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25 November 2010

To: All Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Dear Member,

Re. Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 6th December 2010

I attach a copy of the following reports for the above-mentioned meeting which were not available at the time of collation of the agenda:

11. DECENT HOMES PROGRESS REPORT (PAGES 1 - 8)

To consider the report updating on the progress by Homes for Haringey in achieving the decent homes standard.

16. SCRUTINY REVIEW - 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT (PAGES 9 - 18)

To approve the draft scope, terms of reference and work plan for the scrutiny review on the 20 mph speed limit .

17. SCRUTINY REVIEW - CORPORATE PARENTING (PAGES 19 - 30)

To agree the scope and terms of reference of the scrutiny review of Corporate Parenting.

Yours sincerely

Natalie Cole
Principal Committee Coordinator

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Overview and Scrutiny

On 6th December 2010

1.1	Report Title:	Decent Homes Programme update.	
	Report authorised by:	Niall Bolger, Director of Urban Environment	
	Signed:		
	Contact Officers :	<p>Nick Powell, Head Of Housing Strategy, Development & Partnerships. e.mail:nick.powell@haringey.gov.uk</p> <p>Peter Maddison, Head of Asset Management, Tel: 020 8489 1269 e.mail:peter.maddison@homesforharingey.org</p>	
	Wards(s) affected:	All	Report for: Information
	1. Purpose of the report		
	1.1 This report provides a mid-year review of Year 3 of the Decent Homes Programme, setting out performance to date against key performance indicators, as well as key issues for years 4 -5.		
	2. Introduction by Cabinet Member.		
	2.1 .I am pleased to present this report to scrutiny and welcome your comments on the contents. The improvements made to tenants' homes during the first three years of Haringey's decent homes programme are substantial and I will, of course, be arguing most strongly that the borough should receive all of the funding that is needed to complete the programme during 2011/12 and 2012/13.		
	3. State link(s) with Council Plan Priorities and actions and /or other Strategies:		
	3.1 Homes for Haringey supports the Council's Housing Strategy and is committed to providing an excellent housing service while effectively delivering the Decent Homes programme for the residents of Haringey. As its strategic delivery partner, Homes for		

Haringey is committed to ensuring that the Decent Homes programme meets the aspirations of residents and Members.

3.2 Homes for Haringey have in place an Asset Management Strategy and Environmental Sustainability Strategy which provide a strategic framework for delivery of the Decent Homes and associated Environmental Improvements programme. The objectives of these strategies are closely linked to the Council's Greenest Borough Strategy, the Sustainable Procurement Strategy, Regeneration Strategy and Asset Management Plan.

3.3 The Decent Homes and Environmental programmes will contribute to the achievement of Council Priorities 1,2,3, and 5 by:

- Improving the environmental performance of Council Housing stock
- Providing a cleaner and greener environment for residents
- Providing decent homes and improving well-being
- Delivering cost effective services through partnering

4. Recommendations

4.1 That Overview and Scrutiny notes progress to date with Year 3 of the Decent Homes programme.

5. Summary

5.1 The Year 3 Decent Homes programme is progressing well and on target to reduce the overall level of non-decency to 20% of the Council's Housing stock **by 31ST March 2011**, in line with CLG agreed targets. Expenditure to date is also on profile and resident's satisfaction is running at 97%. Good progress is being made in delivering wider community benefits, e.g., by facilitating employment and training initiatives for local people, and securing additional funding for energy efficiency measures.

5.2 The purpose of this report is to give an update on progress on the delivery of the Decent Homes Programme. The report gives:

- An overview of progress on the overall Decent Homes Programme
- A mid year summary of progress on the 2010/11 programme
- An update on progress on the procurement of surveys for Years 4 & 5 of the Decent Homes Programme
- Proposals for procurement arrangements for the Years 4, 5 & 6 programmes.

6. Background

6.1 In January 2009, Haringey Council was awarded funding of £198,500,000 for the Decent Homes Programme to tenanted properties. In addition some £19,000,000 will need to be spent on associated leasehold properties and then recovered from the leaseholders. This funding is broken down as follows:

- Decent Homes Work: £187,090,000
- Environmental Improvements: £ 11,410,000
- **Tenanted Total: £198,500,000**

- Leasehold improvements £ 19,000,000
- **Total construction works: £217,500,000**

Subject to satisfactory outcomes of the survey of homes programmed for Years 4 & 5 of the programme, the Decent Homes Standard can be delivered within anticipated programme resources. Key issues and assumptions are as follow:

- A total of 11,641 homes are anticipated to be made decent over the period of the Decent Homes programme. (This figure includes the 6,704 homes that were identified as non-decent at the outset of the programme and the remaining 4,937 homes that are anticipated to become non-decent over the same period)
- As a result of Value Engineering work-to-date the average unit cost has reduced from £18,309 in Year 1 to £17,392 in Year 3 – a reduction of 5%. It is assumed that a similar level of investment is required for properties in Years 4 & 5 but with further savings of some £2m resulting from cost efficiencies identified in 8.4 below
- That delivery is based on the basic and not enhanced Decent Homes Standard
- This level of investment per unit can only be sustained for the remainder of the programme on the assumption that a minimum of £19m of leaseholder contributions are reinvested in the programme.

7. Current Overall Programme Position

7.1 2010/11 is the third year of the Homes for Haringey Decent Homes Programme. To date more than 4,000 tenanted homes have benefited from works, including:

- Kitchens to 2,277 tenanted homes
- Bathrooms to 2,098 tenanted homes
- Roofs to 1,175 tenanted homes
- Windows to 2,119 tenanted homes.

