



Haverling

LONDON BOROUGH

TOWNS & COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE AGENDA

7.30 pm

Thursday
3 March 2016

Town Hall, Main Road,
Romford

Members 9: Quorum 4

COUNCILLORS:

**Conservative
(4)**

Steven Kelly
Robby Misir
Frederick Thompson
Linda Trew

**Residents'
(2)**

June Alexander
Jody Ganly

**East Haverling
Residents'
(1)**

Linda Hawthorn
(Vice-Chair)

**UKIP
(1)**

Lawrence Webb
(Chairman)

**Independent
Residents'
(1)**

Michael Deon Burton

For information about the meeting please contact:

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Protocol for members of the public wishing to report on meetings of the London Borough of Havering

Members of the public are entitled to report on meetings of Council, Committees and Cabinet, except in circumstances where the public have been excluded as permitted by law.

Reporting means:-

- filming, photographing or making an audio recording of the proceedings of the meeting;
- using any other means for enabling persons not present to see or hear proceedings at a meeting as it takes place or later; or
- reporting or providing commentary on proceedings at a meeting, orally or in writing, so that the report or commentary is available as the meeting takes place or later if the person is not present.

Anyone present at a meeting as it takes place is not permitted to carry out an oral commentary or report. This is to prevent the business of the meeting being disrupted.

Anyone attending a meeting is asked to advise Democratic Services staff on 01708 433076 that they wish to report on the meeting and how they wish to do so. This is to enable employees to guide anyone choosing to report on proceedings to an appropriate place from which to be able to report effectively.

Members of the public are asked to remain seated throughout the meeting as standing up and walking around could distract from the business in hand.

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 sub-committee has its own remit as set out in the terms of reference but they each meet to consider issues of local importance.

The sub-committees 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 to the public.

The sub-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. These are considered by the Overview

and Scrutiny Board and if approved, submitted for a response to Council, Cabinet and other relevant bodies.

Sub-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 or undertaking site visits. Once the topic group has finished its work it will send a report to the Sub-Committee that created it and will often suggest recommendations for the Overview and Scrutiny Board to pass to the Council's 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
- Councillor call for Action

AGENDA ITEMS

1 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.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

(if any) - receive.

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 MINUTES (Pages 1 - 6)

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of 21 January 2016 and to authorise the Chairman to sign them.

5 THE MAYOR'S OUTER LONDON FUND - APPROVAL TO MAKE ROUND TWO BIDS. CABINET REPORT UPDATE

Members to receive presentation

6 2016/17 LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN PROGRAMME (Pages 7 - 12)

7 HAROLD HILL AMBITIONS CABINET REPORT UPDATE (Pages 13 - 18)

Report attached

8 HAROLD HILL AMBITIONS LEARNING VILLAGE - CABINET REPORT UPDATE (Pages 19 - 24)

Report attached

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 SUB- COMMITTEE
Committee Room 2 - Town Hall
21 January 2016 (7.30 - 8.30 pm)**

Present:

Councillors Lawrence Webb (Chairman), Linda Hawthorn (Vice-Chair), Robby Misir, Frederick Thompson, June Alexander, Jody Ganly, Ray Best and David Durant

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Steven Kelly and Councillor Michael Deon Burton

11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Apologies were received from Councillor Steven Kelly (Councillor Ray Best substituting) and Councillor Michael Deon Burton (Councillor David Durant substituting).

12 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interest.

13 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman gave details of arrangements in the event of fire or other event that may require the evacuation of the meeting room.

14 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee held on 18 August 2015 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

15 ROMFORD MARKET TRANSFORMATION

The Business Development Manager for Regulatory Services explained that the transformation strategy for the market had recently completed the requisition process.

It was announced that £1 million of funding had been secured for the market transformation work from the London Regeneration Fund. This was the full amount that had been asked for and a business case was now being developed in order to seek to also obtain match funding for the development.

A number of workstreams had now commenced including exit interviews with traders no longer working on the market and detailed financial forecasting. All funds would need to be allocated within two years and an architect had now been appointed to develop the detailed design proposals.

Branding and marketing for the market was also being reviewed and there would be discussions with the traders leading into a full public consultation on the proposals. This would include discussions with retailers based around the market.

The Sub-Committee **AGREED** that further details of the market transformation programme should be brought to the next meeting and congratulated officers on successfully securing the funding.

