



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING Council Chamber - Town Hall 25 November 2015 (7.30 - 10.30 pm)

Present: The Mayor (Councillor Brian Eagling) in the Chair

Councillors Councillors June Alexander, Clarence Barrett, Robert Benham, Ray Best, Wendy Brice-Thompson, Michael Deon Burton, Joshua Chapman, John Crowder, Philippa Crowder, Keith Darvill, Meg Davis, Ian de Wulverton, Osman Dervish, Nic Dodin, Alex Donald, David Durant, Gillian Ford, Jason Frost, Jody Ganly, John Glanville, Linda Hawthorn, David Johnson, Steven Kelly, Phil Martin, Barbara Matthews, Robby Misir, Ray Morgon, John Mylod, Stephanie Nunn, Ron Ower, Garry Pain, Dilip Patel, Viddy Persaud, Roger Ramsey, Keith Roberts, Patricia Rumble, Carol Smith, Frederick Thompson, Linda Trew, Jeffrey Tucker, Linda Van den Hende, Melvin Wallace, Lawrence Webb, Roger Westwood, Damian White, Michael White, Reg Whitney, Julie Wilkes, Graham Williamson, Darren Wise and John Wood

Ten Members' guests and members of the public and a representative of the press were also present.

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

Father Roderick Hingley, of the Church of St Alban, Protomartyr, Romford opened the meeting with prayers.

The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

50 **PARIS ATROCITIES**

A minute's silence was held in memory of the victims of the recent terrorist attacks in Paris. The Leader of the Council conformed that he had recently passed on a message of sympathy to the Mayor of Hesdin – twin town of Havering. Several Members spoke expressing their sympathy and condolences over the recent events.

51 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (agenda item 2)**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Philip Hyde and Barry Mugglestone and from Cheryl Coppell, Chief Executive.

52 **MINUTES (agenda item 3)**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2015 were before the Council for approval.

It was **AGREED**, without division, that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 16 September 2015 be signed as a correct record, subject to the correction that the Mayor (Councillor Brian Eagling) was in the Chair.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 16 September 2015 be signed as a correct record, subject to the correction that the Mayor (Councillor Brian Eagling) was in the Chair.

53 **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY OR PERSONAL INTERESTS (agenda item 4)**

Personal interests in agenda item 8 (Outline Proposals to Address Early Years, Primary, Secondary and SEN Rising Rolls – Phases 3 and 4 Expansion Programme) were disclosed by the following Councillors:

Councillor Clarence Barrett (lived in locality of school mentioned in the report)

Councillor Wendy Brice-Thompson (Governor of Royal Liberty School and Havering Sixth Form College)

Councillor Joshua Chapman (Governor of Squirrels Heath Junior School)

Councillor Meg Davis (Governor of Havering Sixth Firm College)

Councillor Ian de Wulverton (lived in locality of school mentioned in the report)

Councillor Dilip Patel (Governor of Crownfield Infant School)

Councillor Carol Smith (lived in locality of school mentioned in the report)

Councillor Frederick Thompson (Governor of Pupil Referral Unit)

Councillor Damian White (Governor of Frances Bardsley School)

Councillor Darren Wise (lived in locality of school mentioned in the report)

54 **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR, BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL OR BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (agenda item 5)**

A minute's silence was held in memory of former Councillors Leslie Mills and Ian Wilkes, Mr Arthur Rackley, Pearly King of Upminster and Father Sean Sheils, Priest of Corpus Christi Church, Collier Row. Tributes were paid by a number of Members.

The text of the announcements given by the Leader of the Council is shown in appendix 1 to these minutes.

55 AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER (agenda item 14B)

Under Council Procedure Rule 7 (d) the Mayor agreed to deal with this item at an earlier stage in the agenda.

Motion on behalf of the East Havering Residents' Group

Research by the National Autistic Society suggested, of the 700,000 adults with Autism, only 15% are employed. The remaining unemployed require long-term financial support.

Havering has approximately 1,433 adults with Autism, which is profiled to rise by 12% over the next 15 years. This places increased pressures and challenges at a local level.

This Council accordingly agrees to:

- Work with Local Partners to ensure the devolved offer on skills and employment includes a strategy to support Autistic Spectrum Disorder adults with the aim of increasing the number in employment by the end of 2016.
- Lobby the government to recognise the economic benefits and under-use of skills in the workforce, and to develop programmes, promoting work opportunities for adults with ASD.

Following debate, the motion by the East Havering Residents' Group was **CARRIED** unanimously by 52 votes to 0 (see division 1).

RESOLVED:

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This Council accordingly agrees to:

- **Work with Local Partners to ensure the devolved offer on skills and employment includes a strategy to support Autistic Spectrum Disorder adults with the aim of increasing the number in employment by the end of 2016.**
- **Lobby the government to recognise the economic benefits and under-use of skills in the workforce, and to develop programmes, promoting work opportunities for adults with ASD.**

56 **PETITIONS (agenda item 6)**

Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 23, the following petition was presented:

From Councillor Stephanie Nunn concerning the condition of the roadway in Dunningford Chase, Elm Park.

