

NOTICE OF MEETING

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 8th June, 2023, 7.00 pm - Woodside Room - George Meehan House, 294 High Road, N22 8JZ (watch the live meeting [here](#), watch the recording [here](#))

Councillors: Alexandra Worrell, Michelle Simmons-Safo, Pippa Connor (Vice-Chair), Makbule Gunes and Matt White (Chair)

Co-optees/Non Voting Members: Venassa Holt (Parent Governor Representative) (Co-Optee), Yvonne Denny (Co-opted Member - Church Representative (CofE)) and Lourdes Keever (Co-opted Member - Church Representative (Catholic))

Quorum: 3

1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

Please note that this meeting may be filmed or recorded by the Council for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site or by anyone attending the meeting using any communication method. Although we ask members of the public recording, filming or reporting on the meeting not to include the public seating areas, members of the public attending the meeting should be aware that we cannot guarantee that they will not be filmed or recorded by others attending the meeting. Members of the public participating in the meeting (e.g. making deputations, asking questions, making oral protests) should be aware that they are likely to be filmed, recorded or reported on.

By entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings.

The chair of the meeting has the discretion to terminate or suspend filming or recording, if in his or her opinion continuation of the filming, recording or reporting would disrupt or prejudice the proceedings, infringe the rights of any individual or may lead to the breach of a legal obligation by the Council.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair will consider the admission of any late items of urgent business. (Late items will be considered under the agenda item where they appear. New items will be dealt with at item below).

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A member with a disclosable pecuniary interest or a prejudicial interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered:

- (i) must disclose the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, and
- (ii) may not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must withdraw from the meeting room.

A member who discloses at a meeting a disclosable pecuniary interest which is not registered in the Register of Members' Interests or the subject of a pending notification must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days of the disclosure.

Disclosable pecuniary interests, personal interests and prejudicial interests are defined at Paragraphs 5-7 and Appendix A of the Members' Code of Conduct

5. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS

To consider any requests received in accordance with Part 4, Section B, paragraph 29 of the Council's constitution.

6. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 28)

To agree the minutes of the meeting of 30th March 2023 as a correct record.

7. MINUTES OF SCRUTINY PANEL MEETINGS (PAGES 29 - 76)

To receive and note the minutes of the following Scrutiny Panels and to approve any recommendations contained within:

- Housing, Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel – 27 February 2023
- Adults and Health Scrutiny Panel – 13th March 2023
- Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel – 16 March 2023
- Children & Young People's Scrutiny Panel – 23 March 2023

8. CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS - LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Verbal Update.

9. PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK UPDATE

To follow

10. MEMBERSHIP & TERMS OF REFERENCE (PAGES 77 - 108)

Appendix D, Overview & Scrutiny Remits and Membership 2023/24 - To follow.

11. OSC WORK PROGRAMME (PAGES 109 - 118)

12. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

13. FUTURE MEETINGS

- 24 July 2023
- 12 Oct 2023
- 27 Nov 2023
- 9 Jan 2024
- 18 Jan 2024 (Budget)
- 11 March 2024

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Wednesday, 31 May 2023

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MINUTES OF MEETING Overview and Scrutiny Committee HELD ON Thursday, 30th March, 2023, 7.00 - 9.30 pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: John Bevan (Chair), Michelle Simmons-Safo, Pippa Connor (Vice-Chair), Makbule Gunes and Matt White

63. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred Members present to item one on the agenda in respect of filming at the meeting and Members noted the information contained therein.

64. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Vanessa Holt and Yvonne Denny.

65. URGENT BUSINESS

The clerk advised that there would be a change to the order of the meeting from what was listed in the published agenda, so that the Cabinet Member questions were taken immediately following the declarations of interest, as the Cabinet Member needed to leave the meeting at a specific time. The rest of the items would follow in the order they were listed on the published agenda.

66. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

67. CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS - CABINET MEMBER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, JOBS AND COMMUNITY COHESION

The Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Jobs and Community Cohesion, Cllr Jogee, gave a short verbal update to the Committee on his portfolio. This was followed by a Q&A session.

- Cllr Jogee characterised his portfolio as creating jobs, creating opportunities, ensuring the economy worked for local people. As well as ensuring that Haringey was safe for Haringey's communities to live and work here.
- The Cabinet Member advised that earlier today he was part of a session, chaired by the Leader and the Borough Commander to discuss the findings of recent report by Baroness Casey into the attitudes and culture of the Metropolitan Police. The Cabinet Member commented that the report made clear that the atmosphere and culture of the police needed to change.
- The Cabinet Member commented that the Council would shortly be going out to engagement with residents on the new community safety and hate crime

strategy. The Cabinet Member emphasised that this was an important opportunity for local people to shape how these issues were tackled.

- The Cabinet Member advised that as part of the Economic Development brief he was responsible for Haringey Learns and that he was proud of the Council's adult learning provision.
- Haringey Works created job opportunities for local people and the Cabinet Member set out that he wanted Haringey the best place to operate and keep a local business, as well as the best place for people to come and spend money.

The following arose as part of the discussion of this item:

- a. The Committee sought assurances about what was being done to support high streets and to rejuvenate declining high streets. In response, the Cabinet Member advised that he was working to ensure that there was a proper package of support in place, including support with energy costs. The Cabinet Member acknowledged he need to lobby government to provide the requisite support and funding.
- b. The Committee sought assurances about what was being do to ensure that there was trust built between the police and communities. In response the Cabinet Member emphasised the importance of making sure that the police reflected the communities they served. The Cabinet Member advised that he was not able to influence operational decision making by the police but that he saw his role as holding the police to account and calling out where things had been done that were not right. The Cabinet Member advised that he had regular meetings with the police and emphasised the importance of having dedicated ward officers and functioning SNT teams in Haringey.
- c. In response to a follow-up question, the Cabinet Member advised that he had conversations with senior local police officers every other day. In response to a specific case raised that had not been responded to despite happening one year ago, the Cabinet Member advised that he was happy to take this up on behalf of one of the panel chairs.
- d. The Committee sought assurances about what was being done to bring empty shops back into use and whether there was a strategy in place for officers to be able to find out who owned these units and then find alternative businesses, such as pop-ups for them. In response, the Cabinet Member advise that he and Cllr Gordon had conversations and were looking at how to bring empty shops and homes back into use. The Cabinet Member agreed to provide a further written update on this to the Chair of the Adults and Health Panel. **(Action: Cllr Jogee).**
- e. The Chair sought clarification about the ward walks undertaken by the Cabinet Member and the extent to which he had visited all 21 wards. In response, the Cabinet Member agreed to provide a written update on this. **(Action: Cllr Jogee).**

RESOLVED

Noted

68. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS

Deputation

The Council received a deputation around the lack of public toilet provision in Haringey on behalf of an organisation called Loos for Haringey, who were linked to the Haringey Over 50s forum. The deputation party was made up of: Patrice Wellesley-Cole; Gordon Peters; Ceri Williams; and Dr John Miles. The following key points of the deputation were noted:

- The lack of clean, accessible public toilets trapped people at home and prevented them from getting out and about. It was suggested that one in five got out of the house less than they would like, because of a lack of available toilets.
- Isolation and loneliness for people over 50 was a major factor.
- Only around 33% of public toilets in London are accessible to disabled people.
- The benefits of improving public toilet provision were set out as: people spending more time in Haringey shopping areas, businesses and cafés; reducing social isolation in Haringey; improving active lifestyles and tackling ill health.
- The deputation party requested that a meeting with a nominated Cabinet Member to discuss their concerns. They also requested that Haringey developed a strategy for improving public toilet provision and reported back on implementing this.
- Loos for Haringey advised that they had interacted with LBH officers and had met positive responses from the Ageing well partnership Board, but that they were requesting that the Council adopt a joined-up approach. Concerns were raised about particular areas of shut-off toilets, such as at Turnpike Lane; those in poor condition, such as at Chestnuts Park; and the lack of public toilet provision at Tottenham Hale Retail Park.

The following arose in discussion of the deputation:

- a. The Committee sought clarification about what was being requested and also sought the deputation party's views on the use of toilets owned by private businesses. In response, the deputation party advised that they recognised the importance of the community toilet scheme and the changing places scheme but the changing places scheme was only for those with a disability. Therefore, there needed to be a more joined up approach.
- b. The Committee sought clarification about the proposed toilet strategy and how the community could be engaged on this. The toilet strategy had a key role in bringing all of the different strands together and to set out how and when the Council would improve provision. The deputation party commented that they were asking for a strategy with mixed providers and one which provided toilets that were geographically well spread around the borough.
- c. The Committee commented on the need for different types of public toilets, including specialist public toilet provision for disabled children.
- d. The Committee queried whether the deputation party was seeking the re-provision of disused public toilets or whether new toilets should be provided through planning requirements for future developments. In response, the Committee was advised that as part of a joined up approach that planning policy should play a role in provision of new public toilets but what was missing

was that nobody in the Council seemed to be responsible for managing public toilets and driving better provision across the borough. In response to the deputation the Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and Wellbeing thanked the deputation party for presenting their deputation and acknowledged that this was an important issue. Cllr Das Neves advised that she was the nominated Cabinet Member and that she and the Director of Public Health would be looking at the strategy. The Cabinet Member set out that the Ageing Well partnership board had started to look at this issue, and that the Health and Wellbeing Board would also look at the issue at a future meeting.

Cllr Das Neves acknowledged the need for a strategy to bring the different elements together and that the Director Public Health was meeting with other officers to kick start this process. The Cabinet Member advised that she had written to Loos for Haringey to arrange a meeting to look at what could be done in the short term as well as the long term.

The Chair of Adults and Health requested that an update on the toilet strategy also come back to the Adults and Health Panel in future for an update. **(Action: Dominic).**

Public Questions

The Committee also received a number of written questions from members of the public relating trees, and specifically relating to an ongoing legal case regarding the proposed felling of a mature plane tree on Oakfield Road in Stroud Green as part of an insurance claim by the owner/occupiers of two neighbouring properties. The questions involved a certain amount of overlap and a joint response was given to four out of the eight questions. N.B. The response to question 8 was not given during the meeting, but was supplied in writing. That response is included here for the sake of completeness.

Question 1 – John Syz

Haringey has recently spent a large amount of council taxpayers' money on 24-hour security and scaffolding at the Oakfield Road plane tree which is currently undergoing a legal process to determine its fate. The letter that the council gave to local residents explaining their action states that the reason the tree is to be felled is because, "the insurance company has submitted evidence that demonstrates that the tree is contributing to the subsidence at the specified neighbouring property. Will the council state the specific evidence that the tree is the cause of subsidence at the neighbouring property, and also state who the person or persons are who scrutinise the evidence and data provided by the insurance company and their contractors to ensure that their interpretation of the data is fair and correct?"

Question 2 – Camilla Marcus-Dew

For the security operation at the Oakfield Road plane tree from 4.30am on 12th to 19th March 2023, how much did it cost in total across all subcontractors involved including: BML, Arslan Security Risk Solutions, North London Scaffolding and any other parties. Who (is) signed off for the security operation against the tree on Oakfield Road, and based on what documented evidence?

Question 3 – John Syz

The reason that Haringey states for its justification of spending such a large amount of council taxpayers' money on the fencing and 24-hour security is that "The Council has become aware that people have begun to install climbing ropes and other items in the tree. Therefore, in line with the possession order granted to the Council in December 2022, it has now had to take physical possession of the tree and the surrounding ground." Haringey Tree Protectors refute that the tree had been occupied since the December 2022 hearing or had installed ropes or anything else in the tree prior to the March 2023 hearing as they had been honouring the ongoing legal process following the judge's decision that the tree should not be touched by the Council until the Ombudsman ruling on the tree had been published. Will Haringey Council make public the evidence they have that ropes were being installed in the tree? Any photographic evidence will need the accompanying image metadata to verify the date the images were taken. This evidence is important as it is the basis on which Haringey made the decision to spend a large amount of taxpayers' money on physically possessing the tree several days ahead of the hearing that would potentially determine its fate.

Question 4 – Jane Hill

How can we Haringey residents ensure and enable our council representatives to act on our wishes in seeing mature trees protected and prioritised in home insurers' claims? Houses can be shored up. The immediate benefits of mature trees, once felled, are irreplaceable.

Response:

The tree in question is on the public highway on Oakfield Road, it is the subject of a subsidence claim against Haringey Council. The Council has undertaken at least 8 years of action to try and save the London plane by undertaking tree maintenance (including pollarding) to reduce the impact that it might have on the surrounding ground, including that beneath the two neighbouring properties. Council officers were presented with evidence that revealed the tree to be implicated in the subsidence of two of the adjacent houses. Legal advice was taken.

It would not be practical to share all the evidence by way of this statement as there is a significant amount of documentation that has been submitted to both the County Court and the High Court in consideration of this case. Just one document from a civil, structural and forensic engineering company setting out its opinion extends to 10 pages. However, the following extract from one of the many documents on the subject provides a reasonable summary of the views expressed in the court evidence bundles:

"The engineering, arboricultural and soil reports relating to both properties from between 2014 and 2021 all describe clay shrinkage caused, and at the very least exacerbated, by the influence of vegetation, primarily the London plane, rose, ivy and hydrangea outside the properties, the tree being considered the principal cause of subsidence. Soil analysis from both properties over the same period reveals a high level of seasonal swelling and shrinkage coinciding with live root activity. The level monitoring readings also reveal cyclical movement consistent with desiccation caused

by tree root activity. European Plant Science Lab investigation dated 03.09.15 discovered Plane tree roots at a depth of 2.8m at one of the specified properties. Non-live roots were discovered at another property consistent with root behaviour after pollarding, causing roots to die back. Additionally, the extent of structural damage to the right side of the second property points to the plane tree being the principal cause of damage to that property”.

So, the Council was presented with two options – either fell the tree, or fight a court case, which lawyers advised we would lose, incurring hundreds of thousands of pounds in legal costs and yet still have the liability for paying for underpinning and repairs to the affected houses ourselves. If the tree remains, the latest estimates tell us that the Council risks facing an insurance claim of up to £1million which would be better spent on delivering key frontline services – and the planting of new trees to more than offset the loss of the specified tree on Oakfield Road. As we move into spring, the tree will begin growing again and the issues surrounding subsidence become pressing once more. If the Council does not act in good faith in regard to its obligation to remove the tree, it will be held liable by the insurers for costs in the courts. Unfortunately, in the eyes of the law, it is incumbent on the Council to progress its current legal position of removing the tree to avoid this liability being realised by the insurers. The documentation on this matter has been reviewed by officers from Insurance, Legal and Parks, external structural engineering consultants, external legal advisers and King’s Counsel acting on the Council’s behalf.

Protesters had previously occupied the tree to prevent the Council from removing it on two prior occasions. In response to this, the Council applied to the Courts to gain a possession order and an injunction on the tree. The Council had to take this action to demonstrate to the insurance companies that it was making best efforts to fell the tree, so as not to be taken to court. At that hearing on 21st December 2022, the judge made an order for possession but adjourned the injunction hearing, solely to give the Ombudsman until 24th February to make a decision brought by the owner of an adjacent property on Oakfield Road against the insurance companies for previously failing to underpin. It is incorrect to state that the Judge commented that the tree was not to be touched by the Council until the hearing on 15 March 2023, by which time he expected the financial ombudsman’s report to have been published. Although the judge hoped that the Council would not do so, the Council could have felled the tree at any point after 21st December 2022. However, it respected the judge’s wish that the Ombudsman be given additional time to reach a decision – but the expected timeframe had ended weeks beforehand.

Notwithstanding this, the Council had genuine reason to believe that the protestors would once again attempt to occupy the tree before, on the day of or immediately after the reconvened injunction hearing on 15th March 2023 in order to, once again, try and prevent it being felled. Officers noted new climbing equipment was visible in the tree and one particular climbing rope was hanging down over the road at approximately 1metre off the ground, which would have allowed easy access into the tree.

However, this was not the sole reason for taking possession of the tree by encasement. The Council took account that it would incur substantial costs applying to the High Court and to instruct bailiffs to remove any protestors if they were again in the tree once it was due to be felled. Any actions that would need to be taken to

remove them to complete the necessary works would be deeply distressing to them, Haringey residents and Council staff. A similar situation of having to remove tree protestors has cost another London Borough in the order of £300,000.

The Council was also mindful that, having gone through an extensive consultation process, undertaken detailed surveys and options appraisals to reduce the number of trees that needed to be felled in the immediate vicinity of the failing Stanhope Road bridge on Parkland Walk, tree protectors occupied one of the trees on 6th February 2023, just prior to the Council attempting to fell it. At the Full Council meeting on 19th February 2023, in furtherance of its deputation, the Haringey Tree Protectors agreed that, once the Council has exhausted all reasonable options, there are circumstances when felling a tree is the only option. So, whilst the Haringey Tree Protectors may very well have determined that 'it' would not occupy the tree and find itself in contempt of court, relative to the possession order granted to the Council on 21st December 2022, there was no guarantee that any other tree protector would similarly honour the legal process.

The security measures implemented on Sunday 12th March 2023 were solely to secure possession of the tree and prevent any unauthorised occupation. It would also prevent anyone inexperienced in tree climbing - but wishing to prevent the felling - putting themselves at risk of injury from either attempting to climb or falling from the tree. The costs in relation to protecting the tree require some more time to pull together and a follow up response will be provided in writing.

With a High Court injunction granted in the early hours of that Wednesday morning and the High Court judge then determining on Friday 17th March that the claim for Judicial Review would not be heard until 29th March, the tree protection period doubled in duration and therefore increased the cost. Given the claim for Judicial Review, it was then unclear when a final decision would ultimately be reached, what the decision might be and what financial impact that might then have on the Council. With such uncertainty, the Council determined it was financially prudent to simply remove the tree protection and await a High Court decision.

Protecting and preserving trees across the borough is a key priority for the Council but there are circumstances when saving even mature trees may sadly not be an achievable outcome. The Council has determined that it will plant an extra 10,000 trees by 2030 to increase and bring a better balance to the green canopy across the borough. Whilst it has been suggested that the immediate benefits of mature trees are irreplaceable, once felled, this is not the case. Although the Council is exploring the science involved, arboricultural advice has been that the environmental benefit that a mature London plane tree that is in full leaf provides can be offset by the provision of around 50 semi-mature trees. Had the Council been able to use the costs that it has incurred to date in attempting to fell the tree on Oakfield Road, that equivalent environmental benefit could have already been realised.

Question 5 – Giovanna Lozzi

Haringey council announced a climate emergency in 2019. Can you tell me how this central key and fundamental issue is being integrated into departmental policy across

the council's infrastructure (aims, objectives, procedures) specifically in your Highways, Planning and Finance departments. If it isn't, why not?

Response:

The Council adopted a comprehensive Climate Change Action Plan in March 2021 which embeds actions across departments to tackle the climate emergency. This is supplemented by an Annual Carbon Report, the latest of which was approved by Full Council on 27 March 2023 (press release). Alongside these to enable a strengthening of embedding carbon into all decisions, starting in 2023/24 the Council will be including a commentary and assessment on Carbon and Climate Change into all key decision making reports that are determined by Full Council and Cabinet.

Planning

In Planning, Haringey's existing Local Plan has policies to ensure new development addresses climate change. These are being further enhanced as part of the emerging New Local Plan for which the First Steps Engagement document acknowledges the climate emergency (stated as Reason 2 for preparing a New Local Plan) and has a dedicated chapter of Climate Change and Sustainability and sought views on the matter. As a result of the Council's strong policy position on carbon reduction and climate change adaptation, all decisions on planning applications must be made in accordance with the development plan which includes the expectation to deliver carbon reduction and climate resilience.

Finance

The Council's most recent Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) report includes several significant carbon reduction projects that are being funded by the Council. This includes the funding of Social Housing Retrofits, School Streets, Low Traffic Neighbourhoods, and the Council's Decentralised Energy Network Programme. The whole of the MTFS was also reviewed by the Council's Carbon Management Service to ensure that no projects grew the carbon footprint of the Council or borough.

Haringey Pension Fund manages approximately £1.67 billion in assets. While the primary investment objective for the pension fund is to achieve a financial return on investments, the council recognises that climate change and investment in fossil fuels represent both a significant threat to the planet and a long-term financial risk to the pension fund. As such, a proportion of investments has been allocated across three indices aimed at reducing exposure to companies with the highest carbon footprints and towards firms associated with transition to a low-carbon economy. In total, around £768 million of the pension fund is invested across the MSCI3 World Low Carbon Target Index (20.2%), the Emerging Markets Low Carbon Index (7.1%), and the Research Affiliates Fundamental Indexation Multi-Factor Climate Transition Index (20.2%), as of 30 September 2022.

Highways

A new Highways Asset Management Strategy is currently being developed and will be reported to Cabinet later in the year. This strategy will demonstrate how the Council

seeks to optimise its resources for the maintenance and operation of its carriageways in order to ensure they have the right level of accessibility and are maintained to a safe standard, an objective underpinned by the Corporate Delivery Plan for 2023/24. In responding to the 'Climate Emergency' theme. Details are set out under High Level Outcome 2: A Just Transition for 'achieving more accessible footways and carriageways' and 'reduced casualties and safer road network in Haringey' through measures that include an extensive programme of carriageway resurfacing schemes.

Initiatives currently under way include: 97% recycling of highways materials; a reduction of 10% in CO2 emissions by using warm mix asphalt for carriageway resurfacing; completion of street lighting conversion to LEDs; replacing internally illuminated bollards with reflective bollards or using solar panels on bollards; robust gully cleansing, enhanced flood defences and flood water management schemes to reduce flooding likelihood; implementing sustainable drainage schemes (SuDS) on the public highway to reduce surface water runoff and enhanced greening; and the switching to electrical plant and equipment and alternative fuels by the Council's highway maintenance contractor, a company committed to achieving net zero by 2025.