7.2 Leaseholders also benefit from external works where works are carried out.

7.3 The level of stock decency has increased from 58% of dwellings at the start of the programme to 75.35% at 30th September 2010.

7.4 Resident satisfaction has been very high at an average of 96.5%.

8. Key Issues and Risks

8.1 Based on information currently available, the programme can deliver the decent homes standard to all stock within available resources. However, there are some significant areas of risk and challenges that will need to be managed.

8.2 **Decent Homes Funding:** The Department of Communities & Local Government has confirmed the Decent Homes funding allocation for Years 1, 2 & 3. The Government has indicated in the Comprehensive Spending Review that the Decent Homes Programme will continue. However, future funding for the programme is dependent on the outcome of a consultation exercise and new bidding round.

8.3 **Efficiency Savings:** A specific Decent Homes Value Engineering and Best Value report detailed the significant progress that has been made in delivering cost savings in the Decent Homes programme through:

- The establishment of basket rates for key elements of the works, including arrangements with existing supply chain partners
- Savings that will be generated through the Supply Chain Management Group (SCMG)

8.4 These efficiency savings have delivered a reduction of approximately 7.2% against key elements of the works programme (kitchens, bathrooms, windows, and scaffold) and have contributed to a reduction of 5% in average unit costs from between Year 1 and Year 3 of the programme. Total savings from this work alone are expected to exceed £7m. Further savings of at least £2m are anticipated for Years 4 and 5 from the work with SCMG.

9. Decent Homes Programme: Year 3 (2010/11)

9.1 In Year 3 we anticipate completing works to a further 1,800 tenanted homes with a budget of £33.5m. The target is to increase the level of stock decency from 72.5% to 79.75% by 31st March 2011.

9.2 The end of September 2010 position is detailed below at **Table 1**:

	Hornsey	Wood Green	South Tottenham	North Tottenham
Number of units with work in progress	9	71	28	30
Number of units with works complete	123	149	388	116
Resident satisfaction figures %	98%	78%	97%	100%
Progress against programme	on programme	on programme	on programme	on programme

9.3 Actual spend to the end of September was £13.550m against a profile of £12.038m (13% ahead of profile). It is anticipated that the Decent Homes Programme will spend to the budget of £33.5m in 2010/11.

9.4 735 homes have been made decent in Year 3 to date, bringing the overall total to 4,491 since the start of the programme.

9.5 In September 2010, 19 resident satisfaction forms were returned. 89.5% of respondents indicated that they were either satisfied or very satisfied.

9.6 **Table 2** sets out the position with regards to the number of no access and refusal cases in the Decent Homes Programme to date:

Constructor	Area	No access/refusals
Apollo	South Tottenham	36/33
Lovell	North Tottenham	43/14
Wates	Hornsey	24/24
Mulalley	Wood Green	43/86
Totals		146/157

Table 2.

9.7 Our Decent Homes tenancy management officers have been pro-actively working to minimise the number of cases with some considerable success.

10. Survey of Years 4 and 5 Properties

10.1 No detailed survey information is currently available for Years 4 and 5 (2011/12 and 2012/13) of the Decent Homes programme. Consultants are currently being commissioned to undertake this work and it is anticipated that detailed survey work will be completed by early 2011. Properties will be surveyed to establish:

- The level of investment required to bring them up to the Decent Homes Standard
- The remaining life of major components that are not being renewed which will help plan future investment requirements.

10.2 When this exercise is complete, we will have a clear view of the precise level of investment required to bring the remainder of the stock up to the Decent Homes Standard and will be able to make decisions on the priorities for any remaining funds.

10.3 This survey work to date, has been within the scope of the existing Decent Homes Framework Agreement. However, it is thought that a single surveying company will improve the quality and consistency of surveys and will give a clearer strategic overview of investment needs and priorities. It is also anticipated that significant financial savings can be made – potentially in the region of £450k. Procurement of this work is currently being progressed through an existing framework established by City West Housing Trust.

11. Procurement of the Decent Homes Programme for Years 4, 5 & 6

11.1 The current Decent Homes Constructor Partner Framework runs for four years and will expire in December 2011. It is proposed to deliver Year 4 (2011/12) of the Decent Homes programme through the existing Framework.

11.2 Significant progress has been made in achieving cost savings from the existing framework through value engineering and supply chain management.

11.3 In negotiation of contract prices for the Year 4 programme, we will investigate options for further cost reductions and efficiency savings. This will include the anticipated financial benefit of the Supply Chain Management Group (SCMG). We

will also explore any options for negotiating reductions in Main Constructor Partners' overheads and profits in the context of the current construction market.

11.4 A procurement strategy is currently being developed for Years 5 & 6 of the Decent Homes Programme. This strategy will consider the most appropriate procurement route for the Decent Homes Programme, Capital Programme and the Planned Preventative Maintenance Programme for 2012 and beyond. This strategy will consider all aspects of the procurement, including:

- The number of constructors on the framework
- The form of contract
- Any specialist contractors required.

11.5 There will be a considerable lead in time for this process and it is anticipated that the procurement process will commence in spring 2011 with a view to contracts starting on site from April 2012. Further details of this procurement process will be developed in partnership with the London Borough of Haringey Corporate Procurement Group in the coming months and reported to Homes for Haringey Board and Capital Programme Board to agree the recommendation to be made to LB Haringey Procurement Committee.