16 **UPDATE ON HARROW LODGE LAKE**

The Head of Culture & Leisure explained that the Council was investing in Harrow Lodge Park in order to seek Green Flag status for the park. A Friends of the Park group had also been set up in order to increase community involvement in the facility.

It was accepted that there were some problems in the park due to pollution of the river and lake and work was under way to ensure Thames Water took action on this. Pollution entered the river through surface water drains and it was felt that this may be due to either misconnection from nearby residential properties or local businesses not disposing of their waste correctly. Thames Water was trying to determine the source of the pollution and it would then be for the Council's Environmental Health section to take enforcement action. There would however be significant resource implications of doing this. It was confirmed that Thames Water and the Environment Agency had undertaken marketing campaigns about the pollution issue.

A further problem was that, in times of heavy rainfall, sewage could seep up from pipes into the park area itself. Thames Water did clean up these instances but the Council was looking at longer term solutions. The Leader of the Council had also met with Thames Water and the Environment Agency about this issue.

It was noted that it was preferable not to remove swans from the lake unless they were in obvious distress even though some swans and ducks had died in recent years. A Member added that some swans had in fact been

removed to a swan sanctuary. Aerators had been installed in the lakes and one lake had also been desilted in order to help wildlife.

There was not regular monitoring of pollution levels at the lake although both the swan sanctuary and the Environment Agency had done this in the past. The Environment Agency had confirmed however that they would not undertake this work regularly.

The Sub-Committee was informed that Thames Water had commissioned consultants to undertake a study of the lake to look at solutions to this issue and their findings was due in April 2016. The Council would consider the response it wished to make once it had received the report.

In the meantime, the service was considering some short term solutions to the issues with the lake.

The Head of Culture & Leisure agreed to keep the Sub-Committee updated on this matter.

The Sub-Committee **NOTED** the position.

17 **ROMFORD LEISURE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

The Head of Culture & Leisure informed the Sub-Committee that the enabling works being undertaken by Morrisons on the Western Road site in Romford Town Centre were about to be completed. This had involved moving an electricity substation and taking the side off one of the office buildings. Practical completion of these works was expected at the end of January 2016.

The Leisure Centre building works, which were being undertaken by Wilmott Dixon, were due to start 4-6 weeks after practical completion and the new Leisure Centre was due to open by May 2018.

The Council was currently tendering the management of its sports and leisure facilities, at this stage it was not clear who the operator of the new Romford facility would be. The Sub-Committee was informed that the first stage bids were due in on 22 January 2016.

The Head of Service advised that the facility mix remained as originally envisaged. The new Leisure Centre would include a 25 metre, 8 lane pool, with a moveable floor covering half of the pool; approximately 200 seats alongside the pool; a leaner pool; sauna and steam facilities; a 100 station gym; a dance studio and bike pinning room; a café and an ice rink with approximately 800 seats.

In response, it was confirmed to the Sub-Committee that the appointed operator would undertake the fitting of the centre.

A Member sought clarification that a thorough evaluation of tenders would be carried out in order to ensure the figures and capital investment plus equipment leasing were not detrimental to the returns due to the council.

A Member raised concern about the running cost for the Hornchurch and Chafford Sport Centres; the Sub-Committee was informed that a formula on the running cost for the new centre had been built in to the contract to be agreed with the operator.

It was noted that the new centre would not have diving facilities, only Hornchurch Sports Centre had such a facility in the borough.

The Sub-Committee **NOTED** the update.

18 **COUNCIL MOTION ON ARTICLE 4 DIRECTION**

Following the resolution of Council, a report had been referred to the Sub-Committee to consider the issue of walls which had been erected at the front of a property in the borough and any action that could be taken as a consequence.

The report detailed that a complaint was received regarding high boundary walls that had been erected at the front of a residential terraced house in Rainham. Following investigation, it was found that two brick walls had been erected to the front of the property along each side boundary. Each wall was 1.96 metres high from the front of the house itself for a distance of 3.25 metres with the height reducing down to 1.15 metres to the front of the property, adjacent to the public highway.

The issue of whether the particular walls fell under permitted development was still being considered. It was considered by officers that the examples of the walls provided insufficient justification of a problem that required the removal of permitted development rights across the borough in relation to walls and fences and that such a proposal was unlikely to be supported by the Secretary of State and would have resource implications.

In terms of whether the wall needed planning permission or not, staff had sampled relevant appeal decisions across the country and it appeared that any wall/fence perpendicular rather than parallel to the highway was not "adjacent" and would likely be permitted development if it was not considered a danger to users of the highway.

