



Havering

L O N D O N B O R O U G H

ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE AGENDA

7.00 pm	Thursday 17 March 2022	Virtual - INFORMAL MEETING
----------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------------------------

Members 6: Quorum 3

COUNCILLORS:

Maggie Themistocli (Chairman)
Michael Deon Burton (Vice-Chair)
Matt Sutton

Carole Beth
Darren Wise
Nic Dodin

For information about the meeting please contact:
Christine Elsasser - 01708 433675
chirstine.elsasser@onesource.co.uk

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.

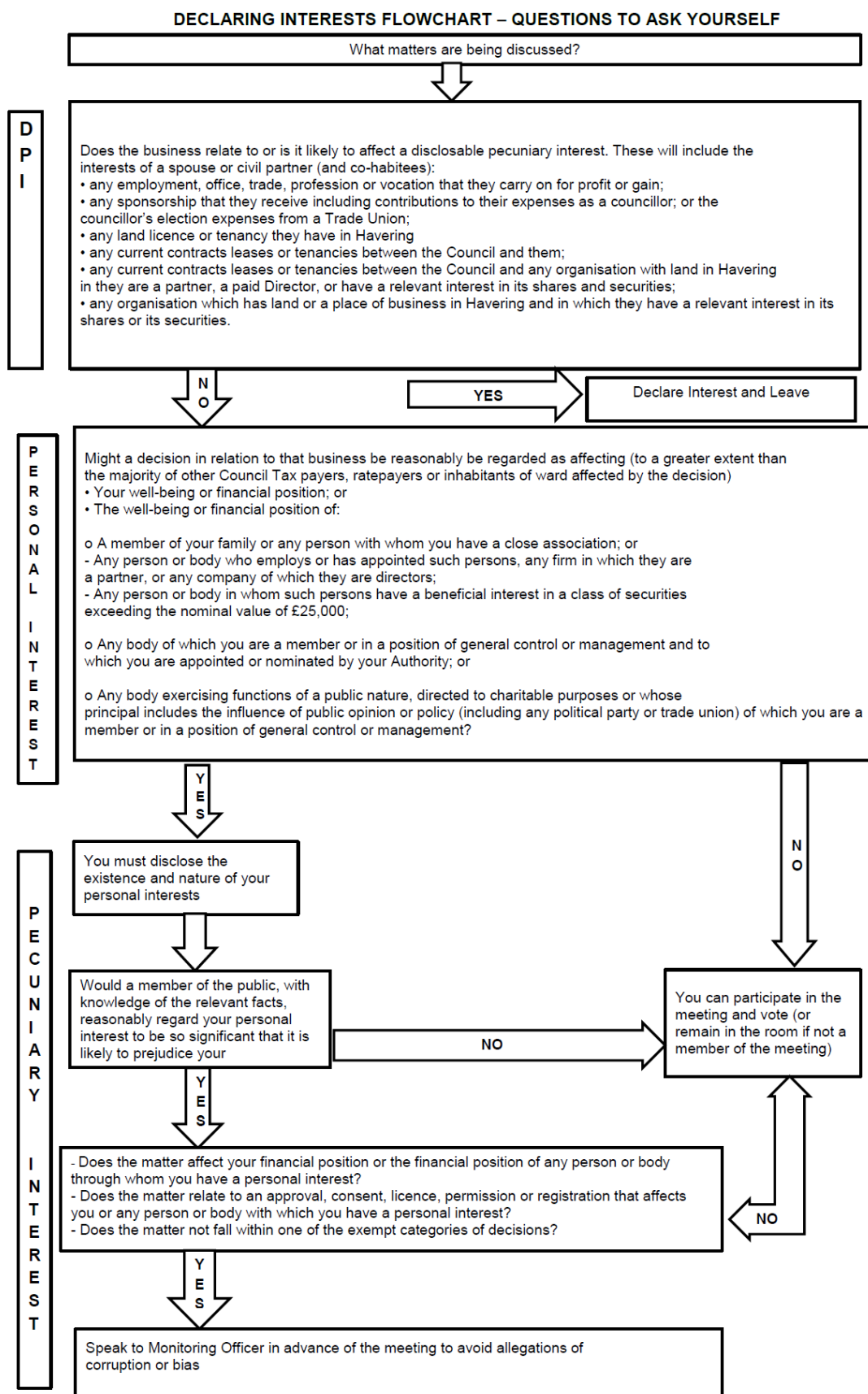
The sub-committees consider issues by receiving information from, and questioning, Cabinet Members, officers and external partners to develop an understanding of proposals, policy and practices. They can then develop recommendations that they believe will improve performance, or as a response to public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

- Environment
- Transport
- Environmental Strategy
- Community Safety
- Streetcare
- Parking
- Social Inclusion
- Councillor Call for Action



AGENDA ITEMS

1 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman will announce the protocols around a virtual only meeting.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

(if any) – received.