12. Estate Improvements and Regeneration

12.1 The Environmental Improvement Programme is funded from the £11.4m sustainability element of the overall Decent Homes allocation. Works have been costed for 27 estates based on priorities set out in individual Estate Plans. Tenders are being prepared for the initial £2m phase of the Environmental Improvement Programme which will be let in 2010/11.

12.2 Homes for Haringey are continuing to work closely with Strategic and Community Housing in the development of an Estate Regeneration Plan. This includes exploring potential for new supply through hidden homes/new build initiatives.

13. Energy Efficiency

13.1 Homes for Haringey are in discussion with the Council and British Gas on options for the £3.5m Community Energy Savings Programme funding. We are currently looking at suitable stock within defined 'super output areas' where eligible measures can be carried out alongside Decent Homes works. Funding is available until December 2012.

14. Decent Homes Funding

14.1 The Department of Communities & Local Government has confirmed the Decent Homes funding allocation for Years 1, 2 & 3. However, future funding for the programme is indicative at the present time and funding commitments for 2011/12 and 2012/13 have yet to be confirmed.

15. Supported Housing Schemes:

15.1 26 of the Council's 29 sheltered housing schemes are included in year 3 (2010/11) of the Decent Homes programme.

15.2 Following a comprehensive procurement selection process, which residents were involved in, Breyers have been appointed to undertake Decent Homes works to the 26 schemes.

15.3 Internal and external works are being carried out in two separate phases. The external phase, including roof, window, and door renewals, where necessary, is due to start on site in November 2010 and complete by July 2011.

15.4 The internal phase involves bringing all internal elements up to the Decent Homes standard including kitchens, bathrooms, electrics, boilers and heating, where necessary. This is on target to start in October 2010 and complete by April 2011.

16. Chief Financial Officer Comments

16.1 At present the Decent Homes project is expected to stay within budget, although costs for later years will not be known until survey work has been completed.

16.2 The CSR announcement on 20th October indicated support for continuation of Decent Homes, although exact funding amounts are not known at this point.

16.3 Leaseholder contributions are shown as contributing towards the total cost of the work, however this assumes all contributions are collected and as contributions may only be due several years after the spend is incurred there may well be cash flow implications.

17. Head of Legal Services Comments

Not applicable.

18. Head of Procurement Comments.

Not applicable.

19. Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments

19.1 Homes for Haringey's Asset Management Strategy, covers all investment in the Councils housing stock, including decent homes. In drawing up the Strategy, an Equalities Impact Assessment was undertaken. The findings have been incorporated into Homes for Haringey's planning processes for delivering decent homes. This includes ensuring that all residents receive the same standard of work, and consideration of specific language and other needs are identified and addressed when drawing up programmes of work.

20. Consultation

Not applicable.

21. Service Financial Comments

- 21.1 Funding for the Decent Homes Programme for 2010/11 is included within the Housing Capital Programme for the year. This comprises £30.5 million in Government funding through supported capital expenditure and £3 million in contributions from leaseholders.
- 21.2 Leaseholder contributions to Decent Homes works are being earmarked for re-investment in the programme. To date £7.3 million has been recharged to leaseholders although payment of these accounts may be spread over a number of years in line with the payment options agreed.
- 21.3 A full spend of the £33.5 million budget is forecast for 2010/11.
- 21.4 Value for money is being sought through value engineering and supply chain management on various elements of the programme. Savings from this work are expected to exceed £7m. These savings are taken into account in programming works which are monitored monthly along with all projects in the capital programme. These savings are being used to achieve the target of full decency by the end of the Decent Homes Programme.

22. Use of appendices /Tables and photographs

- 22.1 None

23. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985



Haringey Council

Agenda item:

[No.]

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

On 6 December 2010

Report Title: Scrutiny Review - 20 MPH Speed Limit

Report of: Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Contact Officer : Robert Mack, Principal Scrutiny Support Officer Tel: 0208 489 2921

Wards(s) affected: All

Report for: **N/A**

1. Purpose of the report (That is, the decision required)

- 1.1 To approve the draft scope, terms of reference and work plan for the scrutiny review on the 20 mph speed limit.

2. Introduction by Cabinet Member (if necessary)

2.1 N/A

3. State link(s) with Council Plan Priorities and actions and/or other Strategies:

- Council Plan priority; A cleaner, greener Haringey
- Sustainable Community Strategy outcomes: Safer for All and An Environmentally Sustainable Future.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 That the scope, terms of reference and work plan for the review be approved.

5. Reason for recommendation(s)

5.1 Included within the body of the report.

6. Other options considered

6.1 Included within the body of the report.

7. Summary

7.1 A scrutiny review has been commissioned on the feasibility of introducing a 20 mph speed limit across Haringey. This report proposes a scope, terms of reference and a work plan for this review.

8. Chief Financial Officer Comments

8.1 The review will be carried out by strategy services, all costs will be contained within their existing budget provision. There is no budget provision within the UE budget and no additional financial commitments can be considered. Recommendations as a result of this report must be cost neutral or offer potential savings to the service.

9. Head of Legal Services Comments

9.1 The Head of Legal Services notes the contents of this report. The Council as local highway authority have the power to vary speed limits on roads other than trunk or restricted roads by making traffic regulation orders under s84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ("the Act"). There are no legal implications arising from the review at this stage, however, if the Council is to implement 20mph restrictions the procedure in relation to consultation and notification which is set out in Schedule 9 Part III of the Act and the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure)(England and Wales) Regulations 1996 must be followed. The Council must also have regard to the Government's Guidance in devising speed limits.

