

## NOTICE OF MEETING

# CULTURE, COMMUNITY SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL

**Monday, 28th July, 2025, 6.30 pm - George Meehan House 294 High Road N22 8JZ (watch the live meeting [Here](#) And watch the recording [here](#))**

**Councillors:** Makbule Gunes (Chair), Liam Carroll, Luke Cawley-Harrison, Eldridge Culverwell, George Dunstall, Mark Grosskopf and Sue Jameson

**Quorum:** 3

### 1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

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### 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 as noted 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 OF CLIMATE, COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL ON 11 MARCH 2025 (PAGES 1 - 12)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting on 11 March 2025.

## **7. MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE (PAGES 13 - 42)**

## **8. DRAFT ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY (PAGES 43 - 60)**

In March 2025, the committee held a one-day scrutiny review on community safety, following on from this the committee is required to consider and comment on the draft Anti- Social Behaviour Policy.

## **9. GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT POLICY (PAGES 61 - 68)**

In March 2025, the committee held a one-day scrutiny review on community safety, following on from this the committee is required to consider and comment on the draft Good Neighbourhood Management Policy.

## **10. CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN UPDATE**

To consider and comment on the Climate Change Action Plan update.

Report to follow.

## **11. WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE (PAGES 69 - 78)**

This paper provides details of the draft work programme for 2025/26 for consideration by the committee.

## **12. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any items admitted at item 3 above.

## **13. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

- 15 September 2025 (6.30pm)
- 6 November 2025 (6.30pm)
- 16 December 2025 (6.30pm)
- 23 February 2026 (6.30pm)

Fola Irikefe, Principal Scrutiny Officer

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Fiona Alderman

Director of Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer)

George Meehan House, 294 High Road, Wood Green, N22 8JZ

Friday, 18 July 2025

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**MINUTES TO THE CLIMATE, COMMUNITY SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT  
SCRUTINY PANEL – ONE OFF SCRUTINY SESSION ON COMMUNITY SAFETY  
HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2025**

**Attendees**

**Councillors**

- Cllr Buxton - (Chair)
- Cllr Dunstall
- Cllr Carroll
- Cllr Cawley Harrison
- Ian Sygrave – Non-Voting Co-optee
- Cllr Ovat – Cabinet Member for Communities

**Officers**

- Sandeep Broca – Intelligence Analyst
- Eubert Malcolm – Assistant Director for Resident Experience
- Jackie DiFolco – Assistant Director for Early Help, Prevention and Special Educational Needs and Disability ( SEND)
- Matthew Knights – Youth Justice Team Leader
- Serena Shani – Interim Principal Committees Co-ordinator/ Scrutiny Officer

**Guests**

- Caroline Haines - Borough Commander
- Ian Martin - Detective Superintendent
- Yasin - Youth Panel Member Representative
- Charlene - Youth Panel Member Representative
- Natasha Williams – Youth Participation Co-ordinator
- Cllr Brabazon – Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services.

**1- FILMING AT MEETINGS**

The Chair went through the required information, and all present noted this.

**2- APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Adamou, Cllr Ali and Cllr Culverwell extended apologies for absence.

**3- ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

The finalised draft scope of a proposed Scrutiny Review on the position of cyclists in the road user hierarchy was circulated to the Panel for more in-depth discussion at Item 11.

**4- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

There were no declarations of interest.

## 5- DEPUTATIONS /PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS

None.

## 6- MINUTES

It was raised that there was an amendment to a statement within the minutes 'the Council's Vision Zero'. The Vision Zero campaign was in fact a Transport for London initiative. **ACTION (Scrutiny Officer).**

## 7 – PRESENTATION BY THE BOROUGH COMMANDER AND CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS.

The Borough Commander introduced the report.

The Panel learned that:

- There had been successes in reduction in crime in the Borough– especially in the violent crimes and knife crime category. However there had been significant increases in the category of 'crimes against the person'.
- The Met Police had formally exited 'special measures' brought about last year.
- There had been a focus on strengthening public protection in policing. This included child abuse, exploitation, violence against women and girls, domestic abuse and more.
- There had been growth in terms of posts and investment in neighbourhood crime fighting.
- The Police had engaged with the public to help prioritise issues of impact on a ward-by-ward basis and in line with their harm profile.
- The strengthening of public trust was continuing however the Borough Commander emphasised that the speed of the roll out of projects was dependent on funding. The Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and Home Office funding had been reduced.
- 'Clear Hold Build' was seen by many as a success story in the Finsbury Park and Northumberland Park areas. They had delivered a reduction in crime.
- Following the Baroness Casey report on the Met Police, there had been significant work done on the internal culture of the police force – especially with regards to delivering on higher standards and ensuring that only the right officers were in place in the Force.

A Youth Panel Member Representative asked further about the focus on highly gentrified areas such as Finsbury Park and Tottenham Hale. She enquired as to why gentrified areas also had high levels of violence. The Borough Commander highlighted that the crime rates had reduced due to enforcement action, however specific reasons for violence may include criminal access to transport hubs, and geography. It was emphasised that work was being done in partnership with the British Transport Police and TfL to target certain individuals. The Detective

Superintendent stated that the nature of crimes in these areas were predominantly thefts from the person. He clarified that there were many reasons why certain areas were more susceptible to crime - such as pavement access for ebikes, schools in the area and travellers into and out of the area. The Detective Superintendent highlighted that commuter campaigns would raise awareness of the possibility of thefts. The Borough Commander added that they were reviewing crime hotspots in the area and considering street lighting, street furniture and more to deter crime. The Chair enquired further as to the solid measures that were taking place to ensure that commuters and residents were safe. The Borough Commander responded that work was targeting knife crime using partnerships with the British Transport Police. Further work was also carried out using passive drugs dogs. There had been recent successes at Wood Green and Seven Sisters Tube Stations. The Police also used behavioural detection officers – who watch the movements of potential criminals. Intelligence was also shared with the Transport Hub. The Police were bidding for resources for more plain clothes officers, road policing units and passive drugs dogs work across London. The Detective Superintendent also offered to circulate some further reports to the Panel at a later date. **ACTION (DSI Ian Martin)**

It was pointed out that it would be useful for the Panel to know whether crime hotspots could be presented in the ward-by-ward figures in future. This was to get a clarification as to whether crime statistics were evenly spread throughout the borough or concentrated in certain areas. This would help the Panel understand how resourcing was being affected by highly concentrated areas. The Borough Commander suggested to bring these reports to the Ward Panel meetings, as these could help inform priorities in neighbourhood wards in addition to highest harm and volume according to resourcing. She acknowledged that there was some room for improvement with regards to the frequency of Ward Panel meetings. **ACTION. (B.C. Caroline Haines).**

Cllr Dunstall commented that in light of the sometimes-geographic nature of crime, numbers rather than percentages would be useful in the ward-by-ward presentation of figures. **ACTION. (DSI Ian Martin).** He then requested more clarification of the actual times allocated to the Safer Neighbourhood Teams on a ward basis – and how many police officers were available to ward residents at any one time. The Non-Voting Co-optee added that daily abstractions (or the removal of officers from their role in their neighbourhood to address other concerns in other localities) were at 2.94% as a whole - or 21 officers a day. He expressed concern that these figures underestimated the impact on the resourcing of Safer Neighbourhood Teams. He pointed out that large sections of officers were on response and protected from abstractions, however the roles that were left could still be abstracted to other parts of the team or outside of the neighbourhood and this left little police resources available to ward residents. He pointed out that exact figures on this would be useful. He stated that anecdotal evidence had raised that sometimes abstractions

occurred for what he thought was relatively trivial concerns such as crowd control at a wrestling match at Wembley.

The Borough Commander pointed out abstractions mainly affected uniformed officers; however, she assured the Panel that more robust processes for requesting abstractions were now in place and the number of abstractions needed had fallen as a result. Resourcing for London wide events (such as demonstrations) where possible were resourced from non front-line staff. She pointed out there was a broader issue of the availability of 'fully fit' officers in place. There had been significant work with Professional Standards to ensure that the public were not dealing with officers who were not 'fit for duty' due to health or violations of professional standards. This meant that the post was still there but not being occupied by a fully fit officer. She also emphasised that currently, Borough Commands across London were operating without a fully fit police force. Once this wider issue was dealt with then the impact of abstractions would be minor. The Detective Superintendent was unable to give statistics for the types of abstractions that were needed over the past year, during the meeting but offered to circulate these to the Panel once they had been collated. **(DSI Ian Martin)**.

Another Youth Panel Member Representative enquired about the alternatives to enforcement when deterring youth crime. Views had been gathered by other members of the Youth Council and the representative had personal experience of this. He emphasised that he thought that 'Clear, Hold, Build' was positive however more emphasis on the prevention of youth crime in neighbourhoods such as West Green, Noel Park and more would ensure that the Police would not be seen as a dominant negative force but as a community resource. The Representative mentioned longer term youth-led programmes in conjunction with the Police. He suggested more working together with Haringey's Youth Council would be welcome to improve relations between young people and the Police. The Borough Commander thanked the Representative. She emphasised that 'Clear, Hold, Build' did have a phase for building relations with the community, but for now she emphasised that there was a role for enforcement. The Cabinet Member for Communities also emphasised that the 'Hold' phase would work with partners to develop relations. In areas where 'Clear, Hold, Build' was in force – such as Northumberland Park, partners have worked with youth projects to increase the availability of education, training and employment opportunities for young people. And consideration was to be given on how this could be replicated across the borough.

The Youth Representative replied that he was concerned that youth resources were not being utilised. He emphasised that the view of the Police amongst young people was very negative. He highlighted that enforcement had to be seen in conjunction with prevention projects in order to prevent criminality in young people in other areas. The Cabinet Member for Communities talked about the projects that the Youth Justice Team were rolling out to young people in schools. She stated that she would

be more than happy to discuss further ways to engage young people outside of the meeting. **ACTION. (Cllr Adja Ovat)**

The Assistant Director for Children's Services stated that her portfolio covered these areas. Her team was working on a Young People's Strategy which was looking at just these sorts of issues. She suggested that her team work with representatives of the Youth Council to consider the impact that this would have on the young population and whether resources were getting to areas that needed it the most.

**ACTION. (A.D. Jackie DiFolco).**

In addition, the Borough Commander stated that although significant work was being done with young people, more discussions should be held with the Youth Council or representatives to determine whether the levels of prevention were appropriate or if more intensive work was needed in certain locations. **ACTION (B.C. Caroline Haines).**

Cllr Carroll highlighted that in the report, there was mentioned 'tough choices in terms of funding and service delivery'. He requested more detail as to what this meant. The Borough Commander emphasised that it was still being discussed at the highest level. She mentioned there had been a paper published by the Commissioner setting these out and areas that would be compromised if levels of funding weren't sufficient. She assured the Panel that front line services were not mentioned.

Cllr Carroll also commented that amongst those statistics that had seen an increase in the borough, the increase in sexual offences was notable. He also expressed concerns as sexual offences are known to be under reported. The Borough Commander emphasised that sexual offences were primarily crimes against women and girls. She stated that there may be a few factors working together that led to a rise in figures. Differences in how crime was recorded may be a factor, and also the effects of work the Police have done to encourage reporting of sexual offences. However, she also stated there was work being done to make public spaces safer and to target the right areas and people with resource. Cllr Carroll asked whether risks of sexual offences were concentrated in certain areas. The Borough Commander responded that the areas of risk were high footfall areas and town centres. She emphasised that there was some positive tactics to prevent and deter and make effective use of resources to tackle pattern of crimes in these areas.

