



# Havering

L O N D O N   B O R O U G H

## TOWNS & COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA

<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Tuesday 1 July 2014</b>	<b>Town Hall, Main Road, Romford</b>
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Members 9: Quorum 4

### COUNCILLORS:

#### **Conservative ( 4 )**

Steven Kelly  
Frederick Thompson  
Jason Frost  
Robby Misir

#### **Residents' ( 3 )**

Linda Hawthorn  
(Vice-Chair)  
Alex Donald  
Jody Ganly

#### **UKIP (1)**

Lawrence Webb  
(Chairman)

#### **Independent Residents' ( 1 )**

Michael Deon Burton

**For information about the meeting please contact:  
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## **What is Overview & Scrutiny?**

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

They have a number of key roles:

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

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

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

## **Terms of Reference**

The areas scrutinised by the Committee are:

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

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**

(if any) - receive.

### **2 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

To note the membership of the Committee

### **3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

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

### **4 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

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

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of 8 April 2014 and to authorise the Chairman to sign them.

### **6 AN INTRODUCTION TO OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

The Committee is to receive a presentation on Overview and Scrutiny.

### **7 INTRODUCTORY PRESENTATIONS BY HEADS OF SERVICE**

Members are to receive presentations from Heads of Service on areas scrutinised by the Committee.

### **8 COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee is to decide on its work programme for this municipal year.

### **9 URGENT BUSINESS**

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

**Andrew Beesley**  
**Committee Administration Manager**



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
TOWNS & COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
Town Hall, Main Road, Romford  
8 April 2014 (7.30 - 7.55 pm)**

**Present:**

Councillors Linda Hawthorn (Chairman), Wendy Brice-Thompson (Vice-Chair), June Alexander, Barry Oddy and Garry Pain

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Osman Dervish, Linda Trew, Paul McGeary and Michael Deon Burton

There were no declarations of interest

The Chairman reminded Members of the action to be taken in an emergency.

**55 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 13 February 2014 was agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**56 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT - QUARTER THREE 2013/14**

The Committee considered a report that set out the Council's performance against the Living Ambition Goal for Quarter Three (October to December 2013).

The Committee without any discussion agreed to note the Performance Indicators report for Quarter Three.

**57 CABINET REPORT REVIEW - RAINHAM LIBRARY & LIFELONG LEARNING CENTRE**

In accordance to the Council's Continuous Improvement Model, the Committee received a presentation update on the Rainham Library and Lifelong Centre Cabinet report that outlined providing a valuable community resource, additional residential units and supporting educational achievement within the Rainham Compass regeneration scheme.

The Committee was informed that the project was originally conceived in conjunction with London Thames Gateway Development Corporation to

deliver a key component of the Rainham Compass Regeneration Programme.

It was mentioned that the site would deliver a significantly larger library and lifelong learning centre and a variety of meeting rooms for use by community/event space.

A provision of a nursery and playground space and two retail units. The site would also provide 16 residential units – mix of 1 and 2 bedroom flats for purchasing and a public open space.

The Committee was made aware of the following challenges that were faced at the start of the project:

- That the grant funding was part dependent upon LTGDC selling other assets in a recession
- That central government decided to wound up LTGDC mid project – at this stage only the ground works and foundations had been completed
- The scheme had to be ‘resurrected’ with GLA
- Efforts to secure a RSL partner were frustrated by reduction in HCA funding
- Potential housing investor subsequently withdrew

All challenges were fully addressed by late 2012.

The Committee was taken through the funding stream for the delivery of the project.

Members were informed that at the completion of the project, the following future revenue stream had been identified:

- the commercial revenue from the business units
- feeding the - in tariff from the solar array on roof

The ground floor library and lifelong learning area of the project was scheduled to open by June 2014.

The first floor meeting spaces and nursery/playground area were also nearing completion. The 16 flats were well progressed and due for completion in July 2014. The plan was that the flats be sold to private buyers in order to recoup the Council’s supplementary investment.

It was stated that the 2 commercial units (one café, one retail) would be the completed during 2014.

The Committee noted the presentation update.

58     **ESTATE MANAGEMENT TOPIC GROUP REPORT**

The Committee without discussion agreed the recommendations of the Estate Management Topic Group.

The Committee commended officers for the support that they received during the review process.

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**Chairman**

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