The report detailed that there was little guidance or precedent in relation to the issue of danger. Staff were of the view that a high wall/fence that obstructed the view of pedestrians to any vehicle leaving the site and vice versa could be a danger. Unlike a planning application, the decision was not made on policy or the merits for and against. For that reason no third party consultation had been undertaken.

In the circumstances, staff had sought a legal opinion on whether any part of the wall needed planning permission before deciding whether any action could be taken and if so in what form. As to whether any enforcement action could require the removal of the whole wall, it would normally be appropriate for enforcement action to solely address the harm being caused and the actual part of the development which needed permission, so officers' current view was that it would not be appropriate to require the removal of the whole wall, although a legal opinion on this point was also being sought.

The report also informed the Sub-Committee that another important consideration was that an Article 4 direction in relation to front walls and fences would result in an unknown number of planning applications being required to be submitted should residents wish to put up a new boundary treatment or replace existing.

An Article 4 direction could result in significant resource implications for the planning service. This outcome would be disproportionate to the comparatively isolated frequency and scale with which householders sought to use permitted development rights for front walls and fences in a way which, by any measure, was markedly and unreasonably harmful to their neighbours.

The Sub-Committee noted that in officers' view the justification for an Article 4 direction covering front walls and fences was weak.

It was considered that there was insufficient justification for an Article 4 direction covering the whole borough with a likely outcome that any Article 4 direction would not be supported by the Secretary of State.

The Council resolution asked the Sub-Committee to consider and recommend any action to Cabinet, but due to the conclusion that the erection of front walls and fences was unlikely to adversely affect the character of the borough or residential amenity, no action was recommended. It was therefore recommended that no further action be taken in relation to Article 4 directions and that subject to legal advice, action on the walls may be taken on the grounds of highway safety.

The current position was that the resident had submitted an application for a certificate of lawfulness claiming that the walls did not need planning permission. There was little clear guidance to enable Planning Services conclude whether the walls required planning permission or not, so the service had sought a legal opinion on the matter. The Sub-Committee was informed that this might take a little time, but it was considered appropriate to base any action on that legal advice.

A Member was of the opinion that enforcement action be taken against the walls in the public interest (even if as a test case) to resolve the problem and avoid the need for an Article 4 direction.

The Sub-Committee noted the report and agreed that no further action be taken until legal advice was received by officers.

It was also noted that the Sub-Committee would be updated on any developments on this matter.

19 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORT - QUARTER TWO 2015/16

The Sub-Committee received the Performance Indicators within its remit for Quarters 1 and 2 of 2015. It noted that each indicator was given a red, amber or green (RAG) rating.

The report detailed 21 Corporate Performance Indicators under the remit of the Towns and Communities Overview & Scrutiny Sub-Committee. These related to Regulatory Services, Policy and Performance, Culture & Leisure, Housing, and Economic Development.

An indicator was currently showing an amber RAG status "Percentage of major applications processed within 13 weeks". In response the Head of Regulatory Services explained to the Sub-Committee that performance would be monitored closely to identify any trends over a longer period as two quarters' figures were not indicative of a pattern.

Another indicator "Percentage of appeals allowed against refusal of planning permission" was currently recording a red status. The Head of Regulatory Services explained that better pre-planning of major applications in order to avoid revisions and ensure a quick turn-round of the validation process when applications were received had been implemented.

In response to a Member enquiry, the Sub-Committee was informed that the enforcement team was fully staffed.

The Sub-Committee agreed to note the Performance Indicators reports for Quarters 1 and 2.

It also noted that that from the new financial year onwards, the quarterly and annual Corporate Performance Reports would be considered first by the individual overview and scrutiny sub-committees, then the Overview and Scrutiny Board and finally presented to Cabinet..

Chairman

Briefing Paper for Towns and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 3rd March 2016

2016/17 Local Implementation Plan Programme

1. Why this report has been prepared

This report has been prepared following a request from the chair of the Towns and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee for an agenda item detailing the 2016/17 Local Implementation Plan programme.

2. How was the 2016/17 LIP Programme prepared?

Each year the Council bids to Transport for London (TfL) for funding for its transport projects and programmes. In recent years, the “core” allocation from TfL has been in the region of £3m per year. It represents the bulk of the money that the Council can put towards a wide range of transport activities and responsibilities.

