative Group
Cllr Roger Ramsey – Conservative Group
Cllr Melvin Wallace – Conservative Group
Cllr Ron Ower – Residents Group
Cllr Denis Breeding – Labour Group
Cllr Jeffrey Tucker - Independent Local Residents Group

Fund Administrator	London Borough of Havering
Actuary	Hymans Robertson (April 2010)
Auditors	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PWC)
Performance Measurement	WM Company
Custodians	State Street Global Services
Investment Managers	Standard Life Investments (UK Equities) Royal London Asset Management (Investment Bonds) Alliance Bernstein Institutional Investors until February 2011(Global Equities) UBS (Property) State Street Global Assets from September 2010 (UK/Global Equities – passive) Ruffer LLP from September 2010 (Multi Asset)
Investment Advisers	Hymans Robertson
Legal Advisers	London Borough of Havering Legal Services provide legal advice as necessary (specialist advice is procured as necessary)

The terms of reference for the committee are:

- To consider and agree the investment strategy and statement of investment principles for the pension fund
- Where appropriate and above staff delegation levels to authorise the invitation of tenders and the award of contracts for actuaries, advisers and fund managers or other related investment matters

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- 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

PENSION COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2010/11

The Committee met a number of times during 2010/11 and Annex A sets out the coverage but the key issues that arose in the period or since the last business plan was produced are shown below:

Key issues arising in the period

- **2010 valuation**

Members agreed the outcomes of the 2010 Actuarial Valuation for the fund

- **Investment Strategy**

Investment Strategy Implementation was progressed and potential fund managers were interviewed and appointed for a Multi Asset Manager and a Passive UK/Global Equity Manager.

Following the outcome of the 2010 Valuation members agreed to some initial changes to asset allocations and some rebalancing within the fund.

- **Annual Report**

The Pension Fund Annual Report 31 March 2010 was produced and agreed in line with the LGPS (Administration) regulations.

- **Communication Strategy and Governance Policy**

In line with the 1997 Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) the committee undertook an annual review of the Pension Fund's Communication Strategy and Governance Compliance Statement.

- **Statement of Investment Principles**

Updated the Statement of Investment Principles as at June 10 to reflect the changes to the revised Myners' principles and Compliance statement.

- **Whistleblowing Requirements of the Pensions Act**

An annual review was undertaken and no issues were reported.

- **Updated Discretionary Policies**

Reflected the change in the increase to the minimum retirement age to 55 which came into effect on the 1 April 2010.

- **Business Plan**

The Pension Fund Business Plan for 2009/10 was agreed incorporating the work of the pension committee members.

- **Reviewed Fund Manager quarterly performance**
- **Agreed the final extension of the contract for Pension Advisory Services until 31 March 2012.**
- **Reviewed performance of Custodians**
- **Agreed membership status of non teaching staff in non community schools**
- **Agreed 2009/10 Pension Fund Accounts**

PENSION COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2011/12 AND ONWARDS

In addition to the annual cyclical work programme as shown in Annex C there are a number of issues that are likely to be considered by the Pensions Committee in the coming year and beyond:

- The potential outcomes of the Hutton proposals on Public Sector pension reforms
- Further Investment Strategy implications following the 2010 Valuation result.
- Appointment of the Pension Fund Advisory Services.
- Review of the Funding Strategy Statement in conjunction with 2010 Valuation.
- Topical issues discussed as appropriate.

INTERNAL & EXTERNAL RESOURCES

The Pensions Committee is supported by the administering authorities' finance and administration services and the associated costs are therefore reimbursed to the administering authority by the Fund. The costs for these services form part of the Administrative and Investment Management expenses as reported in the Pension Fund Statement of Accounts. Estimates for the medium term on Administration and Investment Management expenses follow in this report.

The Pensions Administration service consists of an establishment of 8.6 full time equivalent posts (1 post currently vacant).

The Finance service that supports the pension fund consists of an establishment of 1.5 full time equivalent posts.

FINANCIAL ESTIMATES

Administrative Expenses

	2009/10 Actual £000's	2010/11 Actual £000's	2011/12 Estimate £000's	2012/13 Estimate £000's	2013/14 Estimate £000's
Administration & Processing	568	499	500	500	500
Actuarial Fees	14	63	20	20	20
Audit Fees	35	35	35	35	35
Other Fees	6	6	6	6	6
Other Costs	13	11	10	10	10
TOTAL	636	614	571	571	571

Investment Management expenses

	2009/10 Actual £000's	2010/11 Actual £000's	2011/12 Estimate £000's	2012/13 Estimate £000's	2013/14 Estimate £000's
Administration, Management & custody	1,224	1,224	1,200	1,200	1,200
Performance Measurement services	11	11	11	11	11
Other Advisory Fees	68	47	40	40	40
TOTAL	1,303	1,282	1,251	1,251	1,251

Please note the following regarding the above figures

- Takes no account of any inflationary increases
- Management and custody fees are charged according to the fund value; therefore an average figure has been applied from 2011/12.
- Based on 2010/11 fund and staffing structures.
- Actuary fees increased in 2010/11 for the work carried out on 2010 valuation.
- Advisory Fees greater in 2009/10 due to Investment Manager tendering and appointment

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Long membership of the committee is encouraged in order to ensure that expertise is developed and maintained within. The Council recommend that the membership of the Pension Committee remain static for the life of the term in Council, unless exceptional circumstances require a change.