Cllr Dunstall referred to the Monthly Tracker by Offence Type chart on Page 18 of the report. He enquired whether it was possible for the Police to produce results for 2023, as the Panel could then compare trends especially where offences have increased. **ACTION (D.S.I Ian Martin)**

Cllr Dunstall then enquired about the Stop and Search data. He pointed out that this had a 34% criminality detection rate. However, he pointed out that this meant that 66% of people had been searched who had not carried out any criminal activities.

This led to a negative view of the Police. He enquired how this figure compared with the rest of London and nationally. He also enquired as to the steps the Police were taking to reduce the number of Stop and Search through prevention work and improved relations with communities. However also ensuring that Stop and Search was being carried out in situations where officers were more than one third sure that criminality was taking place. The Borough Commander highlighted that the tactic was an incredibly useful tool for removing weapons from circulation. However, she admitted that fine tuning needed to occur whereby officers who were conducting searches were being led by intelligence and were surer as to whether criminality was occurring. She emphasised that the Met's Stop and Search Charter had been published recently. There had been extensive consultation on aspects of Stop and Search and ensuring that the process was fair and equal, as well as greater scrutiny and precision through Community Monitoring Groups. The Borough Commander and Haringey's Director of Children's Services Ann Graham had worked around training for a trauma informed approach to Stop and Search. There was more awareness around over searching and now greater scrutiny and transparency through the Community Monitoring Groups.

The Detective Superintendent then offered figures as to the trends in data and clarified that the 2024 had seen an increase in detection rate – going from 30% in 2023 to 34% in 2024. This was in line with the rest of London who had a positive detection rate of 33.9%. The Detective Superintendent also emphasised that the volumes of Stop and Search had decreased by 28% in 2024 compared to 2023. This he stated was evidence that a more data driven approach was successful. In contrast London had seen a 13% reduction in Stop and Search from 2023 to 2024.

The Youth Representative, then asked whether in-depth demographic data was available to the public of those being stopped and searched. The Borough Commander responded that the Stop and Search Charter was new and the mechanisms for communicating information to the public about data was not worked out yet. However, the Community Monitoring Group was scrutinising all the issues of Stop and Search in the meantime.

Cllr Cawley Harrison commented that although the data showed there had been a decrease in crime and Anti-Social Behaviour - his experience as a ward representative was very different. He stated that residents were perceiving that there was a big increase in 'low level' or 'volume' crime and his concern was it was being underreported, as it was not being prioritised by the Police. This, he stated was skewing data and altering residents' experience. Under reporting could contribute to an escalation of low-level crime into Anti-Social Behaviour which needed the intervention of more services. He emphasised that many residents felt that there was no point in reporting some crimes as they would not be investigated. He enquired whether the Police had seen a difference in crime reporting and enquired further as to how many cases were being investigated. Where community measures had

worked, he enquired whether crime rates were actually increasing in other areas nearby.

The Borough Commander responded that work had been done with businesses in the area to ensure that crime was being reported, and they had seen an increase in reporting in certain areas. However, there was still an issue with under reporting. She stated that crimes were reviewed by solvability and 40-45% of crimes were not able to be investigated. However, improvements could be made in communicating with the victims of crime early on in the reporting process. She stated that demand outstripped supply, and her team focused efforts on areas of the highest harm as well as preventative work. More improvements could be made on identifying persons behind crime patterns; however, she stated that the Police were fully aware of the impacts of measures across wards. Local teams were now focusing on 'volume' crimes and at the categories at most risk for particular wards.

As time was short, the Chair requested that the Borough Commander provide some figures on Ward specific details on patterns in crime across boundaries. **ACTION (B.C. Caroline Haines.)**

## **8- COMMUNITY SAFETY FOCUS: AN OVERVIEW FROM THE SERVICES ON CLEAR, HOLD, BUILD.**

The Intelligence Analyst introduced the report which included a summary of figures on youth crime, knife crime, robbery and theft, Anti-Social Behaviour and the Young People at Risk strategy.

The Non-Voting Co-optee commented that although 'Clear, Hold, Build' as a police tactic for removing crime from key areas - had seen some positive results in Finsbury Park; after a year, there had been a significant increase in youth violence and knife crime in the area too. He enquired as to the factors that contributed to this. He also further enquired as to the ability of the council's Anti-Social Behaviour department to respond to issues, as there had been a lack of resources following a restructure. He wanted assurance that resourcing was correct for Anti-Social Behaviour issues. The Cabinet Member for Communities admitted that there had been staffing changes however the quality of work would not be affected. The Assistant Director for Resident Services then stated that staff had been added to the team and senior officers would now have specialisms of noise and Anti-Social Behaviour as well as an overall Head of Service. With regards to the figures of youth and knife crime, the Detective Superintendent, stated that this may be due to an increase in detection rates rather than an increase in crime rates.

Cllr Dunstall then enquired whether 'Clear Hold Build' was pushing crime into other areas. The Borough Commander responded that in the case of Northumberland Park, the 'Clear, Hold, Build' area had been extended to areas of high harm crime in Enfield to deal with a pattern of displacement. Since then, there had been no other

trends to suggest otherwise. She suggested that in some categories such as sex work - a displacement maybe seen in that other locations may be used, however without reporting it was impossible to tell whether this was happening or not. However, she stated that in the case of organised criminality, Clear Hold Build was seeing significant reductions in violent crime in the borough and in Enfield. As specific 'crime generators' were being dealt with longer term, there was reduced incidents of violent crime in all areas. The Cabinet Member for Communities added Clear Hold Build looked at crime holistically and was not pinpointed to certain areas.

Cllr Dunstall, enquired further as to the work the Police did with street-based sex work as other factors were also involved such as exploitation, trafficking, and substance misuse. He stated that evidence from third sector sources had shown that there was a shift in how sex workers viewed the Police— and this had pushed sex work indoors and has been detrimental to some of the relationships the third sector had built. The Borough Commander stated that there was a sliding scale with help that could be offered women to exit sex work and the Police enforcement of what was essentially illegal activity. In previous operations, residents were not noticing any change in levels of street prostitution in the areas in which they lived and now through enforcement - they were.

Cllr Cawley Harrison then raised that in his experience, residents do not have clarity as to who was ultimately responsible for Anti-Social Behaviour. He stated that with 9,000 incidents reported in the Borough, eight members of staff did not seem proportional. Clarity was needed on where responsibility lay; and more information needed on how responsive and proactive work was prioritised and differentiated. He stated that further information on work between the Anti-Social Behaviour team and the Housing team would also be useful.

The Cabinet Member for Communities responded that the Anti-Social Behaviour Policy was currently under review by the Housing team. She stated that this would be addressed in the Policy. The Assistant Director stressed also that there is lack of clarity as regards to the definitions of Anti-Social Behaviour and this would also be addressed within the policy. He stated that with regards to dealing with proactive issues, there was a Partner Problem Solving Group that met to deal with repeated issues. However, he stated that from a resident point of view complaining about Anti Social Behaviour should be seamless. The Detective Superintendent also pointed out that some victims of ASB were extremely vulnerable and although the nature of the Anti Social Behaviour may seem low level - the persistence of repeated ASB incidents had a devastating effect – he cited the Fiona Pilkington case as an example. He stated that a dedicated Haringey ASB Police team had been set up to work more closely with the council, to support and understand the data and profile of the borough.

The Chair requested that the Anti-Social Behaviour Policy be returned to the Panel at a later date. **ACTION. (Scrutiny Officer)**

Cllr Cawley Harrison stated that from the council website it was not easy to find out the procedures of Anti-Social Behaviour and also how to report it online. He asked if the home page and channels through to reporting could be re-considered. **ACTION (AD - Eubert Malcolm).**

Cllr Carroll asked about the material change to drug supply lines in the borough and if shut down of supply had incorporated new synthetic opioids. The Borough Commander replied that strategic intelligence on quality and type of drugs was given to the Police but on a confidential basis. The Borough Commander responded that there had been 12 drugs lines closed in Northumberland Park. She also stated that with drugs came an increase in violent crime. She stated that there were techniques to gather information and there had been some successes. In all cases the subjects have had significant custodial sentences. Cllr Carroll pointed out that although there were positives with the first-time youth reoffending figures, he expressed concern on the rise in escalating criminal activities in the Youth Justice figures. The Head of Youth Justice emphasised that his team was monitoring this on a regular basis and looking for opportunities to work collaboratively on prevention and diversion strategies. He stated that once there was Youth Justice involvement, those who had been committing more serious crimes felt more supported in terms of not reoffending. He emphasised that there was a very small cohort who continually reoffend or commit serious violence. The team this year was working with the Police and Probation Services in Haringey's new Youth Integrated Offender Management Groups to put in place more targeted work with habitual knife carriers, and young people at risk to provide more support for them.

## **9 – RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET**

After extensive discussion around some of the points raised at the meeting, the following recommendations were agreed to be finalised.

**Recommendation 1:** The Panel recommended closer working, and more frequent communication between the Youth Panel representatives and Community Safety Partnership. The Cabinet Member for Communities and Borough Commander should work together to build these into future workplans and policies. A first step would be to organise a visit between the Cabinet Member for Communities and the Youth Council.

**Recommendation 2:** The Panel asks the Cabinet Member for Communities to help standardise and formalise Ward Panel meetings as a main tool of communication between Police, Council and residents.

**Recommendation 3:** The Panel asked whether funds could be allocated to provide training and to help facilitate community leaders to structure meetings, find venues and help promote these newly standardised Ward Panel meetings.

**Recommendation 4:** The Panel asked that the Borough Commander be asked to organise Quarterly Ward performance figures on Safer Neighbourhood Teams' (SNT)

visibility and front-line police resourcing to be cascaded to the newly standardised Ward Panel Meetings. This is so that residents understand how many 'fit for duty' police officers were available.

**Recommendation 5:** The Panel asked that the Borough Commander be asked to provide quarterly ward-by-ward Anti Social Behaviour reporting to feed into the newly standardised Ward Panel meetings.

**Recommendation 6:** The Scrutiny Panel recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, feeds into the upcoming review of the Anti Social Behaviour Policy along with all other relevant council departments. In addition, and as a matter of urgency, a guidance note for councillors and residents outlining the definition of Anti Social Behaviour and a flow chart of structure for reporting ASB be made available (which includes all council departments that deal with ASB).

**Recommendation 7:** Another recommendation is to make the online ASB link on the council website more prominent and user friendly – perhaps basing design on user feedback.

**Recommendation 8:** The Panel asked that the Borough Commander be asked about the proportion of successful outcomes in Haringey for Stop and Search and further information on procedures and policy.

**Recommendation 9:** In light of the short-term nature of youth justice projects the Panel recommends that expertise within the voluntary sector be sought by Cabinet Members to ensure that officers have the research, evidence and organisational support to successfully apply for longer term funding opportunities if they exist.

The Chair also mentioned when next year Community Safety was considered, voluntary organisations should be invited. **ACTION (Scrutiny Officer)**

It was decided that the Stop and Search Community Monitoring Groups and MOPAC's Disproportionality Group be invited to talk about Stop and Search in further depth at a later session. **ACTION (Scrutiny Officer)**

## 10 – WORKPLAN

The Climate Action Plan and a Climate-themed session was discussed for inclusion in the workplan. The inclusion of the impact of the discontinuation of the Decentralised Energy Network project was discussed, and it was decided that alternative approaches to reducing carbon and the impact on the Edmonton Incinerator would then be considered at the next meeting and included in the work plan. **ACTION (Scrutiny Officer)**

The Street Lighting Informal Review would be discussed at a later date and included in the workplan. **ACTION (Scrutiny Officer)**

#### **11- ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS - DRAFT SCOPE FOR INDEPTH SCRUTINY REVIEW.**

The draft scope for an in-depth scrutiny review on cycling in the borough and its position in the road user hierarchy in Haringey was circulated and discussed. The Chair requested any amends or comment from the Panel.