57 **HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PLAN - STRATEGIC OVERVIEW (agenda item 7)**

A report of Cabinet asked council to agree increases in the Capital Budget in order to fund the Affordable Housing Sub-Strategy of the Council's Housing Strategy 2014-17. This would ensure an increase in social housing delivery in order to meet housing pressure, expand housing option and improve property standards.

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

That the following requested increase in the Capital Budget, as set out in the Cabinet report, be approved:

- **15/16 Increase of £3.000m to £13.509m**
- **16/17 Increase of £26.675m to £39.999m**
- **17/18 increase of £20.797m to £29.744m**

58 **OUTLINE PROPOSALS TO ADDRESS EARLY YEARS, PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND SEN RISING ROLLS - PHASES 3 AND 4 EXPANSION PROGRAMME (agenda item 8)**

A report of Cabinet asked Council to approve additions to the Capital Programme in order to continue the school expansion programme through its next two phases and expand the Authority's Special Education Needs provision. This need had arisen because of the recent and current rising birth rate and the statutory duty to provide every school-aged child in the borough with an education.

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

That the following items:

1. **Be added to the 2015/16 capital programme for phase 3 expansion:**
 - **£16,756,152 16/17 Basic Need Grant and;**
 - **£282,078 interest on existing S106 education contributions**
2. **Be added to the 2015/16 capital programme in respect of post 16 SEN:**
 - **£927,000 S106 education contributions**
3. **Be added to the 2015/16 current Early Years capital programme:**
 - **£1,900,000 DSG top sliced from Early Years Capital.**

59 **CHANGES TO DELEGATED POWERS - REGULATORY SERVICES (agenda item 9)**

A report of the Governance Committee asked Council to agree some amendments to the Constitution relating to the call-in procedure for planning applications and in relation to Certificates of Lawful Development for existing development.

A change to Constitution wording concerning the power to deal with deliberate concealment of planning breaches was also recommended to enable more effective and efficient service delivery.

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

That the following changes be incorporated into Section 3.6.6 of the Constitution relating to the Functions Delegated to the Head of Regulatory Services:

- 1) **New Section 3.6.6(dd) to read:**

“To apply to the magistrates court for a Planning Enforcement Order in accordance with Sections 171BA to 171BC of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.”

- 2) **Section 3.6.6(b) (vi) be altered to read:**

"carry out residential development where the number of additional dwellings does not exceed two, including proposals which require prior completion of a Unilateral Undertaking committing the applicant to pay a contribution to mitigate the impact of the development on infrastructure, the latter involving

liaison during the process between Head of Regulatory Services and Head of Legal Services."

3) Section 3.6.6(u) be altered to read:

"To issue Certificates of Lawfulness for existing and proposed development and use"

60 **CHANGES TO DELEGATED POWERS - CULTURE AND LEISURE SERVICES (agenda item 10)**

A report of the Governance Committee asked Council to approve a change to the Constitution concerning the delegation of powers under the Criminal Justice & Public Order Act relating to the Control of Unauthorised Campers. It was recommended that these powers, most regularly used for action against unauthorised traveller encampments, be delegated to the Head of Culture & Leisure and in turn to the parks Manager.

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

That the following changes be incorporated into Sections 3.6.4 and 3.6.6(l) of the Constitution relating to the Head of Culture & Leisure and the Head of Regulatory Services:

To authorise and issue, on behalf of the Council, statutory directions requiring unauthorised campers to leave land and remove their property and vehicles

61 **HAVERING'S NEW STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY FOR THE LICENSING ACT 2003 (agenda item 11)**

A report of the Governance Committee asked Council to adopt the revised Statement of Licensing Policy.

As required under the Licensing Act 2003, this policy had recently been reviewed after five years of operation. A consultation exercise had recently been carried out with statutory bodies including the Chief Police Officer for the Borough, the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority, bodies representing local holders of premises licences, Responsible Authorities as defined in the Act and local residents.

All comments received were considered in light of Government guidance and, where appropriate, incorporated into the final version of the Statement of Licensing Policy.

The report, including Equalities Impact Assessment, was **AGREED** without division and it was **RESOLVED**:

That the revised Statement of Licensing Policy be adopted.

62 **HAVERING'S NEW STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY FOR THE GAMBLING ACT 2005 (agenda item 12)**

A report of the Governance Committee asked Council to adopt the revised Statement of Gambling Policy.

As required under the Gambling Act 2005, this policy had recently been reviewed after three years of operation. An on-line consultation exercise had been carried out with statutory consultees and information had also been disseminated via the Licensing Matters and Business Briefing e-mail bulletins, in the Romford Recorder and on the Council website.

The report, including Equalities Impact Assessment, was **AGREED** without division and it was **RESOLVED**:

That the revised Statement of Gambling Policy be adopted.

63 **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS (agenda item 13)**

Fifteen questions were asked and replies given.

The text of the questions, and their answers are set out in **Appendix 2** to these minutes.

64 **ARTICLE 4 DIRECTION (agenda item 14A)**

Motion on behalf of the Independent Residents' Group

A developer has made extensive alterations to a property that includes erecting two 2 metre (6'6") high front boundary brick walls of an industrial appearance. The walls are immediately outside one neighbour's front door and another neighbour's front window in a road characterised by owner occupier houses with low front walls.