CIPFA's knowledge and Skills self assessment training questionnaire was distributed to members in January 2011. Training will be targeted as appropriate.

Training and development took place during 2010/11 to ensure that Members of the Committee were fully briefed in the decisions they were taking.

Training logs are maintained and attendance and coverage can be found in Annex B.

The Fund uses the three day training courses offered by the Local Government Employers (LGE) which is specially targeted at elected members with Pension Fund responsibilities. All new members are encouraged and given the opportunity to attend.

Members receive briefings and advice from the Funds Investment adviser at each committee meeting.

The Fund is a member of the CIPFA Pensions network which gives access to an extensive programme of events, training/workshops, weekly newsletters and documentation, including briefing notes on the latest topical issues.

The Pension Fund Accountant also attends quarterly forum meetings with peers from other London Boroughs; this gives access to extensive opportunities of knowledge sharing and benchmarking data.

TRAINING PLAN FOR 2011/12 and ONWARDS

Associated training will be given when required which will be linked to the Pension Fund meeting coverage for 2011/12 as shown in Annex C.

Training will be targeted as appropriate.

**PENSIONS COMMITTEE MEEETINGS HELD DURING 2010/11
(or since production of the 2009/10 Business Plan)**

ANNEX A

MONTH	TOPIC	ATTENDED BY
March 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pension Fund Performance Monitoring for the quarter ending 31 December 2009 Agreed Business Plan/ Report on the work of the Pensions Committee Reviewed the services of the Pension Fund Actuary Discretionary Policies Update 	Cllr Melvin Wallace (chair) Cllr Robby Misir Cllr Eric Munday Cllr Clarence Barrett David Holmes (Employer representative)
March 2010 (Special)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interviewed potential new Fund Managers (Alternatives and Passive equities) 	Cllr Melvin Wallace (chair) Cllr Robby Misir Cllr Eric Munday Cllr Clarence Barrett David Holmes (Employer representative)
June 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pension Fund Performance Monitoring for the quarter ending 31 March 2010 Reviewed and updated the Statement of Investment Principles in line with revised Myners principles 	Cllr Eric Munday (chair) Cllr Damian White Cllr Melvin Wallace Cllr Roger Ramsey Cllr Ron Ower Cllr Denis Breeding Cllr Jeffrey Tucker Brian Long (UNISON)
September 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pension Fund Performance Monitoring for the quarter ending 30 June 2010 Agreed Pension Fund Accounts 2009/10 Noted external audit report 	Cllr Eric Munday (chair) Cllr Damian White Cllr Melvin Wallace Cllr Roger Ramsey Cllr Clarence Barrett (sub for Ron Ower) Cllr Keith Darvill (sub for Denis Breeding) John Giles (UNISON)
November 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed Pension Fund's Communication Strategy and Governance Compliance Statement Noted Whistleblowing Report Reviewed the services of the Pension Fund Custodian Agreed extension of the Contract for Pensions Advisory Services Agreed Membership status of non teaching staff in non community schools Agreed Pension Fund Annual Report – Year ended 31 March 2010 	Cllr Eric Munday (chair) Cllr Damian White Cllr Melvin Wallace Cllr Roger Ramsey Cllr Denis Breeding John Giles (UNISON)
December 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pension Fund Performance Monitoring for the quarter ending 30 September 2010 	Cllr Eric Munday (chair) Cllr Melvin Wallace Cllr Roger Ramsey Cllr Osman Dervish (sub for Damian White) Cllr Keith Darvill (sub for Denis Breeding) Gary Chick-Mackay (UNISON) (sub for John Giles)

**PENSIONS COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD DURING 2010/11
(or since production of the 2009/10 Business Plan)**

MONTH	TOPIC	ATTENDED BY
FEBRUARY 2011 (Special)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome of 2010 Valuation Report and implications for Investment Strategy 	Cllr Eric Munday (chair) Cllr Damian White Cllr Melvin Wallace Cllr Denis Breeding Cllr Ron Ower Cllr S. Kelly (sub for Roger Ramsey) John Giles (UNISON) David Holmes (Employer representative)
MARCH 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pension Fund Performance Monitoring for the quarter ending 31 December 2010 • Pension Fund Investment Strategy - asset allocation and rebalancing 	Cllr Eric Munday (chair) Cllr Damian White Cllr Roger Ramsey Cllr Ron Ower Cllr Jeffrey Tucker John Giles (UNISON)

Please note that three members constitute a quorum.