Question 6 – Giovanna Lozzi

In the last full council meeting in Feb 2023, the point was raised that 'East of the borough' lacked trees and green spaces. How then, can you justify your planning officers and councillors giving the green light to the St Ann's development (one of the aforementioned poorer parts of the borough) losing irreplaceable green infrastructure of at least 117 rare groups of trees felled for flats and parking spaces? (NB. This was more than the trees lost at Plymouth and Wellingborough which have hit the national press for a few weeks)

Response:

As set out in the report to planning sub-committee, there are 227 trees on the St Ann's site and 32 tree groups. The layout of the approved development necessitated 114 of these trees and 30 tree groups being removed. The trees to be removed are primarily lower quality trees with just two Category A trees being lost. No veteran or ancient trees would be removed or adversely affected by the development.

The approved development provides 471 new trees, a net increase of 357 trees across the site (not including tree groups). Of the 471 new trees, 137 large trees and 216 medium trees would be planted. The layout and spread of trees across the Hospital site means that a loss of trees is unavoidable if any development is to come forward that optimises the development potential of the site. The development provides 995 new homes including up to 595 new affordable homes (60% of the total), which exceeds planning policy for affordable housing. The proposal includes a large number of family-sized homes, new green spaces and a very low level of parking provision and other community benefits.

The loss of trees is required to enable the substantial benefits of developing the site to come forward and offset by a net increase in tree provision through the replacement planting.

Question 7 – Giovanna Lozzi

Mature tree Loss is happening everywhere in Haringey, in larger and small numbers: recent examples being at St Ann's (117+), McDonalds on Green Lanes (11+), on the Parkland Walk (150+), street trees (numbers to be gathered in an FOI for the last 2 years) How do justify these losses with the tree department's target of 30% more canopy cover across the borough's wards as laid out in the new Tree and Woodlands Plan?

Response:

The reasons for the removal of trees at St Ann's have been answered above. The trees at McDonald's were not subject to statutory protection and therefore no permissions were necessary, prior to carrying out the works to fell the trees. The Council had no power to prevent these works. The restaurant owner Mr Rashid has committed to funding the planting of 12 new trees on the public highway, which should be completed this spring. I do not recognise the figure of 150+ trees being felled on the Parkland Walk. The need for the trees that were actually felled has been widely published and was necessary to allow for works and inspections to the numerous bridges along the Parkland Walk, that are suffering structural damage, putting some at danger of collapse. Street trees are predominantly removed because they have been found to be dead, diseased or have sever structural defects that may lead to them failing. We cannot retain potentially hazardous trees on the public highway, putting pedestrians and road users at risk.

Street trees may also be removed if they are implicated in causing tree root damage to adjacent homes, where pruning works have failed to remedy the issue. And we have been advised that we are unlikely to succeed on the balance of probabilities to be able to successfully defend the claims in court. We have started an expansive programme of tree planting across the borough which will increase the tree canopy cover in those wards with low existing cover.

During the 2021-22 planting season, 571 new trees were planted. During the 2022-23 planting season, we have planted one mini-forest in White Hart Lane Rec, consisting of 600 native saplings and one area of native woodland in Perth Road playing fields consisting of 400 saplings. We have also planted 380 new standard trees to date in streets, parks and housing sites and expect to plant another 130 before the end of April 2023. All of the new trees will have a 3 years aftercare programme including monitoring and watering apart from those where residents have sponsored them and they have opted to do this. We are also working on plans to protect trees in our ancient woodlands by improving soils conditions and limiting access, which should lead to improved tree growth. We will also be looking at improving conditions for certain mature trees in parks and open spaces with the aim encouraging greater canopy growth.

Question 8 – Giovanna Lozzi

We were told that the reason some of the trees (e.g. the 'Hairy' Oak tree) were felled at the Stanhope Road entrance was because the bridge had to be raised as a

'legal requirement.' We are struggling to find this point of law. Was this not simply part of the guidelines from the 'Design Manual for Roads and Bridges' that is used for A-roads. What is the exact legal requirement in law that Haringey was obliged to adhere to and where is it stated?

Response:

The Design Manual for Roads and Bridges was the guidance used to inform the bridge design and height. The DMRB provides standards and best practice for all highway networks (not just A-roads) and are followed nationally by all local authorities. Adhering to the DMRB does not require a subjective view to be taken on current or future usage of bridge structures and roads, including at Stanhope Road. The DMRB standard future proofs the investment and design of the bridge and this principle was accepted and approved through the planning approval process.

69. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meetings on 12th January 2023 and 19th January 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

70. MINUTES OF SCRUTINY PANEL MEETINGS

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the following Scrutiny Panels were noted and any recommendations contained within were improved:

- Adults and Health Scrutiny Panel – 8th December 2022
- Joint meeting of Adults and Children's Panels – 9th February 2023
- Environment & Community Safety Panel – 15th December 2022
- Children & Young People's Scrutiny Panel – 3rd January 2023
- Housing, Planning & Development Scrutiny Panel – 12th December 2022

71. COMBINED COMPLAINTS, MEMBER ENQUIRIES, FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST AND OMBUDSMAN ANNUAL REPORT 2021 - 2022

The Committee received a report which summarised Member Enquiries, complaints, Ombudsman caseload and FOI activity alongside performance from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. The report was set out in the agenda pack at pages 71 to 92. An amendment to the published section 4 of the report was provided in the addendum report pack at page 11. The report was introduced by Cllr Seema Chandwani, Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality and Residents Services. Kirsten Webb, Customer Experience Manager, Andy Briggs, AD for Corporate & Customer Services, and Elaine Prado, Head of Customer Experience and Operations, were present for this item. Beverley Tarka, Director of Adult Social Care was also present. The Cabinet Members for: Housing Services, Private Renters and Planning; Children, Schools and Families; and Health Social Care and Wellbeing were all present for this item.

The following arose during the discussion of this report:

- a. The Committee queried about the time lag in the report, given that the figures related to 2021-22. In response, officers advised that in the past these reports had been submitted around October but that since Covid there had been delays in receiving information from the Ombudsman and other statutory services as they were still catching up. Officers advised that they hoped the 2022-23 report would be produced earlier in the year and that they would also be looking to revise its format, so that it was not so backwards looking.
- b. The Committee sought assurances about the drop off in performance in relation to the percentage of complaints replied to on time in Children's Services and in Adults. The Committee also queried what lessons had been learned and the extent to which these figures could have been worse without Covid. In response the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Families acknowledged the low scores and advised that there was work underway to better understand how the figures had been calculated and how to improve. A working group had been set up to look at this issue. It was commented that children's social care complaints could often be complicated and that this would likely impact performance. There was a statutory 20 day turnaround timescale for these complaints, which could have an impact on the performance scores in relation to other services. There were also complaints that would be complicated by legal proceedings and the time taken to progress these cases through the courts. The Council had employed an officer dedicated to resolving complaints and it was hoped this would help improve scores going forward.
- c. In relation to the above question, the Cabinet Member for Health Social Care and Wellbeing acknowledged that nobody thought that these figures looked good and that work was being undertaken to look at how service requests were handled to ensure that they did not turn into complaints. The Committee was advised that work was being done to look at how service requests/complaints were dealt with at the front end, how they were responded to and how they were tracked through the system. The Director set out that staff were working to ensure that they did everything they could to improve performance.
- d. The Committee commented that they found the report hard to scrutinise and that they would have liked to see more information that allowed them to drill down on specific service areas and understand the context behind the numbers of complaints. In response, the Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality and Resident Services advised that it was up to the panel chairs to set out how they would like to scrutinise complaints in future and that panel chairs could use complaints as the basis for the areas they chose to scrutinise in future. If there was a structural issue about a lack of data this should be taken forward by the panels as part of future reports.
- e. In response to a questions about a high volume of parking complaints, the Cabinet Member advised that although the overall number of complaints was relatively high (716), it had to be seen in the context of around 1.5 million contacts a year for parking. In that context it was less than 0.05% of parking contacts that resulted in a complaint. Officers also advised that 2021 was the year that the Taranto system went live and that this would have been a factor in the overall numbers of complaints received about parking.
- f. The Committee sought assurances about increased scores for dissatisfaction with policies or decisions and what this said about the Council's approach to

co-production. In response, the Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care & Wellbeing commented that she did not think from these scores that it was possible to extrapolate that residents were necessarily disappointed with the policy direction of the Council, as this was historic data and that a lot of work was being done on the customer experience and through the Haringey Deal to address some of the underlying concerns. The Cabinet Member also set out that it was hard to know which policy decisions residents may or may not be dissatisfied with from the data as presented. Officers drew Members' attention to section 3.16 onwards of the report, which set out what actions were being taken to improve performance going forwards.

- g. The Chair enquired whether Task could be used in relation to the dedicated casework system that was being sought. In response, the Cabinet Member advised that Task had limited functionality and that what was being sought was a system that allowed different services to see the same information and draft response to enquiries, at the same time.
- h. In relation scrutinising future reports and how improvements were being made, the Committee was advised that going forwards all Member Enquiries, FOIs, stage one complaints would all be signed off by the appropriate Assistant Director, which was at a more senior level than had been done previously. It was envisaged that this would improve the quality of responses.
- i. The Chair requested that the Committee receive an update report on how the work to improve complaints and how they were handled was going, say in six to nine months.
- j. The Vice-Chair put forward a number of recommendations in relation to how future complaints reports could be improved, which were agreed by the Committee:
 - That all panel chairs restart their quarterly finance/performance briefings and that this should include complaints and learning from the complaints.
 - That future complaints reports include a section on how communication with residents can be improved following learning from the complaints received and how the services are improving their offer.
 - That future complaints reports include a more in-depth breakdown of service areas and how each service area is looking at the information it is gathering, how it can improve and whether any changes to services have been made following the learning from the complaints process.
 - Member Enquires part of the complaints report needs to have a section on whether a second or third follow up ME was needed following the initial request. Does this indicate the original level of information wasn't good enough? What is being done in areas that continually have a high number of follow up ME's?
 - Where stage 1 complaints are not being answered within the time frame, what does this tell us about the staffing needed to respond to the complaints and what does this tell us about the complexity of the complaint?
 - In relation to Ombudsman cases, this should include an in depth understanding of the specific service failure and how this is being

addressed to ensure it doesn't reoccur. Is there a pattern over the years from complaints that indicates services were not up to standard and could the Ombudsman investigation have been foreseen? How does this learning help the council going forward in collating patterns within complaints.

RESOLVED

That the report was noted and feedback given on how to focus in-year complaints monitoring.

72. BUILDING SAFETY CASE & RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY UPDATE

The Committee received a report which provided an update on the Building Safety Act and anticipated changes to regulations for high rise residential buildings. The report also set out details of the Council's resident engagement strategy around these changes. The report was introduced by Cllr Carlin, Cabinet Member for Housing Services, Private Renters & Planning. The Director of Placemaking and Housing was also present, along with the Head of Building Compliance. The report was introduced as set out in the additional report pack at pages 13 to 40. The following arose as part of the discussion of this report:

- a. The Committee noted some concerns after reading the report and sought assurances around whether all of the safety issues had been addressed, particularly following the recent fire at Kenneth Robbins House. The Committee requested clarification as to whether the eight medium priority actions relating to fire safety had been addressed. In response, the Cabinet Member advised that the building safety requirements were not only in relation to fire safety. The Cabinet Member commented that the outstanding fire safety actions were all categorised as medium risk and would be addressed as part of the major works programme starting at the end of the year. Officers clarified that the report referenced Kenneth Robbins House as it was the pilot building for the pilot building safety case. The report was in response to a previous action on building safety cases and was not about the recent fire.
- b. In relation to the fire at Kenneth Robbins House, the Cabinet Member and officers gave firm reassurances to the Committee that the building performed as well as it was expected to perform, with its stay put policy in place, and that all of the fire doors held and the fire was contained in the flat it started in. A meeting was held with residents and the Borough Commander of the fire brigade, during this meeting the Borough Commander assured residents that Kenneth Robbins House was safe.
- c. The Committee raised concerns about a report released by the regulator for social housing that noted that Haringey had failed to complete a large number of remedial actions and sought assurances that there was sufficient staffing resources in the team to address this. In response, the Director advised that the Council had referred itself to the regulator and would be meeting monthly with the regulator to work through the actions identified until the notice was lifted. The Cabinet Member advised that some of the actions would be long term in nature and that strong mitigations would be put in place in the interim. In relation to staffing resources, the Director advised that he was building up the staffing resources within the building compliance team and that this was one of the tasks that had arisen following the transfer of housing services in-

house. The Director commented that every local authority and housing association would also be looking to recruit additional staff in this area because of the additional requirements that were anticipated by the upcoming changes to the Building Safety Act. It was noted that the government had still not been able to give clear assurances about what the exact regulatory changes would be.

- d. The Chair raised concerns that he didn't believe the Council had the capacity, money or the skills to meet the anticipated requirements, particularly in light of the fact that we would be competing with every other housing organisation in the country. The Chair commented that he was concerned that the Council was setting itself up for failure. In response, officers acknowledged that there were challenges but assured Members that they were doing all they could to prepare for the changes. The Council had already procured a system to upload all of the building safety cases when they were in place. The Director also advised that he would be utilising external expertise where this was required.
- e. The Committee agreed that a follow-up report on the Building Safety Act and progress in producing the building safety cases, would come back to the Housing, Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel. The Director agreed to discuss the timeframe for a follow-up report with the Chair of the Housing, Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel at the next agenda setting meeting. **(Action: Clerk).**
- f. The Committee noted that the requirements include having an approved resident engagement strategy in place and questioned whether this was in place. In response, the Cabinet Member advised that this was a regulatory requirement and would be in place as and when the Council was required to do so. A Building Safety Strategy report would be going to Cabinet shortly, along with an Improvement Plan and a Damp & Mould Policy. The Improvement Plan would set out how the Council would work with its residents and that some elements of the plan would involve co-design with residents.

RESOLVED

Noted.

73. CHANGE TO SCRUTINY MEMBERSHIP 2022/23

RESOLVED

- I. That Cllr Ali be appointed to replace Cllr Wallace on the Environment & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel.
- II. That Cllr Mason be appointed to fill the vacant position on the Adults and Health Scrutiny Panel.

74. WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

RESOLVED

Noted.

75. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

N/A

76. FUTURE MEETINGS

The meetings for 2023/24 will be agreed at Annual Council on 15th May.

CHAIR: Councillor John Bevan

Signed by Chair

Date

Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Action Tracker 2022-24

MEETING 7 – Thurs 30TH March 2023

No.	ITEM	STATUS	ACTION	RESPONSE
41	Cabinet Member Questions	ONGOING	The Cabinet Member agreed to provide a further written update on what was being done to bring empty shops back into use and whether there was a strategy in place for officers to be able to find out who owned these units and then find alternative businesses, such as pop-ups for them to the Chair of the Adults and Health Panel.	Noted. Cabinet Member responsibility for this area has changed. A response has been requested from the new Cabinet Member.
40	Cabinet Member Questions	COMPLETED	The Cabinet Member agreed to provide an update on the number ward walks undertaken and the extent to which he had visited all 21 wards	The Cabinet Member has advised that he visited the following wards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tottenham Hale • Bounds Green • Muswell Hill • Crouch End • Hornsey • Stroud Green • Harringay • Noel Park • Bounds Green • Northumberland Park • Tottenham Central • West Green • Bruce Castle • Seven Sisters

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Tottenham
39	Deputation	COMPLETED	The Chair of Adults and Health requested that an update on the toilet strategy also come back to the Adults and Health Panel in future for an update	To be added to the Panel's work plan for 2023/24
38	Annual Complaints Report	COMPLETED	The Committee put forward a number of comments around the format of future complaints reports.	These will be incorporated in the 2023/24 Annual Complaints report.
37	Building Safety Act	COMPLETED	A follow-up report on the Building Safety Act and progress in producing the building safety cases, to come back to the Housing, Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel. The timeframe will be picked up with the Chair of the Housing, Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel at the next agenda setting meeting	This was discussed at first agenda setting meeting and will be added to the Panel's work plan for 2023/24

MEETING 6 – Thurs 19th January 2023

No.	ITEM	STATUS	ACTION	RESPONSE
36	Scrutiny of 2023/24 Draft Budget	COMPLETED	Cabinet response to be provided to the recommendations of the OSC and the four Scrutiny Panels on the 2023/24 draft budget and the 2023-28 MTFS.	Responses provided at the Cabinet meeting on 7 th February 2023: ATTACHMENT C or see Appendix 9 at: https://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=74842

MEETING 5 – Thurs 12th January 2023

No.	ITEM	STATUS	ACTION	RESPONSE
35	Scrutiny of 2023/24 Draft Budget	ONGOING	Future finance reports to minimise the use of acronyms	Noted. Finance have agreed to review the format of budget reports for next year, in light of comments made by OSC.
34	Scrutiny of 2023/24 Draft Budget – Culture, Strategy & Engagement	COMPLETED	A number of comments and requests for further information were made. The Committee requested an update on these, as well as briefing on the latest financial position of the Council to be brought to the 19 th January meeting.	The requests for information were incorporated into the agenda pack for 19 th January. The Director Finance provided a verbal update to the Committee regarding an updated overview of the Council's financial position.

MEETING 4 – Mon 28th November 2022

No.	ITEM	STATUS	ACTION	RESPONSE
33	Pilot Building Safety Case	COMPLETED	The Committee recommended that the link for residents to report fire safety concerns to be made shorter and more prominent on the Council website.	Officers advised that they would pick this up with Comms and would also include the link in the resident newsletter that was due to go out before Christmas. There is a link on the website which allows residents to report fire safety concerns: https://www.haringey.gov.uk/housing/council-tenants/safety/fire-risk-assessments
32	Pilot Building Safety Case	COMPLETED	Officers agreed to share the fire safety assessment for Edgecot Grove with the Committee and also agreed to send an officer to attend a future	FRA has been reviewed and no fire escape identified in the FRA actions.

			resident meeting to discuss fire safety	
31	Pilot Building Safety Case	COMPLETED	Update to be provided on the Building Safety Case including an update on resident engagement.	Report scheduled for OSC meeting on 30 th March 2023.
30	Cabinet Member Questions (Tackling Inequality & Resident Services)	OUTSTANDING	Session to be arranged for Members to review the data on benefit claims and benefit maximisation.	Officers have suggested that a written briefing may be more useful at this stage.
29	Cabinet Member Questions (Tackling Inequality & Resident Services)	COMPLETED	Update to be provided on joining up the financial support and guidance provided by tenants by HfH and the Council.	<p><i>A response was emailed to Members on 11th January. A summary is set out below:</i></p> <p>Over the past 5-8 years, different services have created service specific additional support to residents in financial stress or having welfare needs. The Financial Support Team was set up for all residents facing debt and hardship, aligned to council tax debt. Likewise, the Connected Communities team worked as part Adults Service, to support residents before they entered crisis requiring more intensive support from Social Care.</p> <p>A review is underway to bring these services together so that a resident can get holistic support for all issues, consistently and sharing the access to support resources such as DHP or CTRS. Funding is a key challenge, especially as the FIT is funded by the HRA. But residents should feel Haringey Council is 'here to help' and get the support they need, consistently regardless of tenure, criteria or type of debt.</p>
28	Cabinet Member Questions (Tackling Inequality & Resident Services)	COMPLETED	Update to be provided on the project to join up HfH and Council complaints processes.	The HFH Complaints team merged during December, we had an opportunity to do this following the departure of the HFH Complaints Manager, while still establishing where different practice exists. The next steps are focused on remodelling the way we do things to improve the experience Residents and Members

				get when raising complaint, ME, FOI. Officers will be working with Members in coming weeks on this.
27	Cabinet Member Questions (Tackling Inequality & Resident Services)	COMPLETED	Update to be provided on the feasibility of professional accreditation for customer service staff.	<p>The Customer Services Team successfully completed a training scheme in 2021/22 with Hamilton Mercer that was procured through the Organisational Development Team (HR) and was designed specifically for Haringey staff, however this did not provide accreditation, rather it focused on changing behaviours, attitudes and problem solving.</p> <p>The Institute of Customer Service offers accreditation for more generic customer service delivery however this is a costly option and the accreditation and accompanying training is priced in addition to membership of the institute. As noted above we did not gain sufficient value from our most recent membership to the ICS, so this is not an option we can consider at this time.</p> <p>There are a number of other qualifications available that maybe suitable, including Apprenticeships and City and Guilds qualifications. Haringey currently offers access to apprenticeships for all permanent staff, including new starters. While there has been take up of this opportunity within existing staff, we have experienced drop-out from the courses due to the time required for the course work. We continue to encourage staff to engage with apprenticeships as part of their professional development</p>
26	Cabinet Member Questions (Tackling Inequality & Resident Services)	COMPLETED	Cabinet Member invited OSC Members to visit the call centre. Members also commented that they would like to observe one of the staff training sessions.	<p>It's noted that Staff training session vary in content, significantly, from bringing teams up to speed on service updates, training on systems and scripts to focus sessions with communities.</p> <p>Clerk to follow up with officers and arrange a date.</p>