The Council has to spend this money in line with criteria set out by TfL and against a background set out in the Mayor’s strategies (mainly his planning and transport documents).

How the Council spends the money is also determined by Havering’s own transport policy documents which are approved by TfL.

Havering’s LIP submission must comply with:

- the Mayor of London’s London Plan and his Transport Strategy

The London Plan (2011) sets out the Mayor’s overarching strategic land use planning priorities and policies for London. It sets the overall context for most, if not all, of the Council’s own strategies.

The Mayor’s Transport Strategy (MTS) interprets the Mayor’s London Plan transport vision and details how he and his partners will deliver the plan over the next 20 years. Within the MTS the Mayor has set out a series of objectives, goals, and targets that boroughs have to work towards through the delivery of their Local Implementation Plan Programme.

- the Council’s approved Local Implementation Plan (LIP) strategy document

As part of the legislative requirements set out under section 145 of the GLA Act 1999, Havering and every other borough has to prepare a Local Implementation Plan (LIP).

Havering's LIP is effectively our transport strategy and it sets out how the Council intends to implement the Mayors Transport Strategy (MTS) within its local area.

Havering's LIP has several 'Borough Transport Objectives' that the borough is committed to working towards throughout the lifetime of the LIP. Havering's approved Local Implementation Plan was approved by the Mayor in 2012.

- the Council's approved 2014/15 to 2016/17 Three Year Delivery Plan

Havering's LIP is supported by its 2014/15 – 2016/17 Three Year Delivery Plan. It sets out the programme content of Havering's Annual Spending Submissions (ASS) for this period and was approved by TfL in December 2013.

The Delivery Plan shows how Havering's Annual Submission(s) for each financial year will support the MTS objectives and goals. It also addressed Mayoral targets relating to modal share, bus service reliability, asset condition, road traffic casualties and CO2 emissions.

The Three Year Delivery Plan sets out in detail the schemes that the Council has committed to progress in each of the three years of the Plan. The Three Year Delivery Plan should form the basis for a borough's LIP Programme.

- the latest TfL Guidance on preparing Local Implementation Plans

Every year Transport for London (TfL) publish guidance notes that Havering has to follow when preparing its LIP Submission.

The guidance notes often include any new Mayoral priorities that may have arisen since the last LIP Submission that boroughs will need to give consideration to when preparing their LIP Programme.

Havering has to allocate funding to schemes that are already being progressed over more than one Financial Year. Any schemes that are not completed by the end of the previous financial also have to be funded through the following year's LIP programme allocation.

It is important to note that LIP Financial Assistance is provided by TfL under section 159 of the GLA Act 1999. The funding is provided to support local transport improvements that accord to the Mayors Transport Strategy Goals, Challenges, and Outcomes. **Use of the funding for purposes other than those for which it is provided may result in TfL requiring repayment of any funding already provided and/or withholding provision of further funding.**

3. What is contained within the 2016/17 LIP Programme?

In early spring of each year the Council receives an indicative funding allocation from Transport for London. This forms the basis of the subsequent Submission to TfL.

Following Cabinet Approval last July and formal Lead Member sign off of the programme in September, Officers submitted Havering's 2016/17 LIP Annual Spending Submission to TfL for consideration.

In December 2015 Havering received confirmation that TfL had approved Havering's 2016/17 LIP Programme.

Havering's 2016/17 LIP programme is **£2.826m**. This is broken down as follows:

- **£2.247m “Corridors, Neighbourhoods and Supporting Measures”** programme. These are comprehensive ('holistic') schemes and local area improvements. They include schemes to tackle congestion by smoothing traffic flows, measures to assist freight, contribute to regeneration, deliver environmental improvements, improve safety as well as projects involving spaces used by several users, cycling, walking, bus reliability and bus stop accessibility. It also covers 'Smarter Travel' schemes such as school and workplace travel plans, travel awareness initiatives, road safety education, training and publicity schemes.
- **£479k “Principal Road Maintenance”**. This focuses on highway surface improvements to Havering's Principal Road Network (PRN). This is based on condition surveys to determine how much of the Principal Road Network across London requires structural maintenance.
- **£100k “Local Transport Funding”** (£100K for spending on projects of the Council's choice that support the delivery of the Mayor's Transport Strategy).

Appendix A of this report provides further details on each of the schemes that form the 2016/17 LIP Programme.