Target dates for issuing agendas were met.

PENSIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER TRAINING 2010/11

ANNEX B

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	COST	ATTENDED BY
30 June 2010	Pension's overview – delivered by Pension Fund Accountant/Fund's Advisor and Actuary.	Town Hall	Officer Time (charge by Actuary and Advisor built in with fee charges)	Cllr Ower Cllr Breading Cllr D.White (partial) Cllr Wallace (partial)
20 October, 09 November & 7 December 10	Local Government Employers delivering Trustee Training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day 1 (20 Oct 10) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ LGPS framework (past and present) ○ Investment framework ○ Traditional Asset Classes 	London	£210.00 pp	Cllr Munday Cllr D. White
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day 2 (9 Nov 10) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Valuations ○ Funding Strategy Statements ○ Corporate Governance ○ Communication Strategies/Policies ○ Established Alternative Investments 	London	£210.00 pp	Cllr Munday Dave Thomas (UNISON) (sub for John Giles)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day 3 (7 Dec 10) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Duties and Responsibilities of committee members ○ The future for LGPS ○ Managers and Manager Selection ○ Brining it all together 	London	£210.00 pp	Cllr Munday
10 November 10	Alliance Bernstein – UK Pension Fund Leaders Dinner	London	Free	Cllr Munday
11 November 10	Standard Life – Equities Dinner	London	Free	Cllr D.White Cllr Dervish
20 December 10	Engaged Investor Handbook distributed – Covers: Introduction Jargon Buster Part 1 – Asset Classes Part 2 – Investment Strategies Part 3 – Managing Investments Part 4 – Defined Contributions (Info only)	Via email	Officer Time	Cllr Munday Cllr D. White Cllr Wallace Cllr Ramsey Cllr Ower Cllr Breading Cllr Tucker John Giles (UNISON) David Holmes (Employer Rep)

PENSIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER TRAINING 2010/11

ANNEX B

DATE	TOPIC COVERED	LOCATION	COST	ATTENDED BY
28 February 110	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2010 Valuation – Delivered by Funds' Actuary• Investment Strategy – Delivered by Fund's Investment Advisor	Town Hall prior to Committee meeting	(charge by Actuary and Advisor built in with fee charges)	Cllr Munday Cllr D.White Cllr Wallace Cllr Breathing Cllr Ower Cllr Tucker John Giles (UNISON) David Holmes (Employer Rep)

INDICITIVE PENSIONS COMMITTEE CYCLICAL MEETINGS AND COVERAGE 2011/12

ANNEX C

	JUNE 2011	SEPTEMBER 2011	NOVEMBER 2011	DECEMBER 2011	MARCH 2012
Formal Committees with Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overall Monitoring Report on Pension Fund to end of March: ▪ a) Property Manager ▪ Annual Training/ Business Plan and Work Plan Review inc work of Committee ▪ Review of FSS following Valuation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overall Monitoring Report on Pension Fund to end of June: ▪ a) UK Equities Manager ▪ b) UK Bonds Manager ▪ Pension Fund Accounts 10/11 ▪ Annual report on activity of Pensions Administration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual review of Custodian ▪ Annual review of Adviser ▪ Annual review of Actuary ▪ Review of Communications/ Governance Policies ▪ Whistleblowing Annual Assessment ▪ Administration Strategy (regs change) if necessary ▪ Pension Fund Annual Report ▪ Stakeholder/ Regs review on pensions as required Activity; IDRPs policy; discretions – 100 weeks only – 100 weeks done verbally??? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overall Monitoring Report on Pension Fund to end of September: ▪ a) Property Manager ▪ b) Passive Equity Manager 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overall Monitoring Report on Pension Fund to end of December: ▪ a) UK Equities Manager ▪ b) UK Bonds Manager
Officer Meeting	Meeting: 10 May 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UK equities ▪ UK Bonds ▪ Passive Equity Manager 	Meeting: 18 Aug 11 (am) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Property ▪ WM presentation Meeting TBC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Custodian Review • Advisor Review 	No meeting	Meeting: 24 Nov 11 (pm) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UK Equities ▪ UK Bonds Manager 	Meeting: 7 Feb 12 (pm) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Property ▪ Multi Asset Manager
Training	Associated Training	Associated Training	Associated training	Associated Training	Associated training

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STANDARDS COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

Changes to the Standards Committee

The government set out its intention to abolish the 'Standards Board Regime' in the coalition agreement published in May 2010.