No.	ITEM	STATUS	ACTION	RESPONSE
25	2022-23 Q1 Finance update	COMPLETED	Further details to be provided on Housing Demand Temporary Accommodation overspend.	<p>The number of households in Temporary Accommodation (TA) is slowly reducing, but associated costs have increased because we are investing in a variety of homelessness preventative measures and initiatives such as deposit contributions scheme for securing assured shorthold tenancies (ASTs) etc.</p> <p>There is a challenging Private Sector Leasing (PSL) market, as some landlords move their portfolios to neighbouring boroughs for better rates and some just pull out of the market altogether. This means as a result we are forced to use more costly nightly paid accommodation (NPA's) in such instances. We are also looking at a proposal to increase the weekly rent we pay to PSL landlords to retain their properties. There is also a plan to increase the number of Council owned lodges to reduce TA costs.</p>
24	2022-23 Q1 Finance update	COMPLETED	A written briefing to be provided on the DSG Safety Valve programme.	This information is provided in a paper on the Safety Valve presented to the Cabinet meeting on 13 th September 2022 (ATTACHMENT B) .
23	2022-23 Q1 Finance update	COMPLETED	Details to be provided on the impact of the reduction of £650k from the libraries capital budget.	<p>This budget was created to reconfigure libraries to facilitate wider community use and to produce income and the investment that has been put into libraries so far has considered these issues and concluded that the investment to date has gone as far as is possible to meet the original aspiration, hence the proposed budget amendment.</p> <p>There are separate capital project budgets for Library building upgrades. These are Scheme 621 (£1.2m 22/23 Library building & IT upgrade) and Scheme 623 (£2m for Wood Green Library alone).</p>
22	2021-22 Financial Outturn	COMPLETED	Clarification requested on the reasons for a £3.6m realignment of Parking and Highways budget.	This virement was predominantly necessitated by the need to more accurately reflect recent changes to service operations within the Parking & Highways service such as variations within the Veolia waste contract, the creation of an internal trade waste

				service and the costs and income from the initial roll-out of the Low Traffic Neighbourhood schemes. There were some further smaller realignments to better reflect the impact of prior year savings and income streams across the service. All of these changes have net nil impact to the E&N budget overall.
21	2021-22 Financial Outturn	COMPLETED	Clarification requested on how overspend related to the Dedicated Support Grant was reduced from £6.7m to £3.7m.	The £3.0m movement between Q3 and outturn is as a result of a favourable movement of £2.1m on the High Needs Block (HNB) and £879k on the Early Years (EY) block. The HNB movement is due to reclassification work between High Needs Block (HNB) and general fund codes (£1.0m); HNB in-year demand lower than forecasted as a result of management actions (£0.6m); and alternative HNB funding sources for pupil placements (£0.5m). The EY movement follows the notification of the DfE 2021/22 EY recoupment relating to 2020/21.
20	Cabinet Member Questions (Housing Services, Private Renters and Planning)	COMPLETED	Update report to be provided to a future meeting about how effectively the Council communicated with residents about housing repairs.	Added to work programme. Date to be scheduled. The Housing Scrutiny Panel has received updates on this issue at the December and February meetings. Improving housing repairs is an ongoing process and the Panel will continue to monitor it.
19	Cabinet Member Questions (Housing Services, Private Renters and Planning)	IN PROGRESS	On a lack of response to residents about housing repairs, Yvonne Denny agreed to email Cllr Bevan with the specifics and Cllr Carlin would chase up the names of housing managers for each block.	Cabinet Member acknowledged that each block should have a named housing manager and that she was happy to follow up with officers on the concerns raised. Co-optee to send through specific concerns.
18	Cabinet Member Questions (Housing Services, Private Renters and Planning)	IN PROGRESS	Exercise to be carried out on whether smaller blocks should have fire risk assessments.	
17	Fire Safety Review	IN PROGRESS	Response to be provided from Adults commissioning colleagues about CQC	

			monitoring processes for care home provision and fire safety assessments.	
16	Fire Safety Review	COMPLETED	It was commented that a number of fire safety assessments had recommended the need for a fire escape but that this had not been carried out. Officers agreed to contact the Fire Safety team and get an update on the fire risk assessment for Edgecot Road and bring this back to the November meeting of OSC.	FRA has been reviewed and no fire escape identified in the FRA actions.
15	Fire Safety Review	COMPLETED	Full report to be provided on intrusive fire risk assessments along with an update in the pilot building safety case and any interim findings from the pilot.	Report included in November 2022 agenda papers. See addendum pack for the report and item 35 for the minutes: Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Monday, 28th November, 2022, 7.00 pm Haringey Council
14	Fire Safety Review	COMPLETED	Follow up report to be provided to the Committee on how the consultation pilot went and how this was being programmed into ensure that residents were able to report problems the wider programme of developing building safety cases.	An update was provided at OSC meeting on 28 th Nov 2022 meeting. See item 36: Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Monday, 28th November, 2022, 7.00 pm Haringey Council A further update has been scheduled for the OSC meeting on 30 th March 2023.
13	Fire Safety Review	COMPLETED	Mechanisms for residents to be able to report concerns to be advertised on the Council's website.	There is a link on the Council website which allows this to happen: https://www.haringey.gov.uk/housing/council-tenants/safety/fire-risk-assessments

MEETING 2 – Mon 25th July 2022

No.	ITEM	STATUS	ACTION	RESPONSE
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12	Work Programme (Scrutiny Café)	INCOMPLETE	Hackney-based domestic abuse support organisation Sistah Space to be included in VAWG Scrutiny Review.	Invitation was sent but no response has been received.
11	Haringey Health Hub	COMPLETED	Further information to be provided about the Council services that would be provided at the hub and how these would interact with the services provided by the NHS and others.	Members were invited to a briefing session on this issue which took place on Sep 27 th 2022.
10	Haringey Health Hub	INCOMPLETE	Further information to be provided about the forthcoming co-design work on the hub, including how the co-design group would be formed and how communities would be engaged with.	Response requested from Whittington Health. To be followed up.
9	Haringey Health Hub	COMPLETED	Visit for Committee Members to the new community diagnostic centre in Wood Green Shopping City to be arranged.	Visit took place in November 2022.
8	Cabinet Member Questions (Leader of the Council)	COMPLETED	Concerns raised by Yvonne Denny about incomplete repairs work in Seven Sisters to be raised by OSC Chair with Housing department/Cabinet Member.	This was followed up. Housing officers have attended to assess the repairs needed and we understand that this is now being dealt with. Yvonne Denny can provide further updates on this if required.
7	Cabinet Member Questions (Leader of the Council)	COMPLETED	Tower Hamlets Council presentation about their inequality programme to be circulated (originally provided to the C&YP Scrutiny Panel in Jan 2022).	Presentation slides have been circulated. (ATTACHMENT A)
6	Cabinet Member Questions (Leader of the Council)	COMPLETED	Response to be provided about concerns that 11 out of 24 audits completed in 2021/22 had sub-standard assurance levels (according	Response (Andy Donald, Chief Executive): The work of internal audit involves carrying out an annual risk assessment and focus on those areas of Council operations that are significant or where the Council needs assurances over the effective of internal controls

			to a Mazurs report recently provided to Corporate Committee).	where the control environment is not robust. Directors and Assistant Directors actively engage with audit to identify audit areas where the control environment needs improving and to get internal audit opinion. It is therefore not a surprise internal audit is highlighting areas where the control environment can be improved in the Council. The number of audit areas where the internal audit team has assigned a sub-standard level of assurance last year. However the Chief Executive has made it clear that there needs to be significant improvement, at pace, in all areas where the level of assurance was substandard. In this regard, both the senior management team and the Corporate Committee play an important role in holding services to account.
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MEETING 1 – Mon 20th June 2022

No.	ITEM	STATUS	ACTION	RESPONSE
5	Work Programme (Scrutiny Café)	COMPLETE	Committee suggested that a group of students should be invited to participate in the Scrutiny Café event on 16th September.	Invitations were sent and accepted.
4	Work Programme (Fire Safety)	COMPLETE	Update requested on the Cabinet response to the OSC's recommendations on fire safety.	Update provided in Oct 13th 2022 OSC agenda papers. Minutes/reports available at: https://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=74231
3	Gambling Inquiry Day	COMPLETE	Update requested on the Cabinet response to the OSC's recommendations on gambling harms.	Response to recommendations provided to December 2022 meeting of the Cabinet. Minutes/reports available at: https://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=74664

2	Performance Update	COMPLETE	Clarification requested on whether all contractors were paying staff the London Living Wage and how this was monitored.	<p>Response to specific questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What is the status of Haringey's London Living Wage (LLW) employer status?</i> – We continued to be accredited by the Living Wage Foundation (LWF) as a London Living Wage (LLW) employer. This is reviewed annually by LWF. • <i>The extent to which the Council was requiring bodies with whom they held contracts, to provide LLW to their staff. How was this monitored?</i> – It has been a contractual requirement for suppliers to the Council to pay LLW as a minimum for the past 2-3 years. This covers contracts above £160k. Most contracts between £50k and £160k either include this as a contractual requirement or incorporate this as part of the procurement process, where it is required as part of the LWF accreditation. Currently, service areas are responsible for monitoring KPIs in contracts (including LLW). There is no central repository for collating and monitoring this information. It is proposed by the Head of Procurement, LLW is a corporate KPI which will be monitored across all relevant contracts as part of the procurement technology refresh over the coming 12 months. • <i>The extent to which the Council still had legacy contracts that were not paying their staff LLW?</i> – Due to the volume of contracts let prior to 2020, it is not possible to state for certain if there are any qualifying legacy contracts that do not pay LLW. However, we are not aware of any legacy contracts, prior to the Council becoming an LWF employer, that fall under the LWF requirement to pay LWF that do not pay LLW. Larger contracts were reviewed and contractors were asked to confirm payment of LLW or an uplift was applied to ensure payment of LLW. • <i>What is the Council was doing to encourage other employers to sign up to the scheme?</i> – The Council participates in Living Wage Week activities and promotions in line with LWF.
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1	Membership & Terms of Reference	COMPLETE	Committee recommended that the Housing & Regeneration Scrutiny Panel should be renamed in light of the change of the Housing department's name to "Placemaking and Housing".	Panel has been renamed as the Housing, Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel.
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MINUTES OF MEETING Housing, Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel HELD ON Monday, 27th February, 2023, 6.40 pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Dawn Barnes, Khaled Moyeed, Matt White (Chair) and Charles Adje

ALSO ATTENDING:

97. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred Members present to agenda Item 1 as shown on the agenda in respect of filming at this meeting, and Members noted the information contained therein'.

98. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Blake, Cllr Harrison Mullane & Cllr Hymas.

99. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business

100. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

101. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS

None

102. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the previous meeting on 12th December 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

103. PLACEMAKING APPROACH

The Panel received a report which set out the new Placemaking approach for Haringey, the Placemaking approach to the emerging new Local Plan, and the rollout

of Wood Green Voices and similar exercises to follow elsewhere in the borough. The report was introduced by Cllr Ruth Gordon, Cabinet Member for Council House Building, Placemaking and Development, as set out in the agenda pack at pages 13-18. Peter O'Brien, AD Regeneration & Economic Development was present for this item, along with Bryce Tudball, Head of Planning Policy, Transport and Infrastructure. The following arose during the discussion of this report:

- a. The Panel sought clarification about what was being done differently in the Placemaking approach, that the authority had not done previously. It was commented that the Placemaking priorities were all well and good but they were the type of things that every authority would strive towards and that nobody would propose the opposite of what Haringey was laying out as priorities.
- b. In response, the Cabinet Member acknowledged that to some degree that was true but emphasised that this was about embedding a new approach into all of its Placemaking activities, incorporating the Haringey Deal as part of this process. By way of example, the Broadwater Farm engagement was sited, including the translation of communication materials into several different languages. Central to the Placemaking approach was putting people at the heart of it and considering how they used a particular space and how this could be supported through how those spaces were designed.
- c. The Panel sought clarification about the Cabinet Member's suggestion that part of the Placemaking approach was ceding power to the community, given that ultimately Cabinet would still be taking decisions. In response, the Cabinet Member emphasised the importance of co-production and co-design in terms of working with the community. As part of this, one of the key stakeholder groups was young people and ensuring that they were part of the co-design process. As part of Wood Green Voices, a representative group of stakeholders was put together and that this group would be built upon going forwards. This group would continue to be consulted with on future developments. The Cabinet Member acknowledged that certain processes would have to be agreed by Cabinet as that was the legal framework for local government decision making and that areas of technical expertise would still sit with officers.
- d. The Panel sought elaboration on how the Council was learning from its past mistakes through the new Placemaking approach. In response, the Cabinet Member set out that she felt the Council had perhaps not paid sufficient attention to the views of the community in the past and had tended to impose decisions rather than incorporate the views of its residents. The Cabinet Member emphasised that ultimately, it was a change of approach and culture of who the Council was as much as anything else.
- e. In response to a question, the Cabinet Member advised that a huge effort had been made to speak to groups that may not always have been engaged with in the past and that in terms of specific groups, Greek Somali and Alevi communities had been engaged as part of Wood Green Voices. The Cabinet Member commented that she did not think that the authority had done this to the same degree before, even though there had been a number of attempts at consulting and engaging in the past.
- f. The Panel raised concerns about the Council being seen to be participating in gentrification, even unwittingly, and were particular opposed to any historical instances of attempting to design people out of a particular location. The Panel sought reassurances that local people would be at the heart of the

Placemaking approach. In response, the Cabinet Member acknowledged those concerns and advised that the process was iterative and that the Council would continue to engage with residents and stakeholders throughout the process. The Council would re-engage with the groups who had come forward as part of Wood Green Voices and would also be looking to expand upon these groups.

- g. The Cabinet Member for Housing Services, Private Renters and Planning advised that a key aspect of Placemaking was around ensuring that the Boroughs planning policies reflected the core values and aspirations set out in the report. Officers advised that, to this end, they were developing a new Local Plan and that this would be a more nuanced, locally specific Local Plan that was broken down into defined geographic areas. The new Local Plan would promote the delivery of genuinely affordable housing and also affordable workspace as part of a Placemaking approach.
- h. In response to a question, the Cabinet Member advised that they would be adopting a quantitative, as well as qualitative approach to engagement. The 350 people engaged with as part of Wood Green Vices was only the start and the exercise was deliberately done over a truncated timeframe to speed up the process.
- i. In response to a question about engagement with businesses, the Cabinet Member advised that officers had spoken to the Wood Green Business District and the Cultural Quarter as part of Wood Green Voices. The Cabinet Member also promoted the role of the Council in developing Wood Green through the fact it owned a lot of buildings in Wood Green. Officers emphasised the fact that they would continue to build upon engagement in Wood Green and that it was not a closed pool of consultees. The Council had won an award for its engagement on the new Local Plan, which involved speaking to 2000 people. The Local Plan would be going out to draft consultation in early summer.
- j. The Cabinet Member also gave assurances that the organisation would be adopting a broad-based approach and that would include engaging with local ward councillors.
- k. The Panel commented that many of the proposals had been done previously by past administrations and a Panel Member rejected any suggestion that there had been a top-down approach to decision making in the past. Concerns were put forward about any perception that the administration was trying to talk down past achievements. In response, the Cabinet Member advised that there was no attempt to downplay previous successes, rather this was a process of trying to build on the good stuff that had happened in the past. This was as much about the culture of the Council and how it worked with its communities, as anything else.
- l. The Panel ruminated that the key challenge was how could the Council improve the lives of its residents and the places they lived and worked without pushing up prices and pushing people out of the borough. The Cabinet Member set out that the Council's Housing Strategy would play a key role in this and the building of 3000 Council homes.

RESOLVED

Noted.

104. IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR HOUSING

The Panel received a report which provided an update the Housing Services Improvement Plan. The report was introduced by Cllr Carlin, Cabinet Member for Housing Services, Private Renters, and Planning, as set out in the agenda pack at pages 19-22. Jahedur Rahman, Operational Director of Housing Services, and Building Safety was also present for this agenda item. The following arose as part of the discussion of this report:

- a. The Panel questioned whether the Members Improvement Board that had been established would report into, or otherwise update, this scrutiny panel. In response, the Cabinet Member advised that the exact governance arrangements around this were still to be determined by the Housing Improvement Board. The Cabinet Member commented that in her view, the Members Improvement Board needed to report somewhere and that this Scrutiny Panel could be that place.
- b. The Cabinet Member advised that the Housing Improvement Board was a closed Board, which was not open to the public. This was because the Board needed to be stringent and provide robust challenge, which may not be suitable for a public setting.
- c. In response to a question, the Committee was advised that the Chief Executive chaired the Board and that Cllr Carlin sat on it as the Cabinet Member. The Board Members were councillors Dunstall, Mason, Ali and Rossetti. The Board had held its first meeting in order to set up its terms of reference and it would continue to meet every six weeks.
- d. In response to a question about officers on the Board, the Cabinet Member advised that key Housing officers would be present at meetings but would not sit on the Board as members.
- e. The Panel questioned whether the Panel would be able to request the minutes of the Board. In response, the Cabinet Member advised that the exact governance arrangements were being determined and that this was a request that would have to be put to the Board itself.
- f. Officers advised Members that the Membership Improvement Board had no decision-making powers and that its role was to monitor the implementation of the Improvement Plan. The Membership Improvement Board did not produce minutes, but it would produce a key actions log that could be shared with the relevant governance body.
- g. The Panel commented that there might be a lot of interest in the Board and that some thought would need to be given on how to manage the fact that the Board did not meet in public.
- h. In relation to a query about the budget, officers advised that aspects of spend related to the Housing Improvement Plan would go through existing formal financial approval processes, as per other areas of spend.

RESOLVED

Noted.

105. HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS

The Panel received a verbal update from the Cabinet Member for Housing Services, Private Renters and Planning, along with the Assistant Director of Housing, on

housing associations. The Chair advised that housing associations and what the Panel can do to scrutinise them was one of the key issues that arose during the public scrutiny café event in September. The following key points were noted:

- A meeting was held in the previous week with registered social housing providers, which was chaired by the Chief Executive of the Council. The meeting was well attended, with 17 Housing associations being represented.
- The meeting was held in order to agree how social housing providers could better work together in the interests of residents. By adopting a new partnership approach, it was hoped that providers could work together to solve common problems. The two key issues that arose at this initial stage were around engagement and damp and mould.
- This strategic level meeting would meet every six months and there would be additional workstreams and meetings flowing from this; with task and finish groups picking up specific areas of concern.
- In relation to possible roles for scrutiny in this process, it was suggested that the Panel could request performance updates from the seven largest providers (covering 84% of housing association tenants in the borough). As part of developing a strategic relationship, the group had agreed to share performance data and the Panel could request this from officers as and when it was available. Other possible areas to consider were: Inviting some housing associations in to answer questions; speaking to residents; site visits to a housing association; and requesting an analysis of complaints from housing associations.

In response to this update, the Members asked some questions:

- a. The Panel queried whether, given the issue at stake, meeting every six months was too infrequent. In response, officers advised that the meetings were held at a quite a strategic chief executive level and that six months was felt to be a realistic time frame. There would also be additional meetings and workstreams that fed down from this group.
- b. The Panel suggested that a briefing note should be circulated to all councillors on the partnership approach with housing associations as all members will receive extensive case work from residents. The Cabinet Member agreed to send an update to all members. **(Action: Cllr Carlin).**
- c. In relation to a realistic time frame for receiving the first batch of performance information, officers advised that the partnership had just been set up and that this may take some time. It was suggested 3 months was a reasonable timeframe. The Chair suggested that he would also like to invite representatives from housing associations to the same meeting to answer questions.
- d. The Panel agreed to have a separate discussion about how best to take forward scrutinising housing association as a panel. **(Action: Philip).**

RESOLVED

Noted.

106. WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

RESOLVED

The Panel's work programme for 2022-23 was noted.

107. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

N/A

108. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

TBC

CHAIR: Councillor Matt White

Signed by Chair

Date

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ADULTS & HEALTH
SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON MONDAY 13TH MARCH 2023, 6.30 -
9:25pm**

PRESENT:

**Councillors: Pippa Connor (Chair), Anna Abela, Cathy Brennan,
Felicia Opoku and Sheila Peacock.**

Co-optees: Ali Amasyali and Helena Kania.

44. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred Members present to agenda Item 1 as shown on the agenda in respect of filming at this meeting, and Members noted the information contained therein'.

45. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Thayahlan lyngkaran.

It was noted that Cllr Mary Mason had joined the meeting and that she had expressed an interest in joining the Panel.

46. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None.

47. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Pippa Connor declared an interest by virtue of her membership of the Royal College of Nursing.

Cllr Pippa Connor declared an interest by virtue of her sister working as a GP in Tottenham.

48. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/ PRESENTATIONS/ QUESTIONS

None.

49. MINUTES

Cllr Connor highlighted concerns that had expressed by the Panel about the format of the budget papers received at the previous meeting and suggested that the dialogue with finance officers about the budget papers for next year be commenced at an earlier stage. **(ACTION)**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as an accurate record.

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2022 be approved as an accurate record.

50. WINTER SYSTEM RESILIENCE

Rachel Lissaeur, Director of Integration for Haringey at the North Central London Integrated Care Board (NCL ICB), introduced the report on this item and highlighted the context heading into winter 2022/23. Within primary care, GPs were seeing more people than they had at the same time the previous year and the proportion of face-to-face appointments had also increased while the proportion of people being seen on the same day was around 50% of those presenting to primary care. There was also an increase in Emergency Department attendances, particularly at North Middlesex Hospital, but this was mainly for minor illnesses and there was not an increase in people being admitted to hospital. Staff sickness levels were also up across the country. Emergency Departments were therefore extraordinarily stretched and this was the context for the increased ambulance waiting times. The additional funding provided through the Winter Access fund has been focused on increasing the number of primary care appointments and increasing the primary care presence within the Emergency Department at North Middlesex Hospital.

Rachel Lissaeur went on to explain that the adult social discharge fund was distributed to both local authorities and ICBs with the aim of taking more people through the system, expediting discharges and reducing the length of hospital stays. Additional funding had been put in place to support GPs to see more children face-to-face, to add nursing capacity and acute respiratory infection hubs.

Another initiative was to put two GPs at the Emergency Department at North Middlesex from 8am to 8pm in recognition that there were high numbers of people attending with minor illnesses in need of medication or advice. Over 80% of the available appointment slots had been used, enabling around 200 additional patients to be seen each week.