The Panel mentioned that:

- Cllr Dunstall was left off the list of the scrutiny panel. **ACTION (Scrutiny Officer)**
- There was a suggestion for the Panel to ride around the Borough to assess new cycling infrastructures and to do a comparison with other boroughs. Fridays were cited as the best time to arrange this during the day. **ACTION (Scrutiny Officer)**

Meeting ended.

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**Report for:** Culture, Community Safety and Environment Scrutiny Panel – 28 July 2025

**Title:** Terms of Reference and Membership

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

**Lead Officer:** Ayshe Simsek, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager  
Tel: 020 8489 2929, e-mail: ayshe.simsek@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 sets out the terms of reference and membership for Overview and Scrutiny and its panels for 2025/26.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Panel is asked to:

(a) Note the terms of reference (Appendix A) and Protocol (Appendix B) for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and its Panels.

(b) Note the policy areas/remits and membership for each Scrutiny Panel for 2025/26 (Appendix C).

**3. Reasons for decision**

- 3.1 The terms of reference and membership of the scrutiny panels above need to be noted at the first meeting of each municipal year.

**4. Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

- 4.1 As agreed by Annual Council on 19 May 2025, the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2025/26 will be:

- Cllr Matt White (Chair);
- Cllr Pippa Connor (Vice-Chair);
- Cllr Makbule Gunes;
- Cllr Adam Small;
- Cllr Anna Lawton.

- 4.2 The terms of reference and role of the OSC and its Panels are 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 of the report.

- 4.4 There is also a Protocol, outside the Constitution and provided at Appendix B of the report, that sets out how Scrutiny is to operate.

## 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 proportionate 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 2025/26 membership for the four Scrutiny Panels is listed below.

Scrutiny Panel	Membership
Adults and Health	Cllr Pippa Connor (Chair), Cllr Cathy Brennan, Cllr Thayahlan Iyngkaran, Cllr Mary Mason, Cllr Sean O'Donovan, Cllr Felicia Opoku, Cllr Sheila Peacock.
Children and Young People	Cllr Anna Lawton (Chair), Cllr Anna Abela, Cllr Kaushika Amin, Cllr George Dunstall, Cllr Mark Grosskopf, Cllr Marsha Isilar-Gosling, Cllr Ruairidh Paton.
Culture, Community Safety & Environment	Cllr Makbule Gunes (Chair), Cllr Liam Carroll, Cllr Luke Cawley Harrison, Cllr Eldridge Culverwell, Cllr George Dunstall, Cllr Mark Grosskopf, Cllr Sue Jameson.
Housing, Planning & Development	Cllr Adam Small (Chair); Cllr Dawn Barnes, Cllr John Bevan, Cllr Isidoros Diakides, Cllr Holly Harrison-Mullane, Cllr Lester Buxton, 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 have been updated. This information, together with the relevant Portfolio holders for each scrutiny body, is attached at Appendix C. The Panel is asked to note that the Overview and Scrutiny agreed to change the name of this Panel from Climate, Community Safety and Environment to Culture, Community Safety and Environment to more accurately reflect its new remit.

## **6. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

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

## **7. Statutory Officers Comments**

### **Finance and Procurement**

- 7.1 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. Should any of the work undertaken by Overview and Scrutiny generate recommendations with financial implications then these will be highlighted at that time.

### **Legal**

- 7.2 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.
- 7.3 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.

### **Equality**

- 7.4 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.

7.5 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.

7.6 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 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 Overview & Scrutiny Remits and Membership 2024/25

## **9. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

N/A



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# **Part Four, Section G**

## **Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules**

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### **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES**

#### **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;

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- (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.

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- (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.

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- 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 have up to three people as non-voting co-optees, who will be approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on an annual basis.
- 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.

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- 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

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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 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

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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;

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- (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)**

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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) 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;

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- (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

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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.

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**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (OSC) PROTOCOL 2025****1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Overview and Scrutiny plays a fundamental role in the Council's governance arrangements through holding decision makers to account, policy review and development, acting as a community voice and ensuring the efficient delivery of public services. Effective scrutiny requires the commitment of the whole Council and partners, as well as creating the right culture, behaviours and attitude that sees scrutiny as a valuable contributor to the business of the Council.
- 1.2 This new protocol is a welcome opportunity for the whole Council to re-affirm its commitment to effective scrutiny, foster an effective and constructive working relationship with all stakeholders in the scrutiny process and refresh relevant policies and procedures so that they reflect best practice. It also takes into account learning from recent Haringey scrutiny work as well as the new Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities that was published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in May 2019.
- 1.3 The Protocol is intended to give effect to the provisions in the Constitution relating to Overview and Scrutiny. In the event of any apparent conflict that may arise between the provisions in the Protocol and the Constitution, the Constitution shall take precedence.

**2 ROLE OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

- 2.1 The Council is committed to creating an environment conducive to effective scrutiny. It is a statutory function and a requirement for all authorities operating executive arrangements. It is also an integral part of the Council's decision-making structure and provides essential checks and balances to the Council's Cabinet to ensure that its powers are used wisely. Whilst its legitimacy is beyond question, scrutiny should nonetheless be able to demonstrate clearly to the Council and its Cabinet, senior management team, partners and the public the value that it adds in its work and seek to make recommendations that improve the lives of local residents.
- 2.2 Effective Overview and Scrutiny should:
  - Provide constructive challenge;
  - Amplify the voices and concerns of the public;
  - Be led by independent minded Members who take responsibility for their role; and
  - Drive improvement in public services.

*Challenge*

- 2.3 For challenge to be effective, it needs to be sufficiently robust. It should nevertheless be constructive and focused on matters of timely relevance to the Council and the wider community. The role of scrutiny as a 'Critical Friend' should be undertaken in a courteous and professional manner, reflecting the Member's Code of Conduct. The aim of scrutiny should be to improve decision making and outcomes for residents, not scoring political points or providing a political opposition to those who make decisions.

*Public and Community Involvement*

- 2.4 Overview and Scrutiny has an important role in articulating the concerns of residents and community organisations. It will therefore strive to facilitate their involvement in its work and, in particular, the development of its work plan, providing evidence and asking questions.
- 2.5 Overview and scrutiny will seek to ensure that the feedback that it receives is representative of the local community. It will be proactive in seeking input and seek to involve individuals and groups within it that are best placed to inform specific pieces of work. It will use a range of methods and, where possible, locations in order to best to engage with diverse stakeholders and listen to their views and experience.

### *Independence*

- 2.6 Overview and scrutiny shall be independent in both outlook and operation. The Cabinet should not seek to direct the areas that it focusses upon, although suggestions can be made for the work programme. Overview and scrutiny shall not be subject to undue party political influence, such as whipping. Members on scrutiny bodies shall also undertake their work with an open mind and make recommendations that are based on the evidence that they receive rather than pre-conceived ideas or pressure from within the political group. It should seek to be strategic and focused on the Council and its communities of interest.

### *Driving Improvement*

- 2.7 It is important that scrutiny not only provides challenge but delivers outcomes. These should aim to make a difference to the lives of residents through improving public services. This should be achieved by the making of evidence-based recommendations to the Council's Cabinet and other organisations responsible for the commissioning and delivery of public services.

## **3 RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 3.1 Overview and scrutiny can scrutinise any matter which affects the authority's area or its residents' wellbeing. The powers of Overview and Scrutiny were contained in the Local Government Act 2000 and consolidated by the Localism Act 2011. It can:
- Review decisions taken by the Cabinet or the Council;
  - Investigate matters affecting the borough of Haringey and its residents;
  - Contribute to policy development for the Council;
  - Make reports and recommendations to the Cabinet or the Council;
  - Review decisions made by the Cabinet but not yet implemented ("call-in");
  - Appoint sub-committees and arrange for them to discharge any of its functions;
  - Review matters relating to the health service and crime and disorder and make reports and recommendations;
  - Require members of the Cabinet and officers to attend to provide information and answer questions;
  - Invite other persons to attend meetings as part of its evidence gathering;
  - Give notice in writing to a relevant partner authority requiring that it has regard to a report or recommendations relating to its functions; and
  - Request information from a relevant partner authority that is required for Overview and Scrutiny to discharge its functions.

## **4 STRUCTURE**

- 4.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall comprise five members and be politically proportionate as far as possible. The membership shall be appointed each year at the Annual Council Meeting. The chair of the Committee shall be a member of the majority group. The Vice-Chair shall be a member of the largest minority group. The Committee shall also comprise statutory education co-optees, who have voting rights on education matters.
- 4.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee shall establish four standing Scrutiny Panels to examine designated public services. The Committee shall determine the terms of reference of each Panel. If there is any overlap between the business of the Panels, it is the responsibility of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to resolve the issue. Areas which are not covered by the four standing Panels shall be the responsibility of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 4.3 The chair of each standing Scrutiny Panel shall be a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and shall be determined by the Committee at its first meeting of the year. It is intended that each Panel shall be comprised of between 3 and 7 members and be politically proportionate as far as possible. The membership of each Scrutiny Panel shall be appointed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. It is intended that, other than the Chair, the other members will be non-executive members who do not sit on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 4.4 Should one of the Panels be responsible for education issues, the membership shall include the statutory education co-optees. It is intended that the education co-optees will also attend the Overview and Scrutiny Committee when reports from a relevant Scrutiny Panel are considered.
- 4.5 Each Scrutiny Panel shall be entitled to have up to three non-voting co-optees, who will be approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on an annual basis. Non-voting co-optees are expected to add value to scrutiny by performing the following roles:
- To bring a diverse spectrum of experience and adding a different perspective to any items;
  - 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 an element of external challenge by representing the public.
- 4.6 Nominations for non-voting co-optees will be sought primarily from established community groups that have a working relationship with the Council but consideration can be given to specific individuals where particular expertise/experience is required that would not be otherwise available<sup>1</sup>.
- 4.7 Overview and Scrutiny bodies shall seek to work by consensus. Votes should only take place when as a last resort and when all efforts to achieve a consensus have been unsuccessful.

## **5 MEETING FREQUENCY AND FORMAT**

- 5.1 The Committee shall hold six scheduled meetings each year. One meeting shall include agreement of the annual work programme for Overview and Scrutiny. One meeting, in January, shall consider the budget scrutiny recommendations from each Scrutiny Panel. In addition, the Committee may also hold evidence gathering meetings as part of in-depth scrutiny reviews on a specific issue as and when required. An extraordinary meeting of the OSC may be called in accordance with the Council's Constitution (Part 4 Section G).

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<sup>1</sup> There is a separate and detailed Protocol regarding the process for appointment of non-voting co-optees.