The changes will be brought into effect through the Localism Bill which was introduced to Parliament on December 13, 2010.

The House of Commons debated its main principles on 17 January 2011 and the Bill is now undergoing revisions at the Committee stage.

It is anticipated that Standards for England will cease to investigate complaints in late 2011 and will be formally abolished in early 2012.

In summary the government's proposals are:

- to abolish Standards for England
- to remove the First-tier Tribunal's (Local Government Standards in England) jurisdiction over member conduct
- to remove the national Code of Conduct for councillors and the requirement to have a standards committee
- to allow councils to choose whether or not they wish to have a local code or a standards committee
- to create a criminal offence relating to failure to register or declare interests

Councils will be required to consult their electorate as to whether they intend to abolish the code of conduct or revise it for their Members.

Registration and Declaration of Interests

Regulations will require an authority's monitoring officer to establish and maintain a register of members' interests. Failure to register or disclose an interest or to take part in business of the authority to which an interest applies, without reasonable excuse, will be a criminal offence.

The penalty that the magistrates' court may impose upon conviction is a fine of up to £5,000 and an order disqualifying the person from being a member of a relevant authority for up to five years.

Council, 20 July 2011

The conduct of politicians - whether national or local - is coming under ever closer scrutiny. Members will be aware that the former Leader of Essex County Council, for example, was recently sentenced to a term of imprisonment for falsely claiming expenses, albeit as member of the House of Lords. Although the over-prescriptive standards regime is being abolished, the need for Members to maintain the highest level of personal conduct and integrity will remain, reinforced by the risk of imprisonment if interests are not declared. Maintaining high standards of conduct will remain a priority."

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Members will not need reminding that the most important role of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education, which is a nationwide statutory one, is to oversee the provision of sound and accurate teaching in RE. The late Michael Edwards, who for a great many years was instrumental in steering SACRE in Havering, maintained that the teaching of RE was to give pupils an insight into what members of each faith group believed and how putting their beliefs into practice affected their lives.

Good RE teaching is not just about facts and information - though in our country's multi-faith society of today it will help to dispel some of the myths surrounding the beliefs of some of the faith groups - but, SACRE believes, is also instrumental in setting both moral and theological parameters for today's children, soon to be tomorrow's citizens. Teaching pupils respect for all faiths and providing them with information on what members of the different religions have contributed towards our somewhat 'mongrel' nation should also help to combat faith-related bullying.

You will see from the Annual Report which you have before you that Havering's SACRE worked hard to build on those principles. The Agreed Syllabus, 'Pathways', in place since the end of 2007, has proved a most effective tool in both Primary and Secondary schools across the borough – and beyond as other education providers have requested it for their schools.

In the current economic climate, SACRE members are heartened to learn that HIAS is continuing to set aside sufficient funds during this academic year for training and supporting SACRE's work. SACRE's termly meetings continue to have lively discussions on the topics brought before it and its record of attendance confirms that the busy individuals who make up its numbers feel passionately enough about its value to turn up and contribute to its work.

That does not mean that there are no concerns. The recent move towards allowing schools to become academies along with the new Bacculaureate and changes to the status of RE in education does raise concerns about the future of RE and I have to report that these are issues which will take some time to work out, but Havering's SACRE is bracing itself to address these changes and Council can rest assured that it is well equipped to meet and successfully surmount those challenges.

On a happier note; I am pleased to report that SACRE's practice of holding its summer meeting in either a school or a place of worship continues. During 2010, the visit was to the Mawney School and this year it has recently been to St Mary's Church and Primary School in Hornchurch, combining both place of worship and school where - those Members who attended will attest - the quality of the production put on by the children (a re-run of their Easter assembly) was extremely high and most moving, the guided tour of the church, well informed and enlightening and all was rounded off by the generous hospitality in the Presbytery. These visits not only provide members with an enjoyable change of venue, but contribute positively to its understanding of how education and faith is being expressed today in Havering – and with a possible review of the Agreed Syllabus pending, this ensures that any changes remain relevant and firmly grounded in reality.

It therefore gives me great pleasure to commend SACRE's Annual Report to the Council.



**HAVING
STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL
ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

ANNUAL REPORT 2010



Chair's Foreword

I am delighted to present the annual report for 2010.

This has been another inspiring year. SACRE continues to be a very active organisation and we were pleased to welcome new members, including new Council members, teacher groups and representatives from faith groups to our recent autumn term meeting, during which - in addition to the usual reports and discussions - members watched a series of four short films made by NATRE (the National Association of Teachers of RE) which were received with interest and enthusiasm by all.