Rachel Lissaeur, Vicky Murphy, Service Director for Adult Social Services and Cllr Lucia das Neves, Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care & Well-being, then responded to questions from the Panel:

- Asked by Helena Kania how the GP services at the Emergency Department was being publicised, Rachel Lissaeur explained that this wasn't being advertised as such but that patients were triaged with nurses deciding whether someone was suitable to see a GP.
- Asked by Helena Kania about the situation at the Whittington Emergency Department, Rachel Lissaeur said that they also had seen increases in attendances, though not at the same levels as North Middlesex. There were GPs at the front door of the Whittington but they had not received the Winter Access funding. The mix of cases at North Middlesex lent itself better to seeing GPs with a higher proportion of working-age adults and young people. Helena Kania queried whether additional funding was required at the Whittington. Rachel Lissaeur responded that they had a very substantial ambulatory care service that worked efficiently and they didn't have the same level of pressure on their Emergency Department as at North Middlesex, which is why the additional capacity had been added at the North Middlesex. However, the real challenge over the winter in the Whittington had been in freeing up beds.
- Cllr Abela asked whether the promotion of self-care by the Council could help to reduce the pressures on primary care services. Rachel Lissaeur said that GPs tended to be appreciative of the significant support that could be offered by social prescribing, peer support and local area co-ordinators particularly when this relates to chronic conditions. The appointment structure of a GP surgery was not conducive to provide the support that people with chronic conditions needed, which could often be better provided with a holistic approach by a team of different professionals. Most GP surgeries now had a social prescriber at the practice. Cllr das Neves reported on a visit to the new West Green practice where there was a specialist space used for convening groups of people looking at self-management and sharing their experiences, for example around diabetes. It was culturally appropriate because they were coming together as a group and talking about the challenges that they face. She agreed that it was a good question to consider how more support could be provided by having the right spaces to enable people to do this at home or in person.
- Cllr Mason observed that a problem with social prescribing was in building relationships with people who found it more difficult to access services. She suggested selecting other spaces such as food banks and community rooms on estates to connect social prescribing services with more people. She also suggested that interpreters may be needed in some circumstances. Rachel Lissaeur agreed that a lesson from the Covid-19 pandemic was to go to where people were already accessing support. She noted that more people were now back at the places that people traditionally access such as GP practices and emergency departments and that targeted outreach elsewhere was sometimes

- more resource intensive to organise but agreed that it was important to consider where this could be beneficial.
- Cllr Connor asked how much additional funding was received through the Winter Access Fund and whether this would also be received in subsequent years. Vicky Murphy explained that the winter pressures funding emerged from government initiatives. The details of the amounts provided often came at the last minute which could make it challenging to utilise. The Council had worked closely with the Department of Health and the ICB on the plans for staffing and implementation of this funding.
 - Cllr Connor requested further explanation about the deterioration of ambulance response times highlighted on page 18 of the agenda pack and whether 'cohorting' was being carried out to free up more ambulances. Rachel Lissaeur confirmed that there was some cohorting at the North Middlesex and Whittington hospitals but agreed to look into the levels of this and respond in writing to the Panel. **(ACTION)**

Carl Brownsill, the mid-term financial strategy lead for Adult Social Care, presented further slides, explaining that the aim of the Adult Social Care Discharge Funding, as set out on pages 23 & 24 of the agenda pack, was to reduce the delays in discharging people from hospitals. The funding was split between the Council and the ICB. The Council used this for staffing initiatives to strengthen the workforce and to cover the cost of additional care purchasing to help deal with the additional cases from November onwards. The approach was to free up beds with additional support in health and social care settings, including from mental health inpatient settings.

It was noted that the definitions of the various discharge pathways from hospital had been circulated to the Panel Members and were as follows:

Pathway 0 – Simple discharge with no Health / Social Care input.

Pathway 1 – Support to recover at home, able to return home with support from Health and/or Social Care.

Pathway 2 - Rehabilitation in a bedded setting.

Pathway 3 - Life changing event, home is not an option at point of discharge (require 24-hour bedded care on an ongoing basis following an assessment of their long-term care needs).

Referring to the slides, Carl Brownsill highlighted the significant increase in Pathway 1 cases in December and said that this additional pressure had continued in January and February.

Setting out the figures for the Discharge Funding, Vicky Murphy said that the Council had received £957k this year, while the ICB had received just over £1m. This had been invested in various projects across the system enabling further work in individuals with complex needs such as 24-hour care or those with homelessness

issues. Two sets of accommodation had been secured – the Ruby Ward which was an intermediate care base shared across NCL as well as five ‘step-down’ flats in Haringey utilised for people who may be homeless or not quite ready to go home. Some wrap-around care was also being provided and additional capacity had been secured in reablement services. She added that, according to the national data set published six weeks previously, Haringey had been ranked 7th best in the country for discharges and throughput. In addition, an organisation called Empower had been brought in to work with the Council and the ICB to support next steps for discharges, with a particular focus on Pathway 1. Additional physio and therapy support in the community would be needed to support this.

Vicky Murphy and Rachel Lissaeur then responded to questions from the Panel:

- Cllr Peacock expressed concerns about people recovering at home and asked how often they were visited and contacted. She added that some had care needs and often required help with essential tasks such as food shopping. Vicky Murphy explained that community services were provided at a level based on the individual person’s needs. Sometimes an individual may have needs that are outside of Pathway 1 that it was important to be mindful of and to step in at an early stage to provide support. She added that wrap-around care, including tasks such as shopping, could be provided where required and suggested that Cllr Peacock speak to her outside the meeting regarding any individual cases that she was concerned about. Asked by Cllr Connor about the funding for wrap-around services, Vicky Murphy said that services had developed and improved significantly in recent years and could provide personal care, meals and medication, while Age UK had a presence in hospitals and offered additional support with a variety of tasks.
- Asked by Cllr Peacock whether the step-down flats were located within sheltered housing schemes, Vicky Murphy said that there was a large portfolio across NCL and all could be accessed by Haringey residents. Rachel Lissaeur added that the first port of call for Haringey residents was usually at Priscilla Wakefield House which was set up for short stays with multi-agency input. There was also Canterbury Ward and Cape Town Ward on the Chase Farm site in Enfield, and also beds at Kings Cross and Mildmay. Where a resident required a step-down bed, there were a range of options across NCL where they could be placed.
- Asked by Cllr Opoku how the levels of Discharge Funding received compared with other boroughs in NCL, Vicky Murphy explained that the funding was provided based on population and throughput so there were slight differences between Boroughs. However, she added that the Council was in conversations about obtaining extra funding for Haringey due to the enormity of the challenge faced this year. Cllr Connor commented that this ought to be weighted according to levels of deprivation and welcomed the challenge that the Council was

making in this area. The Panel recommended that deprivation levels should be considered as part of the NCL calculations for Discharge Funding. **(ACTION)**

- Asked by Cllr Connor how the funding levels compared with previous years, Rachel Lissaeur said that around £1m was received but this was focused on increasing health capacity rather than being split between the Council and the ICB. There had been slightly more funding available this year through the integrated approach but there was still the challenge of managing the cliff-edge in April without the additional funding.
- Helena Kania expressed concerns about the lag between discharge and assessment. Vicky Murphy acknowledged that this had been a challenging area this winter and that, due to the higher levels of demand and acuity, some people had been on reablement for longer than they usually would. In terms of demand, the numbers of people coming through the system was as high as 298 in one particular month compared to a normal level of 226. In terms of acuity, the proportion of reablement patients requiring long-term care had increased from 27% to 49%. At present there were two residents that had been there for longer than six weeks. However, there had been some recent workforce changes and so her ambition was that, by the end of March, everyone would be reviewed within 2-3 weeks and then reviewed again at the 6-week stage should they require ongoing reablement.
- Cllr Mason said that, from her experience of working with a local food bank, she was aware of some residents being discharged without access to their benefits or being placed somewhere without basic utilities and expressed concern about a small number of people slipping through the net of support. Vicky Murphy responded that there was a discharge to assess process for Pathway 0, run by a specialist person, but people could be referred back to Connected Communities services if required. She suggested a further conversation outside of the meeting to pick up on the concerns relating to the specific individuals.
- Cllr Brennan referred to cases of very vulnerable individuals that she was aware of and asked how quickly people would be assessed where there was urgent need. Vicky Murphy explained that individuals with complex needs would be discharged with appropriate care/support and wrap-around services so the assessment should take place before they leave hospital. However, if their level of need subsequently increased, then there was a rapid response service that can provide additional wrap-around care or a resident could be 'stepped-up' if their home is no longer safe for them. Cllr Brennan commented that some cases that she was aware of were done on a 'discharge to assess' basis. Rachel Lissaeur commented that people were discharged quickly because of the huge pressure on beds, but also that the ethos of 'discharge to assess' was that an assessment was more accurately carried out in someone's normal residence. She added that the issues raised highlighted the importance of communication and reassurance with patients at discharge and assessment.

- Cllr Connor suggested that a card, including the key information points and contact details, could be provided to patients upon discharge. Vicky Murphy agreed to check on the documentation that was given to the patient and to provide this information to the Panel. **(ACTION)**

51. UPDATE - AIDS & ADAPTATIONS

Vicky Murphy noted that significant additional work had been carried out in the area of Aids & Adaptations/Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) since the previous scrutiny item on this in September 2022. Janet Bradbury, new interim Head of Service covering aids and adaptations, noted that the issues raised by the Scrutiny Panel had largely concerned delays and communication issues. She then presented slides on the recent work which included the following key points:

- Standard letters had been developed and sent to service users at every stage of the process and the wording of these letters had been checked with Disability Action Haringey and they included information about expected timescales and contact details.
- Everyone on the waiting list as of October 2022 (approximately 800 people) received a personal phone call to check that they understood the process and the progress of their case.
- Delays had been reduced through additional capacity in surveying and assessment and the number of people waiting for an adaptation to be completed had reduced from 812 in August 2022 to 448 in February 2023 and it was expected that this would be reduced further through external contracting. Of the remaining 448 people:
 - 66 had seen the work completed but the review stage was still underway;
 - in 125 cases, the work was in the process of taking place;
 - in 184 cases, surveyors were working to draw up specification, arrange for contractors or putting work out to tender;
 - 73 cases were being allocated to an external surveyor.
- In terms of communications, it had been found that officers did not always provide their contact details after a contact with residents and that some residents were unclear about which phone number they should call. This was a particular problem when there were long delays between stages of the work. Residents could now expect to be provided with officer contact details after every visit.
- Residents were also now proactively being provided with a copy of their support plan unless they specifically said that they didn't want it. The support plans included details of what had been agreed with the resident, actions being taken and a list of conversations that had occurred.
- Residents waiting for an adaptation to be completed would be proactively contacted by phone every 4-6 weeks to check how they were doing and to update them on expected timescales.

- The next steps involved continuing the ongoing journey of culture change by carrying out a series of workshops involving staff and engaging with service users to improve their experience, deep diving into complaints and challenging inefficiencies in the system.
- Recruitment was currently being made to occupational therapy and surveyor vacancies, though this was challenging due to current workforce shortages in these areas, particularly for occupational therapists.
- The team was moving to a new client record system which should allow better tracking of timescales. It was also necessary to improve prioritisation of new referrals according to government guidance.
- The team was looking at adding more detailed information to the Council website and had sought advice on commissioning formal advocacy services to support residents in their requests for adaptations.
- A slide displaying the 11 stages of the full adaptation process illustrated how complex the system was and that this was generally expected to take around 12 months from beginning to end depending on the complexity of the case.

Janet Bradbury and Vicky Murphy then responded to questions from the Panel:

- Cllr Abela asked whether public money was used for adaptations when a property was owned by a private provider. Janet Bradbury explained that the disabled services grant legislation set out the conditions required for state money to be applied for, such as access to the property or making a property safe, and this could be requested irrespective of the ownership of the property.
- Cllr Mason spoke about complex cases that she was aware of, including a case involving overcrowding, and asked how these could be prioritised where necessary. Janet Bradbury referred back to the point made previously about prioritisation, on which there was government guidance, and that it was important to accurately assess the higher risk levels that some people had. There were also now four additional customer care officers which would help with this process and tracking cases more closely. She also clarified that it was not possible to agree to a grant for overcrowding reasons, except in cases where there were two siblings who would usually have been expected to share a room but could not do so due to a disability.
- Cllr Connor expressed surprise that 12 months was seen as an expected timescale for an adaptation to be carried out as she had previously approximated this to be closer to 6 months in cases where nothing went wrong. Janet Bradbury clarified that the government guidance categorised cases as urgent/non-urgent and simple/complex. The shortest target timescales were 55 working days for urgent and simple cases (such as a stairlift) whereas the non-urgent and complex cases were closer to 12 months. For example, the installation of a through floor lift could have a lead-in time of three months from order, so these kind of issues lengthened the overall completion time. There could also be complexities arising from negotiations with residents who may

have not have the same views on the alterations required as the professionals involved.

- Asked by Cllr Connor about the likely timescales for the next steps, including the website changes, advocacy and co-design work, Janet Bradbury said that the workshops were expected to begin in April with work proceeding in May and June. Cllr Connor suggested that it would be useful for the Scrutiny Panel to receive a further update after there had been further progress on the website, advocacy, co-design and workforce items perhaps at the beginning of next year. **(ACTION)** Vicky Murphy indicated that officers were happy to do this, had found the feedback from the Panel useful and would update the Panel on timescales.
- Asked by Cllr Connor how the views of service users would be considered when measuring improvements to the service, Vicky Murphy said that this would include user/lived experience in a multitude of ways, including complaints, user feedback, one-to-one meetings and co-production around the pathways.

52. CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS

Cllr Lucia das Neves, Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and Well-being, began this item by setting out some recent developments in her portfolio area:

- Mental health was a key priority area and the public health team had recently held a workshop with mental health providers across the borough from the statutory and voluntary/community sectors to discuss existing services and possible gaps. She acknowledged that Councillors had been concerned about some of the casework that they had picked up around mental health issues and wanted to see more preventative action and the addressing of gaps in services.
- Gambling harms was also an important issue and, while the Council was limited in how it could prevent gambling establishments from opening in the High Streets, efforts had recently been made to look at support services. A summit had recently been held around gambling harms and a government White Paper was expected soon.
- On the issue of Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG), Cllr das Neves had recently visited a secondary school in the Borough along with a worker from Solace Women's Aid and had a good conversation with young women about what they experience in schools. This raised questions about ensuring that girls and boys in schools across the whole borough had access to those type of conversations. The Council would soon begin the process of commissioning VAWG services and this would involve Councillors and people with lived experience. The reach of services had been increased to include older women and LGBTQ+ women.

Cllr das Neves then responded to questions from the Panel:

- Cllr Connor noted that the Overview & Scrutiny Committee had recommended in 2022 that research be undertaken in Haringey to strengthen the evidence base on gambling harms, which could potentially be used as part of a decision to refuse applications for gambling licences. Cllr das Neves said that the Council had been waiting for some considerable time to hear about potential funding for this. She added that some useful conversations had emerged from the recent summit with people who were interested in being involved with this work so it was hoped that progress could be made on this soon. However, she was not persuaded that the research would necessarily enable the Council to refuse licensing applications due to the emphasis of national legislation on permitting applications and so the content of the Government's forthcoming White Paper would have to be looked at closely. In response to a question from Cllr Opoku about what Councils can do collectively, Cllr das Neves said that she had been speaking to some of her NCL counterparts about this and one option could be a collective written response to the Government's White Paper after it was published.
- Asked by Cllr Abela for further details on the support provided to residents dealing with gambling addiction, Cllr das Neves said that people could access a helpline but there were two workers who were going to come in to provide coaching and psychosocial support, including by having a presence on the High Street. Cllr das Neves said that she could provide further details about this work through a written response. **(ACTION)**
- Cllr Connor requested further details about the commissioning of VAWG services and the likely timescales for this. Will Maimaris, Director of Public Health, said that the 'Protect Our Women' project that was being delivered with Solace was an innovative programme that had been recognised at a recent London-wide meeting as being an example of good practice. However, it was a small project and it would be continuing until at least April 2024 so any recommendations for change from scrutiny would be welcome. Cllr das Neves added that feedback from young women at a Haringey school had included that they felt objectified by society and so it was important to listen to those messages and to ensure that these issues were acknowledged in all schools.
- Cllr Mason noted the recent legislative change through the Domestic Abuse Act with children classed as victims and asked what support was being provided to children in such circumstances. Will Maimaris explained that an Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) for children had recently been commissioned and would be linked to children's social care services.
- Cllr Mason highlighted the importance of children themselves being advocates for change in terms of the culture around VAWG. Cllr das Neves agreed with this and reiterated the strong clear voices of the young people that she had heard at the school recently who she hoped would be supported to lead on this issue.

- Asked by Helena Kania whether there were any figures available on the number of NHS health checks (for those aged 40-74) being carried out, Will Maimaris explained that the budgets for this were under significant pressure and so a decision had been made some time ago to prioritise the east of the borough due to the higher prevalence of cardiovascular disease. It had been difficult to get GP surgeries to pick up those checks, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic, and so the GP Federation had recently been commissioned to improve this. The figures for the NHS health checks could be provided to the Panel in writing. **(ACTION)** Vicky Murphy added that health checks for children and adults with learning disabilities were at 72.5% in Haringey as of January which was the highest rate in the NCL area. Asked by Cllr Peacock why the health checks stopped at age 74, Will Maimaris said that the checks were intended for prevention and that those in the older age brackets should typically be seeing their GPs on a regular basis for other reasons.
- Cllr Brennan noted that the Solace programme had been active in some schools and asked whether there was a target for it to reach all schools in the Borough. Cllr das Neves said that there was not a specific target but that the issue was resourcing the programme and prioritising the areas that it ought to reach sooner rather than later. However, she felt that young people had responded well to the Solace worker and that ideally they would be going into every school as soon as possible.
- Asked by Cllr Peacock about action to support residents with dementia, Cllr das Neves said that she had recently attended virtual reality dementia training in Wood Green which aimed to simulate dementia and this training would be used by people working with residents who have dementia. She added that there were good dementia services in the Borough and that a new dementia coordinator would be starting soon to help boost outreach work.
- Cllr Connor asked whether new dementia hubs could be established, similar to those in Wood Green and Tottenham, as these could help to attract residents and provide support in a more focused way. Cllr das Neves said that this was a good question that could be wrapped into a conversation about localities and what could be made available, perhaps through the JHOSC (Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee). Cllr Brennan commented that there were some good dementia services in the Borough but that more needed to be done to communicate this to residents. Beverley Tarka responded that this would be an important part of the new dementia coordinator role and help to build a Borough-wide support network for people with dementia. Cllr das Neves said that there needed to be information provided in both electronic and print formats and that this was part of a larger piece of work within the Council of communicating better with residents about all the services available to them.
- Cllr Connor raised a concern that had emerged from a recent Carers Forum meeting where it had been understood that carers of people with disabilities

who were on Income Support would have to pay a charge to the commissioning unit. Vicky Murphy clarified that this was a communications error and that this information was not correct. She explained that anyone receiving benefits would not be expected to pay the kind of amounts that had been mentioned. Everyone would have an individual financial assessment and it had also been agreed that an advice surgery would be held once a month at the Winkfield Centre to support people with learning disabilities and their families/carers in going through this process. Cllr das Neves suggested that a written response could be provided to help clarify this matter and provide some reassurance to those with concerns. **(ACTION)**

53. WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

Dominic O'Brien, Scrutiny Officer, reported that the first meeting of 2023/24 would be on 22nd June 2023 with further meetings to follow in September, November, December and February. An update to the Council's response to the Living Through Lockdown report produced by the Joint Partnership Board was due to be considered at the September meeting. The November meeting would include updates on the Haringey Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB) annual report, the CQC/quality assurance and on the responses to the Panel's Scrutiny Review on co-production. In relation to the HSAB annual report, the Panel had asked for information about modern slavery to be included in the update. Updates on the Osborne Grove Nursing Home project and on the workforce strategy were also expected but were yet to have a date scheduled.

The Scrutiny Review being carried out by the Panel was on discharge from hospital (including barriers to discharge relating to sheltered housing) with another Review on digitalisation and communications with residents expected to take place later in the year.

CHAIR: Councillor Pippa Connor

Signed by Chair

Date

MINUTES OF MEETING Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Panel HELD ON Thursday, 16th March, 2023, 6.30 pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Eldridge Culverwell, George Dunstall, Michelle Simmons-Safo (Chair) and Alexandra Worrell

ALSO ATTENDING: Ian Sygrave (Co-Optee) & Cllr Ali

195. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred Members present to agenda Item 1 as shown on the agenda in respect of filming at this meeting, and Members noted the information contained therein'.

196. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for Absence were received from Cllr Emery and Cllr Hymas.

197. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of Urgent Business.

The Panel was advised that the fly tipping update, listed as Item 10 on the published agenda, was marked to follow. This would now be a verbal update.

198. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

199. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS

None.

200. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting on 15th December 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

201. FUSION UPDATE

Mark Stevens, Assistant Director for Direct Services tabled a presentation to the Panel on Leisure Centre Service Provision Issues at Tottenham Green and Park Road. The presentation is set out in the tabled papers pack at pages 1-10. The following arose in discussion of this agenda item:

- a. The Panel sought assurances around whether there were any monetary address or other resources going into providing additional transport to help service users access other facilities. Officers advised that there was nothing in place to that effect. Officers set out that they still couldn't say definitively where the water was coming from and so they didn't know who to claim against. The Panel was advised that there was no provision within the Fusion contract for Fusion to provide transport services.
- b. The Chair queried why Fusion did not have contingency plans in place for similar eventualities. Officers advised that Fusion were contracted to provide Leisure facilities at Park Road and Tottenham Green and that they were not contracted to provide services out of borough or to provide transport to alternative facilities.
- c. The Chair commented that the confidence levels within the community, that Fusion would do what they said they would, were very low at this point.
- d. In response to a question around contract monitoring, officers advised that they had stepped up the level of contract monitoring and that the Assistant Director was directly involved with monitoring Park Road. Officers advised that whilst sites had been closed, staff were being used to bring both facilities up to scratch in terms of their look and overall condition.
- e. In response to a question around engaging with stakeholders, officers advised that the Lido User group had been in place for some time and that their concerns were about a perceived lack of proper engagement from Fusion. This engagement had picked up in response to the work being done by the Council.
- f. In relation to staffing issues, officers acknowledged that there were insufficient staffing resources to cover both sites and then when both pools opened this would likely become an issue. Officers advised that they would be pushing Fusion to resolve their resourcing issues to ensure that both sites were staffed properly.
- g. The Panel enquired about the impact of leisure facilities being closed on health providers, given their use of such facilities for social prescribing schemes. Officers agreed to come back with a written response to this question. **(Action: Mark Stevens)**.
- h. The Panel queried whether officers were looking to make use of the £63m fund announced by the government during the budget for swimming pools. In response officers advised that part of this was in relation to energy costs, which did not impact Fusion particularly as they had a fixed price energy contract in place until November. Officers advised that they would be looking into whether they could claim for funding for energy costs after November, as well as maintenance costs, going forwards.
- i. The Panel enquired whether officers had been in conversation with colleagues in Enfield who had experienced similar problems with Fusion. Officers responded that they had been in contact with officers in Enfield and that they

were looking at how they could tackle these issues together. It was noted that Fusion had undergone a significant number of staffing changes at senior level in the last year or so, including the Chief Executive and the area manager for Haringey.