- 5.2 Members of the Council may Call In a decision of the Cabinet, or any Key Decision made under delegated powers, within five working days of the decision being made. The full procedure is given in the Council's Constitution (Part 4 Section H).
- 5.3 Pre-decision scrutiny on forthcoming Cabinet decisions shall only be undertaken at scheduled Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings, in adherence with the Council's Forward Plan.
- 5.4 It is intended that each Scrutiny Panel shall hold four scheduled meetings each year. An extraordinary meeting of a Panel may be called in accordance with the Council's Constitution (Part 4 Section G). In addition, Scrutiny Panels may also hold evidence gathering meetings as part of in-depth scrutiny reviews on a specific issue as and when required.
- 5.5 The choice of venue for meetings may have regard to the business to be transacted and the circumstances of the time. This may include meeting online for remote working or to improve access to those providing evidence to the Committee or a Panel.

## **6 ENGAGING WITH THE CABINET**

- 6.1 Legislation relating to local authority governance provides for the separation of the Executive and Non-executive Members of a Council in order to provide a check and balance on decision-making. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee therefore shall engage regularly with Cabinet, particularly regarding its future work programme and the Forward Plan. The first of such meetings should be arranged with Cabinet prior to the first meeting of the Committee. The Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Scrutiny Panels shall seek to liaise on a regular basis with the relevant Cabinet Members covering relevant portfolios regarding the progress of the work programme, agenda setting and requests for reports, attendance and updates.
- 6.2 The Leader of the Council and Chief Executive shall be invited to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as required, based upon the agenda of a meeting, but at least once a year at the meeting when the Overview and Scrutiny work programme is considered. This shall be an opportunity to discuss jointly, amongst other matters, the Council's priorities for the next year. Meetings between the Cabinet and scrutiny should focus on outcomes and be respectful and constructive, respecting the different but complementary nature of the roles and the value of scrutiny to the Council and its residents.
- 6.3 All Cabinet Members will be expected to attend either the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and/or Scrutiny Panels as required and with reasonable notice, based upon the agenda of a meeting, but at least twice a year. Cabinet Members will be expected to provide information specific to an agenda item, to provide updates on key areas within their portfolios and to answer questions.
- 6.4 The Leader and Cabinet Members attending an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Scrutiny 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 and provide information on their behalf.
- 6.5 Cabinet Members and senior officers attending formal meetings of scrutiny bodies shall strive to provide full answers to questions that are put to them. Where this is not possible due to the necessary information not being accessible at the meeting, a written answer will be provided within 7 working days of the date of the meeting. To better meet requests for information, members of the Committee

and its Panels will seek to provide advance notice of questions so that Cabinet Members and senior officers may prepare for their participation in the meeting.

### **7 RESPONDING TO SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 Overview and Scrutiny may make recommendations to the Cabinet or any other public service providers. Recommendations to Cabinet shall be introduced by either the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or the relevant Scrutiny Panel. They shall be responded to by the appropriate body within two months of their receipt. Responses shall be circulated to Members of the relevant scrutiny body before the Cabinet meeting to approve the response. Where recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny are not accepted by Cabinet, an explanation will be given of the reasons why. Where a response is requested from NHS funded bodies, the response shall be made within 28 days.

### **8 THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME**

- 8.1 Overview and Scrutiny will agree its own annual work programme and keep it under review over the course of a municipal year. It will have regard to corporate and strategic priorities and consult widely to inform the focus for scrutiny activity.
- 8.2 The Council's Democratic Services Team shall coordinate the development of the work programme for Overview and Scrutiny, covering the work of the Committee and of the Scrutiny Panels. The development process for this should include engagement with Members, Cabinet, senior officers, partners, voluntary and community organisations and residents, with specific opportunities provided for each of them to submit suggestions. Whilst safeguarding the independence of the scrutiny process, the Committee shall have regard to all such suggestions when they decide their work programme.
- 8.3 Decision makers should seek to involve scrutiny in the development of new policy at an early stage when proposals are being developed so that account can be taken of it when developing its work plan.
- 8.4 As part of the development of the work programme, the Committee will determine how external partners and public service providers shall be scrutinised and engage with key personnel to build the necessary relationships and awareness for this purpose.
- 8.5 The scrutiny work programme should reflect a balance of activities, including:
- Holding the Executive to account;
  - Policy review and development;
  - Performance management;
  - External scrutiny; and
  - Public and community engagement.
- 8.6 The work programme should;
- Reflect local needs and priorities. Issues should be of community concern as well as Borough Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy priorities;
  - Prioritise issues that have most impact or benefit to residents;
  - Involve local stakeholders; and
  - Be flexible enough to respond to new or urgent issues.
- 8.7 Scrutiny work will be carried out in a variety of ways and use whatever format that is best suited to the issue being considered. This can include a variety of "one-off" reports as well as in-depth scrutiny

review projects that provide opportunities to thoroughly investigate a topic and recommend improvements.

- 8.8 In deciding its work programme, the Committee shall be mindful of the need to achieve meaningful outcomes by ensuring that plans are deliverable within the timescale set and with the resources available.
- 8.9 A template shall be maintained and shared by the Democratic Services Team to provide criteria to assist with the preparation and updating of the work programme. The Team also will assist the Committee and its Panels in tracking their decisions and requesting updates on progress from time to time, following which the Chair and officer will consider whether such matters need to form an agenda item.
- 8.10 A template shall be maintained for the use of the Chairs and Officers of the OSC and Panels to assist the Cabinet and senior officers in understanding the purpose of scrutiny activity relating to specific topics and to justify requests for information or reports. Agenda planning meetings shall be arranged between Chairs and senior officers ahead of scheduled meetings to ensure clarity on any reports that are requested. A detailed scope, terms of reference and project plan shall also be prepared for each in-depth scrutiny review project prior to it starting. This shall include consideration of resources, timescale for completion and aspired outcomes.

## 9 BUDGET SCRUTINY

- 9.1 The Council's budget shall be scrutinised by both the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and each of the Scrutiny Panels. The role of the Committee shall be to scrutinise the overall budgetary position and direction of the Council and strategic issues relating to this, whilst each Scrutiny Panel will scrutinise areas that come within their terms of reference. Any individual areas of the budget that are not covered by the Panels shall be considered by the Committee.
- 9.2 A lead Committee member from the largest opposition group shall be responsible for chairing the Budget Scrutiny process and co-ordinating recommendations made by respective Scrutiny Panels and the Committee relating to the budget.
- 9.3 To allow effective scrutiny of the budget in advance of it formally being set, the following timescale is suggested:
- **Scrutiny Panel Meetings: May to November**  
The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will receive regular budget monitoring reports budget whilst each Scrutiny Panel shall monitor budgets within their respective areas. Between May and November, this shall involve scrutinising progress with the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) approved at the budget setting full Council meeting in February.
  - **Scrutiny Panel Meetings: December/January**  
Each Scrutiny Panel shall hold a meeting following the release of the December Cabinet report on the new MTFS. The Committee will also meet to consider proposals relating to any areas within the MTFS that are not covered by individual scrutiny panels. Each Panel and the Committee shall consider the proposals in this report for their respective areas, in addition to their budget scrutiny already carried out. Relevant Cabinet Members will be expected to attend these meetings to answer questions relating to proposals affecting their portfolios as well as senior service officers.

Scrutiny Panels and the Committee may also request that the Cabinet Member for Finance and/or senior officers attend these meetings to answer questions.

- **Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting: January**

The Committee will consider and make recommendations on the overall budgetary position and direction of the Council and the MTFS. Each Scrutiny Panel and the Committee shall also submit their final budget scrutiny report to the meeting for ratification, containing their recommendations/proposals in respect of the budget for the areas within their terms of reference.

- **Cabinet Meeting: February**

The recommendations from the Budget Scrutiny process that have been approved by the Committee shall be referred to the Cabinet. As part of the budget setting process, the Cabinet will clearly set out its response to the recommendations/proposals.

## 10 ACCESS TO INFORMATION

- 10.1 Legislation and the Council's own Standing Orders provide for all Members to have access to information based upon their membership of Committees and on a need to know basis.
- 10.2 For Overview and Scrutiny to be effective, it needs access to relevant information and in a timely manner. In particular, it is imperative that it has the information necessary to provide effective challenge about the provision, quality and resourcing of services. It has a legal right to information and this includes enhanced power to access exempt or confidential information. This is in addition to existing rights that Councillors have to access information.
- 10.3 Overview and Scrutiny Members need access to key information about the management of the Council, particularly on performance, management, funding and risk. Members should also be given the support necessary to ensure that they understand such information. In seeking this information, they should be mindful of the capacity of the Council to resource activity and the value and outcomes likely to be gained through it.
- 10.4 Overview and Scrutiny should not rely purely on those who are directly responsible for services for information and should seek to supplement the evidence at its disposal from within the Council from other sources, including service users, other residents and partners.
- 10.5 A template shall be maintained for the use of the Chairs and Officers of the OSC and Panels to explain the basis for the request for information and to detail the information that is required and the purpose to which it will be put. Requests will be responded to positively and in a timely manner. To ensure that the information provided is relevant, officers should ensure that they have a clear understanding of the reasons why information is needed by seeking clarification if necessary.
- 10.6 It is recognised that there may be rare occasions when it may be legitimate for information to be withheld and a written statement setting out the reasons for this will be provided to the OSC and its lead officer should this occur. Cabinet Members and senior officers will nevertheless seek to avoid refusing requests or limiting the information they provide. Before a decision exceptionally is made not to share information, serious consideration will be given to whether the information can instead be shared in closed session and the reason for this stated.
- 10.7 Where a Cabinet Member or senior officer determine that information requested by the OSC should be withheld, the OSC may refer the matter to the Monitoring Officer for adjudication if it wishes to

challenge the decision. In considering the matter, the Monitoring Officer should have regard to the legitimacy of Overview and Scrutiny, the reason(s) given for withholding the information and the value to the Council and residents of scrutiny activity on this matter.

### **11 TRANSPARENCY AND OPENNESS**

- 11.1 One of the key roles of Overview and Scrutiny is to promote transparency and openness. The presumption therefore will be that its meetings will take place in public and the need to hold closed sessions will be avoided. Meetings that take place as part of the evidence gathering process for in-depth scrutiny reviews will also take place in public.
- 11.2 However, it is accepted that there will be limited occasions when it will be appropriate to meet in closed session because of the nature of the business or the position of the witness giving evidence. Evidence gathering activities may therefore take place outside of formal meetings if necessary or appropriate.
- 11.3 The status of meetings in terms of public or closed sessions, recording and documentation should be made clear in advance to all individuals attending to provide evidence.

### **12 OFFICER ADVICE**

- 12.1 The Code of Conduct for Officers is clear that all Members are entitled to receive impartial advice and have access to information by virtue of their membership of committees and on a need-to-know basis.
- 12.2 There is therefore an expectation that all Senior Officers will provide impartial advice to scrutiny bodies as and when required. The Statutory Scrutiny Officer and the Monitoring Officer have particular roles in ensuring that timely, relevant and high quality advice is provided.
- 12.3 There is a specific statutory requirement for the Council to designate a Statutory Scrutiny Officer. The role of this officer is:
- To promote the role of the authority's overview and scrutiny committee(s);
  - To provide support to the authority's overview and scrutiny function and to local Councillors;
  - To provide guidance to members and officers of the council in relation to overview and scrutiny's functions.
- 12.4 The Statutory Scrutiny Officer cannot be the Council's Head of Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer or the Chief Finance Officer.
- 12.5 The Monitoring Officer has three principal responsibilities:
- To report on matters they believe are, or may be, illegal or amount of maladministration;
  - To be responsible for the conduct of councillors and officers; and
  - To be responsible for the operation, review and updating of the constitution.
- 12.6 Where there are disagreements about Overview and Scrutiny's powers, role and remit, the role of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer will be to advocate on behalf of it and protect its independence. The role of the Monitoring Officer will be to adjudicate on such matters and, if need be, report to Full Council on any issues that may need addressing.