The Planning Department has described the two walls as arguably part "permitted development" (nearest the building) and part breach of planning rules (nearest the highway). The "permitted development" part of the wall blocks neighbours street view.

This is a very worrying development, thus Council calls on the Administration to implement an Article 4 Direction throughout the borough to restrict the height of front walls without planning permission to protect our suburban environment and community cohesion.

Amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group

Amend motion to read:

Noting concern expressed in respect of a case where two 2 metre high front boundary walls of an industrial appearance have been erected and that the Planning Department has described the two walls as arguably part “permitted development” and part breach of planning rules and that the “permitted development” part is considered to block neighbours’ street view, this Council invites the Towns & Communities Overview & Scrutiny Sub Committee to investigate the case and to consider and recommend to Cabinet any action which the Council might take to address problems such as these.

Following debate, the amendment by the Conservative Group was **CARRIED** by 46 votes to 1 (see division 2) and **AGREED** as the substantive motion without division.

RESOLVED:

Noting concern expressed in respect of a case where two 2 metre high front boundary walls of an industrial appearance have been erected and that the Planning Department has described the two walls as arguably part “permitted development” and part breach of planning rules and that the “permitted development” part is considered to block neighbours’ street view, this Council invites the Towns & Communities Overview & Scrutiny Sub Committee to investigate the case and to consider and recommend to Cabinet any action which the Council might take to address problems such as these.

65 LEISURE CENTRES (agenda item 14C)

Motion on behalf of the Independent Residents’ Group

As we await the promised new Romford Leisure Centre it is still vital to maintain and enhance the existing borough wide provision of leisure facilities that serve all our residents. Presently the borough wide leisure centre contract is held by “Sports and leisure Management Limited” and operates at a loss requiring a council subsidy. To cut costs there has been a contractual variation to reduce hours and presumably improvements at Chafford, Rainham and no doubt the

Central Park, Romford and Hornchurch Leisure Centres face potential cutbacks too!

Following Academy status and a Land Tribunal Adjudication the Chafford Leisure Centre will be owned by the school when the council contract ends in Oct 1st 2016 and without financial help will close, because their priority is educational rather than leisure spending. The existing facility needs significant investment and if it were to close there is planning permission in place for a new swimming pool at Chafford when funding becomes available. But will the Council allow an existing Leisure Centre, as well as an Ice Rink, to close as we await a second and 'state of the art' leisure centre in Romford that includes a promised £2 million funding from reserves?

Thus this Council calls on the Administration to maintain and enhance the existing borough wide provision of leisure facilities at Rainham, Romford and Hornchurch Leisure Centres in the healthy interests of all Havering residents.

Amendment on behalf of the Conservative Group

Amend motion to read:

Noting with approval the imminent commencement of the construction of the Romford Leisure Centre in Romford Town Ward, the letting of the contract for the first phase of the £3 million Broxhill Sports Park in Heaton Ward, the recent opening of the Visitors Centre at Hornchurch Country Park in Elm Park Ward, the recent opening of the new library and establishment of a new park in Rainham Ward, the current construction of a new library in Gooshays Ward, the achievement of Green Flags in parks across the borough and noting that the Council's Leisure Management Contract, the negotiation of which is currently in progress, is likely to provide an enhancement of leisure facilities rather than cutbacks, this Council welcomes the Administration's intention to continue to maintain and enhance the existing borough wide provision of leisure facilities in the healthy interests of Havering residents.

This motion was withdrawn by the Independent Residents' Group and resubmitted to the next meeting of Council.

66 VOTING RECORD

The record of voting decisions is attached as **Appendix 3**.

Mayor

Full Council – Wednesday 25 November - Leader's statement

There are a number of items of note that I would like to make reference to today.

Firstly, I'd like to offer my sincere thanks to the Mayor, Members and the local police in particular for their participation in, and support of, Remembrance Sunday events across the borough. Not to mention the staff who worked hard to ensure that the events, which are among the most important that we hold, ran smoothly throughout the various parts of the borough where events were held.

It is vital that youngsters know and appreciate the sacrifices members of our armed forces have made for us, and that is why it was particularly heart-warming to see so many young people in attendance at the ceremonies which took place.

I mentioned at our last meeting Morrison's entered into a supplemental contract with the Council which required them to start work on demolition of the building forming part of the Western Road site by 26 October, and I'm pleased to say that they have done just that. External demolition of the office block is expected to start next week, and we are optimistic that we will be able to start work on the new leisure development by the beginning of April of next year, if not earlier.

This month, we also saw the launch of the Romford Development Framework at Fiction night club in South Street. This building when known as the Havana cinema was the place where the first borough charter for Romford was given by the Lord Mayor of London to the first mayor of the new borough on behalf of the King in September 1937. The launch was a great success and I am pleased to say that it was well-attended by over 100 developers and local business people and we hope we can move on to even bigger things for our Romford town centre.

Many of you will also have heard about the outcome of the recent judicial review in relation to our Council Tax Reduction scheme brought by former Councillor Logan. The High Court rejected Mr Logan's arguments that the scheme was discriminatory and permission to appeal the decision was refused by the judge. The Council put a lot of thought into the scheme before it was implemented to ensure that it was not discriminatory in any way, and I am glad the Court found in our favour.