- j. In response to a further question, officers advised that they were confident that they had the resources in place to address the issues with Fusion.

RESOLVED

Noted.

202. WASTE, RECYCLING AND STREET CLEANSING PERFORMANCE

**Clerk's note The Chair agreed to vary the agenda. Item 8, Cabinet Member Questions with the Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality and Residents Services would be taken at the end of the agenda, following agenda items 9, 10, 11 & 12. The minutes reflect the order in which the items were considered during the meeting, rather than the order they were listed on the published agenda.*

*** Clerk's note – The Chair agreed to take all of the questions from agenda items 9, 10, 11 & 12 at the end of the meeting as part of the Cabinet Member Questions item.*

The Panel received a Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Performance update. The report was introduced by Beth Waltzer as set out in the agenda pack at pages 11 to 28.

RESOLVED

That the Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Performance update was noted.

203. UPDATE ON PLANNED AND REACTIVE HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE

The Panel received a report which provided an update on Highways planned and reactive maintenance services. The report was introduced by Mark Stevens, AD for Direct Services as set out in the agenda pack at pages 29 - 34.

The Panel noted that the Highways and Street Lighting Investment Plan was scheduled to come to Cabinet in April. This would set out the investment plans for the coming year in greater detail. Officers welcomed the additional investment in highways infrastructure in recent years. Current performance levels were that 53% of footways were in need of repair and 37% of carriage ways were in need of repair. The additional investment into highways infrastructure would help to improve the condition of the borough's carriageways and footways in the coming year.

RESOLVED

Noted.

204. UPDATE ON THE PARKING MANAGEMENT IT SYSTEM

Mark Stevens, Assistant Director for Direct Services tabled a presentation to the Panel which provided an update on the Parking Management IT System (PMIS). The presentation is set out in the tabled papers pack at pages 11-30.

RESOLVED

That the presentation was noted.

205. FLY TIPPING UPDATE

The Panel received a verbal update on fly-tipping from Brian Ellick, Head of ASB and Enforcement. The following summary is given of the key points:

- The Enforcement team was restructured in April 2022, to provide a dedicated waste enforcement team to tackle waste and fly-tipping, separate from the work done to tackle ASB, noise nuisance and licensing enforcement.
- The key approaches used by the team include; education, communications and intervention.
- The Team work closely with a number of partners such as the Private Sector Landlords team, Environmental Health, Police, Veolia and Parks.
- The Team have issued around 1400 Fixed Penalty Notices since April, most of which were for flytipping. Most of the complaints the team received were around household waste that was disposed of irresponsibly.
- The Team had served 50 informal notices on Landlords, which required landlords to ensure their tenants knew how to dispose of their waste properly.
- An CCTV upgrade was underway, which would involve replacing all on-street CCTV cameras including 40 relocatable cameras that could be used to support fly-tipping enforcement work.
- The Council's website had a dedicated 'wall of shame' page that showed footage of fly-tipping offenders and highlighted the work done by the team to tackle fly-tipping.
- 171 black boxes had been installed to date for the disposal of waste by tenants living above shops on timed collection streets. It was noted that Tottenham High Road was the next area to have black boxes installed and that rollout was expected to be completed by May.
- Work was also being done to tackle businesses disguising waste on timed collection roads as domestic waste.
- Officers were working with the courts to try and get a date to prosecute in bulk, those who had not paid their FPNs. The courts were still experiencing a big backlog from Covid and it was hoped that this could be done on a monthly basis.

Officers agreed to bring a more detailed written report on the fly-tipping strategy to the following meeting of the Panel. **(Action: Brian Ellick).**

RESOLVED

That the update was noted

206. CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS - CABINET MEMBER FOR TACKLING INEQUALITY AND RESIDENTS SERVICES

The Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality and Resident Services undertook a verbal Q&A. The following arose as part of the discussion of this item:

- a. In response to comments around complaints with the PMIS and the communications around the new system, The Cabinet Member emphasised the scale of the contacts involved, with nearly one million permits issued and 171k households. In this context 200 complaints was a very small fraction of user interactions.
- b. The Panel queried about the feedback that had been received as part of the waste survey. In response the Cabinet Member advised that 9000 responses were received, which surprised everyone. This was twice as many as the previous record. It would take some time to go through all of the responses and this was part of wider programme of engagement about what to do when the waste contract came up for renewal in 2025. The Cabinet Member welcomed the fact that residents had been involved at the start of the process. The Panel queried whether the Council would be contacting those 9000 respondents to let them know what it would be doing next. The Cabinet Member commented that this was something she would look to undertake.
- c. The Panel sought clarification about the split between in-borough fly tipping and that done by those from out of the borough. In response, the Cabinet Member set out that 82% of fly tipping in Haringey was misplaced household waste and so the focus of work to tackle dumping/fly tipping should be directed here.
- d. The Panel queried the link between bulky waste charges and fly tipping. The panel was advised that the Council introduced bulky waste charges in 2015 and the Cabinet Member commented that she didn't think this had a significant effect on fly-tipping, particularly as Enfield had free bulky waste collections and had similar levels of fly tipping as Haringey.
- e. The Panel commented on parking permit misuse on match days and what could be done to prevent this. In response, the Cabinet Member advised that under the old system of scratch cards, people could buy 1000 at a time and this clearly led to misuse. With the introduction of virtual permits, this had made a difference as you could only buy nine at once and you could only activate two of those at any one time. Match day permit misuse was a long term problem that was improving with the introduction of virtual permits.
- f. In response to a question, the Cabinet Member acknowledged that user testing was a big issue and that one factor that come up was around who was using paper permits and that a lot of the people that were using them were receiving care at home. A report to Cabinet was forthcoming on carers' permits.
- g. The Panel noted concerns with delays to the scheduled cleansing of gullies for particular streets and people not knowing when to move their cars. In response, the Cabinet Member advised that the Council put out a parking suspension seven days in advance but that delays could occur due to the age of some of the drainage infrastructure in London. If people didn't move their cars, then this could also cause delays to the schedule and the team would have to move on to the next location. In response to this, the Council was putting out extensive

- communications to residents about when to move cars and was also removing vehicles if necessary.
- h. Problems were raised with jobs being incorrectly closed through the Love Clean Streets app. In response, the Cabinet Member gave an example of a broken streetlight and the that if it was a power failure then the job would have to be passed to UK Power Network, who had a 28day turnaround. The Council had done all it could and had passed the job on to the relevant organisation, so the job would be shown as being closed. The Cabinet Member acknowledged that the Council needed to work with Love Clean Streets so that users got a notification telling them the job had been inspected and passed on to the relevant third party.
 - i. The Panel noted that the Council did not have access to the Corporation of London's hazardous waste scheme. In response, the Cabinet Member acknowledged that there was a gap and that the Council had previously decided to exclude itself from this contract as it thought this would be covered by the NLWA. The Council was in discussion with NLWA to see what could be done and the Council would be looking to engage with the City of London when the contract was up for renewal.
 - j. In response to a question, the Panel was assured that there were close working links between the enforcement team and the private sector landlord team but that there were different problems across different parts of the borough. The Council had secured some funding to recruit an HMO enforcement officer and this would be linked into the selective licensing scheme.
 - k. The Panel questioned whether there were any plans to bring in additional diesel surcharges for parking and/or cheaper parking for EVs. In response, the Cabinet Member advised that they were doing a review of whether to have a flat or variable parking rate. The Cabinet Member cautioned that they needed to give consideration about whether the timing for such a change was right, given that a lot of businesses were struggling.
 - l. The Panel enquired whether any thought had been given to amending parking tariffs in the borough to encourage people to support local businesses. In response, it was noted that a boundary review was underway, which would examine whether the Council needed to have 13 different parking bands.

RESOLVED

Noted.

207. WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

Noted

208. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

N/A

209. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates for the 2023/24 municipal year are to be agreed at Annual Council on 15th May.

CHAIR: Councillor Michelle Simmons-Safo

Signed by Chair

Date

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MINUTES OF MEETING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON THURSDAY 23RD MARCH 2023

PRESENT:

Councillors: Makbule Gunes (Chair), Anna Abela, Lester Buxton, Lotte Collett, Marsha Isilar-Gosling, Sue Jameson and Mary Mason

Co-opted Members: Lourdes Keever (Church representative), Venassa Holt (Parent Governor representative) and Amanda Bernard (Haringey SEND Parent Carer Forum)

11. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred Members present to item 1 on the agenda in respect of filming at this meeting, and Members noted the information contained therein.

12. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Yvonne Denny (Church representative).

13. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None.

14. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

15. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS

None.

16. MINUTES

The Panel noted that responses were still awaited for some of actions arising of the joint meeting with the Adults and Health Panel on 9th February. Once they had all been received, they would be circulated to the Panel.

AGREED:

That the minutes of the meetings of 3 January (budget) and 9 February 2023 (joint meeting with Adults and Health Panel) be approved.

17. CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS - CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES

Councillor Zena Brabazon, the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Families, answered questions from the Panel on developments in her portfolio. The Panel noted that the Ofsted inspection of Children's Social Care Services had been completed and the report was due to be published on 11th April.

In answer to a question regarding the funding of Children's Centres, she stated that the Council had been adversely affected by cuts to funding due to the government's austerity policies and therefore had been unable to provide any more money for them. The number of centres had been reduced from 16 to 9 since 2016/17. The borough was fortunate to have more than many authorities and there was a commitment to ensure that they were accessible to all. The new Early Years Strategy had outlined a number of priorities that included the role of the Children Centres.

In answer to a question regarding the establishment of Family Hubs, she reported that they were different to Children's Centres as they were for families with children aged 0 - 19. Funding came from central government and there was strict and rigid criteria attached to it. The funding could not be used for existing services. The new hubs would be in addition to and complement Children's Centres delivery. Most of the funding was focused on perinatal health and the first 1,000 days of life. The plan was for four hubs to be established in the borough. One of these would be at the Triangle Centre and location of the others still had to be determined. She was happy to attend any school governors meetings to which she was invited in order to brief them on the changes. She would discuss how engagement on the new hubs could be enhanced with officers. The first of the new hubs was due to be launched in June.

In answer to a question regarding schools in financial deficit, she reported that the Council was working very closely with them as well as those using reserves to balance their budgets. Achieving financial balance was challenging when there were falling numbers of children on school rolls. Where headteachers or senior members of staff had resigned, governing bodies were being encouraged to collaborate. Falling school rolls was a London wide problem and not just confined to Haringey. The Council would provide any help that it could to support schools during this difficult period.

In answer to a question regarding the adoption of the Haringey Safety Valve and the proposed new banding system for SEND, the Cabinet Member reported that they were not linked. The proposed banding system was still being developed and there would be further discussion and engagement with schools, parents, carers and partners regarding it. There would also be consideration of it through the Schools Forum and its High Needs Block working group. Draft proposals on the Safety Valve programme suggested that it would lead to an increase in resources and efforts were being made to ensure that its distribution was more equitable.

In answer to a question regarding the Baroness Casey report on the standards of behaviour and internal culture of the Metropolitan Police, the Cabinet Member reported that it had only just been published. It had therefore not been possible to determine its full implications. There was a lot of work taking place with the Police on a range of issues including knife crime, Violence Against Women and Girls and mental health. In addition, there had been Police officers who worked in schools for some

considerable time. The Police had been excellent and consistent safeguarding partners and were also a key part of the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

Beverley Hendricks, Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care acknowledged that the report was a source of concern and time would be needed to consider a response. It was nevertheless important to distinguish between the Business Command Unit (BCU) that covered Haringey and Enfield and the Metropolitan Police as a whole. Any issues that had been raised locally in recent years with the BCU had been addressed and they had been very responsive to issues that arose. For example, Stop and Search, including safeguarding and welfare concerns, had been addressed. It was agreed that the Police would be invited to a future meeting to report on issues arising from the Casey Report, Stop and Search and safeguarding.

The Panel were of the view that the key issue arising from the Casey report was how it was ensured that young people had confidence in the Police as the report had shaken trust in them. Consideration needed to be given not just to how the community got the standard of policing it deserved but also to how confidence was established.

Concern was expressed by the Panel regarding stress arising from Ofsted inspections on teachers and the mental health impact of this. The Cabinet Member stated that she shared the Panel's concern. Ann Graham, the Director of Children's Services, stated that there were Council services available to support schools and teachers, including mental health support, for those who bought into the Council's services. Schools that did not could make their own arrangements. She would check to see what the Council's offer for community schools was.

Panel Members highlighted a recent incident where BID street rangers had handcuffed a young boy in Chichester and enquired whether there had been any concerns regarding their operations in Haringey. The Cabinet Member stated that there had been no incidents reported to her but she would make further enquiries and report back. Ms. Graham stated that her own experience of BID street rangers had been positive. In particular, they had been involved in the development of the Youth at Risk strategy and because of this were now reporting children and young people found out of school. She was nevertheless happy to speak with them in order to minimise the risk of anything similar occurring in Haringey.

In answer to a question regarding the outcome of the recent OFSTED inspection, Ms Graham reported that the report would be published on 11th April and could be reported to the next meeting of the Panel.

AGREED:

That the Director of Children's Services be requested to provide further information on the support offered to teaching staff of Community Schools that buy into the Council's services, including mental health.

David Archibald, the Independent Chair, gave a presentation to the Panel on the Children's Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report for 2021-22. The Chair thanked him for all of the work that the partnership undertook.

In answer to a question regarding whether there were enough social workers in the borough, Ms Hendricks reported that the ratio of case need to social worker showed that there were currently sufficient numbers. There was a policy not to carry social worker vacancies and a range of options available to ensure that there was a strong pipeline of staff. Further work was being undertaken to increase the number, skills and confidence of social workers. In respect of mental health support, there had recently been a joint meeting of the Panel with the Adults and Health Panel that had looked at activity levels, vision and ambition. Further consideration of relevant issues needed to be arranged, together with partners. There were currently challenges across NHS services. There were also challenges that remained from Covid, which would need to be addressed by both the Council and NHS colleagues.

In answer to a question regarding areas of concern for the partnership, Mr Archibald stated that he would raise any immediate concerns with relevant officers in the first instance. Child protection systems around the country were under a lot of pressure. There had been particular challenges during the Covid pandemic but these had been handled well in Haringey. The Panel requested an understanding of where specifically the pressures were and what were the issues that they should be looking at. Mr Archibald reported that, on a national basis, there were a large number of qualified staff leaving children's social work due to its challenging nature.

In response to a question regarding relationship based social work practice, Mr Archibald stated that this was the model used in Haringey and there was a commitment to develop it further. Ms Hendricks reported that the practice model used in Haringey was referred to as Signs of Safety. It had been developed following a review of practice in Haringey that had recommended the adoption of a strength based approach. This had been implemented and built on a relationship based practice approach. There had been a conscious move away from a compliance model in order to build pathways to protection based on the confidence and trust of parents and carers. It aimed to promote empathy and understanding, without ignoring harm and risk.

In answer to a question regarding the role of schools, Mr Archibald stated that they and the safeguarding leads within them were crucial. There were representatives of primary, secondary and special schools on the Partnership's Leadership Group. When the new arrangements for safeguarding children had been developed, there had been a debate regarding whether schools should also be included as statutory partners and discussion of this was continuing. Whilst schools were clearly of great importance, local authorities could have a very large number within them and this presented practical challenges. Schools were well integrated into arrangements within Haringey though, with Headteachers on the Leadership Group and effective work taking place with safeguarding leads in schools. Ms Hendricks reported that a recently and highly respected retired Headteacher had been invited out of retirement by the partnership to liaise with and represent all schools in the borough on the HCSP partnership.

The Panel stated that the issue of links with schools had been raised previously. Unlike boroughs like Camden and Hammersmith and Fulham, there was no explicit reference to the relationship with schools in the Partnership's Annual Report. The Panel was of the view that the Annual Report should make explicit reference to links with schools in future. Mr Archibald stated that schools were crucial and he agreed with the sentiments that had been expressed. Headteachers had been involved in the drafting of the current annual report but he would ensure that there was a stronger emphasis on the role of schools in it next time.

The Chair asked Mr Archibald how confident he was that the partnership was working effectively to safeguard children. In response, he stated that, as Independent Chair, he saw the three statutory partners working very closely together to make safeguarding as effective as possible and ensure close working between front line practitioners. An example of this was the Practice Week that had recently taken place, as referred to in his presentation.

In answer to a question regarding links with schools, the Panel noted that the recently retired Headteacher previously referred to had been appointed to work with schools to provide an additional voice for them on the partnership. He had only retired a very short time ago and was known and highly respected by schools in the borough. The Panel welcomed this but were also of the view that a range of experience from Headteachers needed to be sought and incorporated.

The Panel thanked Mr Archibald and officers for the presentation and their work as part of the partnership.

19. CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE; ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

Beverley Hendricks presented that Annual Report for Children's Social Care, as included in the agenda papers for the meeting. The Panel congratulated the service for the report and particularly the work that had been done to develop the Council's own social work academy and recruitment drive. It was noted that there had been a drop in the number of Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans that were completed within 20 weeks. In response, Jackie Difolco (Assistant Director for Early Help and Prevention) reported that the service had undergone restructuring during this period, which had resulted in a number of staff leaving. The new structure had now been implemented, new staff recruited and training taken place. 70% of assessments were now, on average, completed within 20 weeks and this would be reflected in the next annual report.

In respect of factors found at the end of assessment, the Panel requested a gender breakdown where these related to alcohol misuse. In answer to a question regarding ethical recruitment, Ms Hendricks stated that there was an ethical code that ensured new recruits were well supported when they arrived in the UK. There was a generous relocation package and staff were able to support their families and bring spouses and children to join them.

In answer to a question regarding adoption, Ms Hendricks stated that the assessment process for adoption involved a high degree of challenge and support. Information

was gathered and kept in a children's permanency record, including background and heritage, so that they had a record that could be accessed if required at a later stage. Adoptive parents could access support through the regional adoption agency or local authority. This included an adoption support fund, which included financial and therapeutic help if required. Comprehensive packages could be designed to avoid breakdown of placements. Adoption failure was rare and data on this was kept centrally. She agreed to share this with the Panel if it was possible to disaggregate figures for Haringey. The Council had also invested in a scheme called Pause, which was a national programme that sought to avoid unnecessary adoptions by working with parents who had previously had children removed from their care. A spectrum of approaches was required for interventions to ensure that children were able to remain with families.

In answer to a question regarding children who were out of school, Jane Edwards (Assistant Director for Schools and Learning), reported that the number of these fluctuated. They were identified by a number of means and action was taken to get them back into school as soon as possible. In some cases, children became electively home educated. If it was not possible to find the child or young person, a multi-agency was arranged to decide what further action to take. The number of children who were out of school in Haringey was very low and compared well with other authorities, with only 35 identified in the previous week. This was not considered to be a significant number.

AGREED:

1. That, in respect of factors found at the end of assessments, the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care be requested to provide the Panel with a gender breakdown of where these relate to alcohol misuse; and
2. That the Assistant Director for Safeguarding and Social Care be requested to provide the Panel with statistics for the number of adoption breakdowns in Haringey.

20. LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN (LAC) SUFFICIENCY STRATEGY 2022-2026

Ms Hendricks introduced and outlined the LAC Sufficiency Strategy for 2022-2026, which had been circulated with the agenda papers for the meeting. The Panel congratulated the service on the work that had been undertaken. In answer to a question, Ms Hendricks stated that it was a live document. There were eight priorities within it and an action plan. Progress against the priorities was reviewed regularly and she hoped to return to the Panel to provide an update on further progress. It was agreed that a further report would be requested, including detail on outcomes.

Ms Graham thanked Ms Hendricks and her staff for all the work that had been done on this issue. Such a strategy did not exist five years ago and significant progress had been made. In particular, she was particularly proud of the opening of the Haslemere Road children's residential home, which enabled children to remain in the borough and represented a noteworthy improvement in outcomes.

The Chair, on behalf of the Panel, thanked officers for their work. She stated that significant progress had been made during the past year.

AGREED:

That a further report, providing an update on progress in achieving targets within the strategy, be submitted to the Panel in due course.

21. WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

The Panel noted that it would be meeting on 6th April to gather further evidence as part of its review on Physical Activity and Sport. The next ordinary meeting would be on 26th June. The main items for this would be Stop and Search and SEND – Prevention and Early Intervention. The Panel had agreed to undertake a review on Housing and Children and identified a number of areas of potential focus. These could be broken down into two distinct areas – social housing and private sector. In order for the review to be effective and deliver tangible outcomes, it was recommended that it focus on a discrete area that could be looked at in detail. It was therefore suggested that either social housing or private sector be chosen for consideration in the first instance.

Ms Graham reported that the report of the recent OFSTED inspection of the local authority would be available by the time of the next meeting. It was agreed that this would be given priority on the agenda and that, if need be, one of the other items be deferred to make sufficient space.

In respect of the review on Housing and Children, the Cabinet Member stated that she welcomed a review on this issue. Consideration of the issue of housing allocations and how they impacted on children would be particularly welcome. The Panel agreed that the review would look at social housing in the first instance and, in particular, housing allocations. Consideration could be given to commissioning further work on private sector housing in due course.

AGREED:

1. That a report on the outcome of the recent Ofsted inspection of Children's Social Care and the action plan arising from this be submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the Panel; and
2. That the forthcoming review on Housing and Children focus on social housing and, in particular, allocations in the first instance.

22. VOTE OF THANKS

It being the last ordinary meeting of the Panel for the current Municipal Year, the Chair was thanked by the Panel for her work as Chair. The Chair thanked Members and officers for their kind assistance and co-operation

CHAIR: Councillor Makbule Gunes

Signed by Chair

Date

**Haringey Safeguarding Children
Partnership Annual Report
April 2021 – March 2022
Safeguarding is Everyone's Business**



What is the HSCP?