## **APPENDIX C: Draft Overview & Scrutiny Remits and Membership 2025/26**

<b>Scrutiny Body</b>	<b>Areas of Responsibility</b>	<b>Cabinet Links</b>
<b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee</b>  Cllr Matt White (Chair), Cllr Pippa Connor (Vice Chair), Cllr Makbule Gunes, Cllr Anna Lawton, Cllr Adam Small  The Committee shall also include statutory education representatives, at meetings on education matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Haringey Deal: coproduction, codesign, participation and local democracy</li> <li>• Communications</li> <li>• Corporate governance, performance, policy and strategy</li> <li>• External partnerships</li> </ul>	Cllr Peray Ahmet Leader of the Council
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council finances, budget and MTFS</li> <li>• Participatory budgeting</li> <li>• Community wealth-building:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procurement policies, frameworks and systems</li> <li>• Insourcing policy and delivery</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Capital strategy</li> <li>• Council Tax policy</li> <li>• HR, staff wellbeing and corporate recruitment</li> <li>• Legal</li> <li>• IT and digital transformation</li> <li>• Data policy and reform</li> <li>• Information management</li> <li>• Elections</li> <li>• Emergency planning</li> </ul>	Cllr Dana Carlin Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jobs and skills</li> <li>• Local business</li> <li>• Town centres and high streets</li> <li>• Local economic growth</li> </ul>	Cllr Ruth Gordon Cabinet Member for Placemaking and Local Economy

Scrutiny Body	Areas of Responsibility	Cabinet Links
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local welfare</li> <li>Resident Experience</li> </ul>	Cllr Seema Chandwani Cabinet Member for Resident Services and Tackling Inequality
	Cross cutting, significant or high profile issues; Matters outside the remit of individual panels	To be determined according to issue
<b>Adults &amp; Health Scrutiny Panel</b>  Cllrs Connor (Chair), Cllr Felicia Opoku; Cllr Sheila Peacock; Cllr Thay Iyngkaran; Cllr Cathy Brennan; Cllr Mary Mason; Cllr Sean O'Donovan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adult social care</li> <li>Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)</li> <li>Mental health and wellbeing</li> <li>Refugee and migrant wellbeing</li> <li>Public Health</li> <li>Safeguarding adults</li> <li>Transitions (Joint with Cabinet Member for Children, Schools &amp; Families).</li> </ul>	Cllr Lucia das Neves Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and Well-Being
<b>Children &amp; Young People Scrutiny Panel</b>  Cllr Anna Lawton (Chair), Cllr Marsha Isilar-Gosling; Cllr Mark Grosskopf; Cllr George Dunstall; Cllr Kaushika Amin; Cllr Anna Abela; Cllr Ruairidh Paton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adoption and fostering</li> <li>Early help</li> <li>Early years and childcare</li> <li>Looked after children and care leavers</li> <li>Unaccompanied minors</li> <li>Safeguarding children</li> <li>Schools and education</li> <li>Services for children with disabilities and additional needs</li> <li>16-19 education</li> <li>Youth services</li> <li>Transitions</li> <li>Youth justice (Joint with Cabinet Member for Communities)</li> <li>breakfast clubs</li> <li>Free School Meals</li> </ul>	Cllr Zena Brabazon Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Families

Scrutiny Body	Areas of Responsibility	Cabinet Links
<b>Culture, Community Safety &amp; Environment Scrutiny Panel.</b>  Cllr Makbule Gunes (Chair); Cllr Luke Cawley Harrison, Cllr Liam Carroll; Cllr Eldridge Culverwell; Cllr George Dunstall; Cllr Sue Jameson; Cllr Mark Grosskopf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Action Unit</li> <li>• Strategic Transport</li> <li>• Air pollution</li> <li>• Liveable Neighbourhoods &amp; School and Play Streets</li> <li>• Urban Greening and biodiversity</li> <li>• Local renewable energy</li> <li>• Sustainability and decarbonisation</li> <li>• Circular Economy</li> <li>• Vision Zero (Joint with Cabinet Member for Resident Services &amp; Tackling Inequality)</li> </ul>	Cllr Mike Hakata Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Environment & Transport
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waste management and Recycling</li> <li>• Fly-tipping and Waste Enforcement</li> <li>• Highways</li> <li>• Flooding</li> <li>• Parking</li> </ul>	Cllr Seema Chandwani Cabinet Member for Resident Services and Tackling Inequality
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crime prevention and reduction</li> <li>• Anti-Social Behaviour</li> <li>• Community cohesion and inclusion</li> <li>• Licensing and regulatory services</li> <li>• Active citizenship and Voluntary &amp; Community Sector</li> <li>• Local food strategy</li> </ul>	Cllr Ajda Ovat Cabinet Member for Communities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> <li>• Delivery of Borough of Culture</li> <li>• Libraries</li> <li>• Parks and Green Spaces</li> <li>• Sports and Leisure</li> </ul>	Cllr Emily Arkell Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure

Scrutiny Body	Areas of Responsibility	Cabinet Links
<b>Housing, Planning &amp; Development Scrutiny Panel</b>  Cllr Adam Small (Chair); Cllr Dawn Barnes; Cllr John Bevan; Cllr Isidoros Diakides; Cllr Holly Harrison-Mullane; Cllr Lester Buxton; Cllr Khaled Moyeed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing Strategy and Development</li> <li>• Council housebuilding</li> <li>• Council housing services</li> <li>• Housing Major Works</li> <li>• Housing associations</li> <li>• Private sector housing</li> <li>• Housing needs</li> <li>• Homelessness and rough sleeping</li> <li>• Planning policy and enforcement (inc Local Plan)</li> <li>• Housing Improvement Board</li> </ul>	Cllr Sarah Williams Cabinet Member for Housing & Planning (Deputy Leader)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Placemaking</li> <li>• Council assets</li> <li>• Estate Renewal</li> </ul>	Cllr Ruth Gordon Cabinet Member for Placemaking & Local Economy
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 4 standing Scrutiny Panels shall be the responsibility of the main OSC.		

# ANTI – SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

DRAFT VERSION FOR ENGAGEMENT

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# 1 Introduction

This policy sets out Haringey Council's response to tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB) in public spaces, as well as the way we deal with ASB in the homes and neighbourhoods we manage as a social landlord (Registered Provider of Social Housing).

This policy applies to all Haringey residents including businesses, and visitors in the borough and reflects our commitment to fostering safe, harmonious communities.

When we use the terms 'we', 'our', and 'us' in this policy we mean Haringey Council.

We recognise that ASB can seriously impact the quality of life for residents, communities, and visitors. Tackling ASB is a key priority, and we are committed to working with partners to support those affected and hold individuals accountable for unacceptable behaviour.

We want Haringey's residents to feel safe in their home and community and will take a proactive, personalised and victim-centred approach. This policy sets out how we address ASB through prevention, enforcement, and support.

This policy is designed to be read in conjunction with our [strategy for tackling hate crime](#) and [community safety strategy](#).

Our Good Neighbourhood Management Policy explains how we manage neighbour relationships in our council housing properties where behaviour does not meet the ASB threshold.

## 2 Aim of the policy

The aim of this policy is to outline that we will address ASB in a fair, reasonable, proportionate, and transparent way, that puts residents at the heart of what we do.

This policy sets out:

- What we mean by ASB
- The approach to reporting incidents
- Our response to reports of ASB
- The types of behaviours not considered ASB
- How we will seek to prevent ASB
- Our investigations into possible statutory nuisance
- The importance we place on multi agency and partnership working
- Our approach to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults
- That hate and racism find no refuge in Haringey
- Our approach to reviewing ASB cases
- How we will respond to complaints and feedback

- The importance of not mistaking domestic abuse as ASB.

## 3 Definitions

**ASB** covers a wide range of unacceptable activity.

We use the definition in the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 as:

‘Conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person, or conduct capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person’s occupation of residential premises, or conduct capable of causing housing-related nuisance or annoyance to any person.’

There are three different groupings of ASB:

- **Personal antisocial behaviour:** when a person targets a specific individual or group.
- **Nuisance antisocial behaviour:** when a person causes trouble, annoyance or suffering to a community.
- **Environmental antisocial behaviour:** when a person’s actions affect the wider environment, such as public spaces or buildings.

Section 4 of this policy outlines the types of ASB that should be reported to the Police and the types of ASB that the Council can investigate.

## 4 Reporting incidents

It is important to report ASB to the appropriate organisation. By reporting incidents, it helps us and the Police to understand the problem, build up evidence and take action.

We know that providing evidence of incidents can make someone uncomfortable therefore reports can be made anonymously, although this makes it difficult for us to follow up to see if the situation can be resolved. We also reassure our reporting persons that their identity is not disclosed to the alleged perpetrator, unless it is a dispute between two residents, when it would not be possible to keep it anonymous.

Reports can also be made anonymously to Crimestoppers by calling 0800 555 111, if they don’t want to give police their details when reporting criminal activity.

### 4.1 Reporting Crime and ASB to the Police

**All criminal behaviour** should be reported to the police. If there is an emergency or someone is in immediate danger or a crime is in progress, call 999.

The non-emergency number is 101 or criminal behaviour can be [reported online](#).

The following commonly reported ASB issues are dealt with by the Metropolitan Police and can be reported by clicking on this link: [Report antisocial behaviour](#)

- [Report misuse of Fireworks](#)
- Dangerous dogs
- Dangerous driving or speeding
- Cuckooing
- Verbal abuse and harassment
- [How to report a hate crime or hate incident](#)
- Use and dealing of drugs
- Vandalism and criminal damage to property
- Violence when physical harm is threatened or committed (including use of weapons)

Reports can also be made anonymously to Crimestoppers by calling 0800 555 111, if the reporting person doesn't want to give police their details when reporting criminal activity.

## 4.2 Reporting environmental ASB to the Council that we can investigate

There are a range of different types of ASB that can [be reported to the Council](#), including but not limited to:

- Abandoned cars – [report abandoned cars](#)
- Some types of noise nuisance – [make a noise complaint](#)
- Vandalism or graffiti – [report vandalism or graffiti](#)
- Dumped rubbish and fly tipping – [report dumped rubbish](#)
- [Discarded needles and drug paraphernalia](#)
- Some environmental problems can be reported using our [Love Clean Streets mobile app](#).

We aim to assess reports of ASB within 24 hours.

If we can help, the case will be assigned to someone for further investigation. The lead officer for the reporting person's case will aim to contact you within 5 working days.

If we cannot help, we'll let the reporting person know.

We might signpost the reporting person somewhere else if they have reported a housing association tenant, private renter or a homeowner. For example, we might advise contacting their landlord, or another service or organisation.

If an anonymous report is made, we might not be able to investigate it.

We will give reports of ASB made by Resident Associations equal weighting to other reports that we receive.

**Housing association residents** should report antisocial behaviour directly to their housing association. They have a responsibility to deal with complaints about antisocial behaviour

**Private renters** should report antisocial behaviour directly to their landlord including HMOs. They have a responsibility to deal with complaints about antisocial behaviour.

**Homeowners** can report statutory nuisance to us as outlined in section 8 below. Alternatively the reporting person can [get help from their local Citizens Advice](#) or [contact their local Safer Neighbourhoods Team](#).

### 4.3 Reporting personal and nuisance ASB to the Council

We assess the risk of all personal and nuisance ASB at referral, categorising cases as high or low risk. Based on priority, they are assigned either to our ASB Team, Tenancy Management, or another service. The allocation of cases will be based on our scoring system.