10. Head of Procurement Comments – [Required for Procurement Committee]

N/A

11. Equalities & Community Cohesion Comments

11.1 There is a correlation between deprivation and level of risk of becoming a road traffic accident casualty. Any measures that the Council and its partners take to reduce to improve road safety will therefore benefit many disadvantaged communities.

12. Consultation

12.1 Consultation will be an integral part of the review. The panel will receive evidence from a range of stakeholders. This will include a range of resident associations and interest groups, who will be invited to attend of specific meeting of the panel to give their views.

13. Service Financial Comments

13.1 The cost of undertaking the scrutiny review is provided for in the budget for overview and scrutiny. In addition, value for money issues and any potential financial implications arising from the review will be considered in liaison with the service finance lead.

14. Use of appendices/tables and photographs

14.1 N/A

15. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

15.1 Background papers are as follows:

Braking Point – Report by the Transport Committee of the London Assembly – April 2009

Interim Evaluation of the Implementation of 20 mph Speed Limits in Portsmouth - Atkins - Final Report

16. Report

Introduction

16.1 It has been established clearly that there is a link between traffic speed and road collisions. Excessive speed has been shown to be a direct contributory factor in about 20% of all collisions and a major factor on a third of all road deaths. This does not necessarily mean that drivers are breaking the speed limit but may instead be driving faster than appropriate for the conditions. Reducing speed limits has therefore been widely accepted as an important means of reducing road casualties. Research has shown that for every 1 mph reduction on average traffic speed, road collisions are reduced by 5%.

20 mph speed limits and zones

16.2 20 mph speed limits have been introduced in many areas in order to achieve this. These have been targeted particularly at areas that are considered to be “high risk”,

such as around schools and hospitals. Police forces have generally been reluctant to enforce these and there is an expectation that such schemes should be self enforcing. For example, the current policy of the Metropolitan Police is not to enforce 20mph speed limits except in exceptional circumstances. They expect such limits to be self enforced through the use of appropriate traffic calming features. This has been achieved by the use of physical calming measures such as speed humps and cushions, width restrictions and chicanes.

- 16.3 Local authorities have therefore generally implemented 20 mph speed limits through designating specific areas as 20 mph zones. There are now around 400 of these in London, covering 11% of total road length. These zones are streets where a speed limit has been set and physical calming measures introduced to reduce speed. Boroughs have lead responsibility for changing and enforcing speed limits on minor roads in London whilst Transport for London are responsible for major arterial roads. The introduction of limits and zones is subject to specific Department for Transport guidance which states that if the mean speed on a road is 24 mph or lower, a 20 mph speed limit can be set and enforced by signage alone. If mean speeds are any higher than this, physical calming measures should be used. The Metropolitan Police are currently insisting that the relevant guidance is followed or appropriate exemption is sought for the Department for Transport
- 16.4 Measures used to support and enforce speed limits include traffic calming and speed cameras. Research has shown that the more disruptive measures are the most effective;
- Road humps reduce average speed by 10 mph
 - Speed cameras reduce average speed by 20 mph
 - Signage alone reduces speeds by 1 mph.
- 16.5 Evidence from TfL has shown that 20 mph zones have been very effective in reducing road casualties. Casualties were found to have gone down by 42% and fatal or serious casualties by 46%. The impact has been particularly great in more deprived areas, which suffer higher casualty figures.

Default 20 mph speed limits

- 16.6 Some local authorities have considered introducing default 20 mph speed limits for whole areas. These apply to all residential roads in an area. In streets not already within 20 mph zones and subject to physical calming measures, enforcement was by signage alone.
- 16.7 A London Assembly report entitled “Braking Point” looked at the issue of default 20 mph speed limits in detail. It reported that there were a range of views about the potential of default 20 mph limits amongst the London boroughs. Eight boroughs were actively pursuing the option, other boroughs felt that further evidence was required on their impact and some did not believe that it should be considered and were taking forward alternative approaches.
- 16.8 The report concluded that there was as yet incomplete evidence to determine the potential effectiveness of default 20 mph speed limits. It concluded that there was a case for further testing the likely benefits and recommended that the Mayor work with boroughs planning to introduce default 20 mph limits to monitor their

effectiveness and that the results of the programme should be published and used to inform future TfL and borough policy.

- 16.9 In reaching its conclusions, the report drew on the experience of Portsmouth City Council which has introduced a city wide default 20 mph speed limit and had reported initial results showing an average speed reduction of 3 mph. However, this pre-dated the independent evaluation which provided more detailed information of the overall impact of the scheme.
- 16.10 In terms of cost, the report noted that Islington were planning to spend £1 million to introduce a borough wide default limit. Other boroughs are intending to implement 20 mph speed limits on a piecemeal basis through introducing more 20 mph zones over a period of time until all their residential streets are covered. The cost of these zones can vary considerably depending on their size and the enforcement measures that are used. The report quotes a range between £40,000 and £250,000. Southwark have calculated an average figure of £143,000 per zone and a total of £1.9 to cover the remaining 20 mph zones that it is planning.
- 16.11 Portsmouth was the first city to introduce a default 20 mph limit on all residential roads. On most of the roads where the speed limit signs and road markings were installed, the average speeds before installation were less than or equal to 24 mph. The relatively low speeds on these roads before the implementation of the scheme were mainly due to narrow carriageways and on-street parking, which reduced the effective width.
- 16.12 20 mph signs were also provided on roads with median speeds greater than 24 mph in order to avoid inconsistency and confusion. These were not accompanied by any physical calming measures. As this was contrary to the Department for Transport guidance, special dispensation from the Secretary of State needed to be obtained.
- 16.13 An independent evaluation of the scheme was published by the Department for Transport in September 2010. The evaluation found that the average speed after the 20 mph speed limits were imposed was 1.3 miles per hour lower than the average speed before the speed limits were imposed. At sites where the average before speed was greater than 24 mph, the average speed reduced by 6.3 mph. Despite a reduction in the number of sites with average speeds above 24 mph, which was 21 before the schemes implementation, 19 sites were found to still have average speeds between 24 mph and 29 mph after the schemes were implemented. The changes are regarded as being statistically significant.