The number of students following Religious Studies examination courses continues to increase and more local authorities have requested copies of our Agreed Syllabus which is still being successfully put into practice by local schools. One of the key people in helping to write and put together the Agreed Syllabus was Janet Dyson, consultant to SACRE, who moved on from Havering this autumn. Both SACRE and the borough have benefited from her vast knowledge and expertise and she will be greatly missed. We offer Janet our sincere thanks for all the help she has given us, together with our good wishes for whatever she goes on to do in the future. Janet set high standards and it is hoped that her successor will continue to provide the excellent support SACRE has enjoyed for so long. In this respect, the local authority anticipates making a new appointment very soon.



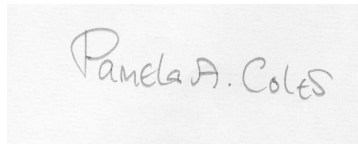
A visit to a Synagogue by a group of Havering pupils

In the light of world affairs we continue to value the importance of learning more about each other by maintaining our practice of holding our Summer Term meeting at either a place of worship or in one of the Borough's schools. This year we met at the Mawney

School, which was the recipient of the first Michael Edwards' Award. The Award for 2010 was given to St. Alban's RC Primary School, Elm Park, for pupils' charity work in each year group, making and selling articles, which linked with The Parable of the Talents.

Councillor Wendy Brice-Thompson and myself attended a NASACRE Conference at Westminster Central Hall during the spring. Several interesting presentations were given and members were presented with a booklet and video entitled 'RE Quest', which was later made available to schools across the borough.

In short, it has been a busy and successful year and I have pleasure in commending the report.

A handwritten signature in black ink on a white background, reading "Pamela A. Coles".

(Chair of SACRE)



Pupils at Redden Court School set out a 'puja' table to illustrate what they had learned about Hinduism. Hindu worshippers offer food, which might include fruit, sweets or rice, together with flowers, at the shrine, for the gods to bless. This blessed food is called 'prashad' and is later eaten by the worshippers.

1. Religious Education (RE)

1.1. Standards in Religious Education

Examination results at GCSE are monitored as part of the Borough's overall monitoring of standards. SACRE receives an analysis of examination results in Religious Studies (RS) at GCSE at its Autumn Term meeting, which is before national figures are published (hence comparisons below between Havering 2010 results and 2009 National averages).

The results for 2010 paint a positive and improving picture for Havering.

GCSE courses

In 2010, as in previous years, all 18 secondary schools in Havering entered students for a GCSE Religious Studies examination, with 15 schools entering some students for the full GCSE course, as well as some for the short course, and 3 schools only entering students for the short GCSE course. A total of 2,342 Havering students followed either a full or a short GCSE course (up from 2,310 in 2009). The number of entries for a full GCSE course increased significantly to 1038 (from 935 in 2009), while 1,304 students were entered for the short GCSE course.

The number of entries varies considerably between the schools. Five schools entered the vast majority of their cohorts for the full course GCSE, with eight schools entering mostly full cohorts for the short course. The other five schools entered only selected numbers for either one or other of the courses.

GCSE full course

The proportion of students achieving an A*- C grade in the full GCSE increased to 80%, from 73.7% in 2009. (This compares to a national average A*- C pass rate of 70.8% in 2009).

99.5% of Havering's students who entered the full course GCSE in 2010 achieved an A*- G grade (compared to a national average of 98.1% in 2009).

GCSE short course

In the short course GCSE, a record 62.3% of students achieved A*-C grades (up from 50.3% in 2009), with 97.9% achieving an A*- G grade. National average figures for the short course GCSE were not available for comparison.

1.2. Agreed Syllabus

Schools implemented the Havering Agreed Syllabus 'Pathways', (published in November 2007) in September 2008. The vast majority of Primary schools are using the new schemes of work as the basis for delivering the Agreed Syllabus. These were updated and shared with

schools in September 2010. Most Secondary schools have developed their own schemes of work.

1.3. Teacher Training

Advice is provided to Primary schools through the Havering Inspection and Advisory Service (HIAS) and there are regular, well-attended meetings for Primary RE co-ordinators. In 2009/2010 this consisted of:

- How digital video can be used to support RE storytelling
- How control technology can be used to develop pupils' RE knowledge and understanding
- Use of the Interactive Whiteboard to motivate and engage all pupils
- More effective use of the Visualiser to share artefacts and encourage peer assessment
- Updated list of websites to enhance teaching and learning in RE

The subject of the Summer Term session was updating the Schemes of Work and adding cross-curricular links. All RE co-ordinators were able to contribute their comments via fax back or email template. The updated Schemes of Work were shared with all schools and the independent sector through CDs in September 2010

Attendance at the RE Co-ordinators conferences remains high, varying between 25 and 35 schools represented. Where RE co-ordinators have not been able to attend, all materials were electronically forwarded to those schools along with explanatory letters. This included Independent and Special schools.