The Council did, however, lose on one count with regard to our Public Sector Equality Duty, and it was decided that Equality Impact Assessment Reports must be copied in full to Cabinet, Committee and Full Council Meetings with the reports made to these bodies rather than just being available for reference on the internet, website or intranet.

The ruling gave clarification to Local Government generally as I am advised that the practice followed by Havering has been similarly used by others. That has now been established and processes have been put in place to ensure that this does not happen again. This decision indicates that councils must pay particular regard to their processes and how we ensure they are followed properly.

I sent you all an email last week announcing that health and social care partners in Havering, Barking and Dagenham and Redbridge have put forward a proposal to the Government to devolve power and resources to meet more effectively the needs of local residents. The current health and adult social care budget in the three boroughs is £1.2bn, and most of this goes on hospital care, even though we all recognise there needs to be greater focus on prevention and primary care. This is why we are exploring whether a partnership-led Accountable Care Organisation model will deliver better outcomes for our residents whilst bridging a funding gap. Our three boroughs' scheme would become a pilot for the whole of London for devolution in health services and as such is supported by our NELSA and Local London partners. I hope to be able to report further on this matter as the project progresses.

And finally, colleagues will know that we have been searching for a replacement Director of Children Adults and Housing for some time. We held an Appointments Panel last week but sadly, were unable to make an appointment. Consequently I have been discussing the option of reviewing the scope of the role and the current management structure with the Chief Executive. When these matters have been fully examined I will report to Members further. In the meantime, I am very pleased to tell you that Isobel Cattermole has agreed to stay on with us as interim Director for an extended period.



FULL COUNCIL, Wednesday 25 November

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

1) To the Leader of the Council, Councillor Roger Ramsey

From Cllr Ray Morgon

Would the Leader of the Council confirm what specific discussions have taken place with NELSA and others in devolving more powers to Havering?

Response:

Havering Council is a member of NELSA and also of Local London. Both of these groups have been established to explore opportunities for joint working and devolution.

NELSA was re-launched during the early summer of 2015, but has been fairly quiet. Local London comprises of the following eight London Boroughs:

1. Havering
2. Newham
3. Barking and Dagenham
4. Enfield
5. Waltham Forest
6. Tower Hamlets
7. Redbridge
8. Greenwich

We have had broad discussions concerning the following six themes:

1. 1 Community Safety (Havering leads on this)
2. 2 Employment
3. 3 Education and Skills
4. 4 Business Growth
5. 5 Health and Social Care
6. 6 Housing

London Councils presented a devolution paper to the Treasury which was broadly supported by members of Local London. However, nothing specific has been requested of the Treasury.

Every Leader wants to obtain the very best for their Borough and residents. To date, no work committing Havering to anything has been undertaken. Should this situation change, I will of course ensure that matters are raised at Cabinet and Full Council for debate and decision.

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In response to a supplementary question, The Leader of the Council reported that London Borough of Bexley were keen to join oneSource and that he should shortly be discussing final details with the leaders of both Bexley and Newham. The introduction of Bexley into oneSource was likely to bring savings in a number of areas and the Leader hoped to make a formal announcement on this matter by the time of the next Council meeting.

2) To the Cabinet Member for Culture, Councillor Melvin Wallace

From Cllr Stephanie Nunn

Would the Cabinet Member confirm the current book fund for this year, and confirm how the council decides what books to purchase and how?

Response:

The spend on library books from the base budget will be £363,800 for 2015/16. In addition, £160k from an earmarked reserve will be spent on library books in 2015/16.

Books are purchased from a designated Library Supplier who is provided with a specification unique to Havering, detailing the book purchase (stock) requirements. This specification, which takes into consideration the specific needs of the communities in which the 10 branches are based, is drawn up using information about the borrowing of the existing book stock (using the Library Service's evidence based stock management system) and taking account of Library staff knowledge and experience.

The ordering process ensures that popular and bestselling fiction and non-fiction titles are ordered pre-publication, so that they are available for loan as soon as possible.

In addition the Library service will purchase:

- any titles for stock requested by customers within a given criteria that are not already in stock;
- additional copies of titles for which there is high demand;
- copies of titles on subjects for which there is an unforeseen demand
- replacements for missing, tatty and out of date stock.

The supplier delivers stock "shelf ready" to each branch, so it is supplied with necessary servicing and labelling, and ready to go straight on the shelves, on display or on loan.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member agreed to supply a written response giving details of how old library books are disposed of.

3) To the Cabinet Member for the Environment, Councillor Robert Benham

From Cllr Reg Whitney

Would the Cabinet Member confirm what parking enforcement activities take place at the weekend?

Response:

On Saturday a full team is deployed to enforce all paid for parking, resident parking, (where it operates on a Saturday), waiting and loading restrictions, and 'at any time' parking prohibitions, such as pavement parking, dropped kerb and any time waiting.

On Sundays, a smaller team carries out enforcement for 'at any time' waiting or loading restrictions, pavement parking, parking across vehicle crossings, when notified by residents, and 'any time waiting' restrictions.