Average Traffic speed changes after 20 mph speed limit implementation

Sector	Average Before Speed (mph)	Average After Speed (mph)	Speed Change (mph)
Central West	20.2	19.1	-1.1
South East	19.6	18.6	-1.0
Central East	18.5	17.9	-0.6
North East	18.2	16.4	-1.8
South West	18.4	16.9	-1.5
North West	23.9	22.2	-1.7
All Sectors	19.8	18.5	-1.3

16.14 The analysis showed the total accident reduction was 21% and the number of casualties fell by 22%. The number of killed or seriously injured (KSI) accidents increased by 8% and casualties by 6%. However, the total numbers of KSI accidents were very small and therefore susceptible to variations. These figures compare against a national reduction in casualty rates of 14% and of 12% in KSI casualties.

16.15 The evaluation came to the following conclusion:

“early figures suggest that the implementation of the 20 mph Speed Limit scheme has been associated with reductions in road casualty numbers. The scheme has reduced average speeds and been well-supported during its first two years of operation.”

16.16 In summary, the report states that the effects of implementing the 20 mph Speed Limit scheme (use of signing alone) were as follows:

- “The average speed reduction achieved by installing speed limit signs alone is less than that achieved by the introduction of 20 mph zones partly because 20 mph Speed Limits are implemented where existing speeds are already low;
- Within an area-wide application of 20mph sign only limits, those roads with average speeds higher than 24 mph may benefit from significant speed reductions, but not to the extent that the 20mph speed limit is self enforcing;
- Based on the available data for two years after scheme implementation, casualty benefits greater than the national trend have not been demonstrated”;

16.17 A scrutiny review on sustainable transport was undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in 2009/10 and recommended that the Council develop a borough wide a 20 mph speed limit to be operational in all residential areas and, where appropriate, enforced by traffic calming measures. The recommendation was partially agreed by the Cabinet on the basis that a 20 mph speed limit in residential areas was only effective with physical measures to slow traffic.

Scope of Review

16.18 It is proposed that the review considers the feasibility of the introduction of a default borough wide 20 mph speed limit for residential streets. As part of this, the review will consider:

- The potential for reductions in traffic speeds and road casualties through the introduction of 20 mph speed limits in areas not already covered by existing 20 mph zones that are enforced by signage alone
- The views of local residents and whether such a policy has potential to gain wide support. As such schemes are intended to be self enforcing, this is particularly important.
- The relative cost effectiveness of this approach in comparison to the current approach to reducing speed limits, where appropriate, to 20 mph
- The sustainability of potential benefits i.e. whether initial improvements are likely to be maintained without the need for physical calming measures.

Terms of Reference:

16.19 It is proposed that the terms of reference be as follows:

“To consider:

- the feasibility of the introduction of a default borough wide 20 mph speed limit for suitable residential streets and, in particular, whether reductions in traffic speeds and casualty figures are likely to be achieved without the need for physical calming measures and enforced by signage alone;
- whether a time limited pilot scheme in a suitable town centre *location* should be set up to test the potential effectiveness of such a scheme”.

Sources of Evidence:

16.20 Suggested sources of evidence for the review are as follows:

- Research documentation and national guidance
- Evidence on the effectiveness and outcomes of schemes in local authorities which have already implemented default 20 mph speed limits, such as such as Portsmouth, Bristol and Islington.
- Information on relevant work in this area being by Transport for London and the Mayor
- Relevant financial data including comparative costs of specific schemes
- Interviews with key stakeholders and local residents organisations

Key Stakeholders:

16.21 These are as follows:

Council Services:

- Joan Hancox - Head of Sustainable Transport
- Malcolm Smith, Transport Policy, Haringey Council

Partners:

- North East Area Traffic - Police
- Chief Inspector Sonia Davis - Police

The Cabinet

- Cllr Nilgun Canver – Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods

Other Groups/Organisations:

- Haringey Transport Forum
- Jenny Jones – London Assembly
- Joanne McCartney - London Assembly
- 20s Plenty
- Local resident associations, including cyclists, walkers and parents
- Motoring organisations

Community Involvement and Consultation

16.22 It is suggested that an appropriate means of obtaining a representative sample of the views of local residents be sought. Haringey Transport Forum may provide a useful means of obtaining the views of a range of stakeholders, including residents. It is a forum set up by Sustainable Transport to discuss transport issues and is attended by officers, Police, resident representatives, TfL Officers and other invited guests depending on issues at the time.

Membership of Panel:

- Councillors Bull, Basu, Newton and Weber.