4. Additional funding outside of LIP

In addition to the sums mentioned above, Havering has also received **£498k** to develop a detailed design of a **“Major Scheme”** to transform the A1306 New Road in Rainham. Havering has also received funding over a three year period through TfL's **Crossrail Complimentary Measures** programme to develop schemes to improve the public realm outside Romford, Gidea Park and Harold Wood Stations. This funding is allocated outside of the normal LIP process.

Officers are anticipating to receive further in year funding in 2016/17 through other programmes the Mayor has including the Bus Stop Accessibility, and the Borough Cycling Programme (BCP).

TfL emphasise that boroughs should not see these as alternative funding mechanisms and boroughs are expected to submit schemes that compliment these “Pots” of funding within their own LIP programmes.

Appendix A – 2016/17 LIP Scheme Breakdown

Corridors and Neighbours	
LIP Allocation (£000)	Schemes
80	Bus Stop Accessibility
80	Step-free bus access
250	Cycling investment
50	Collier Row to Romford Cycle Safety Improvements
140	All London Grid Green - Walking and Cycling links to parks and leisure areas
60	Cycle Safety Training for Pupils
228	Packages to Support Traffic Reduction and Air Quality
25	Implementation of Mayor's Air Quality Fund
40	Travel Awareness Package
55	Travel Awareness for Schools
83	Smarter Travel Staffing Costs
25	Improvements to Air Quality
464	Casualty Reduction Package
70	Road Safety Awareness for Pupils
35	Romford Taxi Marshall Scheme
35	Casualty Reduction Measures - Mawney Package
85	Casualty Reduction Measures - Hylands Package
80	Casualty Reduction Measures - Cranham Package
64	Casualty Reduction Measures - Rainham Road
95	Casualty Reduction Measures - Romford Town Package
515	Smoothing Traffic Flow Schemes
65	Freight Loading facilities
300	Main Road /Upper Brentwood Road, Balgores Lane junction improvements
150	Harold Wood Station - Crossrail Complimentary Measures
50	Climate Change and Resilience
50	Energy Efficient Street lighting
650	Romford, London Riverside, Hornchurch and Harold Hill
150	Beam Parkway
350	Romford Public Realm Improvements
150	Beam Park Station - Detailed design and costings
10	Other
10	Taxi Rank Provision Review
2247	Total
100	Local Transport Fund
100	Smoothing Traffic Flows - Drill roundabout Implementation
2347	(Annual Totals (LIP and Local Transport Funding))
	Breakdown of the above total
310	Feasibility & Scheme Development Work / Studies
393	Soft Measures / Staff
1644	Infrastructure

479 (£000)

Principal Road Maintenance

69,000	NORTH STREET
39,000	THURLOE GARDENS - VICTORIA ROAD JCT
27,000	THURLOE GARDENS - SOUTH STREET JCT
30,000	RUSH GREEN ROAD
20,000	ROM VALLEY WAY
26,000	HORNCHURCH ROAD
55,000	RAINHAM ROAD
29,000	UPMINSTER ROAD
55,000	NEW ROAD - MARSH WAY - BORO BOUND
42,000	LONDON ROAD
42,000	NEW ROAD - BLEWITTS COTTAGES
45,000	NEW ROAD - CHERRY TREE LANE

498

Major Schemes

Major Scheme Beam Parkway

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TOWNS AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY SUB- COMMITTEE

REPORT

3 March 2016

Subject Heading:

Harold Hill Ambitions Programme

CMT Lead:

Andrew Blake-Herbert

Report Author and contact details:

Christopher Hobbs, Economic
Development, Regeneration Officer
Christopher.hobbs@havering.gov.uk

Policy context:

Harold Hill Ambitions Strategy
Harold Hill Ambitions Cabinet Reports
April 2007, February 2008 and November
2008, March 2010, January 2014

SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the Harold Hill Ambitions Programme report to Cabinet in January 2014.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to review the report and note its content.

REPORT DETAIL

This paper seeks to provide an update since January 2014 on the main projects within the Harold Hill Ambitions Programme

1.0 Background

The January 2014 Cabinet Report on the Harold Hill Ambitions Programme provided an update on the 30 recommendations established in the November 2008 Cabinet report.

The Programme formed part of the ten Strategic former Administration Projects and involved capital and revenue enhancements to the Harold Hill Area. The aim of the programme was to work with the local community to transform Harold Hill and open up new and exciting opportunities for local people to improve their lives. The long term ambition for Harold Hill, expressed in the November 2008 Cabinet Report is to; create more opportunities for local people; to work with the police to stamp out unacceptable behaviour and crime; to build a learning village to provide a centre of educational excellence on Harold Hill; modernise and improve community facilities for everyone; create new housing opportunities; improve health and wellbeing; and provide excellent new sports and recreation facilities.