Generally high-risk cases are assigned to our ASB team; however all cases are assessed on an individual basis to determine our level of involvement especially if already police led.

## 5 Our response to reports

Measures we may take to intervene and seek to prevent include but are not limited to:

- Risk assessments for all ASB cases opened
- Investigation plan which may include community engagement, staff conducting door knocks to gather evidence, letter drops witness statements, Information gathering, compiling court papers, attending Court or environmental audits
- Disposal or intervention which may include Mediation, Acceptable Behaviour Contracts, Community Protection Warnings/Notices, Notice of Seeking Possessions (NOSPS), Injunctions, Closure Orders, Criminal Behaviour Orders or referrals to drug outreach services

We will carefully consider and justify our actions to ensure we do not disadvantage people with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010

## 6 Confidentiality

We will not disclose a complainant's personal information to the alleged perpetrator of the ASB without consent to do so. Sometimes, for us to be able to act, we may need to provide to a court a witness statement from the person impacted by the ASB. When providing a statement this will be explained to the complainant. If the complainant is unwilling to provide a statement it may limit the action, we can take to resolve the problem.

In some cases, even if we do not disclose information directly, it may be obvious to the alleged perpetrator who made the complaint about them. The complainant should consider whether this may be the case when contacting us to report ASB. If they are concerned about this, we can discuss this with them and decide how to respond to their complaint. An example would be the need for council officers to make enquiries with neighbours to secure evidence of the reported ASB.

We will share information with partner agencies in accordance with information sharing protocols made under Section 115 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 for the purposes of preventing, detecting, and tackling crime and anti-social behaviour in Haringey.

## 7 Types of behaviour not considered ASB

Some behaviours, although annoying to residents, may not meet the threshold or be persistent enough for investigation as ASB. It is important that residents feel that they can enjoy their own home and surrounding areas, and some noise disturbance and other minor annoyances are to be expected when living close by to other people. Our Good Neighbourhood Management Policy outlines our approach when tenants and leaseholders experience upset or frustration resulting from a person's behaviour or actions that are not deemed to be ASB or a tenancy breach.

We would not normally investigate the following types of behaviour unless there is evidence that the behaviour is deliberately intended to cause damage, intimidate or is taking place at an unreasonable hour of the night or early morning:

- Children playing in the street or communal areas
- Young people gathering socially
- Being unable to park outside your own home
- Rough sleeping
- A clash of lifestyles including cultural differences or different working patterns
- A one-off party or event
- General living noise

## 8 Roles and responsibilities

Local Authorities and Social Landlords share responsibility with police to tackle ASB at a local level, empowering ASB victims, putting them at the heart of our work and involving them in our response to ASB.

Haringey is both a Local Authority and a Social Landlord. This means that as well as having the responsibilities and tools available to Local Authorities to tackle ASB, we also have additional duties and tools we can use as a landlord where relevant.

## 8.1 As a local authority

As a local authority, we have a responsibility to tackle ASB in public spaces. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires responsible authorities to work with the police and other agencies to reduce crime and disorder in the local area. As a Council, we have a range of powers we can use to tackle ASB in public spaces.

## 8.2 As a social housing landlord

As a local authority, we have a duty to respond to ASB affecting tenants within the borough. Our tenancy agreements grant us specific powers to address ASB or breaches of tenancy conditions within the properties we manage.

We have outlined in our Good Neighbourhood Management policy the approach we take where behaviour does not meet the ASB threshold. This confirms how we set expectations and manage neighbour relationships for our Council tenants and leaseholders in our estates, blocks and street properties across the borough.

## 8.3 Other Landlords

We are committed to working with landlords across the borough, including housing associations who manage approximately 13,000 properties in Haringey, to address ASB incidents on their properties. However, it is important to note that it is not always our legal responsibility to take the required action.

Other landlords also have a clearly defined responsibility to respond to ASB, which includes taking reasonable steps to prevent, identify, and manage ASB caused by tenants in their properties.

In addition to housing associations, we are also engaged with private renters and encourage all landlords, both public and private, to work closely with us to tackle ASB effectively.

We are here to provide support and guidance to providers where needed and by working together, we can create safer and more peaceful communities for everyone in Haringey.

## 8.4 Resident responsibilities

Everyone in Haringey has a responsibility to show consideration for their neighbours and the wider community.

We expect everyone in Haringey to show consideration for their neighbours and the wider community. If we are their landlord or freeholder (if they are a leaseholder), our Tenancy Conditions and lease agreements set out standards of behaviour expected from residents and their household members or visitors.

Our new Council tenants are offered an introductory tenancy for a trial period of 12 months before they become secure tenants. As outlined in our Tenancy Management

Policy, our approach to assessing whether to offer a secure tenancy, to extend or end the introductory tenancy is based on whether tenants have kept to the terms in their tenancy agreement. This includes assessing any ASB incidents perpetrated by tenants.

## 9 Statutory Nuisance

We have a responsibility to investigate matters that could be a statutory nuisance and take appropriate follow-up action.

Statutory nuisances include noise, smoke, fumes, odour and dust accumulations that are prejudicial to health or a nuisance.

To be classified as a statutory nuisance the matter must:

- unreasonably and substantially interfere with the use or enjoyment of a home or other premises or
- injure health or be likely to injure health

Examples that would be investigated as statutory nuisance include:

- Loud continuous noise from machinery or equipment
- Regular and excessive music noise from neighbours – either residential or businesses
- Dark smoke, fumes, odour, or dust from commercial premises
- Animal noise, such as regular and prolonged dog barking
- Alarms
- Noise from construction sites

This means that there will be situations when we begin investigating a matter as ASB but will then refer to our Noise and Nuisance team to investigate and take any appropriate follow up enforcement actions.

## 10 Multi-agency and Partnership Working

We take pride in and recognise the importance of our internal partnership working with services across the Council and the external relationships we have developed to keep our residents and communities safe.

Our multi agency and partnership working includes but is not limited to the Police, Drug and Alcohol Services, Haringey Youth Service, Heathstone Domestic Abuse Advice and Support Service, Housing Providers, Mental Health Services, Safer Estates, Social Services (adults and children) and the Voluntary Community Sector (VCS)

We work with our partners wherever necessary to achieve the best possible outcome for victims of ASB. This may mean your case is discussed in a multi-agency forum with all relevant parties present. We collaborate with our multi agency partners to:

- Share information, intelligence and resources
- Develop joint problem-solving approaches
- Provide consistent support for affected residents
- Conduct joint action, visits and patrols
- Co-Chair the [Partnership Problem Solving Group](#) (PPSG). This is a multi-agency partnership in Haringey that aims to:
  - reduce antisocial behaviour and crime
  - increase public confidence
- Co-Chair the [Community Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference](#) (CMARAC). This is a meeting where different agencies discuss complex and high-risk cases of antisocial behaviour, and make plans to manage and resolve them.
- Make referrals to Haringey MASP (Multi-Agency Solutions Panel): The aim of the Panel is to ensure that professionals working with people experiencing complex needs/high levels of risk are able to access multi-agency creative, problem-solving support and advice.
- Support discussions at the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC): This is a multi-agency meeting which domestic abuse victims/survivors who have been identified as at high risk of serious harm or homicide are referred to.
- Organise and participate in Case Conferences
- Make referrals to secondary mental health crisis services - [Help in a mental health crisis](#)

## 11 Preventing ASB

We actively promote prevention across the borough to foster an environment where ASB is less likely to arise in the first place.

We understand the importance of addressing anti-social behaviour as early as possible. On many occasions successful resolutions occur before behaviours escalate, without the need for further involvement of other agencies. It is vital that people feel empowered and supported to address their differences amicably and respectfully in the first instance. If the behaviour does continue, our communities should feel confident to report it.

As well as responding to reports of ASB, we also undertake a range of other work to proactively address ASB and its root causes across the borough including:

- conducting estate drop-ins in different areas of the borough including via Weeks of Actions.

- providing support and guidance to residents through our communication channels including HomesZone magazine, our website and social media.
- our ASB Enforcement team attend regular ward panel meetings which are Police led and are forums for residents to discuss their concerns with officers.
- maintaining strong links with [drug](#) and [alcohol services](#), recognising the importance of addressing substance misuse in tackling ASB effectively
- working closely with police on a weekly basis to review data and understand where emerging ASB locations exist across the borough
- using caretakers and concierges as eyes and ears on our council estates to report any issues they observe
- working collaboratively with other teams across the council and other external organisations such as the police, housing providers, mental health services and others to support vulnerable residents who may be involved in ASB.

### **Resolving neighbour disputes**

Disputes with a neighbour can be distressing – but the neighbour might be unaware they are being disturbing or causing distress.

We recommend firstly, letting the neighbour know that they're being disturbing either by talking or writing to them.

[Our website](#) has a range of suggestions for resolving neighbour disputes. This includes a template letter as a polite way of telling the neighbour what behaviour is disturbing and asking them to stop.

## **12 Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults**

We will always prioritise the safeguarding of vulnerable people. Our Safeguarding Policies set out how we will respond to safeguarding concerns relating to children, young people and vulnerable adults. Our safeguarding policies and procedures take precedence over this policy.

### **Vulnerable Tenants and Leaseholders**

We recognise that ASB can disproportionately affect vulnerable people both in terms of its frequency and its impact.

We recognise that some vulnerable people can, intentionally or unintentionally, and in some cases partly as a result of specific vulnerabilities, behave in ways that cause harassment, alarm or distress, or housing-related nuisance or annoyance. We are

clear that if the perpetrator is vulnerable, their vulnerability does not diminish the impact of their behaviour on others, nor does it take away their responsibility for it. Most vulnerable people – including those who misuse drugs or alcohol and those who have mental ill health - do not behave antisocially.

We work closely with our mental health partners at North London Foundation Trust sharing concerns about vulnerable persons where mental health may be indicated in ASB, so that they may be appropriately assessed and supported.

Delivering our Vulnerable Tenants and Leaseholders Policy sets out our commitment to assisting vulnerable people living in our Council homes. This aims to help prevent ASB from happening by identifying where our tenants and leaseholders need additional help.

The experience of being “cuckooed” has a hugely negative impact on the vulnerable people victimised, who often experience violence, psychological distress, substance addiction, and being indebted to criminal networks as a result

We do not seek to apportion blame to the victim; we view cuckooing as abuse. Like many forms of abuse, the relationship of the victim to the abuser can be complex.

Where we believe that a vulnerable adult covered by this policy has had their home taken over for criminal purposes, we always contact and work with the Police.

In partnership with the Police, we aim to provide support to the cuckooed resident so that they get the help they need; and to prevent people entering addresses which are being used for cuckooing using formal enforcement action such as injunctions or closure orders.

Our priority is always the wellbeing of the victim and reducing the harm ASB is causing. This focus does not in any way preclude providing effective support to a vulnerable perpetrator of ASB – in fact, such support is in many cases the most effective way of reducing the harm and protecting the wellbeing of the victim. We will signpost victims to support agencies as appropriate including ASB Help and Victim Support.

Whenever we respond to ASB we assess whether residents involved either as victim, witness, or alleged perpetrator are vulnerable within the terms of the policy.

### **ASB in Supported Housing**

Our tenants are responsible for ensuring that they or their guests/visitors do not cause any ASB.