Timescale

16.23 It is proposed that the Review Panel aims to finish its work by the end of January 2011.

Evidence Sessions

16.24 As follows:

Meeting 1:

Proposed Date: 4 October 2010

Aim/Objective:

- To receive evidence on the Council's current policy in respect of the 20 mph speed limit

Possible Witnesses:

Tony Kennedy, Transport Policy and Projects Manager, Urban Environment

Meeting 2:

Proposed date: 18 October

Aim/Objective:

- To consider the response of the Police to the enforcement of the 20 mph speed limit

Possible Witnesses

- North East Area Traffic - Police
- Chief Inspector Sonia Davis – Safer Neighbourhood Team, Police

Meeting 3:

Proposed date: 15 November

Aim/Objective:

- To receive evidence on the work undertaken by the London Assembly on the issue

Background Information:

“Braking Point” – London Assembly Transport Committee report April 2009

Possible Witnesses

- Jenny Jones – London Assembly
- Joanne McCartney - London Assembly

Meeting 4:

Proposed date: 13 December

Aim/Objective:

- To obtain an overview of the views of interest groups and local resident organisations on the 20 mph speed limit

Possible Witnesses

- Local resident associations, including cyclists, walkers and parents
- Motoring organisations
- 20s Plenty

Meeting 5:

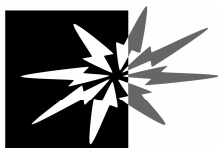
Proposed Date: 17 January

Aim/Objectives:

- To agree appropriate conclusions and recommendations for the review.

Background Information:

An issues paper summarising all the evidence received by the review and highlighting key issues will be produced.



Haringey Council

Agenda item:

[No.1]

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

On 6 December 2010

Report Title: Scrutiny Review of Corporate Parenting	
Report of: Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
Contact Officer : Robert Mack, Principal Scrutiny Support Officer Tel: 0208 489 2921	
Wards(s) affected: All	Report for: N/A
<p>1. Purpose of the report (That is, the decision required)</p> <p>1.1. To approve the draft scope, terms of reference and work plan for the scrutiny review on corporate parenting.</p>	
<p>2. Introduction by Cabinet Member (if necessary)</p> <p>2.1. N/A</p>	
<p>3. State link(s) with Council Plan Priorities and actions and/or other Strategies:</p> <p>3.1. Council Plan: A thriving Haringey and a caring Haringey</p> <p>Sustainable Community Strategy outcome: Economic vitality and prosperity shared by all</p>	
<p>4. Recommendations</p> <p>4.1. That the scope, terms of reference and work plan for the review be approved.</p>	
<p>5. Reason for recommendation(s)</p>	

5.1. Included within the body of the report.
<p>6. Other options considered</p> <p>6.1. Included within the body of the report.</p>
<p>7. Summary</p> <p>7.1 The Committee has commissioned a review into corporate parenting. The review is proposing to consider how the Council and its local partners work together to address the full range of needs of children and young people. It will therefore focus on the role and contribution of a range of services, as well as that played by elected Members. It will aim to receive input from a wide range of sources including children and young people in care and those who have recently left care.</p>
<p>8. Chief Financial Officer Comments</p> <p>8.1. The Chief Financial Officer has been consulted in the preparation of this report and comments that the recommendations do not give rise to any additional financial commitments.</p>
<p>9. Head of Legal Services Comments</p> <p>9.1 <i>The Children Act 2004</i> which underpins <i>Every Child Matters</i> requires the Council to appoint a Director of Children's Services and to designate a Lead Member. The roles and responsibilities of the DCS and LM are set out in statutory guidance for local authorities issued under sections 18(7) (Director of Children's Services) and 19(2) (Lead Member for Children's Services) of the Children Act 2004. This means that local authorities must take the guidance into account and if they decide to depart from it have clear reasons for doing so.</p> <p>9.2 This guidance aims to explain how the roles of the DCS and LM are both distinct and complementary and how working together as a team the DCS and the LM can be most effective in driving improvements in outcomes for children young people and families.</p> <p>9.3 One of the key roles of the Lead Member for Children's Services at paragraph 2.7(h) of the statutory guidance is to contribute to and be satisfied that the local authority demonstrates high standards of corporate parenting in particular by encouraging Members to promote the educational achievement and health and well-being of looked after children and children leaving care.</p>
<p>10. Head of Procurement Comments – [Required for Procurement Committee]</p> <p>10.1. N/A</p>

11. Equalities & Community Cohesion Comments

11.1. A disproportionate number of looked after children come from ethnic minority backgrounds, and research shows that looked after children grow into adults suffering disproportionately from social exclusion

12. Consultation

12.1. Consultation will be an integral part of the review. The views of a wide range of stakeholders will be actively sought as well as current and past service users.

13. Service Financial Comments

13.1. The cost of undertaking the scrutiny review is provided for in the budget for overview and scrutiny. In addition, value for money issues and any potential financial implications arising from the review will be considered in liaison with the service finance lead.

14. Use of appendices/tables and photographs

14.1. None

15. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

15.1 Background papers are as follows:

- The Role of Councillors as Corporate Parents – Rotherham MBC Lifelong Learning Opportunities Scrutiny Panel
- Aspects Of The Council’s Corporate Parenting Responsibilities – Middlesbrough Children and Learning Scrutiny Committee
- Children Looked After by Camden – Camden Corporate Parenting Scrutiny Committee
- Children and Young People’s Strategic Plan – Haringey Council
- The Role of Councillors as Corporate Parents – Wakefield MDC Children’s Services Scrutiny Working Group
- If This Were My Child – A Councillors Guide to Being a Good Corporate Parent – Department for Education and Skills/LGiU
- Show Me How I Matter; A Guide to the education of Looked After Children – LGA/IdEA

16. Report

Introduction

- 16.1 The term "corporate parent" is not one which has a formal legal definition. However, the term recognises that a local authority should have the same interest in the progress and achievements of children and young people in its care as a reasonable parent would have for their own children. The responsibility applies to the local authority *as a whole* and not just the Children and Young People's Services (C&YPS). For example, where looked after children and young people (LACYP) are in care via a court order, this states that they are in the care of Haringey Council and not merely C&YPS. It requires ownership and leadership at a senior level and includes a key role for elected Members. In addition, the needs of LACYP cannot be met by a single agency alone and local Councils need to work closely with key partners.