- The Children and Social Work Act 2017 replaced LSCB's with new local safeguarding arrangements, led by the three statutory safeguarding partners; the Local Authority, Clinical Commissioning Group (now ICB) and Police, who have a shared and equal duty to ensure that these new arrangements effectively safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- The arrangements are subject to independent scrutiny by an independent scrutineer.
- The partners must publish a yearly report setting out what has been achieved and what challenges were encountered during the year.

HSCP Vision and Objective

Vision

The partnership will provide the strategic leadership, vision and influence which ensures:

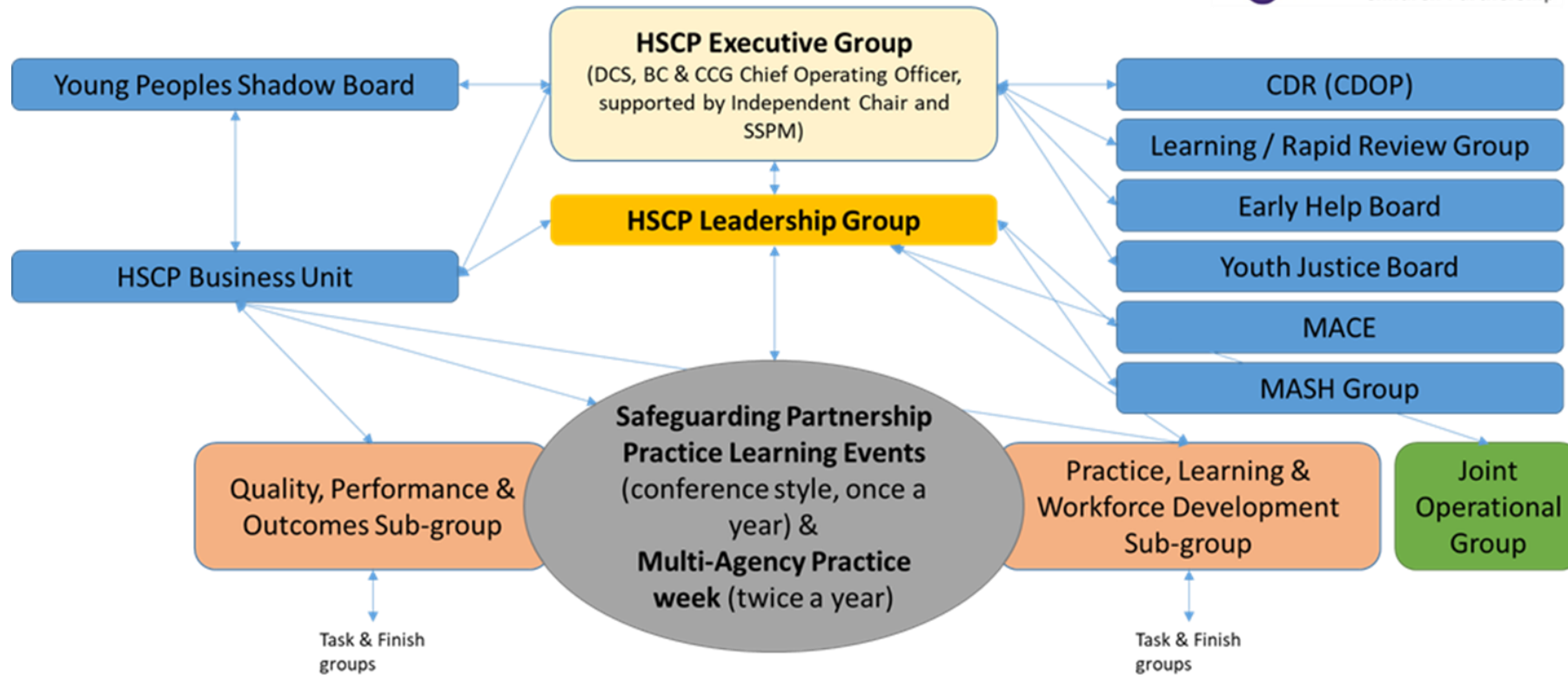
- At every opportunity, the lived experience of children and young people is integral to how we safeguard and protect
- There are improved outcomes through strengthening partnership workforce and community resilience
- Our relationship-based practice is strengthened, demonstrating continuous improvement

Objective

The objective of the HSCP multi-agency safeguarding arrangements is to support and enable local agencies to work together in a system that:

- Promotes excellent practice across the partnership as the norm
- Partner agencies hold one another to account
- There is early identification of emerging safeguarding concerns and trends
- Information is shared effectively
- Promotes community confidence

HSCP structure



Funding

- Working Together 2018 states the three safeguarding partners should agree on the level of funding secured from each partner (which should be equitable and proportionate)
- The LA contributed £274,672.35
- All other agencies combined contributed £39,746.65
- The total HSCP cost was £314,419 for 2021/22
- 'In-kind' contribution included secondment of a police staff for two days a week and other partners have supported HSCP subgroups, i.e. Health designates Chair the Quality, Performance and Outcomes & Planning, Learning and Workforce Development Sub-groups

Key Safeguarding Performance Data

- We received 13,079 contacts compared to 10,757 contacts received in 2020/21. The highest proportion of contacts come from the police (37%), followed by health services (18%) and schools (16%).

13,079
Contacts



- 2,919 assessments were completed in 2021/22 compared to 2,563 in 2020/21.
- 92% of assessments were completed within 45 working days; down on 2020/21 when 94% were completed within 45 working days.

2,919
Assessments



- 178 children were the subject of a Child Protection Plan at the end of 2022. A 33% decrease from the number of children at the end of 2021 (264).
- 231 children started and 307 ceased a CP plan in 2021/22.

178 CP



- 3,378 referrals were received in the last 12 months compared to 2,851 referrals received in 2020/21.
- Of the referrals received, 9% were rereferrals. Lower in comparison to 2020/21 when the re-referral rate was 16%

3,378
Referrals



- There were 4,168 Children in Need who had received a service at any point within 2021/22 compared with 3,744 CIN in 2020/21. On 31/03/2022 2,151 children had an open of Children in Need episode.

4,168 CIN



- 1,199 Early Help cases were closed with a successful outcome compared to 1,194 cases in 2020/21.
- 49% of the families engaging with Early Help were closed with a successful and sustained outcome, slightly higher than last year (48%).

1,199
Early Help



- 1,164 children were the subject of a Section 47 enquiry in 2021/22.
- This equates to a rate of 196 children with a S47 enquiry per 10,000 children in 2021/22, a slight decrease on the rate last year (184) as 7% increase.

1,164 S47



- At 31 March 2022 there were 387 Looked After Children.
- As at March 2022 the rate of LAC was 65 per 10,000 children in Haringey, the same rate as 2020/21.

387 LAC



Key Activities – Audits

Section 11 Audits

- In total, eight organisations were requested to submit a return and every organisation fulfilled their responsibility by submitting their completed audit returns. The HSCP introduced support and challenge sessions, chaired by the HSCP Independent Chair and Scrutineer and the Strategic Safeguarding Partnership Manager, throughout November and December 2020. Agencies were scrutinised and asked to reflect on their safeguarding processes. Partners valued sessions with an opportunity to discuss responses to their Section 11 self-evaluation audits.
- Overall, the partnership demonstrated a strong commitment to safeguarding via dedicated safeguarding teams and officers who provided clear, accountable governance processes and procedures and excellent evidence of safeguarding documentation. The S11 audits illustrated a desire to deliver best practice around safeguarding.
- Across agencies, there was evidence of a real commitment by senior management to promote safeguarding throughout individual agencies. It was demonstrated that staff had knowledge of the management structure and could approach individual safeguarding teams for advice if required. Partners showed commitment to attending partnership meetings and disseminate any learning. Each agency was proud of its dedicated safeguarding team and the commitment they demonstrate daily.

Key Activities – Audits cont.

Multi-agency Audits

Themed Audit 1: Children and Young People’s Mental Health:

The audit aimed to focus on a multi-agency deep dive into how Haringey local services respond to children and young people living with mental ill-health.

Themed Audit 2: Child in Need of Support & Protection Audit:

This audit activity was undertaken to focus upon children in need, in particular those where concerns arose in relation to neglect.

Themed Audit 3: Children Affected by Domestic Abuse (DA):

The focus of this audit was to provide a child-centred assessment in relation to the provision of services available for children affected by Domestic Abuse in the London Borough of Haringey.

The HSCP Annual Report 2021/22 highlights the themes, challenges, outcomes and evidence of good practice in further detail

Key Activities – Case Reviews

- In April 2021 the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Guidance was launched. This document helps to guide all partners through the process of safeguarding practice reviews, including their roles and responsibilities.
- From 1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022 the HSCP received five notifications where a Virtual Threshold Meeting with Statutory Partners took place and where appropriate, the National Panel were informed.
- Of the five cases referred to the HSCP:
 - 3 resulted in a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) being undertaken
 - 2 did not meet the threshold to progress to a formal Safeguarding Practice Review, however learning was taken forward in the form of Action Plans which are monitored for progress by the QPO subgroup.
- In addition at the time of this annual report, the HSCP has three CSPR in progress.

Key Activities – Multi Agency Training

- In 2021/22 HSCP had another strong offering of Multi-Agency Training. HSCP offered 2678 free spaces to professionals for 24 courses and learning events.
- We held a total of 59 training sessions throughout the year
- 1060 places were booked (up 8% from the previous year)
- These are fully funded and taught by professionals from the partnership who are experts in their respective fields. The trainers can speak and teach with confidence due to their many years of hands-on experience.
- Planning for 2022/23 the HSCP are considering introducing a range of new training opportunities across the partnership which include:
 - Communicating and understanding children with disabilities
 - Reducing parental conflict
 - Engaging with absent fathers
 - Suicide prevention in Young People
 - Understanding the development of babies

Priorities for 2022/23

The Partnership priorities over the next year will be based on the following themes:

- Children living with mental health issues
- Prevention and early intervention
- Older children in need of help and protection, and contextual safeguarding, including exploitation

The Partnership focus will be:

- Measuring impact linked to practice
- A strong evidence base
- Workforce development; and sustainability

Additional areas of focus and synergy include:

- Transitional Safeguarding with the Safeguarding Adults Board
- Neglect with the Early Help and Health & Wellbeing Boards

Partnership Leads

Ann Graham (Director Children's Services), Sebastian Adjei Addoh (Detective Superintendent), Jenny Goodridge (Director of Quality & Chief Nurse for NCL Clinical Commissioning Group)

Multi-Agency Practice Week

- Started on Monday 27th February with Opening Words from CYPS DCS and ADCS and a Pre-recorded Video by Isabelle Trowler, (attended by over 118 people across the partnership).
- Lite Bite Sessions across the week with a Domestic Abuse Theme facilitated from all of the partnerships were attended; great attendance with between 45 over 70 people per session.
- 18 Direct Observations took place across the partnership, which involved observations of meetings, Panels, managers 121 supervision, direct work with children and young people, Children Looked After Review Meetings , Child Protection Conferences and Clinics.
- Audits took place over the week across the Partnerships.

Good Practice Identified

- Good sharing of information across the Partnership: MASH in Particular stood out.
- Timely decision making across the partnership; including Strategy Meetings, Child Protection Conferences, MACE and MARAC.
- Clear recording on systems across the Partnership.
- Good and clear Communication
- Effective use of Supervision across the partnership.

Report for: Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 8 June 2023

Title: Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Panels - Membership and Terms of Reference

Report authorised by: Ayshe Simsek, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

Lead Officer: Dominic O'Brien, Principal Scrutiny Officer
Tel: 020 8489 5896, E-mail: dominic.obrien@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: N/A

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** N/A

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to establish the Scrutiny Panels and agree their memberships.
- 1.2 The Committee is also asked to consider the appointment of two Haringey representatives to the North Central London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:
- (a) Note the terms of reference (**Appendix A**), Protocol (**Appendix B**) for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its Panels, and the Protocol for non-voting co-opted Members on Scrutiny Panels (**Appendix C**);
 - (b) To agree a change of name for the Environment & Community Safety Scrutiny Panel to Climate, Community Wellbeing and Culture Scrutiny Panel; and
 - (c) Establish the following Scrutiny Panels for 2023/24:
 - Adults and Health;
 - Children and Young People;
 - Climate, Community Well-being and Culture; and
 - Housing, Planning and Development;
 - (d) Approve the remits and membership for each Scrutiny Panel for 2023/24 (**Appendix D**); and
 - (e) Appoint two Haringey representatives to the North Central London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2023/24.

3. Reasons for decision

- 3.1 The terms of reference and membership of the scrutiny panels above need to be confirmed at the first meeting of each municipal year.
- 3.2 The power to appoint Haringey's representatives to the North Central London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) was delegated to the OSC by Council at its meeting on 22 March 2010.

4. Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 4.1 As agreed by Annual Council on 23 May, the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2023/24 will be:
- Cllr Matt White (Chair);
 - Cllr Pippa Connor (Vice-Chair);
 - Cllr Makbule Gunes;
 - Cllr Michelle Simmons-Safo;
 - Cllr Alexandra Worrell.
- 4.2 The Committee will also include statutory education representatives, who shall have voting rights solely on education matters.
- 4.3 The terms of reference and role of the OSC is set out in Part Two (Article 6), Part Three (Section B) and Part Four (Section G) of the Council's Constitution. Together, these specify key responsibilities for the Committee. This information is provided in full at **Appendix A**.
- 4.4 There is also a Protocol, outside the Constitution and provided at **Appendix B**, that sets out how the OSC is to operate.
- 4.5 In addition, there is a Protocol (**Appendix C**) for non-voting co-opted scrutiny Members on scrutiny panels. The purpose of this is to ensure openness and transparency in their appointment and clarify their role.

5. Scrutiny Panels

- 5.1 Article 6 of the Constitution states the OSC shall appoint Scrutiny Panels in order to discharge the Overview and Scrutiny role.
- 5.2 The specific functions for any Scrutiny Panels established is outlined in Article 6 of the Constitution at 6.3 (b) and 6.3 (c). The procedure by which this operates is detailed in the Scrutiny Protocol:
- The OSC shall establish four standing Scrutiny Panels, to examine designated public services;
 - The OSC shall determine the terms of reference for each Scrutiny Panel;

- If there is any overlap between the business of the Panels, it is the responsibility of the OSC to resolve the issue;
- Areas which are not covered by the four standing Scrutiny Panels shall be the responsibility of the main OSC;
- The Chair of each Scrutiny Panel shall be a member of the OSC, as determined by the OSC at its first meeting;
- It is intended that each Scrutiny Panel shall be comprised of between 3 and 7 backbench or opposition members, and be politically propionate as far as possible;
- Each Scrutiny Panel shall be entitled to appoint up to three non-voting co-optees. The Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Panel membership will include the statutory education representatives of OSC.

5.3 The proposed 2023/24 membership for the four Scrutiny Panels is listed below.

Scrutiny Panel	Membership
Adults and Health	Cllr Pippa Connor (Chair), Cllr Cathy Brenan; Cllr Thayahlan Iyngkaran; Cllr Mary Mason; Cllr Sean O’Donovan; Cllr Felicia Opoku; Cllr Sheila Peacock.
Children and Young People	Cllr Mukbule Gunes (Chair), Cllr Anna Abela; Cllr Gina Adamou; Cllr Mark Blake; Cllr Lotte Collett; Cllr Marsha Isilar-Gosling; Cllr Sue Jameson.
Climate, Community Wellbeing and Culture	Cllr Michelle Simmons-Safo (Chair); Cllr Gina Adamou; Cllr Charles Adje; Cllr Eldridge Culverwell; Cllr Isidoros Diakides; Cllr George Dunstall; Cllr Marsha Isilar-Gosling.
Housing and Regeneration	Cllr Alexandra Worrell (Chair); Cllr Dawn Barnes; Cllr John Bevan; Cllr Mark Blake; Cllr Holly Harrison-Mullane; Cllr Tammy Hymas; Cllr Khaled Moyeed.
All Councillors (except Members of the Cabinet) may be members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Scrutiny Review Panels. However, no Member may be involved in scrutinising a decision in which he/she has been directly involved.	

5.4 The policy areas to be covered by the four existing Scrutiny Panels are attached at **Appendix D**, together with the relevant portfolio holders for each scrutiny body.

6. North Central London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

6.1 Haringey is a member of the North Central London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC), along with Barnet, Camden, Enfield and Islington.

- 6.2 The revised terms of reference, agreed by the JHOSC at its meeting on 29 January 2016, and by Haringey Council on 16 May 2016, are as follows:
- To engage with relevant NHS bodies on strategic area wide issues in respect of the co-ordination, commissioning and provision of NHS health services across the whole of the area of Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington;
 - To respond, where appropriate, to any proposals for change to specialised NHS services that are commissioned on a cross borough basis and where there are comparatively small numbers of patients in each of the participating boroughs;
 - To respond to any formal consultations on proposals for substantial developments or variations in health services across affecting the area of Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington;
 - The joint committee will work independently of both the Cabinet and health overview and scrutiny committees (HOSCs) of its parent authorities, although evidence collected by individual HOSCs may be submitted as evidence to the joint committee and considered at its discretion;
 - The joint committee will seek to promote joint working where it may provide more effective use of health scrutiny and NHS resources and will endeavour to avoid duplicating the work of individual HOSCs. As part of this, the joint committee may establish sub and working groups as appropriate to consider issues of mutual concern provided that this does not duplicate work by individual HOSCs; and
 - The joint committee will aim work together in a spirit of co-operation, striving to work to a consensual view to the benefit of local people.
- 6.4 Haringey's OSC is entitled to appoint two representatives to the JHOSC. The power to make this appointment was delegated to OSC by Council at its meeting on 22 March 2010.

7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 7.1 The contribution scrutiny can make to strategic outcomes will be considered as part of its routine work.

8. Statutory Officers Comments

Finance and Procurement

- 8.1 The Chief Finance Officer has confirmed the Haringey representatives on the JHOSC are not entitled to any remuneration. As a result, there are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations set out in this report.
- 8.2 Should any of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny generate recommendations with financial implications then these will be highlighted at that time.

Legal

- 8.3 The Assistant Director for Corporate Governance has been consulted on the contents of this report.
- 8.4 Under Section 21 (6) of the Local Government Act 2000, an Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the power to appoint one or more sub-committee to discharge any of its functions. The establishment of Scrutiny Panels by the Committee falls within this power and is in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Constitution.
- 8.5 Scrutiny Panels are non-decision-making bodies and the work programme and any subsequent reports and recommendations that each scrutiny panel produces must be approved by the OSC. Such reports can then be referred to Cabinet or Council under agreed protocols.
- 8.6 The OSC can appoint two representatives to the North Central London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This is in accordance with the decision made by full Council on 22 March 2010 that the making of nominations to the Joint Health Committee be delegated to the Committee.

Equality

- 8.7 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:
- Tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
 - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 8.8 The proposals outlined in this report relate to the membership and terms of reference for the OSC and carry no direct implications for the Council's general equality duty. However, the Committee should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them within its work programme and those of its panels, as well as individual pieces of work. This should include considering and clearly stating;
- How policy issues impact on different groups within the community, particularly those that share the nine protected characteristics;
 - Whether the impact on particular groups is fair and proportionate;
 - Whether there is equality of access to services and fair representation of all groups within Haringey;

- Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people, are being realised.

8.9 The Committee should ensure that equalities comments are based on evidence. Wherever possible this should include demographic and service level data and evidence of residents/service-users views gathered through consultation.

9. Use of Appendices

Appendix A - Part Two (Article 6), Part Three (Section B), and Part Four (Section G) of the Constitution of the London Borough of Haringey.

Appendix B - Scrutiny Protocol

Appendix C - Protocol for Non-Voting Co-opted Scrutiny Members

Appendix D - Overview & Scrutiny Remits and Membership 2023/24

10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

APPENDIX A

PART TWO – ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION

Last updated 24 July 2017

Article 6 - Overview and Scrutiny

6.01 Terms of reference

The Council will appoint an Overview and Scrutiny Committee to discharge the functions conferred by section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000, the Health & Social Care Act 2001 and the NHS Reform & Health Professionals Act 2002.

6.02. General role

Within its terms of reference, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may:

- (a) Exercise an overview of the forward plan;
- (b) Review or scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Cabinet's or Council's functions;
- (c) Make reports and recommendations to the full Council, the Cabinet or relevant non-Executive Committee in connection with the discharge of any functions;
- (d) Make reports or recommendations on matters affecting the area or its inhabitants;
- (e) Exercise the right to call-in, for reconsideration, key decisions made but not yet implemented by the Executive;
- (f) Receive the reports and recommendations of its commissioned Scrutiny Review Panels; and
- (g) In accordance with statutory regulations to review and scrutinise matters relating to the health service within the Authority's area and to make reports and recommendations thereon to local NHS bodies;
- (h) Enter into or appoint such joint overview and scrutiny committees that include the London Borough of Haringey and other boroughs for the purpose of responding to consultation by NHS bodies on proposals for substantial variation or development in the provision of health services as required by The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013.

6.03 Specific functions

(a) Scrutiny Review Panels.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall appoint Scrutiny Review Panels in order to discharge the Overview and Scrutiny role for designated public services and will co-ordinate their respective roles.

(b) Policy development and review.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and any Scrutiny Review Panels it may establish may:

- (i) Assist the Council and the Cabinet in the development of its budget and policy framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues;
- (ii) Conduct research, community and other consultation in the analysis of policy issues and possible options;
- (iii) Consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the development of policy options;
- (iv) Question members of the Cabinet and chief officers about their views on issues and proposals affecting the area; and
- (v) Liaise with other external organisations operating in the area, whether national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working.

(c) Scrutiny.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and any Scrutiny Review Panels it may establish may:

- (i) Review and scrutinise the decisions made by and performance of the Cabinet and Council officers both in relation to individual decisions and over time;
- (ii) Review and scrutinise the performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas;
- (iii) Question members of the Cabinet and chief officers about their decisions and performance, whether generally in comparison with service plans and targets over a period of time, or in relation to particular decisions, initiatives or projects;
- (iv) Make recommendations to the Cabinet or relevant non-executive Committee arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process;
- (v) Review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area and invite reports from them by requesting them to address the overview and scrutiny committee and local people about their activities and performance; and
- (vi) Question and gather evidence from any person (with their consent).