The Harold Hill Ambitions Programme was drawn up following an extensive initial consultation with the community and key stakeholders in the summer of 2007 when a range of ideas and options were developed. Progress was reported to Cabinet in February 2008, and in August 2008 the Deputy Leader gave approval to consult the public on specific proposals to address the key priorities and opportunities which had been identified by the community and stakeholders. This report sets out progress since this date.

The Programme have been highly successful in delivering and initiating a complex series of physical change projects which have improved the built environment.

The report noted the next step in the delivery of the programme what to deliver the remaining physical projects, while sustaining an even stronger focus on opportunities for local people, particularly through the development of the focussing on jobs, education, skills and health.

2.0 Current position

The key recommendations in the report and their updates include;

Gooshays Drive Site

The site which was sold to Persimmon Homes to enable the main capital projects in the programme to be delivered is now complete, delivering 240 family homes in the locality and securing significant S106 contributions

Hilldene Shopping Centre

The Shopping Centre through a phased approach has seen a variety of investment since 2009, with the initial phases mentioned in the January 2014 Cabinet Report. Phase 3, which is currently underway includes £150k of TfL Local Implementation Plan investment. These works due to complete by the spring of 2016 will seek to improve the public realm in the Shopping Centre and will support the new library currently under construction and the new Housing in Hilldene North and East. Work includes enhancing the public realm on Farnham Road, improved parking bays, improvements to pedestrian safety, installation of a taxi rank and investment in the green space.

Harold Hill Library

Construction on the new Harold Hill Library, located in the East Dene Arcade funded from the Gooshays receipt has begun and is due to complete in early summer 2016. When complete, the new library which will be 50% bigger than the present building and will continue to be a centre of community activity and provide a range of upgraded facilities including a mezzanine floor. The scheme will improve the public realm of East Dene Arcade and complement works in the Hilldene Shopping Centre.

Learning Village

A separate report is presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee on the 3rd March, titled 'Learning Village update' which provides an update on the project.

Whitworth Housing and Broxhill Park

Construction has begun on the Broxhill Sports Park, with the new pavilion currently underway. The tender for stage two of the work is due to complete shortly which will include a 3G sports pitch, a multi-use games area, tennis courts and car park. All works are due to complete by the summer of 2016.

Whitworth phase one housing is now complete, with phase two properties currently being marketed

Central Park

The £1.5million project is now fully complete and operational, with the park achieving a gold award in the London in Bloom 2015 competition. Improvements include a state of the art skate and bmx park, 'parkour' course, flood lit multi-use games area, kiosk managed by a third party operator and a new bridge linking the park with Myplace (another project delivered as part of the programme).

Community Programme

The January 2014 Report noted that the principle focus of the programme moving forward would involve improving social aspects of Harold Hill including skills and employment.

To quantify the issues and establish a strategy for future delivery the Council commissioned a comprehensive survey of skills and employment in Havering that led to a detailed focus on Harold Hill. The reports, which involved statistical analysis, also included extensive consultation of providers and professionals but also primary research with those seeking employment to understand the issues they faced.

A short term recommendation to establish a post that co-ordinates the employment and skills agenda in Havering to ensure it is focussed and duplication is avoided has been established utilising New Homes Bonus funding.

Longer term recommendations such as changing attitudes to the workplace and obtaining European Funding are also being delivered by the Council's Skills and Business Engagement Manager and are expected to begin June 2016 subject to approval by the Greater London Authority.

We have been successful in obtaining ESF funding which will include direct delivery in Harold Hill through the Routes to Engagement funding programme. This will provide intensive Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) via the assignment of dedicated key workers to support and track participant progress through a menu of motivational training, work preparation, pre-employment training and work tasters, customised sector training and jobs underpinned by functional skills and ICT training at the appropriate levels.

The council will deliver this project itself through its Economic Development , Adult Education and Housing departments, we will develop this project to produce a jobs and training brokerage to support work experience and entry level positions within the council. The ultimate aim would be to create an infrastructure from which the council can directly deliver employment and skills support to residents and employers in the borough.