Outcomes

- 16.2 *Every Child Matters* identified the five outcomes that are of most importance for young people. These are that they:
- should be healthy
 - should be safe
 - enjoy and achieve
 - make a positive contribution to society
 - achieve economic well-being.
- 16.3 The new coalition government will be replacing the five outcomes with the term 'to help children achieve more'. However, since it is not yet clear what the detail of their thinking is beneath this change in terminology. It is proposed that part of the outcome of this review be to define the outcomes that Haringey Council would want to deliver for its LACYP and the values underpinning these. One particular key aspect that will be considered is stability and how this can be promoted.
- 16.4 LACYP have a right to expect the same life opportunities and outcomes as other children. Nevertheless, they may experience disadvantage and research indicates that they experience poorer outcomes across a range of measures, including health and education:
- Nearly 50% of LACYP have a diagnosable mental health disorder compared to 10% in the general population. Figures for those in residential care are even higher.
 - Between a quarter and a third of rough sleepers have been looked after by local authorities as children
 - Children who have been in care are two-and-a-half times more likely to become teenage parents.
 - Young people who have been in care are disproportionately likely to become unemployed
 - Young people who have been in care are disproportionately likely to end up in prison
 - Twenty-six per cent of prisoners have been in care as children, compared with just two per cent of the total population

Performance

16.5 The National Indicator Set includes several performance indicators about LACYP and three specific targets are included within Haringey's Local Area Agreement:

- NI 99; Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2 – current performance 58.0% (target 47.0%).
- NI 100; Looked after children reaching level 4 in mathematics at Key Stage 2 – current performance 63% (target 48.0%)
- NI 101; Looked after children achieving 5 A*- C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and mathematics) – current performance 17.5% (target 11%)

16.6 In addition, the council completes a detailed annual return on looked-after children. Key information should include:

- Personal education plans (PEPs)
- School absenteeism
- Exclusions
- SAT scores
- The qualifications that looked-after children are achieving.

16.7 Education plays a particularly important in improving the life chances of LACYP. In 2008, only 14% of LACYP achieved 5 A* - C GCSE grades compared to 65.3% of all children. Disruption caused by constant placement moves can have a particularly adverse affect on performance. In such circumstances, eensuring LACYP have the right support to be able to participate fully in school life is very important.

16.8 The previous government brought in the following initiatives to raise the educational attainment of looked after children:

- Each local authority now has a “virtual school head” to champion the educational needs of all LACYP;
- Each school has a designated teacher for LACYP
- Children at risk of falling behind at school have a personal educational allowance; and
- One-to-one tuition is available if necessary for some looked after children

16.9 Although education is very important, LACYP have a range of other needs. For example, many can also experience poor health outcomes. They must:

- Be registered with a GP
- Have their immunisations up to date
- Receive a regular health assessment and dental checks.

16.10 They also have a right to expect the same leisure opportunities as other children and to take part in out of school activities.

16.11 LACYP face particular challenges when they leave care. The Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 sets out local authorities' responsibilities to help children leaving

care develop a 'pathway plan' to independence with the help of a personal adviser. Assistance must be provided for care leavers up to the age of 21. The expectation is that Councils should provide the support a good parent would give on housing, education, training and employment. This can make the difference between achieving independence and requiring long-term help. Whilst Councils have a statutory duty to keep in touch with care leavers until they are aged 21, (and beyond that if they are in education), parents normally remain in touch and offer help and advice to their children throughout their lifetime.

16.12 Local Councillors have a particularly important role to play as corporate parents. This was emphasised in the launching of the *Quality Protects* programme in 1998 when the Secretary of State wrote to all councillors about their role and said:

"Elected councillors have a crucial role. Only you can carry it out. You can make sure that the interests of the children come first. You bring a fresh look and common sense. As councillors you set the strategic direction of your council's services and determine policy and priorities for your local community within the overall objectives set by Government."

16.13 The role of Councillors as corporate parents is defined in 'Think Child' (1999) as the following:

- **find out** – get the facts and follow them up
- **make decisions** – play your part in the business of the council
- **listen to children and young people** – find out from them how your council's services work for them and remember that children are citizens too
- **be a champion for children** – take a lead in your community in putting children first

16.14 Communicating with LACYP and obtaining their views is undertaken in a range of ways. The Care Matters White Paper required that every local authority set out a "pledge" to children and young people in its care. Every child and young person's care or pathway plan must reflect how the commitments made in the pledge will be delivered for that individual child. There was also a requirement to set up a Children in Care Council to enable regular dialogue and involvement from LACYP in developing and delivering services and to monitor the implementation of the pledge. There should also be mechanisms in place for involving young people in care in the recruitment of key staff members.

Scope of Scrutiny Review

16.15 The Council has in place a Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee which focuses specifically on the work of C&YPS and the Children and Families business unit. The Committee is chaired by the Lead Member for Children's Services and provides detailed and regular feedback on services by C&YPS. It is proposed that this scrutiny review has a wider focus than this and considers the contribution of other parts of the Council and the local public sector as a whole.