The secondary RE teachers' network has met once during the year, under the leadership of a Head of RE. Advice and support is available to all secondary schools from a specialist consultant and Lead Teacher in the borough. SACRE and HIAS are in the process of appointing a new specialist secondary consultant.

1.4. Complaints concerning RE

No formal complaints were made about religious education under the local statutory complaints procedure during 2010.

2. Collective Worship

2.1. Monitoring

Collective worship is a major focus for the work of SACRE in 2010/2011 pending the review of Circular 1/94. New guidance will be produced for schools as soon as possible.

2.2. Training

There has been no training on collective worship during the year.

2.3. Determinations

There were no applications for determinations (to alter the character of collective worship for all or some pupils in a particular school) during 2010.

2.4. Complaints concerning collective worship

No formal complaints were made about collective worship under the local statutory complaints procedure during 2010.

3. Links with other agencies

3.1. National

Havering SACRE belongs to the National Association of SACREs (NASACRE). Members attend conferences and other events and report to full SACRE meetings.

3.2. Local

SACRE has links with a range of faith and secular groups in the borough. The practice of holding some SACRE meetings in schools and different places of worship continues.

4. SACRE arrangements

4.1. Meetings

SACRE holds regular meetings during the year. The meetings are well attended with good representation from the faith groups and the local Humanist Association. There is usually one meeting each term. SACRE sets its own agenda and commissions reports and updates from the Local Authority Adviser and Consultant. SACRE has met three times during 2009. In the spring and autumn terms the meeting was held at the Town Hall. The Summer Term meeting was held at the Mawney School, which was the first school given the Michael Edwards' Award, for their provision of a room for Prayer and Reflection, for pupils of all faiths to use.

SACRE has received regular reports on local and national developments in RE. Topics discussed include: self-evaluation processes and the OfSTED report on RE and its importance in supporting community cohesion.

4.2. Budget

SACRE has a small annual budget to cover the cost of its work which is administered by the Education Service.

4.3. Professional and administrative support

SACRE has the services of a Committee Officer from Committee Administration at each of its meetings, both to minute the meeting and to

give procedural advice. The RE Consultant and the Primary Adviser attend SACRE meetings to report on work with schools, to offer advice and to assist SACRE in carrying out its role.

4.4. Monitoring

SACRE continues to monitor standards and quality in RE, the quality of provision for collective worship and for pupils' spiritual development from any information included in the most recent OfSTED reports for primary, secondary and special schools. In addition, examination results at GCSE and A/S and A level are monitored as part of the Borough's overall monitoring and evaluation of standards.

5. The Michael Edwards Award

This annual award is presented in commemoration of the life and work of Michael Edwards, Adviser/Inspector for Religious Education in Havering, who died in 2004.

The award is made to schools which demonstrate good practice in multi-faith RE. The award alternates between primary and secondary schools and this year was open to Primary schools. The successful school was St. Alban's RC Primary School and was awarded for its pupils' excellent fundraising for charity, which was themed with the Parable of the Talents.

MEMBERS OF SACRE

The following is a list of SACRE members and officers in attendance for the period covered by this report.

Name	Group	Representing	Joined	Left
Mrs Lin Milton	A	New Church Movement	17/11/2005	06/10/2010
VACANT	A	New Church Movement		
Mr Kevin Walsh	A	Roman Catholic	22/02/2007	
Revd. Lee Sunderland	A	Jewish Community	05/03/2009	
Mrs Pamela Coles	A	Methodist	Pre 2004	
VACANT	A	Baptist		
Mr Sansar Narwal	A	Sikh Community	Pre 2004	
VACANT	A	Pentecostal Churches		
Miss Joan Watson	A	Religious Society of Friends	26/11/2009	
Mr Kamal Siddiqui	A	Muslim Community	05/03/2008	
Mr M Saleem	A	Muslim Community	21/10/2010	
Mr Om Dhir	A	Hindu Community	06/06/2007	
VACANT	A	Salvation Army		
Mrs Brenda Mole	A	United Reformed Church	10/11/2004	
Dr John Lester	A	Baha'i Faith	10/11/2004	
Mrs Christine Seymour	A	Havering and District Humanist Society	26/11/2009	
VACANT	B	Church of England		
Mrs Susan Freeman	B	Church of England	05/03/2009	
Mrs Alison Seaman	B	Church of England	07/11/2007	
Mrs Val Morris	B	Church of England	05/03/2003	15/03/2010
VACANT	B	Church of England		
Mrs Anne Masters	C	ATL	28/01/2009	
Mr Nick Hills	C	NUT - Seniors	26/11/2009	
Ms Linda Munday	C	NUT - Primary	11/01/2010	
Mr Chris Pearson	C	NASUWT	30/06/2004	
Mr Keith Shurlock	C	ASCL	05/03/2009	
VACANT	C	PAT		
Cllr Geoff Starns	D	Local Authority	30/06/2004	09/06/2010
Cllr Jeffrey Tucker	D	Local Authority	07/06/2007	09/06/2010
Cllr Wendy Brice-Thompson	D	Local Authority	07/06/2007	09/06/2010
Cllr Paul Rochford	D	Local Authority	09/06/2010	
Cllr Paul McGeary	D	Local Authority	09/06/2010	
Cllr Linda Trew	D	Local Authority	09/06/2010	
Cllr Damian White	D	Local Authority	09/06/2010	
Cllr Gillian Ford	D	Local Authority	11/07/2004	
Cllr Wendy Brice-Thompson	Obs*	Local Authority	07/06/2010	