The project will engage a total of 162 participants and deliver the following outputs:

- 100 participants receiving 6 hours plus of IAG support.
- 39 participants achieving basic skills qualifications.
- 15 participants attending work placements.
- 12 participants starting full time education.
- 46 Participants start full time employment
- 29 participants remain in sustainable full time employment after 26 weeks.

The cost of the project is £228k. 50 % of this will be funded through ESF and 50% will be funded through the Harold Hill Ambitions and Gooshays S106 funding of £114,000. We aim to deliver the project at community sites in Hitchin Close, St George's Church, the Children's Centre and My Place.

There may some additional costs that are not eligible under ESF to support the cost of connectivity, small items of equipment and furniture. Costs for these are being sought and will be purchased from the remaining Harold Hill Ambitions funds.

Target Participants :Residents with greatest barriers to employment, including

- Young people aged 15- 24 including care leavers
- Those affected by Welfare Reform and long term worklessness (including lone parents, carers, ESA claimants and those aged 50+).
- Under employed
- Low wage and low skilled residents

3.0 Next steps

The Programme continues to deliver a series of significant capital investments in to the Harold Hill area which were recommendations in the November 2009 Cabinet Report.

The capital programme agreed by Cabinet is now largely complete or significantly advanced and has involved the Council or the private sector.

The residual elements of the programme which include a focus on the community of Harold Hill continue to be the delivered through a borough wide strategy that seeks to improve the level of resident's skills and maintain the high levels of employment which Havering currently benefits from. Projects such as increased engagement with businesses, engagement with JobCentre Plus and seeking large regional funding programmes will be the focus for the coming years.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

There are no financial risks associated with the on-going delivery of the programme with the significant capital programme elements underway and funded.

Legal implications and risks:

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Human Resources implications and risks:

There are no HR implications arising directly as a result of this report.

Equalities implications and risks:

These are covered in the programmes separate EQiA document which reviews programme wise Equalities implications and risks.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

TOWNS AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY SUB- COMMITTEE

REPORT

3 March 2016

Subject Heading:

Harold Hill Learning Village

CMT Lead:

Andrew Blake-Herbert

Report Author and contact details:

Christopher Hobbs

Policy context:

Harold Hill Ambitions Cabinet Papers
November 2008 and January 2014 and
Learning Village October 2014.

SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the October 2014 Learning Village Cabinet Paper and progress since that date.

Investment in the Learning Village since 2014 has seen a variety of projects established including the establishment of Drapers' Maylands Primary School, £60,000 of investment in the public realm and an extension of outline planning permission to re-enforce the Councils commitment to the Learning Village concept and increased educational provision.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to review the report and note its content.

REPORT DETAIL

This paper seeks to provide an update on the Harold Hill Learning Village and school provision in the area which the project relates.

1.0 Summary

The Harold Hill Learning Village was conceived as part of the Harold Hill Ambitions Programme, which was approved by Cabinet in November 2008.

The Cabinet Paper of October 2014 provided an update on delivery of the project and sought to confirm the Council's commitment to delivering the 'Learning Village Vision'. The 2014 report also covered the proposed use of Council owned land by the Drapers Multi-Academy Trust for the provision of a Primary Free School on the old Kingswood School site.

Key progress includes;

1. The establishment of Drapers' Maylands Primary School.
2. Pyrgo Priory establishing as an Academy (February 2015).
3. Investment of £60,000 to upgrade the public realm to match the high quality materials used in the Drapers Academy building.

2.0 Progress

The Learning Village Concept

The concept of improved educational provision and capacity resulting from the original vision in the November 2008 Harold Hill Ambitions Cabinet Report has been realised despite the constraints imposed by reductions in central government funding. Although the original vision has not been deliverable due to these reductions, significant investment in the Learning Village has seen the introduction of a new primary school, Drapers' Maylands which subject to referral by the GLA will be located on the old site of the Kingswood school by September 2017.

In addition to investment noted in the October 2014 report such as the £24million investment in Drapers Academy, various public realm enhancements have been delivered through £60,000 of investment through Transport for London's Local Implementation Plan in 2014 and 2015. These have included improvements to pedestrian and vehicular safety, improved green space and upgraded footway and

carriageways to match the high quality materials used on the Drapers Academy building.

Pyrgo Primary has been operating as an Academy since February 2015.

Due to funding constraints, Havering College are no longer able to relocate their provision from their current Quarles Campus to the Learning Village with the playing field which was earmarked for this development, leased to Pyrgo for use as a playing field.