3 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Members are invited to disclose any interests in any of the items on the agenda at this point of the meeting.

Members may still disclose any interests in an item at any time prior to the consideration of the matter.

4 MINUTES (Pages 1 - 4)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 30 November 2021 and authorise the Chairman to sign them.

5 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS Q3 (Pages 5 - 18)

Report and PowerPoint attached.

Zena Smith
Democratic and Election
Services Manager

This page is intentionally left blank

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE
Town Hall, Main Road, Romford
30 November 2021 (7.00 - 8.16 pm)**

Present:

Councillors Maggie Themistocli (Chairman), Michael Deon Burton (Vice-Chair),
Carole Beth and Darren Wise

11 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2021 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

12 QUARTER 2 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The report and presentation before members updated the Sub-Committee on the Quarter 2 2021/22 performance information.

5 performance indicators had previously been selected by the Sub-Committee which were as follows:

- Improve air quality in the borough by reducing the level of NO2
- HMO licenses issued
- HMOs enforced against Total Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) issued in month
- Response rate for PCN Challenges and Representations

Members were advised that in the Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) during the quarter, fine particulate matter monitoring equipment had been installed throughout the borough and was measuring NO2 levels.

School engagement in regards to travel plans and air quality programmes was on-going.

A further application for the installation of electric vehicle charging points for 13 Council car parks was submitted and awaiting decision. Another funding bid for more EV points was also being prepared.

With regards to HMOs the service continued to focus new licence applications.

It was noted that the recent easing of travel restrictions has seen an increase in the issuance of Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) and this had affected response times for challenges and representations. However, recent recruitment would decrease these in future.

The Sub-Committee **noted** the contents of the report and the presentation.

13 **REVIEW OF PESTICIDES USED BY HAVERING**

The report updated Members of the Sub-Committee on a review that had been requested following publicity surrounding Glyphosate (a commonly used weed killers of pesticides). The report referred to herbicides (substances used to kill undesirable plants) rather than pesticides (chemicals used to kill pests or eradicate disease).

It was to be noted that a report was previously produced for Cabinet in November 2019 and therefore this was an update to Members on the Council's position.

It was explained that Havering Council had adopted an integrated approach to weed control on its highways, council land, and parks and open spaces. This included the use of the herbicide Glyphosate, as well as manual removal, mulching and growth suppressants within parks and open spaces.

Havering continued to conform to the EU's Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive, which recommended minimising use of herbicides and taking reasonable precautions during application.

Glyphosate was recently re-licensed by the European Pesticides Commission for five more years. However, recent well-publicised studies have asserted that the product poses potential risks to humans, animals and biodiversity, and groups including the Pesticide Action Network UK (PAN UK) campaign for its use to be phased out, along with other pesticides and herbicides. Other studies had concluded there to be either no such links, or links only associated with high levels of contact.

It was noted that the report also reviewed the current weed control measures and described alternative methods that were currently available within the industry. Equalities impact assessments would also be carried out to identify any alternative methods following procurement of a new contractor.

The Sub-Committee **noted** the contents of the report.

14 **TRAFFIC AND PARKING SAFETY SCHEMES UPDATE 2021-22**

The report presented to the Sub-Committee updated Members on the Traffic and Parking Safety Schemes that were in line with Transport for London's (TfL's) actions for local authorities in London. The Mayor's Transport Strategy (MTS) set out objectives including healthy streets and provision of a good transport experience as key parts of the MTS policy framework.

It was noted that the Local Implementation Plan (LIP) was an allocation of funding to the London boroughs by TfL to spend on projects that support the MTS and shape London's social and economic development to encourage active travel and make provisions for both walking and cycling.

It was explained that Vision Zero was a part of the MTS and was an initiative first introduced in Sweden in 1997. Vision Zero was an action plan which focused particularly on reducing road danger on the road network, by implementing schemes which would reduce crashes and improve road safety.