16.16 It is proposed that the review focus on how the full range of needs of children and young people are addressed and look in depth at the contribution of a range of services provided by the Council and its partners to the parenting of LACYP including:

- Housing
- Leisure
- Adults
- Health

16.17 In addition, the review will also look at the role played by Councillors and school governors. The corporate parental responsibility applies to *all* Councillors and it is proposed that the review considers how their involvement could be strengthened and enhanced.

16.18 One additional factor to be specifically considered will be how the impact of reduced resources can be mitigated and how, as budgets across the public sector shrink, vulnerable groups like LACYP and care leavers be protected. A key part of this will therefore be to look at commissioning arrangements and whether better value for money can be achieved by such actions as joint commissioning.

Terms of Reference:

16.19 It is proposed that the terms of reference be as follows:

“To consider how well the full range of parental needs of looked after children and young people are addressed corporately by the Council and to make recommendations on how this role could be strengthened”

/

16.20 In undertaking this, the review will consider specifically:

- How the educational needs of LACYP are supported
- The promotion of health and well-being
- Preparation for leaving care, including support for housing and training needs
- The role of local Councillors and how this can be enhanced
- Commissioning for LACYP and value for money
- How the views of LACYP are taken into account

Sources of Evidence:

16.21 Suggested sources of evidence for the review are as follows:

- Research documentation, national guidance and targets
- Statistical evidence including relevant performance data and information on outcomes
- Comparison with other areas such as statistical neighbours

- Interviews with a range of stakeholders
- The views of children currently in care, and of those who have previously been looked after children.
- Some original research tracking the post care experience of an agreed selection of looked after Haringey children

Consultation/Service User Involvement

- 16.22 In undertaking the review, it will be important to gain a clear understanding of the views and concerns of LACYP. Opportunities will therefore be created to receive the views of young adults on the challenges that they face after leaving care and children currently being looked after on the expectations that they have of their “corporate parents”. These will be arranged through C&YPS.
- 16.23 In addition, the Panel will obtain the views of a range of local foster carers and their representatives on the challenges that they face and how they feel these are addressed.

Membership of Panel:

- Councillors: Ejiofor (Chair) Alexander, Gibson and Solomon
- Co-opted Members (statutory): Yvonne Denny, Marcelle Jemide, Sarah Marsh and Sandra Young

Co-opted Members

- 16.24 It is also proposed that two young people from C&YPS’s Leaving Care Review Panel be co-opted onto the scrutiny panel in order to ensure that the views of LACYP are fully incorporated into the review process and reflected in its outcomes.

Timescale

- 16.25 It is proposed that the Review Panel aims to finish its work by the middle of February 2011.

Evidence Sessions

- 16.26 As follows:

Meeting 1 – Introduction:

Proposed Date: 14 September 2010

Aim/Objective:

- To obtain an overview of corporate parenting and the role of the local authority and how this role is promoted across the Council and amongst elected Members
- To consider the forthcoming challenges facing provision for LACYP

Background Information:

Performance and other statistical data

Possible Witnesses:

Debbie Haith – Children and Young People’s Service

Cllr Lorna Reith – Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

Meeting 2 – Educational Issues:

Proposed date: 5 October 2010

Aim/Objective:

The consider the following:

- The educational performance of Haringey’s LACYP
- How these measure/compare these statistics against other children in Haringey and children living in comparable local authorities
- How well LACYP who are in placements outside the local authority area perform
- How the Council aims to raise attainment levels.

Background Information:

Relevant statistical data

Possible Witnesses

Debbie Haith - C&YPS

Attracta Craig - C&YPS

Meeting 3 – Feedback from foster parents/young people who have recently left care:

Proposed Date: 8 November 2010

Aim/Objective:

To obtain the views of a range of foster carers on the needs of LACYP, how they are addressed and the challenges that they face

Possible Witnesses:

Haringey Foster Carers Association

Foster carers

A young person or young people who have recently left care

Meeting 4 – Leaving Care and Outcomes:

Proposed Date: 13 December 2010

Aims/Objectives:

- To consider how well supported LACYP are in finding employment, training opportunities and housing.
- To look at what links there are to LACYP post legal duty and what is known about the life outcomes of children formerly in the Council's care.

Background Information:

Relevant statistical data

Possible Witnesses:

Adults, Culture and Community Services
Strategic and Community Housing Services
Job Centre Plus
Leaving Care team

Meeting 5 – Health and Well-being/Leisure:

Proposed Date: TBA

Aims/Objectives:

- To consider how health and well-being of LACYP is promoted and supported, including sexual and mental health
- To receive evidence on the availability and provision of leisure and recreational activities

Possible Witnesses:

C&YPS
Leisure Service
NHS Haringey

Meeting 6 – The Role of Councillors/Commissioning:

Proposed Date: TBA

Aims/Objectives:

- To consider the role of local Councillors and how this may be enhanced
- To receive evidence on current commissioning arrangements and consider how value for money can be improved

Background Information:

- Relevant data on overall cost/unit costs

Possible witnesses:

Local Councillors
C&YPS

Meeting 7 – Summing up, conclusions and recommendations:

Proposed Date: TBA

Aim/Objectives:

- To obtain any further information that may be required from C&YPS relating to evidence received in the course of the review
- To agree appropriate conclusions and recommendations for the review.

Background Information:

An issues paper summarising all the evidence received by the review and highlighting key issues will be produced.

Possible Witnesses:

Councillor Lorna Reith – Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

Debbie Haith – C&YPS

Other Activities:

- 16.27 In addition, a meeting will be arranged with a group of LACYP in order to obtain their views. Consultation will take place with C&YPS on how this can best be facilitated but this will not be through a formal meeting of the Panel.

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