

MINUTES OF THE MEETING Strategic Planning Committee HELD ON Thursday, 17th October, 2024, 7:00 – 7:45

PRESENT:

Councillors: Sean O'Donovan, Barbara Blake (Chair), Nicola Bartlett, John Bevan, Cathy Brennan, Emine Ibrahim and Alexandra Worrell

1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Chair referred to the notice of filming at meetings and this information was noted.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Emery, Councillor Collett, Councillor Buxton and Councillor Rice.

3. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS / PRESENTATIONS / QUESTIONS

There were no deputations/ petitions/ presentations/ questions.

6. MINUTES

RESOLVED

To confirm and sign the minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee held on 20th June as a correct record.

- It was noted by members that Northumberland Park seemed to have an increase in HMOs. Officers explained that this issue was to be picked up through new local plan policy, this would give officers greater control of the number of HMOs in borough.
- The number of agency staff in the Planning team was being reduced to 6.
- Officers had not seen any evidence of a link between HMOs and short term lets, nor a correlation with the stadium location and Northumberland Park.

7. PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL 2024/25 Q1-Q2 UPDATE

Rob Krzyszowski, Assistant Director for Planning, Building Standards and Sustainability introduced the report as set out in the agenda pack.

Planning Cross Cutting Matters –

The following was noted in response to questions from the committee:

- To ensure decisions met the statutory time limits, it was important to have a good working relationship with applicants. Officers would engage with applicants to make sure that they completed amendments to the scheme within the time limits, it was about the quality and the speed of this and also having a good working relationship and with the committee.

Development Management and Enforcement –

The following was noted in response to questions from the committee:

- There had been 200 HMO referrals this year, this was a substantial increase. This increase was due to new the licensing regime. Officers had met with the licensing team; a lot of cases would not necessarily require enforcement action. Officers could use some of the licensing fees to support the planning enforcement work.
- There had been a 10% decrease in minor decisions taken. Excluded applications could include things such as listed buildings or consent work to trees. Officers could list the different categories in future reports.
- Once an application process had exceeded 16 weeks, the applicant could request a refund of fees. The teams' approach was to try and progress all of those cases to a decision to avoid that refund request.
- Officers needed to look at whether there was a genuine need for additional enforcement resources.

Building Control –

- Job evaluation had been completed and turned around relatively quickly. The business case had taken some time to complete, this would go out to staff consultation in the next few weeks.
- Whilst Building Control has no formal powers regarding health & safety on construction sites, if there was a complaint in regard to scaffolding, the team could investigate the issue and report to the Health & Safety Executive (HSE).
- A majority of the jobs that would go to private inspectors were normally employed by the builders who were carrying out the work. Officers have added on informatives regarding the usage of Haringey Building Control.

RESOLVED

To note the report.

8. RESPONSE TO OMBUDSMAN COMPLAINT REFERENCE 23 016 137 (HARINGEY REFERENCE LBH/14192823) IN RELATION TO PLANNING APPLICATION HGY/2022/4537

Rob Krzyszowski, Assistant Director for Planning, Building Standards and Sustainability introduced the report as set out in the agenda pack.

There were no questions on this item.

RESOLVED

That this report be noted

9. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

There were no new items of urgent business.

Officers would bring the Infrastructure Funding Statement to the next available committee.

10. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was noted that the dates of the next meeting was 20th February.

CHAIR: Councillor Barbara Blake

Signed by Chair

Date