In addition, we have increased our operational enforcement hours from 7pm to 10pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturdays.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member explained that there were approximately 18 traffic wardens on duty at any one time. A review of parking enforcement was currently being conducted and Groups were free to propose budget amendments to employ more traffic wardens if they wished.

4) To the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services, Councillor Wendy Brice-Thompson

From Cllr John Wood

To ensure that only genuine users are able to use Blue Badges, would the Cabinet Member confirm what steps the council is taking to ensure that misuse of blue badges is not taking place in Havering?

Response:

Blue badges are there to help vulnerable people in our community and therefore misuse of them is unacceptable, and luckily, this form of crime in Havering is relatively low, with nine reported thefts to police from September last year until this August.

However, we want to reduce any form of theft or misuse and that is why our enforcement officers will confiscate badges they believe to be fake or out of date, or if they believe the person using it is not the genuine user.

We have also previously held exercises with the police in the Market Place targeting misuse of blue badges.

We are looking at what else we can do, and how we can continue to work in partnership with the local police, however, we must bear in mind that the low rate of this crime in

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Havering does not make it a local police priority.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member agreed to provide further details on the matter.

5) To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Damian White

From Cllr June Alexander

Would the Cabinet Member confirm if he agrees that charging council tenants for mobile CCTV that all non-council tenants benefits from is unfair.

Response:

We are governed by the terms and conditions of our lease agreements. As such, we've contacted our solicitors for advice on the levying of CCTV charges.

We have been advised that if the property or block is located on an estate that benefits from CCTV coverage, regardless of where the cameras are situated, we can ask for a contribution towards the cost of providing this service to the estate.

I appreciate that this can be a divisive charge for a small minority of tenants but wish to report that, from my engagement throughout the wider estate, the mobile CCTV unit is a much valued service and one that would be missed if it was discontinued.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member felt that mobile CCTV did have a significant deterrent value and had been requested by a lot of tenants. The Cabinet Member agreed to provide some statistics on the deterrent value of the service.

6) To the Cabinet Member for the Environment, Councillor Robert Benham

From Cllr Barry Mugglestone

Since the introduction of increased parking charges in April, would the Cabinet Member confirm the income received compared to each of the previous three financial years.

Response

Income from parking charges for 2012/13 was £1,076,829. For 2013/14, it was £1,222,856.97, while for 2014/15, it was £1,446,232.44. So far in the current year, we've received £1,078,943.78. It's important to remember that income raised from parking charges must be spent on improving the safety and condition of the highways.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member confirmed that the introduction of increased parking charges had been successful in terms of increasing revenue.

7) To the Cabinet Member for the Environment, Councillor Robert Benham

From Cllr Jody Ganly

Would the Cabinet Member confirm what actions have been taken by Havering Council and other organisations on each of the rivers that run through Havering in the past 12 months.

Response:

I'm able to provide a list of works carried out across the borough's rivers over the last year to the councillor, which I'll pass on after this meeting. (Attached).

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member agreed to look into the response thus far from Thames Water to the problem of raw sewage discharging in part of Harrow Lodge Park.

8) To the Cabinet Member for Housing Company Development and oneSource Management, Councillor Ron Ower

From Cllr Graham Williamson

You will be aware of the concern over Havering's relatively high Mayoral housing target of 1,170 dwellings per year, which will have a negative impact on our existing infrastructure, amenity and services. Our target is well in excess of other similar outer-boroughs e.g. 363 for Sutton, 446 for Bexley and 599 for Hillingdon etc. Furthermore, If you remove such borough's Greenbelt land and weight the targets accordingly you will find that most of those boroughs should have targets actually in excess of ours.

These targets are the result of what the Council has identified to the GLA as potential sites for development in 2004, 2006, and 2013. Clearly Councillors, who were not part of this process, should now have oversight of these sites to understand whether officers have, unlike many similar boroughs, been over-zealous in identifying land for development and in particular whether the Green Belt Mardkye Farm has been submitted to the GLA as a potential development site.

I have requested to see the submitted list but have so far been denied access. Does the Cabinet Member agree that councillors need this information to perform their oversight and scrutiny duty and in the interests of transparency will he now authorise publication of this vital housing target information so it can be examined by Members and the Environment committee?

Response:

The Mayor's housing targets are the result of a strategic assessment of potential housing sites for development from 2015 to 2025. The focus of the GLA's London Plan

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was to identify additional land supply across the capital – taking into consideration a faster than estimated increase in population, as well as household growth.

Havering officers have worked closely with the GLA to ensure that identified sites included those that had planning permission or were allocated for development in the Council's existing planning documents and other brownfield sites. Mardyke Farm was not included in any recent or previous assessments.

Our annual housing target is 1,170, which is similar to our neighbours Barking and Dagenham (1,236) and Redbridge (1,123) – with Newham having a higher target of 1,994. The Mayor's housing targets vary across the London Boroughs due to the land availability and policy constraints within each borough, as well as other factors including the potential for growth and future development, such as London Riverside.

Havering' housing target has been derived in accordance with the Council's planning policies and has gone through an approval process by Members. The data used for the assessment is commercially sensitive – and, as such, has not been made publicly available.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member agreed to work with Councillor Williamson and other colleagues on issues relating to the Beam Reach development.