(d) Finance

Overview and Scrutiny Committee may exercise overall responsibility for the finances made available to them.

(e) Annual report.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee must report annually to full Council on their workings and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate.

6.04 Proceedings of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and any Scrutiny Review Panels it may establish will conduct their proceedings in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

6.05 Votes of No Confidence

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or the Chair of a Scrutiny Review Panel shall cease to hold that office as a Scrutiny member if a vote of no confidence, of which notice appears on the agenda, is carried at the meeting of the relevant body. The responsibilities of that member shall be carried out by the relevant Vice-Chair until such time as a subsequent meeting of that body has been notified of the appointment of a replacement or the reappointment of the member concerned. In the event of all members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee having been removed from office in this way at any time, Scrutiny functions shall in the interim be carried out by full Council.

PART THREE – RESPONSIBILITY FOR FUNCTIONS

SECTION B

Last updated 24 July 2017

SECTION 2 – COMMITTEES

The following shall be committees of the Council and they shall have the membership as described in the Appointments of Committees, Sub-Committees, Panels, etc (as approved by the Annual Meeting):

- 1. The Corporate Committee**
 - 2. Combined Pensions Committee and Board**
 - 3. Staffing and Remuneration Committee**
 - 4. Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
 - 5. Standards Committee**
 - 6. Alexandra Palace and Park Board**
 - 7. The Regulatory Committee**
 - 8. The Health and Wellbeing Board**
-

4. Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee may:

- (a) exercise an overview of the forward plan;
- (b) review or scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Cabinet's or Council's functions;
- (c) make reports and recommendations to the full Council, the Cabinet or relevant non-Executive Committee in connection with the discharge of any functions;
- (d) make reports or recommendations on matters affecting the area or its inhabitants;
- (e) exercise the right to call-in, for reconsideration, key decisions made but not yet implemented by the Cabinet;
- (f) receive the reports and recommendations of its Scrutiny Review Panels;
- (g) in accordance with statutory regulations to review and scrutinise matters relating to the health service and all NHS funded services within the Authority's

area and to make reports and recommendations thereon to local NHS and NHS funded bodies;

- (h) enter into or appoint such joint overview and scrutiny committees that include the London Borough of Haringey and other boroughs for the purpose of responding to consultation by NHS bodies on proposals for substantial variation or development in the provision of health services as required by The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013;
- (i) review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible partner authorities of their crime and disorder functions;
- (j) make reports or recommendations to the Cabinet or full Council where appropriate with respect to the discharge of the crime and disorder functions by the responsible partner authorities;
- (k) make arrangements which enable any councillor who is not a Committee member to refer any crime and disorder matter to the Committee under the Councillor Call for Action procedure; and
- (l) make arrangements which enable any councillor who is not a Committee member to refer to the Committee any local government matter which is relevant to the functions of the Committee under the Councillor Call for Action procedure.
- (m) there is a Protocol outside this Constitution setting out how the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is to operate. The Protocol shall be applied in a manner consistent with the Committee Procedure Rules in Part 4 and any issue on procedure at the meeting shall be subject to the ruling of the Chair. The Protocol can be amended by the written agreement of the Leaders of the Political Groups on the Council.
- (o) to appoint two representatives to the standing Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee for North Central London. (Since this appointment is for only two members to the Joint Committee, the "political proportionality" rules in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 do not apply.)

SECTION 3 - SUB-COMMITTEES AND PANELS

The following bodies shall be created as Sub-Committees of the relevant Committee of the Council under which they are listed. Bodies described as "Panels" are Sub-Committees unless otherwise stated. Sub-Committees shall report to their parent bodies and they shall have the membership as described in the Appointments of Non-Executive Committees, Sub-Committees, Panels, etc as approved by the Annual Meeting.

2. Under Overview and Scrutiny Committee

2.1 Scrutiny Review Panels

- (a) To carry out scrutiny processes relevant to particular services as determined by Overview and Scrutiny Committee and within the parameters, protocols and procedures agreed by Overview and Scrutiny Committee for all Scrutiny Review Panels.
- (b) Within these scrutiny processes to request and receive submissions, information and answers to questions from Cabinet Members, officers and other senior employees of the Council, service users, external experts and relevant members of the public.
- (c) To refer the findings/recommendations in the form of a written report, with the approval of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, to The Cabinet and/or the Council as appropriate.

PART FOUR – RULES OF PROCEDURE
SECTION G – OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES

Last updated 21 July 2014

1. The arrangements for Overview and Scrutiny

1.1 The Council will have one Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which will have responsibility for all overview and scrutiny functions on behalf of the Council.

1.2 The terms of reference of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be:

- (i) The performance of all overview and scrutiny functions on behalf of the Council.
- (ii) The appointment of Scrutiny Review Panels, with membership that reflects the political balance of the Council.
- (iii) To determine the terms of reference of all Scrutiny Review Panels.
- (iv) To receive reports from local National Health Service bodies on the state of health services and public health in the borough area.
- (v) To enter into or appoint such joint overview and scrutiny committees that include the London Borough of Haringey and other boroughs for the purpose of responding to consultation by NHS bodies on proposals for substantial variation or development in the provision of health services as required by The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013.
- (vi) To monitor the effectiveness of the Council's Forward Plan.
- (vii) To receive all appropriate performance management and budget monitoring information.
- (viii) To approve a programme of future overview and scrutiny work so as to ensure that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's and Scrutiny Review Panels' time is effectively and efficiently utilised;
- (ix) To consider all requests for call-in and decide whether to call-in a key decision, how it should be considered and whether to refer the decision to the Cabinet or to Council.
- (x) To monitor the effectiveness of the Call-in procedure.
- (xi) To review and scrutinise action taken by partner authorities in discharge of crime and disorder functions and to make reports and recommendations to Cabinet and Council on these.

- (xii) To make arrangements which enable any Councillor who is not a Committee Member to refer any local government matter, or any crime and disorder matter, to the Committee under the Councillor Call for Action Procedure.
- (xiii) To ensure that referrals from Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the Cabinet either by way of report or call-in are managed efficiently, and
- (xiv) To ensure community and voluntary sector organisations, users of services and others are appropriately involved in giving evidence to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or relevant Scrutiny Review Panel.

1.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee may establish a number of Scrutiny Review Panels:

- (i) Scrutiny Reviews Panels are appointed to examine designated Council services. Scrutiny Review Panels will refer their findings/ recommendations in the form of a written report, with the approval of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, to the Cabinet and/or the Council as appropriate.
- (ii) Scrutiny Review Panels will analyse submissions, request and analyse any additional information, and question the Cabinet Member(s), relevant Council officers, local stakeholders, and where relevant officers and/or board members of local NHS bodies or NHS funded bodies.
- (iii) Subject to the approval of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Scrutiny Review Panels will be able to appoint external advisors and/or to commission specific pieces of research if this is deemed necessary.
- (iv) Scrutiny Review Panels should make every effort to work by consensus; however, in exceptional circumstances Members may submit minority reports.
- (v) Prior to publication, draft reports will be sent to the relevant chief officers or where relevant officers of the National Health Service for checking for inaccuracies and the presence of exempt and/or confidential information; Scrutiny Review Panel members will revisit any conclusions drawn from disputed information;
- (vi) Following approval by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, final reports and recommendations will be presented to the next available Cabinet meeting together with an officer report where appropriate. The Cabinet will consider the reports and formally agree their decisions.
- (vii) Following approval by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, reports on NHS, non-executive or regulatory matters will be copied to the Cabinet for information.

- (viii) At the Cabinet meeting to receive the final report and recommendations, the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or the Chair of the Scrutiny Review Panel may attend and speak.
- (ix) After an appropriate period, post implementation, Overview and Scrutiny Committee will carry out a follow up review to determine if the recommendations had the intended outcomes and to measure any improvements.

- 1.4 When Scrutiny Review Panels report on non-executive or regulatory functions the above rules apply, except the references to The Cabinet shall be taken as reference to the relevant non-executive body.
- 1.5 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall undertake scrutiny of the Council's budget through a Budget Scrutiny process. The procedure by which this operates is detailed in the Protocol covering the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.6 All Overview and Scrutiny meetings shall take place in public (except where exempt or confidential matters are considered).
- 1.7 The Overview and Scrutiny function should not be seen as an alternative to established disciplinary, audit or complaints mechanisms and should not interfere with or pre-empt their work.

2. Membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Review Panels

- 2.1 All Councillors (except Members of the Cabinet) may be members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Scrutiny Review Panels. However, no Member may be involved in scrutinising a decision in which he/she has been directly involved.
- 2.2 The membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Review Panels shall, as far as is practicable, be in proportion to the representation of different political groups on the Council.

3. Co-optees

- 3.1 Each Scrutiny Review Panel shall be entitled to appoint up to three people as non-voting co-optees.
- 3.2 Statutory voting non-Councillor members of Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be paid an allowance in accordance with the Members' Allowances Scheme in Part 6 of this Constitution.

4. Education representatives

- 4.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Scrutiny Review Panel whose terms of reference relate to education functions that are the responsibility of the Cabinet, shall include in its membership the following representatives:

- (i) At least one Church of England diocesan representative (voting).
- (ii) At least one Roman Catholic diocesan representative (voting).
- (iii) 2 parent governor representatives (voting).

These voting representatives will be entitled to vote where the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or the Scrutiny Review Panel is considering matters that relate to relevant education functions. If the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Review Panel is dealing with other matters, these representatives shall not vote on those matters though they may stay in the meeting and speak at the discretion of the Chair. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Review Panel will attempt to organise its meetings so that relevant education matters are grouped together.

5. Meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Review Panels

- 5.1 In addition to ordinary meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, extraordinary meetings may be called from time to time as and when appropriate. An Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting may be called by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee after consultation with the Chief Executive, by any two Members of the Committee or by the proper officer if he/she considers it necessary or appropriate.
- 5.2 In addition to ordinary meetings of the Scrutiny Review Panels, extraordinary meetings may be called from time to time as and when appropriate. A Scrutiny Review Panel meeting may be called by the Chair of the Panel after consultation with the Chief Executive, by any two Members of the Committee or by the proper officer if he/she considers it necessary or appropriate.

6. Quorum

The quorum for the Overview Scrutiny Committee and for each Scrutiny Review Panel shall be at least one quarter of its membership and not less than 3 voting members.

7. Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Review Panels

- 7.1 The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be appointed by the Council.
- 7.2 The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall resign with immediate effect if a vote of no confidence is passed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 7.3 Chairs of Scrutiny Review Panels will be drawn from among the Councillors sitting on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Subject to this requirement,

the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may appoint any person as it considers appropriate as Chair having regard to the objective of cross-party chairing in proportion to the political balance of the Council. The Scrutiny Review Panels shall not be able to change the appointed Chair unless there is a vote of no confidence as outlined in Article 6.5 in this Constitution.

- 7.4 The Chair of the Budget Scrutiny Review process will be drawn from among the opposition party Councillors sitting on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall not be able to change the appointed Chair unless there is a vote of no confidence as outlined in Article 6.5 in this Constitution.

8. Work programme

Overview and Scrutiny Committee will determine the future scrutiny work programme and will establish Scrutiny Review Panels to assist it to perform its functions. The Committee will appoint a Chair for each Scrutiny Review Panel.

9. Agenda items for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 9.1 Any member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall be entitled to give notice to the proper officer that he/she wishes an item relevant to the functions of the Committee to be included on the agenda for the next available meeting of the Committee. On receipt of such a request the proper officer will ensure that it is included on the next available agenda.
- 9.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall also respond, as soon as its work programme permits, to requests from the Council and, if it considers it appropriate, from the Cabinet to review particular areas of Council activity. Where they do so, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall report their findings and any recommendations back to the Cabinet within an agreed timescale.

10. Policy review and development

- 10.1 The role of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in relation to the development of the Council's budget and policy framework is set out in the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules in Part 4 of this constitution.
- 10.2 In relation to the development of the Council's approach to other matters not forming part of its policy and budget framework, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its Scrutiny Review Panels may make proposals to the Cabinet for developments insofar as they relate to matters within their terms of reference. The Scrutiny Review Panels must do so via the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

11. Reports from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Following endorsement by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, final reports and recommendations will be presented to the next available Cabinet meeting. The procedure to be followed is set out in paragraphs 1.3 or 1.4 above.

12. Making sure that overview and scrutiny reports are considered by the Cabinet

12.1 The agenda for Cabinet meetings shall include an item entitled 'Issues arising from Scrutiny'. Reports of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee referred to the Cabinet shall be included at this point in the agenda unless either they have been considered in the context of the Cabinet's deliberations on a substantive item on the agenda or the Cabinet gives reasons why they cannot be included and states when they will be considered.

12.2 Where the Overview and Scrutiny Committee prepares a report for consideration by the Cabinet in relation to a matter where decision making power has been delegated to an individual Cabinet Member, a Committee of the Cabinet, an Area Committee, or an Officer, or under Joint Arrangements, then the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will also submit a copy of their report to that body or individual for consideration, and a copy to the proper officer. If the Member, committee, or officer with delegated decision making power does not accept the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, then the body/he/she must then refer the matter to the next appropriate meeting of the Cabinet for debate before making a decision.

13. Rights and powers of Overview and Scrutiny Committee members

13.1 Rights to documents

(i) In addition to their rights as Councillors, members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Review Panels have the additional right to documents, and to notice of meetings as set out in the Access to Information Procedure Rules in Part 4 of this Constitution.

(ii) Nothing in this paragraph prevents more detailed liaison between the Cabinet and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Review Panels as appropriate depending on the particular matter under consideration.

13.2 Powers to conduct enquiries

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Review Panels may hold enquiries into past performance and investigate the available options for future direction in policy development and may appoint advisers and assessors to assist them in these processes. They may go on site visits, conduct public surveys, hold public meetings, commission research and do all other things that they reasonably consider necessary to inform their deliberations, within available resources. They may ask witnesses to attend to address them on any matter under consideration and may pay any

advisers, assessors and witnesses a reasonable fee and expenses for doing so. Scrutiny Review Panels require the support of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to do so.

13.3 Power to require Members and officers to give account

- (i) The Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Review Panels may scrutinise and review decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any Council functions (Scrutiny Review Panels will keep to issues that fall within their terms of reference). As well as reviewing documentation, in fulfilling the scrutiny role, it may require any Member of the Cabinet, the Head of Paid Service and/or any senior officer (at second or third tier), and chief officers of the local National Health Service to attend before it to explain in relation to matters within their remit:
 - (a) any particular decision or series of decisions;
 - (b) the extent to which the actions taken implement Council policy (or NHS policy, where appropriate); and
 - (c) their performance.

It is the duty of those persons to attend if so required. At the discretion of their Director, council officers below third tier may attend, usually accompanied by a senior manager. At the discretion of the relevant Chief Executive, other NHS officers may also attend overview and scrutiny meetings.

- (ii) Where any Member or officer is required to attend the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Review Panel under this provision, the Chair of that body will inform the Member or proper officer. The proper officer shall inform the Member or officer in writing giving at least 10 working days notice of the meeting at which he/she is required to attend. The notice will state the nature of the item on which he/she is required to attend to give account and whether any papers are required to be produced for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Review Panel. Where the account to be given to Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Review Panel will require the production of a report, then the Member or officer concerned will be given sufficient notice to allow for preparation of that documentation.
- (iii) Where, in exceptional circumstances, the Member or officer is unable to attend on the required date, then the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Review Panel shall in consultation with the Member or officer arrange an alternative date for attendance, to take place within a maximum of 10 days from the date of the original request.

14. Attendance by others

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Review Panel may invite people other than those people referred to in paragraph 13 above to address it, discuss issues of local concern and/or answer questions. It may for example wish to hear from residents, stakeholders and Members and officers in other parts of the public sector and may invite such people to attend. Attendance is optional.

15. Call-in

The call-in procedure is dealt with separately at Part 4 Section H of the Constitution, immediately following these Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

16. Councillor Call for Action (CCfA)

The Council has adopted a Protocol for handling requests by non-Committee Members that the Committee should consider any local government matter which is a matter of significant community concern. This procedure should only be a last resort once the other usual methods for resolving local concerns have failed. Certain matters such as individual complaints and planning or licensing decisions are excluded.

Requests for a CCfA referral should be made to the Democratic Services Manager. who will check with the Monitoring Officer that the request falls within the Protocol. The Councillor making the referral will be able to attend the relevant meeting of the Committee to explain the matter. Among other actions, the Committee may: (i) make recommendations to the Cabinet, Directors or partner agencies, (ii) ask officers for a further report, (iii) ask for further evidence from the Councillor making the referral, or (iv) decide to take no further action on the referral.

The Protocol is not included within this Constitution but will be subject to regular review by the Committee.

17. Procedure at Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings and meetings of the Scrutiny Review Panels.

- (a) The Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall consider the following business as appropriate:
 - (i) apologies for absence;
 - (ii) urgent business;
 - (iii) declarations of interest;
 - (iv) minutes of the last meeting;
 - (v) deputations and petitions;

- (vi) consideration of any matter referred to the Committee for a decision in relation to call-in of a key decision;
 - (vii) responses of the Cabinet to reports of the Committee;
 - (viii) business arising from Area Committees;
 - (ix) the business otherwise set out on the agenda for the meeting.
- (b) A Scrutiny Review Panel shall consider the following business as appropriate:
- (i) minutes of the last meeting;
 - (ii) declarations of interest;
 - (iii) the business otherwise set out on the agenda for the meeting.
- (c) Where the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Review Panel has asked people to attend to give evidence at meetings, these are to be conducted in accordance with the following principles:
- (i) that the investigation be conducted fairly and all members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Review Panels be given the opportunity to ask questions of attendees, to contribute and to speak;
 - (ii) that those assisting the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Review Panel by giving evidence be treated with respect and courtesy;
 - (iii) that the investigation be conducted so as to maximise the efficiency of the investigation or analysis; and
 - (iv) that reasonable effort be made to provide appropriate assistance with translation or alternative methods of communication to assist those giving evidence.
- (d) Following any investigation or review, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Review Panel shall prepare a report, for submission to the Cabinet and shall make its report and findings public.

17A. Declarations Of Interest Of Members

- (a) If a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Review Panel has a disclosable pecuniary interest or a prejudicial interest as referred to in Members' Code of Conduct in any matter under consideration, then the member shall declare his or her interest at the start of the meeting or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. The member may not participate or participate further in any

discussion of the matter or participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting and must withdraw from the meeting until discussion of the relevant matter is concluded unless that member has obtained a dispensation from the Council's Standards Committee.

- (b) If a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny Review Panel has a personal interest which is not a disclosable pecuniary interest nor a prejudicial interest, the member is under no obligation to make a disclosure at the meeting but may do so if he/she wishes.

18. The Party Whip

Scrutiny is intended to operate outside the party whip system. However, when considering any matter in respect of which a Member of scrutiny is subject to a party whip the Member must declare the existence of the whip and the nature of it before the commencement of the Committee/Panel's deliberations on the matter. The Declaration, and the detail of the whipping arrangements, shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

The expression "party whip" can be taken to mean: "Any instruction given by or on behalf of a political group to any Councillor who is a Member of that group as to how that Councillor shall speak or vote on any matter before the Council or any committee or sub-committee, or the application or threat to apply any sanction by the group in respect of that Councillor should he/she speak or vote in any particular manner."

19. Matters within the remit of more than one Scrutiny Review Panel

Should there be any overlap between the business of any Scrutiny Review Panels, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is empowered to resolve the issue.

Appendix B

PROTOCOL COVERING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (OSC)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A key objective of Haringey's Governance Review 2010/11 was to ensure that the Overview and Scrutiny function can help the Council to make key decisions and develop policy in a useful and effective manner.
- 1.2 The Terms of Reference for the OSC is stated in the Council's Constitution (Part 3 Section C). The purpose of this protocol is to set out in detail the process by which the OSC will function.
- 1.3 This document will be subject to regular review along with other governance arrangements, to ensure that it remains updated in the light of experience.

2. AIMS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- 2.1 To provide a framework within which the work of the Council can be scrutinised in a constructive way that adds value to the Council's performance.
- 2.2 To help the Council to achieve its objectives by identifying areas for achieving excellence, and to carry out a scrutiny which identifies what needs to be done to improve the situation.
- 2.3 Not to duplicate work carried out by the Council, but provide an objective view of what needs to be done to improve the quality and cost effectiveness of services provided to local people.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 The OSC can scrutinise any matter which affects the authority's area or its residents' wellbeing.
- 3.2 The Local Government Act 2000, the Health and Social Care Act 2001, the Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, and the Police and Justice Act 2006 give the OSC the power to:
 - (i) Review and scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the functions of the Executive or Full Council;
 - (ii) Review and scrutinise local NHS-funded services, and to make recommendations to reduce health inequalities in the local community;
 - (iii) Review and scrutinise Crime Reduction Partnerships;¹
 - (iv) Make reports and recommendations on any issue affecting the authority's area, to the Full Council, its Committees or Sub-Committees, the Executive, or other appropriate external body;
 - (v) "Call In" for reconsideration a decision made by the Executive;

¹ Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006

- (vi) Require information from relevant partner authorities;²
- (vii) Give notice to a relevant partner authority that they must have regard to scrutiny reports and recommendations on any local improvement targets.³

- 3.3 Scrutiny recommendations shall be responded to by the appropriate body within 2 months of receiving the recommendations.⁴ Where a response is requested from NHS-funded bodies, the response shall be made within 28 days.⁵
- 3.4 The OSC shall be responsible for scrutinising the draft Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) annually before its adoption by full Council, in accordance with the Council's Constitution (Part 4 Section I).
- 3.5 The OSC shall respond to a Councillor Call for Action (CCfA) referral, which will be handled in accordance with the Council's Constitution (Part 4 Section G).