This can include, but is not limited to:

- Noise nuisance

- Aggressive or violent behaviour
- Neighbour disputes
- Illegal activities (such as selling or supplying drugs)

We will work with tenants to ensure that they do not cause or become a victim of anti-social behaviour. However, where a tenant is causing this behaviour, our staff will work with colleagues from Tenancy Management, the Anti-social Behaviour Team and the Police to ensure that the strongest actions are taken against the tenant. This could put their tenancy at risk.

Tenants are responsible for the behaviour and actions of any friends, visitors or relatives who come into the scheme as well as into their property.

### **Supporting vulnerable perpetrators**

On some occasions, the alleged perpetrator of ASB may be vulnerable and we may determine that they require support. When we are made aware by the perpetrator, or determine by any information made available to us, that a person has or may have a support need we will explain our concerns and invite the perpetrator to discuss their needs with us. We will seek their consent to make a referral(s) to an appropriate Council department or external organisation on their behalf if appropriate. If the perpetrator is already engaged with a support service we will discuss with the perpetrator the sharing of relevant information with the support service.

We reserve the right to make a referral to the Adult or Children Social Care, or the police without the permission of the individual(s) concerned where the situation justifies it and information sharing provisions permit it.

When the perpetrator of the anti-social behaviour is a young person, we will attempt to engage with their parents or guardians to offer appropriate family support.

We will carefully consider and justify our actions to ensure we do not disadvantage people with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

## **13 Referrals to other agencies**

Investigating Officers will make referrals to other Council departments or agencies as appropriate during their investigation. Any referrals made which involve sharing personal information of the complainant will be made with the consent from the individual concerned. This is unless there is an overriding safeguarding concern in relation to a vulnerable adult or child.

We will always pass details of identified criminal activities to the Police and may not seek consent to do this.

## 14 Communication

Publicity is an essential part of tackling ASB through;

- Reassuring the community that us and our partners work together and take reports of ASB seriously.
- Reassuring complainants, witnesses and the wider community that successful action has been taken to tackle ASB.
- Publishing details on individual cases so that breaches of orders obtained can be reported to the relevant organisation.
- Making it clear to perpetrators that we will not tolerate ASB and will take action to protect others.

In circumstances when a Court has not imposed reporting restrictions, and we consider it to be necessary and proportionate, a press release or other publicity material, such as an information leaflet or social media messaging, may be issued when formal court action is concluded or formal notice has been served. The decision to publicise will be considered carefully based on the facts of each case.

## 15 ASB Case Review

If a report of ASB has been made but the problem hasn't been resolved, the case may qualify for a review by asking for an 'ASB review' [on this webpage](#). The ASB review used to be called a 'Community Trigger'.

### **Check if you can get your case reviewed**

You can use the ASB review process if you've reported antisocial behaviour 3 times in the last 6 months – either to the council, the police or a housing provider

If the case remains open, an ASB review will need to wait for the outcome before any review can begin.

We will provide updates to our reporting persons on the status of their existing cases.

If there is a new ASB problem, this link can be used to [report it to us](#).

## 16 Complaints and feedback

We work hard to make sure we provide a good service to our residents, but we realise that sometimes things do not work as planned.

If this happens, we want to hear from you so we can put it right and learn from it. The quickest and easiest way for us to do that is for you to report it to us.

To make a complaint about the council – [use our complaints process](#)

We assess feedback to identify whether it is a complaint or is instead a report of ASB to ensure the feedback receives the most appropriate response.

## 17 Victim/Survivors of Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse is often mistakenly reported as ASB, with victim/survivors being four times more likely to have ASB complaints made against them.

For example, those who hear frequent shouting, stomping, or banging, may contact us, their landlord or the police to report unsuspected ASB. When housing or other multiagency professionals do not recognise these reports as domestic abuse, they risk criminalising, further isolating, and ultimately causing homelessness to victim/survivors. Landlords are often the first to receive disclosures of domestic abuse through reports of ASB and are key partners in early intervention to safeguard survivors.

A making every contact count approach will be taken for all disclosures in line with our Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls policy. In practice, we will ensure that all staff members understand how to provide support for victim/survivors by using the most appropriate language and communication methods.

This means that in instances where a resident is experiencing physical violence (or threats of such acts), controlling and coercive behaviour, or sexual, verbal, emotional, or economic abuse, or harassment by someone they have a close personal connection with, our staff training will emphasise the importance of recording this as domestic abuse and not ASB.

In cases that are later identified as domestic abuse, we aim to provide the victim/survivor with support to access specialist service and explore their housing options, while holding perpetrators to account.

## 18 Legislation

- Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014
- Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- Housing Act 1996
- Housing Act 1988
- Housing Act 1985
- Care Act 2014
- Mental Health Act 1983
- Protections from Harassment Act 1977
- Misuse of Drugs Act 1971

- Domestic Abuse Act 2021
- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014
- Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984
- Homelessness Reduction Act 2017
- Equality and Diversity Act 2010
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Data Protection Act 2018

We also use the [Anti-Social Behaviour principles](#) as a guide in seeking to deliver the best possible outcomes for victims of antisocial behaviour.

## 19 Links to other policies and strategies

This policy links to and should be read together with the following Haringey Council strategies and policies:

- [Community Safety Strategy 2024 - 2027](#)
- [Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls Policy for council tenants and leaseholders, and those approaching the council as homeless](#)
- [Feedback Policy](#)
- Good Neighbourhood Management Policy
- [No Place for Hate - Haringey's strategy for tackling hate crime 2024 - 2027](#)
- [Safeguarding adults policy and procedures](#)
- [Safeguarding council tenants and leaseholders policy](#)
- Tenancy Management Policy
- Tenancy Strategy
- [Vulnerable council tenants and leaseholders policy](#)

## 20 Resident co-production and engagement

### **When did you discuss development of this policy with residents?**

At meetings of the Council's Resident Voice Board in March 2025 and May 2025.

### **What did they tell you?**

They told us about the importance of addressing ASB in supported housing and the need to outline what the Council's approach was. This included clarifying any preventive action that could be taken to respond to ASB during the initial 12-month introductory period.

They also wanted the policy to recognise that providing evidence of incidents can make someone uncomfortable and to emphasize the importance of effective multi-agency partnership working.

The policy approach to taking early action to prevent ASB in addition to taking earlier enforcement action where necessary, with the aim of avoiding last minute enforcement action should be covered in the policy.

They wanted confirmation that the policy would outline that reports of ASB made by Resident Associations would be given equal weight to other reports and clarification was needed on how tenants of housing associations and private renters could report ASB. They also asked whether details of any cross council working and its role in addressing ASB could be include in the policy.

Residents asked if the policy could outline the approach to preventing ASB in HMO's.

**How has what residents told us informed development of this policy?**

Section 4 on reporting incidents recognises that providing evidence of incidents can make someone uncomfortable therefore reports can be made anonymously, although this makes it difficult for us to follow up to see if the situation can be resolved.

Section 4.2 confirms that we will give reports of ASB made by Resident Associations equal weighting to other reports that we receive.

Section 10 on multi agency and partnership working confirms that we work with housing providers which includes other local authority housing providers to keep our residents and communities safe.

Section 11 on preventing ASB outlines our approach to addressing anti-social behaviour as early as possible. It also notes that we will work with Our multi agency and partnership working includes

Section 12 on safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults includes a sub section on our approach to addressing ASB in supported housing.

## 21 Equality Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) will be carried out as part of the development of this policy.

## 22 Reviewing the policy

We will review this policy every three years unless earlier events or legislation require an earlier update to this policy.

## Appendix 1 – A Summary of Our Powers

Our powers to tackle ASB are mainly contained in the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. Information and guidance on these powers is published by the Government on their pages on [Anti-social behaviour powers](#).

We also have other powers available to us from legislation including the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 and the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 which may be relevant in certain circumstances. We will use any of the powers available to us when ASB is identified as impacting on residents, our communities or public spaces if it is determined that those powers are most likely to reduce or resolve the ASB.

Anti-social behaviour committed by a Council tenant, leaseholder or visitor to a Council property may be a breach of the tenancy agreement that applies to that property. In these circumstances we may act under housing legislation to ensure the ASB stops.

We support the key principles of a consistent approach to addressing ASB published by the Government. These can be found at: [Anti-social behaviour principles](#)

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 provides us with the legal power to share information with partner agencies for the purposes of preventing, detecting, and tackling crime and anti-social behaviour in Haringey.

# GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT POLICY

DRAFT VERSION FOR ENGAGEMENT

## Contents

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DRAFT

# 1 Introduction

This policy applies to all Haringey Council tenants and leaseholders.

In cases that don't meet the threshold for Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) intervention, this policy outlines the Council's commitments to how we will manage our council housing and their estates.

This outlines how we will respond to behaviours which are not ASB or considered a breach of tenancy. These behaviours can still be impactful but require a different response where residents are provided with access to the appropriate advice and tools so that as neighbours, they can work together to resolve any differences.

This policy is designed to be read in conjunction with our Anti-Social Behaviour Policy.

When we use the terms 'we', 'our', and 'us' in this policy we mean Haringey Council.

## 2 Aim of the Policy

This policy aims to ensure that our tenants and leaseholders have quiet enjoyment of their homes, and have a safe, clean and secure environment that they can take pride in. We also want to ensure they are aware of and understand their responsibilities under their tenancy or lease conditions, both in relation to their property and neighbourhood.

This policy sets out:

- Our approach when tenants and leaseholders experience upset or frustration resulting from a person's behaviour or actions that are not deemed to be ASB or a tenancy breach.
- Our focus on maintaining good neighbourhood relationships and to reduce tensions that may occur, identifying practical solutions and ensuring support is in place.
- How we will ensure that our tenants and leaseholders are aware of and understand their responsibilities under their tenancy or lease conditions, for their property and neighbourhood.
- The ways we will seek to understand the root cause of the problems and the solutions that have the best chance of dealing with the problems.
- An understanding that sometimes personal circumstances may affect a person's tolerance, perception or ability to cope with certain situations

### 3 Tenant and leaseholder responsibilities

We believe that our tenants and leaseholders have a social responsibility to be a good neighbour and resident. This includes being courteous and respectful to others.

Many of the situations managed under this policy will require the cooperation, compromise and good will of the parties involved. Effective resolution may require parties to make reasonable changes to their behaviour and/or environment, to accept to undertake processes such as mediation, to accept advice and support that is offered.

Our ability to assist in these cases will be greatly reduced where parties are not willing to cooperate with us in these ways and may mean that we can assist no further and the case is closed.

We expect our tenants and leaseholders to uphold a standard of respect, cooperation, and accountability within our community. We prioritise a safe and inclusive environment where harassment of staff and officers is met with zero tolerance.

We encourage all individuals to engage in constructive dialogue, treat each other with dignity, and work collaboratively towards the betterment of our shared spaces. Together, we aim to foster a culture of mutual respect and understanding, where everyone feels valued and supported, to ensure we can provide the best possible service.

### 4 Defining and Assessing Reports

Where we believe the behaviour does not constitute ASB, we will tell the reporting person why their report does not classify as a report of ASB and provide advice to support self-resolution.

We expect a level of tolerance among neighbours and will assess reports of ASB firmly and fairly. It is crucial for sustainable, resilient communities that our tenants and leaseholders acknowledge and accept the diverse lifestyles, work schedules, family dynamics, and habits of households within our council housing and estates.

Tenants and leaseholders are responsible for living considerately and addressing concerns through proactive communication and good neighbourly conduct. Seeking to resolve concerns through good neighbourly behaviour and positive communication with others, is expected of our tenants and leaseholders where safety is not compromised. Guidance on this matter will be available for all residents.