9) To the Cabinet Member for Children and Learning, Councillor Meg Davis

From Cllr David Durant

Despite promises to reduce immigration the Government are promoting a New Labour open door policy as part of their long term economic plan. At the same time they have banned councils from building new schools and this means existing schools need to be expanded to meet growing demand.

In the circumstances expansion of existing schools is unavoidable, but a zealous approach that ignores local opinion by creating East London super-size primary schools in Havering should be avoided as they will set a precedent for the whole borough.

Thus to help protect the suburban character of our borough, educational standards and local amenity will the Conservative Group rule out supporting the creation of 4th form entry super-size primary schools of 840+ pupils in Havering?

Response:

Just last week, it was agreed by cabinet that school expansion would be limited to a maximum of four forms of entry – and we already have good schools in the borough which have four forms of entry.

Cllr Durant is right to say we cannot build new schools – but it's important to also say we are legally bound to provide a school place for every local child who needs one.

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We are all aware of the pressure in this area, and what we are facing in the years to come, but not providing the places is simply not an option.

A four-form of entry school is certainly not super-sized, or uncommon in neighbouring authorities, as well as our own, now.

As part of our on-going expansion plans we have looked closely at the impact on existing pupils and the school community as a whole and there is no evidence of any impact on standards.

We work closely with headteachers at any schools we expand to ensure they have the right support in place, and the resources to deal with more pupils.

In fact, when expanded, our schools are benefitting from enhanced, more modern facilities, including better technology in the classroom, new kitchens and refurbished dining areas.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member confirmed she had visited all schools in the Rainham area and added that a Cabinet decision had already been taken about the expansion of Parsonage Farm School. It would be necessary to consider in the future the rising demand for places at all schools within Havering.

**10) To the Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services & Community Safety,
Councillor Osman Dervish**

From Cllr Jeffrey Tucker

The last Council meeting passed a Conservative amendment calling on the Metropolitan Police Commissioner and the London Mayor to provide the Havering Borough Commander with the resources needed to implement the New Policing Model. Please provide the date and details of the messages sent and responses received.

Response:

In line with the Metropolitan Police approach to 'total policing', a Local Policing Model was implemented from Spring 2013.

The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) Police and Crime Plan 2013-16, identified proposed numbers of police officers working at Safer Neighbourhood level. Havering's officer numbers were projected to increase from 53 to 107, an increase of 54 officers, or more than 100 per cent. As of 19 November, Havering has 160 officers at SNT level. This comprises three Inspectors, eighteen Sergeants (fifteen Sergeants aligned to eighteen wards, two Town Centre Team Sergeants and one Detective Sergeant) a hundred and two Police Constables and thirty-seven Police Community Support Officers.

There are various opportunities for discussion between the Borough Commander and a number of representatives of the Council. On a monthly basis, the Tactical Intelligence Meeting takes place between the Police and our Community Safety officers, which looks

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at emerging issues and trends affecting the borough, and the resources that need to be employed. Minutes of these meetings are restricted under data protection legislation.

I meet with the Borough Commander on a fairly regular basis, both formally and informally, where many relevant issues are discussed. The Leader of the Council and others are also in contact with him and his office.

In September this year, the Community Safety Team Leader contacted the Borough Commander asking about staffing levels. The response from the Commander's office was that there were no particular resource issues that required additional support from the Council. The statement by the Chancellor earlier that day had also confirmed that there would not be any cuts to Police budgets.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member stated that the Metropolitan Police Service served the community with extreme distinction. Partnership working between the Council and Havering Police had recently won an international award and further improvements were expected.

**11) To the Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services & Community Safety,
Councillor Osman Dervish**

From Cllr Keith Darvill

When is it anticipated that the Article 4 Direction and the proposed Licensing Scheme Relating to Homes of Multiple Occupation will be implemented and how many properties is it estimated will have to apply for a Licence?

Response:

The Article 4 Directions in relation to HMOs are due to come into force on 13 July 2016. From this date planning permission will be required to change the use of any dwelling to a HMO in Gooshays, Heaton, Brooklands and Romford Town Ward and to change from any dwelling, except a detached house, to a HMO in the rest of the Borough.

The proposed licensing scheme will relate to all private rented housing, not just HMOs. The Council must take reasonable steps to consult those likely to be affected by the proposal; the minimum period is 10 weeks. A business case to scope resources and costs is being undertaken, following which a project plan would be developed setting out consultation timings and a projected implementation date.

For numbers, the most reliable estimate comes from the 2011 census which put total households at 97,000 and private rentals at 11%; which equates to 10,760 properties. However, this is now likely to be an underestimate.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member agreed to confirm specific dates for the start of the consultation period and added that he did not want any slippage in the timetable for introduction of the Licensing Scheme.

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**12)To the Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services & Community Safety,
Councillor Osman Dervish**

From Cllr Ian de Wulverton

Earlier this month a KFC opened at Gallows Corner, since then it has caused chaos for drivers coming off the roundabout heading up the A12. What traffic impact studies were made prior to granting planning consent?