The Council recognised there were additional measures that could be implemented to improve the environmental aspects of areas within Havering to improve road safety to reduce casualties of all road users on both Transport for London Road Network (TLRN) and borough roads, especially in the vicinity of schools.

Havering was investing significant levels of its' LIP funding on physical infrastructure measures to encourage modal shift. A substantial element of LIP funding was also spent on measures focused on securing behaviour change and presenting alternative travel choices for journeys.

These measures often encompassed educational initiatives delivered in schools, to businesses and other community groups to encourage people to consider making choices involving smarter travel and road safety education initiatives. The aim of these was to encourage people to walk, cycle or use public transport to/from their destination and ultimately see a reduction in journeys by private vehicles.

School Street schemes which were funded by TfL offered a proactive solution for school communities to tackle air pollution, poor health, and road danger reduction. A School Street scheme would encourage a healthier lifestyle, active travel to school for families and lead to a better local environment. These schemes were a current Council priority as they were mainly self-enforcing with the use of closed-circuit television (CCTV) at timed closures points operational during school drop off and pick up times.

It was explained that following on from the EOSSC meeting held on 21st July 2021 thereport set out the types of safety schemes implemented since financial year 2015/2016, KPI details (where available) and before and after speed data to ascertain if safety had improved. Details of which could be found in Appendices A and B which were appended to this report.

The Sub-Committee **noted** the report.

15 **RAINHAM CREEK UPDATE**

The report and presentation before Members of the Sub-Committee updated Members on the progress of the clean-up of the Rainham Creek

area and was in response to a motion that was agreed at full Council on 24 March 2021.

The presentation contained before and after pictures of the progress of the clean-up of the Rainham Creek area and it was explained that the situation would be monitored.

The report and presentation were **noted** by the Sub-Committee.

Chairman



ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE, 17 MARCH 2022

Subject Heading:	Quarter 3 2021/22 performance report
SLT Lead:	Jane West, Chief Operating Officer
Report Author and contact details:	Cynthujaa Satchithanathan, Customer Insight Officer, x4960
Policy context:	The report sets out Quarter 3 performance relevant to the remit of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Financial summary:	<p>There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. However adverse performance against some performance indicators may have financial implications for the Council.</p> <p>All service directorates are required to achieve their performance targets within approved budgets. The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) is actively monitoring and managing resources to remain within budgets, although several service areas continue to experience financial pressure from demand led services.</p>

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Communities making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Places making Havering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Opportunities making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connections making Havering	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUMMARY

This report supplements the presentation attached as **Appendix 1**, which sets out the Council's performance within the remit of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee for Quarter 3 (October – December).

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee **notes** the contents of the report and presentation and makes any recommendations for performance as appropriate.

REPORT DETAIL

1. The report and attached presentation provide an overview of the Council's performance against the performance indicators selected for monitoring by the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee. The presentation highlights areas of strong performance and potential areas for improvement.
2. The report and presentation identify where the Council is performing well (**Green**) and not so well (**Amber** and **Red**). The RAG ratings for the 2021/22 reports are as follows:
 - **Red** = more than the agreed tolerance off the quarterly target
 - **Amber** = within the agreed tolerance of the quarterly target
 - **Green** = on or better than the quarterly target
3. Also included in the presentation are Direction of Travel (DoT) columns, which compare:
 - Short-term direction of travel – with performance the previous quarter (Quarter 2 2021/22)
 - Long-term direction of travel – with performance the same time the previous year (Quarter 3 2020/21)
4. A green arrow (↑) means performance is better and a red arrow (↓) means performance is worse. An amber arrow (→) means that performance has remained the same.
5. It is important to note that though service delivery is returning to business as usual, there will be still be an impact on performance due to COVID-19.

6. Five Performance Indicators have been included in the Quarter 3 2021/22 presentation. However a RAG status is only available for one indicator, which has been assigned an 'Amber' status.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. However adverse performance against some performance indicators may have financial implications for the Council.

All service directorates are required to achieve their performance targets within approved budgets. The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) is actively monitoring and managing resources to remain within budgets.

Legal implications and risks:

Whilst reporting of performance is not a statutory requirement, it is considered best practice to review the Council's progress against the Corporate Plan regularly.

Human Resources implications and risks:

There are no HR implications or risks arising directly from this report.