Education provision and the Learning Village

This section of the report seeks to provide an update on the wider provision of education in the Harold Hill area and its relationship to the Learning Village.

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2015-2020 sets out the planned demand for early years and education provision, and it is clear from the projections, and the increased number of housing developments in the area, that the increased demand for education provision in Harold Hill across on early years places, primary and secondary school places and post-16 provision will be significant.

Early Years

The Childcare Act 2006 placed duties on all local authorities to secure sufficient childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children). Whilst Local Authorities have a duty to ensure a sufficiency of Early Years places they are also encouraged to focus on ensuring that all eligible children are able to take up their early education place.

The 2014/15 Childcare Sufficiency Report shows that there continues to be a surplus of Early Education Entitlement (EEE) places across the Borough, at least as far as 2020/21. However, analysis has been completed at individual ward and primary planning area level and these show that there are potential shortfalls of places in a number of wards, including Mawney, Harold Wood, Gooshays, Brooklands, and Romford Town.

The Childcare Bill will place a duty on the Secretary of State to secure the equivalent of 30 hours of free childcare per week in each of 38 weeks in any year to eligible working parents of three- and four-year-old children and the Government has made clear its intention to roll out the extended free childcare entitlement in certain areas from September 2016 in advance of full implementation from 2017. At this present time we are unaware of the impact this would have on the availability of places as this depends on the eligibility of families. However the impact is likely to be more EEE places will be needed.

In order to meet this planned increase in demand for Early Year provision, we are currently working with a number of schools in the local area, either to expand their existing provision, or to develop new provision as part of planned new

developments or accommodation, for example the new Harold Hill library and local Children's Centres.

Primary

Havering in common with the many other London Boroughs and urban areas is currently experiencing an increase in demand for primary school places and we are forecasting significant growth in the coming years. This increase in demand is due to rising birth rates in Havering and families moving into the borough from other parts of London, the UK and abroad. From 2014/15 the borough level reception intake is projected to increase year on year and this will lead to Havering experiencing a borough-wide deficit of reception places from 2017/18 if additional capacity is not planned for, and this deficit is projected to continue to rise steeply year on year.

This increase in demand is further fuelled by the level of housing development in the borough, which is projected to continue up until 2024/25, in line with the London Plan. There is increased pressure on primary provision in the Harold Hill planning area from a major development of new housing being built on the former Harold Wood hospital site. There are also several other large developments in this area, plus further major housing developments also being discussed for additional sites which is expected to add significantly to the demand for school provision in the area;

Based on projections, we will be experiencing a deficit of reception places from 2015/16 in the Harold Hill planning area, this increases to a deficit of 2FE in 2016/17 and 3FE in 2019/20. A 2FE (60 places) Free School (Drapers Maylands) has opened in 2015/16 (albeit in temporary accommodation until 2017) and this has addressed some of the projected need in this area but will still require an additional 1FE from 2016/17, therefore a permanent expansion of Broadford Primary School from 2FE to 3FE will be implemented for 2016/17, subject to statutory processes.

The new Free School (Drapers Maylands) forms part of the Drapers Multi Academy Trust, which also includes Brookside Junior School, it is also proposed to include Brookside Infant school as part of the Trust, subject to consultation. We have seen an improvement in standards across a number of schools in the Harold Hill area.

Secondary

Up to 2001/02, Havering experienced a decline in the birth rate that is now impacting on the secondary pupil roll, resulting in a slight drop in secondary numbers. However, by 2018/19 there is projected to be a significant deficit of secondary school places in Year 7 at borough level. There is increased pressure on secondary provision in the North of the borough from a major development of new housing being built on the former Harold Wood hospital site. There are also several other large developments in this area, plus further major housing developments also being discussed for additional sites which is expected to add significantly to the demand for school provision in the area. This pressure on places is also being experienced by primary schools in this area.

Based on projections, we are already projected to experience a deficit of places from 2015/16 which were absorbed by neighbouring planning areas with capacity. However the deficit of places is sustained and will increase overtime leading to the need for additional year 7 places in this planning area. Discussions are underway with secondary schools in this planning area and surrounding planning areas to permanently expand.

As with the primary phase, there has been an increase in popularity of the local schools, with Drapers now being over subscribed for the second year running.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

There are no financial implications or risks resulting from this report

Legal implications and risks:

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Human Resources implications and risks:

There are no HR implications arising directly as a result of this report.

Equalities implications and risks:

These are covered in the overall Harold Hill Ambitions EQiA.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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