*Obs = Observer



COUNCIL, 20 JULY 2011

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

1 RECORD OF EXPENDITURE IN EXCESS OF £500

To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael White)

By Councillor Clarence Barrett

Would the Leader explain why the March 2011 items of expenditure in excess of £500 still does not appear on the Council website (or why the delay if it has been updated by the time of this Council meeting)?

2 ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL

To the Cabinet Member for Individuals (Councillor Steven Kelly)

By Councillor Paul McGeary

Have Havering PCT made any recent decisions about the future of St George's Hospital?

3 GUYSFIELD DRIVE - HOSTEL

To the Cabinet Member for Housing (Councillor Lesley Kelly)

By Councillor Michael Deon Burton

Guysfield Drive is a quiet residential turning and is the wrong place to put a large mixed use hostel.

Can the Administration confirm that any structural changes, change of use or alterations to Will Perrin Court will require approval by the Regulatory Services Committee?

4 **TOWN TWINNING – BENEFITS FOR RESIDENTS**

To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael White)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

Would the Leader confirm the costs of twinning with Ludwigshafen and Hesdin over the past five years, and what tangible benefits for Havering residents can be demonstrated by this relationship?

5 **CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEES OF REQUISITIONED DECISIONS**

To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael White)

By Councillor Keith Darvill

What steps will the Administration take to avoid clashes of overview and scrutiny meetings dealing with requisitions of Cabinet decisions?

6 **ARNOLD'S FIELD, LAUNDERS LANE, RAINHAM – WASTE DUMPING**

To the Cabinet Member for Individuals (Councillor Steven Kelly)

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker

The situation at Arnold's Field landfill site in Launders Lane Rainham is a disgrace. The earth is being piled higher and higher to the sides to enable more waste to be dumped in the middle and there are real fears that this is toxic waste, because of the criminal activities already uncovered at the site.

What action is being taken to remove the present operators from Arnold's Field?

7 **PROPOSED ROMFORD LEISURE CENTRE**

To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael White)

By Councillor Clarence Barrett

Would the Leader please set out the results of the market research carried out to evaluate the demand in respect of the proposed Leisure Centre in Romford?

8 DEVELOPMENT OF GARAGE SITES

To the Cabinet Member for Housing (Councillor Lesley Kelly)

By Denis O'Flynn

When proposals for developing garage sites are being planned, what consideration is being given to the views of residents expressed through consultations in the recent past?

9 CLIMATE CHANGE TAXES – ITEMISATION ON COUNCIL TAX BILLS

To the Cabinet Member for Value (Councillor Roger Ramsey)

By Councillor David Durant

Our Council Tax bills itemise payments to the Metropolitan Police and ELWA.

In the interests of transparency can the bills also itemise the cost of the climate change taxes that the Government has imposed on local councils?

10 USE OF TOWN CENTRE CCTV FOR PARKING ENFORCEMENT

To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Linda Van den Hende

Would the Cabinet Member clarify whether CCTV cameras which operate in our Town Centres can be used for Parking Enforcement?

11 INVESTIGATION OF INTERNAL FRAUD AND THEFT

To the Cabinet Member for Value (Councillor Roger Ramsey)

By Councillor Jeffrey Tucker

It has been brought to my attention that this Council has investigated more than 100 cases of internal fraud/theft and other allegations which has, on many occasions, resulted in sacking and disciplinary action against the Council staff involved. Why has this Council failed to involve the Police to investigate in any of these cases?

12 **GERPINS LANE CIVIC AMENITY SITE – FLY-TIPPING**

To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Linda Van den Hende

Given the potential for an increase in fly-tipping due to the entry changes at Gerpins Lane tip, can the Cabinet Member please state how many mobile and covert CCTV cameras are available to StreetCare to catch and prosecute fly-tippers?

13 **SUPPORT FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES**

To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael White)

By Councillor Michael Deon Burton

Following headlines such as 'Councils are backing the armed forces with a number of measures' and news that many Councils are reviewing their housing policies to fast track service personnel to the top of the waiting list, what are the LBH doing in support of these persons who can often be called upon to make the ultimate sacrifice?