Response

Planning permission was granted for this site in 2013 as a restaurant/drive through. KFC submitted supporting documents with their application including a transport assessment. This assessment included information on the likely number of vehicles that would use the site during peak periods, based on data from other comparable sites.

Transport for London is responsible for the A12 and Gallows Corner and was also consulted on the planning application. TfL did not raise any particular concerns. The application was considered by the Regulatory Services Committee in July 2013, where it was resolved to grant planning permission, subject to conditions. All details of the decision and the plans are available on the Council's website.

The approved scheme included 44 car parking spaces, including two spaces at the end of the drive-through lane where customers can wait if their order if it is not ready for immediate collection. Officers will check whether these spaces have been provided. There was an initial rush in the first few days of opening, however the traffic appears to have died down since. We will continue to monitor the situation.

I agree that the general situation with traffic at Gallows Corner is a cause for concern.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member confirmed that he would work with KFC and officers to manage traffic issues at Gallows Corner at peak times.

13)To the Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Damian White

From Cllr John Glanville

What impact does the council foresee on the availability of social housing in Havering, if and when the legislation extending the right to buy to housing associations comes into effect?

Response

The extension of the Right to Buy could potentially affect around 1.3m Housing Association tenants. Much of the detail as to how RTB will operate will come from the regulations once the Housing and Planning Bill (2015) becomes law. The extended RTB scheme for Housing association tenants is closely aligned to the sale of high value

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vacant Council stock. Final values have yet to be set out in the regulations. The values at which any of our Council stock could be considered high, has only up until now been an estimate of the likely figures to be used.

When the policies were announced in the Chancellor's Summer Budget, officers here used the figures being considered as the likely values and concluded that if these values remained, Havering would not have any properties which would meet the proposed definition of 'high value'. Once a decision is made by the Government on what the proposed values will be, Housing Services will then be able to work closely with Property Services to establish if this position has changed. We also intend to liaise with Housing Association colleagues, who provide social housing in the Borough, to ascertain how many HA tenants they anticipate will take up the extended RTB. This will to enable us to predict the true impact on social housing in Havering.

What is very clear is that we, as a local authority, have a responsibility to do what we can to increase the number of affordable homes for local people. So far, the Council has built 121 new homes in Havering and, at the September Cabinet, we agreed to build a further 1,000 homes for local people at affordable prices. We are also lobbying Government in a bid to be allowed to raise more funding to build more homes.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member confirmed the Council was trying to encourage and increase social housing in the Havering. The Council was however no longer in a position to be responsible for all social housing units in the borough.

14)To the Cabinet Member for Housing Company Development and oneSource Management, Councillor Ron Ower

From Cllr Lawrence Webb

If as is likely that the TTIP will be agreed in the EU parliament what risk impact assessments have the council undertaken on how this could affect decisions around planning and procurement?

Response:

We believe that Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) will give us a wider pool of suppliers for Council business, which is likely to be helpful in getting a better deal both in terms of price and quality. Assuming it is passed by the European Parliament, we would review the implications for procurement, financial and risk elements in light of the guidance notes that haven't yet been issued. It isn't realistic to look at running impact assessments without those guidance notes. We would then make any necessary changes to our procedures, as we did recently with the changes to the EU Public Contract Regulations 2015.

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**15) To the Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services & Community Safety,
Councillor Osman Dervish**

From Cllr Philip Martin

The Council are making a substantial financial investment in the Dover's Corner development to ensure that the target of affordable homes is met. If the recent exposure of the performance of the company Persimmon on the TV programme Watchdog is to be believed there is a risk that the poor standard of construction reported from its many sites over the UK could be repeated in this major development in South Hornchurch. What safeguards are being put in place to ensure this does not happen in the Dover's Corner site?

Response:

The council has no power to refuse planning permission or building regulations consent on defects in the final quality of what is built on any housing development. These issues are controlled through warranty schemes that house builders are required to provide.

House builders may use warranty schemes available through the National House Builders Federation (NHBC) or Local Authority Building Control (LABC). These are usually 10 year schemes and during at least the first two years the house builder is legally obliged to address any defects reported to them.

There are Persimmon schemes in the borough already and we are not aware of any significant complaints about quality defects.

In response to a supplementary question, the Cabinet Member agreed to seek to persuade Persimmon to put oversight of their work under the auspices of the Council's building control section. He added however that Persimmon could not be forced to do this.

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Council, November 2015, Answer to Question 7 - LIST OF WORKS.

Beam River	Main River	EA weir removal Routine maintenance	Summer 2013
Blacks Brook	Main River	Routine maintenance	All 2015
Broxhill Drain	Ordinary Water course	Tree root mass removal. Dredging /clearance of channel. Routine maintenance	Autumn 2014 All 2015
Carter Brook	Main River	Routine maintenance	All 2015
Emerson Park Stream	Main River	Dredging on main river. 25 tonnes of silt removed. Routine maintenance	Summer 2015 All 2015
Havering Country Park -	LBH / Riparian Owner	Complete clearance of channel and new pond introduced. Routine maintenance	Autumn 2014 All 2015
Pinewood Road		Culvert renewal/upsized under private road. Routine maintenance	Autumn 2014 All 2015
Ingrebourne Branch Drain	Main River	EA completed culvert survey. Requires clearance. Programmed for 2016.	Spring 2014 Quote obtained

Council, November 2015, Answer to Question 7 - LIST OF WORKS.