When deciding whether a report should be dealt with under this policy, we will consider the following:

- The type of behaviour being reported, how serious it is and whether it is reasonable activity or not
- How often the behaviour is happening, the times that it is taking place and how long it is happening for
- The needs of the parties involved
- The impact that the behaviour is having on the parties involved and/or the wider community
- The root cause of the issue and whether there is intention to cause harm.

Our ASB policy outlines the types of crime and ASB that should be reported to the Police, the types of environmental ASB that can be reported to the Council that we can investigate and the personal and nuisance ASB that can be reported to the Council.

The following non exhaustive list details where we may be able to provide advice, but will not investigate the following concerns as possible ASB:

- A tenant or leaseholder going about their daily activities in or around their home – for example, children playing outside, loud footfall, moving of furniture, babies/children crying, television noise, occasional loud music, toilets being flushed and the use of household appliances (this is not an exhaustive list)
- Noise occurring at different times due to different working patterns or one-off parties
- Concerns which do not breach the tenancy agreement, for example, people staring, smoking or cooking odours, or clashes due to lifestyle or cultural differences
- Concerns which involve residents not being pleasant to each other, but are not serious enough to justify our involvement
- Boundary disputes
- Inconsiderate parking

## 5 Possible Solutions

Ways in which tenants and leaseholders may be able to help prevent low level complaints being made against them include:

- Informing your neighbours if you are going to be having a one-off event, such as a party or celebration
- Not removing carpets from upper floor flats, so that noise transfers to lower down properties is minimised
- Consider the use of appliance mats if you are running washing machines etc. overnight or early in the morning
- Telling your neighbours if your shift patterns have changed, so they can be understanding of your needs
- Be considerate of your neighbours

- Do not carry out repairs or other works late at night or at other unsociable hours
- Do not play music, TV or instruments too loudly
- Keep dogs and other pets under control
- Be aware of where your children are playing, who is supervising them and what they are doing

We recognise that some tenants or leaseholders, who have particular support or medical needs, may find it more challenging to manage neighbour disputes because of these issues. Where this is the case, our Tenancy Management team will consider whether additional support with managing a neighbour dispute may be needed, whether they need to help the resident in understanding how their behaviour may need to be adapted to help resolve the situation and will consider whether a referral to support, mediation at an earlier stage, or another action would help support the individual to resolve their issues with their neighbour.

If tenants or leaseholders are not able to resolve their differences themselves, they should contact us where a Housing officer may be able to offer mediation or other solutions to resolve the dispute. In this instance we will keep tenants and leaseholders informed of the progress of their dispute and what actions have been agreed to mitigate a repeat of the incident.

Our focus is on fostering good relationships and improving the health and well-being of parties involved. Legal action is very unlikely in cases managed under this policy.

We will consider appropriate solutions on a case-by-case basis, but examples include:

- Providing advice and guidance, good neighbour agreements and signposting to education services/websites
- Inviting parties to be part of creating a solution, which may be written into a voluntary agreement (e.g. residents in a block creating agreed guidelines for use of communal areas)
- Referring parties to mediation
- Referrals to safeguarding, health services or support
- Exploring practical solutions such as carpeting, slow-release door hinges, soundproofing or anti-vibration mats.

These examples are not exhaustive and will not be appropriate in all cases. The appropriate solution will be determined based on what is relevant, likely to bring resolution to the problems and is available and cost-effective.

Where a party refuses to engage with the solution offered, without good reason, we may be unable to provide any further assistance and need to close our involvement in the matter.

## 6 Links to other policies and strategies

This policy links to and should be read together with the following Haringey Council policies:

- ASB Policy
- [Community Safety Strategy 2024 - 2027](#)
- [Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls Policy for council tenants and leaseholders, and those approaching the council as homeless](#)
- [Feedback Policy](#)
- [No Place for Hate - Haringey's strategy for tackling hate crime 2024 - 2027](#)
- [Safeguarding adults policy and procedures](#)
- [Safeguarding council tenants and leaseholders policy](#)
- Tenancy Management Policy
- Tenancy Strategy
- [Vulnerable council tenants and leaseholders policy](#)

## 7 Resident co-production and engagement

**When did you discuss development of this policy with residents?**

At a meeting of the Council's Resident Voice Board in May 2025.

**What did they tell you?**

Residents asked for confirmation about applicability of the policy.

**How has what residents told us informed development of this policy?**

The policy confirms that it applies to all Haringey Council tenants and leaseholders in the introduction to the document.

## 8 Equality Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) will be carried out as part of the development of this policy.

## 9 Reviewing the policy

We will review this policy every three years unless earlier events or legislation require an earlier update to this policy.

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## Culture, Community Safety and Environment Scrutiny Panel

### Work Plan 2022 - 26

<b>1. Scrutiny review projects;</b> 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.		
Project	Comments	Priority
Litter/fly tipping	The Panel would like to do a [piece of detailed scrutiny work around litter and fly-tipping and how this could be improved. It’s noted that the Veolia contract is due for renewal and there is an opportunity to link in the with priority setting process for a new waste contract.	

<b>2. “One-off” Items;</b> These will be dealt with at scheduled meetings of the Panel. The following are suggestions for when particular items may be scheduled.	
Date	Potential Items
2022-23	

<b>30 June 2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Membership and Terms of Reference</li> <li>• Appointment of Non-Voting Co-opted Member</li> <li>• Waste and Recycling Update</li> <li>• Community Safety Update</li> <li>• Work Programme</li> </ul>
<b>05 September 2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Members Questions, Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Environment &amp; Transport, and Deputy Leader of the Council</li> <li>• Low Traffic Neighbourhoods</li> <li>• Walking and Cycling Action Plan</li> <li>• Update on Parking Management It System</li> <li>• Street Trees</li> <li>• Pocket Parks</li> <li>• Work Programme</li> </ul>

<p><b>14 November 2022</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Member Questions – Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Jobs &amp; Community Cohesion (to cover areas within the Panel’s terms of reference that are within that portfolio). * <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How is the Council encouraging use of brownfield sites in the borough to protect green spaces.</li> <li>○ Interaction between crime and youth service provision</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Police Priorities in Haringey &amp; Community Safety Partnership Update; To invite comments from the Panel on current performance issues and priorities for the borough’s Community Safety Partnership. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Update on Police activities to combat Domestic violence and under reporting of this crime type</li> <li>○ Hate Crime</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>* Item withdrawn – to be rescheduled.</p>
<p><b>15 December 2022 (Budget Meeting)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Member Questions – Cabinet Member for Communities and Civic Life</li> <li>• Budget Scrutiny</li> <li>• Update on Leisure Services inc take up discretionary rate.</li> <li>• Parks Performance.</li> <li>• Summer Major Events programme in Finsbury Park</li> </ul>

<b>16 March 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Member Questions – Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality &amp; Resident Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Highways Update and progress around introduction of 20mph speed limits.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Update on Litter and Fly tipping</li> <li>• Update on Recycling Performance</li> <li>• Update on PMIS</li> </ul>
<b>2023/24</b>	
<b>13 July</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terms of Reference</li> <li>• Appointment of Non-Voting Co-opted Member</li> <li>• Floodwater Management</li> <li>• Work Programme</li> </ul>
<b>11<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council's response to date on Baroness Casey's Review into the Metropolitan Police.</li> <li>• Street Lighting</li> <li>• EV charging</li> </ul>

<b>6 November 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police Priorities in Haringey &amp; Community Safety Partnership Update; To invite comments from the Panel on current performance issues and priorities for the borough's Community Safety Partnership.</li> <li>• A New Met for London</li> </ul>
<b>19 December 2023 (Budget)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget Scrutiny</li> <li>• CS&amp;HC strategy</li> </ul>
<b>27 February 2023</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet Member Questions</li> </ul>

#### 2024/25: Climate, Community Safety & Environment Scrutiny Panel

<b>1. Scrutiny review projects;</b> 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.		
<b>Project</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Priority</b>

31 July 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appointment of Non-Voting Co-opted Member</li><li>• Update on actions from the meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of Feb and ward level data for Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) review specifically .To look into requesting additional data around demographic of ASB perpetrators from the police.</li><li>• And to review existing statistics around complaint handling from residents and to present at the next meeting, along with proposals for improving the response process and providing an update on progress</li><li>• Statement of Gambling Policy - consultation - statutory comments will be required from the Panel</li><li>• Work Programme discussion and initial ideas on reviews.</li></ul>	
12 September 2024	Cabinet Member for Resident Services and tackling inequality - Cabinet Questions Waste Contract update Parking Policies and Strategy update Quarterly Performance data	
7 November 2024	Online budget briefing meeting to inform  Budget proposal for comments/ Recommendations	
14 <sup>th</sup> of November	New additional meeting <b>Budget proposal for comments/ Recommendations</b>	
17 December 2024 Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Street Lighting review update to Committee.</li><li>• <b>Cabinet member Questions - Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Environment &amp; Transport</b></li></ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion on Climate Action Plan –and potential recommended changes to content and structure.</li> <li>• Any required further Budget recommendations</li> </ul>
<b>11<sup>th</sup> March 2025</b> Community Safety	<p>Invitation to the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borough Commander,</li> <li>• Community Safety Partnership attendees</li> <li>• and Youth Council member.</li> <li>• Special focus on knife crime, ASB and street thefts</li> </ul> <p><b>Cabinet Member for Communities questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available quarterly performance data</li> <li>• Update on PSPO Consultation responses</li> </ul>
<b>2025</b> <b>Potential Scrutiny Review on The Walking and Cycling Action Plan – possibly related to the Active Transport Policy plan</b>	<p>Timescales to be agreed.</p> <p>A formal in-depth review on the position of cyclists within the road users hierarchy in the borough</p> <p>Scope written to be presented at the March meeting but to be agreed after.</p>
<b>28 July 2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terms of Reference</li> <li>• ASB Draft Policy</li> <li>• Good Neighbourhood Management Draft Policy</li> <li>• Climate Action Plan</li> <li>• Deputation re LTN's</li> <li>• Deputation on DEN/ Heat networks</li> <li>• Work Programme discussion and consideration of scope</li> </ul>

<b>15 September 2025</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance and performance update</li> <li>• Street Lighting Update – exploring functionality</li> </ul> <p>Street lighting informal review recommendations to services have come back from the service areas and the panel</p>
<b>6 November 2025</b>	Budget
<b>16 December 2025</b>	Q2 Budget
<b>23 February 2026</b>	

### **Walking and Cycling Action Plan – Formal In-depth Review**

A formal in-depth review on the position of cyclists within the road users hierarchy in the borough.

## **Climate Focussed Meeting**

Deputations for June

- LTN's
- Decentralised Energy Network (DEN)/ Heat networks

Alternative approaches to reducing carbon and the impact on the Edmonton Incinerator would then be considered at the next meeting and included in the work plan.

## **Leisure Services Update**

**Waste Management** – possibly addressing frequency, fleet, contract renewal

## **Community Safety - March 2026**

As per meeting of March 2025 - In light of the short-term nature of youth justice projects the Panel recommends that expertise within the voluntary sector be sought by Cabinet Members to ensure that officers have the research, evidence and organisational support to successfully apply for longer term funding opportunities if they exist.

The Chair also mentioned when next year Community Safety was considered, voluntary organisations should be invited

It was decided that the Stop and Search Community Monitoring Groups and MOPAC's Disproportionality Group be invited to talk about Stop and Search in further depth at a later session

**London Borough of Culture 2027** – Aspirations and progress to date

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