14 **LIVING MAGAZINE – 2011/12 BUDGET**

To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael White)

By Councillor Brian Eagling

Would the Leader set out the 2011/12 budget for the new quarterly Living newspaper incorporating the following categories:

	£'000
Design/Support	x
Production/Print	x
Distribution	x
Advertising Income	x

15 **CUTS IN SERVICE BUDGETS**

To the Cabinet Member for Value (Councillor Roger Ramsey)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

Would the Cabinet Member confirm how budget cuts for this financial year have been achieved when departmental budgets have increased from £160 million to £168 million?

16 **REFURBISHMENT OF CENTRAL LIBRARY**

To the Cabinet Member for Culture, Towns and Communities (Councillor Andrew Curtin)

By Councillor John Wood

Would the Cabinet Member please disclose the eventual cost of the Central Library Capital Project against the agreed budget of £4,087,175?

17 **CUTTING OUT RED TAPE**

To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael White)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

In June *Living*, the Leader talked about cutting out red tape. Would the Leader provide some tangible examples of where this has taken place?

18 **PERSONAL INJURY CLAIMS BY THE WORKFORCE**

To the Cabinet Member for Value (Councillor Roger Ramsey)

By Councillor Clarence Barrett

In terms of workforce personal injury compensation claims against the Council, would the Cabinet Member set out:

- a) Number of agreed claims over the last three years?
- b) Circumstances of each agreed claim?
- c) Agreed value of compensation for each agreed claim?

19 **TRAILER ABANDONED ON THE HIGHWAY**

To the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Barry Tebbutt)

By Councillor Ray Morgon

Would the Cabinet Member confirm that a trailer left on the highway for several months without good reason can be removed by the Council under section 148 of the Highways Act 1980?

20 **COUNCIL TAX WRITTEN OFF**

To the Cabinet Member for Value (Councillor Roger Ramsey)

By Councillor Ron Ower

Would the Cabinet Member set out the amount of residential council tax written off in each of the last three years?

21 **TANNING SALONS AND NAIL CLINICS – CONSUMER PROTECTION**

To the Cabinet Member for Community Safety (Councillor Geoff Starns)

By Councillor Ron Ower

Would the Cabinet Member please confirm what steps are currently being taken to ensure consumer protection in respect of Tanning Salons and Nail Clinics?

22 **PARKING ENFORCEMENT**

To the Leader of the Council (Councillor Michael White)

By Councillor Nic Dodin

Would the Cabinet Member explain how a manually operated CCTV enforcement Vehicle could possibly issue a Penalty Charge Notice to a vehicle delayed in stationary traffic?



COUNCIL, 20 JULY 2011

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

A YOUTH SERVICES CUTS

Motion on behalf the Labour Group

This Council opposes the Administrations cuts to its universal youth services leading to the closure of facilities for young people and the cessation funding for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme in Havering.

This Council recognises that young people are already bearing an unfair burden of the public expenditure cuts imposed by the Conservative led Coalition Government including a significant reduction in Education Maintenance Allowance and a steep rise in University Tuition Fees and calls upon the Administration to reconsider its proposals in order to mitigate the impact on young people of both central Government policies and the proposed cuts in Havering's Youth Services.

1 Amendment on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

Amend to read:

This Council calls upon the Administration to reconsider its damaging cuts to its universal youth services and to contact all Local Authority Council Leaders and Chief Executives in England to seek support for a reform of the biased local government formula grant funding to ensure local councils (on an equitable basis) can provide the youth and public services that local residents so richly deserve.

2 Amendment on behalf of the Administration

Amend to read:

This Council recognises that all departments within Havering Council, including the Youth Service, are required to make efficiency savings to pay for the mess left to the UK economy by the previous Labour Government.

B OWNERSHIP OF THE STUBBERS CENTRE, UPMINSTER

Motion on behalf of the Residents' Group

This Council agrees that the Stubbers Centre, Upminster, provides much needed and high quality activities to young people from in and around Havering and that any subsequent sale or change of ownership be conditional on the activity centre being able to continue in its current capacity for future generations to enjoy.

1 Amendment on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

Amend to read:

The popular Stubbers Outdoor Adventure Centre provides high quality activities for young people that builds character and independence and offers a fresh air alternative to video games.

Therefore this Council resolves not to sell Stubbers because any money raised will not cover the real cost to the community of losing this excellent facility.

2 Amendment on behalf of the Administration

Amend to read:

This Council, reaffirming the unchallenged Executive Decision of the 19th January 2011, notes with approval that any decisions as to the future of Stubbers Centre will continue to be taken with full consideration of the benefits of the use of the site by Havering residents.