Ingrebourne River	Main River	Dredged from Bridge Road to sewerage works by EA. Water level investigation and survey by EA underway Routine maintenance	Autumn 2014 On going All 2015
Orange Tree Hill	LBH / Riparian Owner, Culvert and open ditch. Ordinary Water Course	Clearance of blockages by LBH by privately owned. Requires enforcement action. Routine maintenance	Spring 2014 All 2015
Paines Brook	Main River	Fallen trees removed. Routine maintenance	Spring 2015 All 2015
Rainham Creek	Main River	Routine maintenance	All 2015
Ravensbourne River	Main River	Mass silt trap cleared Routine maintenance	Sept 2015 All 2015
Rise Park Drain	LBH Ordinary Water course	Collapse Sewer repair (repair by LBH). Tree root mass removal. Dredging /clearance of channel. Routine maintenance	Summer 2014 All 2015

Rom River	Main River	Invasive species treatment at Cedar Close. Blockages removed. Fallen trees removed. Routine maintenance	Sept 2015 Summer 2014 Summer 2014 All 2015
Roneo Corner Bridge	Main River	New development channel realignment. Routine maintenance	Oct 2015 All 2015
Upminster Bridge	Main River	Routine maintenance	All 2015
Warley-D-Brook	Riparian Owner	Routine maintenance	All 2015
Weald Brook	Riparian. Ordinary water course	Routine maintenance	All 2015
Garland Way	Surface water balance tank LBH	Routine maintenance	All 2015
Marshall Drive,	Stream LBH and land owner	Routine maintenance Outstanding works to clear debris. Entrance now gated by residents due to ASB.	Unable to gain access due to residents

Routine maintenance involves physical inspection then subsequent removal of any blockages, fly tipping removed, bank repairs and silt depth assessment and foliage assessment/cut back.
Assessment of evasive species.

TWU headwall clearance if necessary and liaison with all external partners

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VOTING RECORD

<i>DIVISION NUMBER:</i>	1	2
The Mayor [Cllr. Brian Eagling]	✓	✓
The Deputy Mayor [Cllr. Philippa Crowder]	✓	✓
<u>CONSERVATIVE GROUP</u>		
Cllr Roger Ramsey	✓	✓
Cllr Robert Benham	✓	✓
Cllr Ray Best	✓	✓
Cllr Wendy Brice-Thompson	✓	✓
Cllr Joshua Chapman	✓	✓
Cllr John Crowder	✓	✓
Cllr Meg Davis	✓	✓
Cllr Osman Dervish	✓	✓
Cllr Jason Frost	✓	✓
Cllr Steven Kelly	✓	✓
Cllr Robby Misir	✓	✓
Cllr Garry Pain	✓	✓
Cllr Dilip Patel	✓	✓
Cllr Viddy Persaud	✓	✓
Cllr Carol Smith	✓	✓
Cllr Frederick Thompson	✓	✓
Cllr Linda Trew	✓	✓
Cllr Melvin Wallace	✓	✓
Cllr Roger Westwood	✓	✓
Cllr Damian White	✓	✓
Cllr Michael White	✓	✓
<u>RESIDENTS' GROUP</u>		
Cllr Ray Morgon	✓	✓
Cllr June Alexander	✓	✓
Cllr Nic Dodin	✓	✓
Cllr Jody Ganly	✓	✓
Cllr Barbara Matthews	✓	✓
Cllr Barry Mugglestone	A	A
Cllr John Mylod	✓	✓
Cllr Stephanie Nunn	✓	✓
Cllr Reg Whitney	✓	✓
Cllr Julie Wilkes	✓	✓
Cllr John Wood	✓	✓
<u>EAST HAVERING RESIDENTS' GROUP</u>		
Cllr Clarence Barrett	✓	✓
Cllr Alex Donald	✓	✓
Cllr Gillian Ford	✓	✓
Cllr Linda Hawthorn	✓	✓
Cllr Ron Ower	✓	✓
Cllr Linda Van den Hende	✓	✓
Cllr Darren Wise	✓	✓
<u>UK Independence Party</u>		
Cllr Lawrence Webb	✓	O
Cllr Ian De Wulverton	✓	O
Cllr John Glanville	✓	O
Cllr David Johnson	✓	O
Cllr Phil Martin	✓	X
Cllr Patricia Rumble	✓	O
<u>INDEPENDENT LOCAL RESIDENTS' GROUP</u>		
Cllr Jeffrey Tucker	✓	✓
Cllr Michael Deon Burton	✓	✓
Cllr David Durant	✓	✓
Cllr Keith Roberts	✓	✓
Cllr Graham Williamson	✓	✓
<u>LABOUR</u>		
Cllr Keith Darvill	✓	✓
<u>INDEPENDENT</u>		
Cllr Philip Hyde	A	A
<u>TOTALS</u>		
✓ = YES	52	46
X = NO	0	1
O = ABSTAIN/NO VOTE	0	5
ID = INTEREST DISCLOSED/NO VOTE	0	0
A = ABSENT FROM MEETING	2	2
	54	54

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