Equalities implications and risks:

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

- (i) the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are: age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Environment Overview and Scrutiny Presentation



Haverling

LONDON BOROUGH

Quarter 3 Performance Report 2021/22

Environment Overview & Scrutiny Sub-Committee

March 2022

About the Environment O&S Committee Performance Report

- 5 Performance Indicators have been selected to be monitored by the Environment Overview & Scrutiny sub-committee:
 - Improve air quality in the borough by reducing the level of NO2
 - HMO licenses issued
 - HMOs enforced against
 - Total Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) issued in month
 - Response rate for PCN Challenges and Representations
- An outturn for air quality is only available on an annual basis.
- A RAG rating is only available for one indicator (Response rate for PCN Challenges and Representations) and has been rated **Amber**.
- It is important to note that though service delivery is returning to business as usual, there will be still be an impact on performance due to COVID-19.

Indicator	Value	21/22 Annual Target	21/22 Q3 Target	2021/22 Q3 Performance	Short Term DOT 21/22 Q2	Long Term DOT 20/21 Q3
Improve air quality in the borough by reducing the level of NO ₂ µgm-3 (micrograms per cubic metre of air)	Smaller is Better	40	(Annual)	16.6 (Ravensbourne School) to 66.9 (Battis) 2020	16.6 (Ravensbourne School) to 66.9 (Battis) 2020	19.7 (Langtons) to 49.4 (Gallows Corner) 2019
HMO licenses issued	Bigger is better	N/A	N/A	20	18 ↑	10 ↑
HMOs enforced against	Bigger is better	N/A	N/A	2	1 ↑	7 ↓
Total Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) issued in month (including PCNs for moving traffic contraventions (MTC))	Demand Pressure	N/A	N/A	30,037	32,390 ↓	23,189 ↑
Response rate for PCN Challenges and Representations (days in current backlog as per end of month)	Smaller is better	35 days	35 days	39 days AMBER	32 days ↓	7 days ↓

During Quarter 3, there has been progress in the AQAP in a number of areas, including:

- Actions around Anti-idling:
 - The decision making process on the adoption of powers for anti-idling enforcement, under the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emission) (Fixed Penalty) (England) Regulations 2002, has commenced.
 - Three anti-idling awareness raising events were held at three schools; Scotts Primary, Langtons Junior and Rainham Village Primary schools.
- Baseline air quality monitoring, as part of the potential expansion of the School Streets scheme has been completed. Ten schools (at 8 locations) have been shortlisted for the Phase 2 of School Streets. Consultation on the implementation of School Streets at these locations through experimental Traffic Management Orders (TMOs) will start shortly.
- Engagement with Branfill Primary School started, for the creation of a walking zone map, aiming to launch the map mid March 2022.
- Following adoption of the Havering Local Plan, a Draft Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document will be updated and a process for its formal adoption will commence in the next months.

- Electric Vehicle charging points infrastructure:
 - A funding application for EV charging points at Council car parks has been successful. The Council has been allocated £176,000 to install EV charging points at 12 council car parks. The procurement process to award the work to a contractor has started, with a timeframe for completion end of March 2022 and for the works to start in the new financial year.
 - Another funding bid for on street EV charging points was submitted in December, currently awaiting the outcome
- Transport for London (TfL) has provided updated figures on the TfL STARS (Sustainable Travel: Active, Responsible, Safe) scheme accreditation: 47 schools in Havering have been accredited; 6 with Bronze, 1 silver and 40 with Gold STARS accreditation.

- A house in multiple occupation (HMO) is a property rented out by at least 3 people who are not from 1 'household' (for example a family) but share facilities like the bathroom and kitchen.
- HMO licence applications continue to be processed and issued as a priority although the current procedure to inspect every property prior to issuing a new licence has slowed the process slightly.
- Enforcement operations remain limited which has led to very few enforcement cases this quarter. It is intended that operations are stepped up in early 2022.

Penalty Charge Notices are issued to people parking illegally, or committing moving traffic offences like wrongly using bus lanes or making a banned turn. The management of traffic and parking is essential to keep Havering moving.

- There has been a significant increase in correspondence levels which has resulted in an increase in response times.
- Response rate increased due to staff shortages over the Christmas & New Year break and a week where no responses were issued due to annual reduced postal service between Christmas and New Year impacting on time limited payment demand letters.
- The PCN levels may have been impacted in Quarter 3 due to a stolen camera at one school location, and the camera located at Wingletye Lane/Minster Way was switched off in November.

Any questions?



This page is intentionally left blank