Scrutiny Review Panels

- 3.6 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall establish 4 standing Scrutiny Review Panels, to examine designated public services.
- 3.7 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall determine the terms of reference of each Scrutiny Review Panel. If there is any overlap between the business of the Panels, it is the responsibility of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to resolve this issue.
- 3.8 Areas which are not covered by the 4 standing Scrutiny Review Panels shall be the responsibility of the main Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

4. MEMBERSHIP AND CHAIR

- 4.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall comprise 5 members, and be politically proportionate as far as possible. The Committee shall also comprise statutory education representatives, who shall have voting rights solely on education matters. The membership shall be agreed by the Group Leaders, Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer, and ratified each year at the Annual Council Meeting.
- 4.2 The chair of the OSC shall be a member of the majority group. The vice-chair shall be a member of the largest minority group. These appointments shall be ratified each year at the Annual Council Meeting.

Scrutiny Review Panels

- 4.3 The chair of each Scrutiny Review Panel shall be a member of the OSC, and shall be determined by the OSC at their first meeting.

² Section 121 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

³ Section 122(21C) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act

⁴ Ibid section 122 (21B)

⁵ Regulation 3 of Local Authority (Overview and Scrutiny Committees Health Scrutiny Functions) Regulations 2002

- 4.4 It is intended that each Scrutiny Review Panel shall be comprised of between 3 and 7 members, and be politically proportionate as far as possible. It is intended that other than the chair, the other members are non-executive members who do not sit on the OSC.
- 4.5 Each Scrutiny Review Panel shall be entitled to appoint up to three non-voting co-optees.
- 4.6 If there is a Children and Young People's Scrutiny Review Panel, the membership shall include the statutory education representatives of OSC. It is intended that the education representatives would also attend the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings where reports from a relevant Scrutiny Review Panel are considered.

5. MEETING FREQUENCY AND FORMAT

- 5.1 The intention is that OSC shall hold 6 scheduled meetings each year. One meeting, at the start of the civic year, shall agree the annual work programme of the OSC. One meeting, in January, shall consider the budget scrutiny reports from each Scrutiny Review Panel. The remaining meetings shall undertake the work programme and consider the reports from the Scrutiny Review Panels.
- 5.2 An extraordinary meeting of the OSC may be called in accordance with the Council's Constitution (Part 4 Section G).
- 5.3 The agenda and papers for OSC shall be circulated to all members and relevant partners at least 5 clear days before the meeting.
- 5.4 There shall be a standing item on OSC meeting agendas to receive feedback from Area Committees. Area Committee Chairs shall be able to attend OSC meetings, and ask questions.
- 5.5 Members of the Council may Call In a decision of the Executive, or any Key Decision made under delegated powers, within 5 working days of the decision being made. The full procedure is given in the Council's Constitution (Part 4 Section H).
- 5.6 Pre-decision scrutiny on forthcoming Cabinet decisions shall only be undertaken at scheduled OSC meetings, in adherence with the Council's Forward Plan.

Scrutiny Review Panels

- 5.7 It is intended that each Scrutiny Review Panel shall hold 4 scheduled meetings each year.
- 5.8 An extraordinary meeting of a Scrutiny Review Panel may be called in accordance with the Council's Constitution (Part 4 Section G).
- 5.9 The agenda and papers for Scrutiny Review Panels shall be circulated to all members and relevant partners at least 5 clear days before the meeting.

6. PROCESS FOR CABINET INVOLVEMENT

- 6.1 The OSC shall develop recommendations for arrangements to focus its resources and time available on effective scrutiny of the Cabinet, within the guidance of this protocol. It is not intended that this will include submitting written questions to Cabinet members, in advance of an OSC meeting. The recommended arrangements shall be jointly discussed with the Cabinet prior to the first meeting of OSC.
- 6.2 The Leader of the Council and Chief Executive shall be invited to OSC once a year, at the meeting when the Committee's work programme is set. This shall be an opportunity to jointly discuss the Council's priorities for the next year.
- 6.3 The Leader/ Cabinet Member attending an OSC or Scrutiny Review Panel meeting may be accompanied and assisted by any service officers they consider necessary. The Member may invite an officer attending to answer a question on their behalf.

7. THE OSC WORK PROGRAMME

- 7.1 The Council's Policy, Intelligence and Partnerships Unit shall coordinate the work programme of the OSC at the beginning of each civic year.
- 7.2 Any partner, member or service user may suggest an item for scrutiny. The OSC shall have regard to all such suggestions when they decide their work programme.
- 7.3 The OSC and Scrutiny Review Panels are able to request reports from the following areas to enable its scrutiny role, which shall be identified in the OSC's work programme:
 - (i) **Performance Reports;**
 - (ii) **One off reports** on matters of national or local interest or concern;
 - (iii) Issues arising out of **internal and external assessment;**
 - (iv) Issues on which the Cabinet or officers would like **the Committee's views or support;**
 - (v) Reports on **strategies and policies** under development;
 - (vi) **Progress reports** on implementing previous scrutiny recommendations accepted by the Cabinet or appropriate Executive body.
- 7.4 In deciding their work programme for the year, the OSC and Scrutiny Review Panels shall determine how partnership bodies shall be scrutinised within the boundaries of scheduled meetings.

8. BUDGET SCRUTINY REVIEW

- 8.1 The budget shall be scrutinised by each Scrutiny Review Panel, in their respective areas. Their reports shall go to the OSC for approval. The areas of the budget which are not covered by the Scrutiny Review Panels shall be considered by the main OSC.
- 8.2 A lead OSC member from the largest opposition group shall be responsible for the co-ordination of the Budget Scrutiny process and recommendations made by respective Scrutiny Review Panels relating to the budget.
- 8.3 To allow the OSC to scrutinise the budget in advance of it formally being set and convey those recommendations to the Cabinet, the following timescale is suggested:
- **Scrutiny Review Panel Meetings: May to November**
Each Scrutiny Review Panel shall undertake budget scrutiny in their respective areas, to be overseen by the lead member referred to in paragraph 9.2. Between May and November, this shall involve scrutinising the 3-year Medium Term Financial Plan approved at the budget-setting full Council meeting in February.
 - **Cabinet report on the new 3-year Medium Term Financial Plan to members of the OSC: December**
The Cabinet shall release their report on the new 3-year Medium Term Financial Plan to members of the OSC, following their meeting to agree the proposals in December.
 - **Scrutiny Review Panel Meetings: January**
Overseen by the lead member referred to in paragraph 9.2, each Scrutiny Review Panel shall hold a meeting following the release of the December Cabinet report on the new 3-year Medium Term Financial Plan. Each Panel shall consider the proposals in this report, for their respective areas, in addition to their budget scrutiny already carried out. The Scrutiny Review Panels may request that the Cabinet Member for Finance and Sustainability and/or Senior Officers attend these meetings to answer questions.
 - **OSC Meeting: January**
Each Scrutiny Review Panel shall submit their final budget scrutiny report to the OSC meeting in January containing their recommendations/proposal in respect of the budget for ratification by the OSC.
 - **Cabinet Meeting: February**
The recommendations from the Budget Scrutiny process, ratified by the OSC, shall be fed back to Cabinet. As part of the budget setting process, the Cabinet will clearly set out its response to the recommendations/proposals made by the OSC in relation to the budget.

Protocol for Non - Voting Co-opted Members

Introduction

- 1.1 The primary purpose of establishing a protocol for the co-option of non statutory, non-voting scrutiny members is as follows:
- To set out how the appointment and role of non- voting scrutiny Panel members is taken forward.
- 1.2 Each Scrutiny panel is entitled to appoint up to three non-voting co-optees to assist scrutiny with its work. Non -voting co-optees are intended to bring an additional element of external challenge to the work of the scrutiny panels. By bringing a diverse spectrum of experience and adding a different perspective to many items, they are expected to add value to scrutiny by performing the following roles:
- To act as a non-party political voice for those who live and/or work in Haringey; and
 - To bring specialist knowledge and/or skills to the Overview and Scrutiny process and bring an element of external challenge by representing the public.
- 1.3 For the purposes of this protocol, the term ‘Co-opted members/Co-optees’ refers to Co-opted Non-statutory, Non-voting scrutiny members. Sections 2.4, 3, 4 and 5 of this protocol could also be applicable to Standards Committee which is also able to appoint up to 6 non-voting co-opted members as set out in the Constitution at Article 9 - paragraph 9.02.

2. Non - Voting Co-opted members

- 2.1 Most members on Scrutiny Committees are elected members and voting co-opted members. Although provision is available for the appointment of up to three co-optees on for each Scrutiny Panel. The decision making on appointment of non – voting co-opted members should take place at the start of the Municipal year.
- 2.2 Non-voting Co-opted members will be an integral part of Scrutiny Panels and are able to contribute to questioning of witnesses and analysis of evidence. Scrutiny Panel chairs are advised to invite individuals who have specific and detailed knowledge of a particular issue to act as expert witnesses or independent external advisers instead of being applicable to the appointment process at section 5 below , as this will provide them with greater scope to contribute to evidence received by panels.
- 2.3 It is expected that appointed non-voting co-optees will:
- Attend formal meetings of the Panel, which are usually held in the evening.
 - Attend additional meetings and evidence gathering sessions such as site visits.
 - Prepare for meetings by reading the agenda papers and additional information to familiarise themselves with the issues being scrutinised.

- Prior to meetings consider questions they may wish to put to Cabinet Members, officers, and external witnesses.
- Help the Panel to make practical suggestions for improvements to services.
- Assist in the preparation of reports and the formulation of recommendations.
- Contribute to the development of the annual scrutiny work programme.
- Establish good relations with members, officers and other co-optees.
- Abide by the relevant sections of the Council's Constitution in terms of the rules and procedures for Overview and Scrutiny; and
- Keep abreast of key issues for the authority and bear these in mind when scrutinising services and making recommendations for improvement!

2.4 Non-voting co-opted member should also note the following:

- Co-optees on Scrutiny Panels will have no voting rights.
- Each co-opted member will usually be appointed for a period of 1 year by the Scrutiny panel at their first meeting of the Municipal year and their membership reviewed on an annual basis by the Scrutiny Panel.
- Employees and existing Councillors of Haringey Council are excluded from applying to be Co-optees.

3. Appointment process

3.1 Primarily, Scrutiny will seek nominations from established community groups for Non -voting Co-optee positions. Where the panel identifies that a Non - voting Co-opted member maybe beneficial to the work of the Panel and its work programme for the coming municipal year, the Chair of Scrutiny and Panel Chair , supported with advice from Scrutiny Officers, will identify the appropriate community organisation to invite nominations for this role. The community groups will be known through established contact with the Council and through their existing contact with scrutiny members by participating in reviews.

3.2 Where the above is not possible and a particular experience/ expertise is required to assist the Panel for the duration of the municipal year, consideration can also be given to advertising the position on council's website and social media

3.3 Community organisations will be sent:

- Information on the role of overview and scrutiny non -voting co-opted members.
- Protocol for co-opted non-statutory non-voting members
- Information on the relevant Scrutiny Panel, the Scrutiny Work programme, and the skills and experience being sought to allow the community organisation to identify the appropriate individual to nominate.

3.4 Where the Panel is seeking particular expertise/ experience which is not available through contact with community organisations and the role is advertised, an application form will be sent to interested applicants. This will include a number of questions that have been devised by the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny and Scrutiny

Panel Chair and Scrutiny Officers which will draw out the experience, community involvement and expertise needed for participation in this role.

- 3.5 The Scrutiny Panel Chair, along relevant scrutiny officer will shortlist suitable candidates. This will include an assessment against the Scrutiny Work Plan , role in the community, and considering the criteria at section 1.1 above. Applicants will also be asked to attend a short interview and provide a reference.

4. Term of office

- 4.1 Non-voting Co-opted members will be appointed for the duration of the Municipal year and the Scrutiny Panel will annually renew their membership according to consideration of their work plan.
- 4.2 Any Non-voting Co-opted members shall be appointed at the first Scrutiny Panel meeting of each Municipal year. A report shall be made to this meeting that specifies how they will add value to the work of the Panel and in particular:
- 4.3 The specialist knowledge and/or skills that the proposed Co-optees will provide; and the basis on which they can represent the local community and articulate their concerns.
- 4.5 At the end of the local election year period of office, each Scrutiny Committee will ask the Co-opted members if they wish to continue. If they do want to continue, they will be subject to the appointment process outlined above.
- 4.6 Co-optees may terminate their membership by giving one month's notice to the Democratic and Scrutiny Team Manager.

5. Code of Conduct

- 5.1 All Co-optees, including non-voting co- opted members, are required to sign the council's code of conduct which sets out the standards of behaviour expected.
- 5.2 Co-optees must also sign a declaration of interest form identifying any interests which an individual may have which require recording. Advice will be provided on these requirements.
- 5.3 Induction, training, and ongoing support
- 5.4 Non-Co-optees will receive an individual induction following appointment and prior to attending their first scrutiny meeting.
- 5.5 The induction will involve meeting with the Chair of the panel they are joining and the scrutiny officer responsible for the Panel.
- 5.6 Non-voting Co-optees are voluntary positions and there is no allowance provision for this role.

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Report for: Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 8 June 2023

Title: Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Scrutiny Panel Work Programme

Report authorised by: Ayshe Simsek, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

Lead Officer: Dominic O'Brien, Principal Scrutiny Officer
Tel: 020 8489 5896, E-mail: dominic.obrien@haringey.gov.uk

Ward(s) affected: N/A

**Report for Key/
Non-Key Decision:** N/A

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 This report provides an update on the work plan for 2022-24 for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

2. Recommendations

2.1 To note the current work programme for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and agree any amendments, as appropriate.

2.2 That the Committee give consideration to the agenda items and reports required for its meetings in 2023/24. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on 24th July 2023.

3. Reasons for decision

3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) is responsible for developing an overall work plan, including work for its standing Scrutiny Panels. In putting this together, the Committee will need to have regard to their capacity to deliver the programme and officers' capacity to support them in that task.

4. Background

4.1 The Committee has previously considered the draft work plans for the Committee and the Panels. The latest iteration of the Committee's work plan is attached.

4.2 The current Overview & Scrutiny Work Programme specifies that the meeting scheduled to be held in July 2023 will also include:

- A question and answer session with the Cabinet Member for Finance.
- Provisional outturn report for 2022/23.

- 4.3 The Committee should give consideration to the items for the next meeting and any amendments that it wishes to make to the Work Programme for the meetings scheduled in 2023/24.

5. Effective Scrutiny Work Programmes

- 5.1 An effective scrutiny work programme should reflect a balance of activities:
- Holding the Executive to account;
 - Policy review and development – reviews to assess the effectiveness of existing policies or to inform the development of new strategies;
 - Performance management – identifying under-performing services, investigating and making recommendations for improvement;
 - External scrutiny – scrutinising and holding to account partners and other local agencies providing key services to the public;
 - Public and community engagement – engaging and involving local communities in scrutiny activities and scrutinising those issues which are of concern to the local community.
- 5.2 Key features of an effective work programme:
- A member led process, short listing and prioritising topics – with support from officers – that;
 - reflects local needs and priorities – issues of community concern as well as Borough Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy priorities
 - prioritises topics for scrutiny that have most impact or benefit
 - involves local stakeholders
 - is flexible enough to respond to new or urgent issues
- 5.3 Depending on the selected topic and planned outcomes, scrutiny work will be carried out in a variety of ways, using various formats. This will include a variety of one-off reports. In accordance with the scrutiny protocol, the OSC and Scrutiny Panels will draw from the following to inform their work:
- Performance Reports;
 - One off reports on matters of national or local interest or concern;
 - Issues arising out of internal and external assessment (e.g. Ofsted, Care Quality Commission);
 - Reports on strategies and policies under development or other issues on which the Cabinet or officers would like scrutiny views or support;
 - Progress reports on implementing previous scrutiny recommendations accepted by the Cabinet or appropriate Executive body.
- 5.4 In addition, in-depth scrutiny work, including task and finish projects, are an important aspect of Overview and Scrutiny and provide opportunities to thoroughly investigate topics and to make improvements. Through the gathering and consideration of evidence from a wider range of sources, this type of work enables more robust and effective challenge as well as an increased likelihood of delivering positive outcomes. In depth reviews should also help engage the public and provide greater transparency and accountability.

5.5 It is nevertheless important that there is a balance between depth and breadth of work undertaken so that resources can be used to their greatest effect.

6. Contribution to strategic outcomes

6.1 The contribution of scrutiny to the corporate priorities will be considered routinely as part of the OSC's work.

7. Statutory Officers comments

Finance and Procurement

7.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations set out in this report. Should any of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny generate recommendations with financial implications these will be highlighted at that time.

Legal

7.2 There are no immediate legal implications arising from the report.

7.3 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the approval of the future scrutiny work programme falls within the remit of the OSC.

7.4 Under Section 21 (6) of the Local Government Act 2000, an OSC has the power to appoint one or more sub-committees to discharge any of its functions. In accordance with the Constitution, the appointment of Scrutiny Panels (to assist the scrutiny function) falls within the remit of the OSC.

7.5 Scrutiny Panels are non-decision making bodies and the work programme and any subsequent reports and recommendations that each scrutiny panel produces must be approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Such reports can then be referred to Cabinet or Council under agreed protocols.

Equality

7.6 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:

- Tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;

- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

7.7 The Committee should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them within its work plan and those of its panels, as well as individual pieces of work. This should include considering and clearly stating;

- How policy issues impact on different groups within the community, particularly those that share the nine protected characteristics;
- Whether the impact on particular groups is fair and proportionate;
- Whether there is equality of access to services and fair representation of all groups within Haringey;
- Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people, are being realised.

7.8 The Committee should ensure that equalities comments are based on evidence. Wherever possible this should include demographic and service level data and evidence of residents/service-users views gathered through consultation.

8. Use of Appendices

APPENDIX A – OSC Work plan 2022-24

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Work Plan 2022-24

<p>1. Scrutiny review projects; These are dealt with through a combination of specific evidence gathering meetings that will be arranged as and when required and other activities, such as visits. Should there not be sufficient capacity to cover all these issues through in-depth pieces of work, they could instead be addressed through a “one-off” item at a scheduled meeting of the Panel. These issues will be subject to further development and scoping. It is proposed that the Committee consider issues that are “cross cutting” in nature for review by itself i.e. ones that cover the terms of reference of more than one of the panels.</p>		
Project	Comments	Priority
Prevention of Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG)	<p>Terms of reference: To review the current arrangements for specific areas of VAWG prevention in Haringey under the remit of the Council’s VAWG Strategy 2016-26 including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Council’s approach to schools-based engagement on VAWG, including the progress of recent pilot projects, the likely future resource requirements, national policy/guidance and approaches to school-based engagement elsewhere in London and the UK that Haringey could potentially learn from. • the Council’s approach to community engagement on VAWG, including the progress of recent work in this area, the likely future resource requirements, national policy/guidance and approaches to community engagement elsewhere in London and the UK that Haringey could potentially learn from. 	<p>1</p> <p>Evidence sessions commenced in December 2022.</p>

2. “One-off” Items; These will be dealt with at scheduled meetings of the Committee. The following are suggestions for when particular items may be scheduled.		
Date	Potential Items	Lead Officer/Witnesses
20 June 2022	Performance update; To monitor performance against priority targets	Performance Manager
	Terms of Reference	Principal Scrutiny Officer
	Overview and Scrutiny Work Plan	Principal Scrutiny Officer
25 July 2022	Cabinet Member Questions - Leader of the Council	Leader and Chief Executive
	Haringey Health Hub	Director of Strategy and Corporate Affairs – Whittington Health
13 October 2022	Cabinet Member Questions – Housing Services, Private Renters and Planning	Cabinet Member and officers

	2021/22 Provisional Outturn report	Director of Finance
	Finance update – Q1	Director of Finance
	Fairness Commission – Update on recommendations	
	Fire Safety Scrutiny Review - Update on recommendations	
28 November 2022	Cabinet Member Questions; Tackling Inequality and Resident Services	Cabinet Member and officers
	Intrusive fire risk assessments – Update	Assistant Director – Property Services
	Pilot building safety case – Update	Assistant Director – Property Services
12 January 2023	Cabinet Member Questions; Communities & Civic Life	Cabinet Member and officers
	Budget Scrutiny – Your Council	Cabinet Member and officers

19 January 2023 (Budget)	Budget Scrutiny; Panel feedback and recommendations. To consider panel's draft recommendations and agree input into Cabinet's final budget proposal discussions (Deputy Chair in the Chair)	Deputy Chair (in the Chair)
	Cabinet Member Questions; Finance	Cabinet Member and officers
	Treasury Management Statement	Assistant Director - Finance
30 March 2023	Cabinet Member Questions; Economic Development, Jobs & Community Cohesion	Cabinet Member and officers
	Pilot building safety case – Update on resident engagement	Assistant Director – Property Services
	Complaints Annual Report	Head of Customer Experience & Operations
2023/24		
8 June 2023	Cabinet Member Questions - Leader of the Council	Leader and Chief Executive
	Performance Framework update	AD Strategy, Comms & Collaboration

	Membership & Terms of Reference.	Scrutiny Officer
	OSC Work Programme	Scrutiny Officer
24 July 2023	Cabinet Member Questions – Cabinet Member for Finance	CLlr Carlin
	Provisional Outturn Report 2022-23	AD Finance
12 October 2023	Cabinet Member for Culture, Communities and Leisure	Cabinet Member and officers
	Finance Update Q1	Frances Palopoli
	Performance Update Q1	Performance Manager
27 November 2023	Cabinet Member Questions; Tackling Inequality and Resident Services	Cabinet Member and officers
	Complaints Annual Report	Head of Customer Experience & Operations

9 January 2024	Budget Scrutiny – Your Council	Cabinet Member and officers
	Cabinet Members Questions; Community Safety & Community Cohesion	Cabinet Member and officers
18 January 2024 (Budget)	Budget Scrutiny; Panel feedback and recommendations. To consider panel’s draft recommendations and agree input into Cabinet’s final budget proposal discussions (Deputy Chair in the Chair)	Deputy Chair (in the Chair)
	Cabinet Member Questions; Finance	Cabinet Member and officers
	Treasury Management Statement	AD Finance
11 March 2024	Cabinet Member Questions; Cabinet Member for Council House Building, Placemaking and Local Economy	Cabinet Member and officers

To be allocated:

- Update - Effectiveness of Council communications with residents about housing repairs.
- Co-production/ The Haringey Deal
- Participatory budgeting