

## Summons to Attend

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# Full Council

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To: The Mayor and Councillors of Haringey Council.

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Haringey will be held at the Civic Centre, High Road, Wood Green, N22 8LE on MONDAY, 19TH FEBRUARY, 2007 at 19:30 HRS, to transact the following business:

### **AGENDA**

- 1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. TO ASK THE MAYOR TO CONSIDER THE ADMISSION OF ANY LATE ITEMS OF BUSINESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 100B OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

A member with a personal interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest

becomes apparent.

A member with a personal interest in a matter also has a prejudicial interest in that matter if the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the member's judgement of the public interest.

#### **4. SECTION 106 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT 1992**

To ask Members to consider whether they need to make a declaration in accordance with Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 in relation to unpaid community charge or council tax liability which is two months or more outstanding. Members to whom this applies must make a declaration if they are present at any part of the meeting and must not vote on any matter relating to the budget. It is not sufficient for such members to refrain from voting or to absent themselves from the chamber for particular parts of the meeting.

- 5. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 5 FEBRUARY 2007.**
- 6. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS AS THE MAYOR MAY LAY BEFORE THE COUNCIL**
- 7. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (PAGES 1 - 2)**
- 8. TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES AND MONITORING OFFICER**
- 9. TO CONSIDER REQUESTS TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS AND/OR PETITIONS AND, IF APPROVED, TO RECEIVE THEM**
- 10. TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF FINANCE IN RESPECT OF FINANCIAL PLANNING 2007/8 TO 2010/11 AND TO AGREE THE COUNCIL TAX FOR 2007/8.**
- 11. TO ANSWER QUESTIONS, IF ANY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE NOS. 9 & 10 (PAGES 3 - 10)**
- 12. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING BODIES (PAGES 11 - 20)**
  - a) The Executive – Report 14. 2006/7

*In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure No. 12(1), the Chief Executive will submit a report, if appropriate, listing any recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee requiring policy change or executive action.*

**13. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE NO. 13**

MOTION R (2006/07):

Councillor Mughal has given notice that he will move in the following terms:

“This Council recognises the vital role played by private sector businesses towards the present and future economic well being of Haringey and its residents, and believes that more work needs to be done to make Haringey an attractive place to do business, and to foster an enterprise culture within the Council.

This Council therefore resolves to make 2007 the 'year of business' for the Council, pursuing with greater vigour the promotion of enterprise in the borough wherever possible, including through the production and promotion, through council publications, of business directories for the borough; the creation of a business services desk in the Council, with the establishment of identified business champions in appropriate council departments, and the development and promotion of a brand for Haringey as a great place to do business”.

MOTION S (2006/07):

Councillor Whyte has given notice that she will move in the following terms:

“This Council believes that the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005, is a significant and most welcome piece of legislation in empowering citizens and ensuring all forms of government and public bodies are effectively scrutinised and held to account. This Council celebrates the significant benefits of this legislation to the public which far exceed its administrative costs.

This Council believes that it is vital that the Freedom of Information legislation is better publicised throughout Haringey and that every step should be taken to ensure that this Council meets all relevant requests for information within the specified time requirements set out by the legislation.

This Council also opposes current proposals to significantly change, after a very short period of time, the administration of this significant legislation, especially relating to the dangerous proposal that unrelated requests by the same individual or organisation to an authority should be aggregated and refused if the aggregated cost exceed the specified financial limits. This Council believes this proposal could severely ration use of the Act by the local media and campaigning organisations.

This Council urges Haringey's two Members of Parliament to defend the basic principles of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and to ensure that the harmful proposals as set out in the current consultation by the Department of Constitutional Affairs are opposed".

MOTION T (2006/07):

Councillor Aitken has given notice that he will move in the following terms:

"Council recognises that:

1. Crime and the fear of crime remain major concerns of residents of Haringey in particular fuelled by the persistence of so-called low level crime and antisocial behaviour, the shortage of police officers on the beat, and the difficulty in getting an adequate response to incidents from an overstretched police force;
2. The general public's confidence in safely visiting by day and night all parts of Haringey must be reinforced, in particular by tackling at source known centres of disorder;
3. Whilst partnerships arrangements have led to better co-ordination between agencies on law-enforcement within the Council's area, these are hampered by lack of resources and appropriate powers locally, and misdirected government policies nationally;

and notes that:

1. More police officers on patrol are urgently needed, and could be provided by switching the billions of pounds being wasted on introducing the Government's ineffective national ID Card scheme to police budgets;
2. Local communities should have more power to close pubs and clubs that cause trouble within the Haringey area;
3. The national 5-point 'We Can Cut Crime' campaign includes these proposals with others designed to reduce crime, reduce the fear of crime and improve the quality of life within the community, and ensure any victims of crime are properly compensated,

and therefore

Council resolves to:

1. Support the objectives of the national 'We Can Cut Crime' campaign;
2. Lobby the relevant Secretaries of State for the action proposed in that campaign, and for the additional powers and resources needed locally by the Council and the Police to deliver its objectives, and calls on local Members of Parliament to support the campaign, and to write to Ministers accordingly".

Dr Ita O'Donovan  
Chief Executive  
River Park House  
225 High Road  
Wood Green  
London N22 8HQ

Friday, 9 February 2007

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## Council Meeting – 19 February 2007

Report Title: **Appointment of Section 151 Officer**

Report of: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Wards(s) affected: **All**

Report for: **Non - key**

### 1. Purpose

1.1 To appoint an Interim Section 151 Officer

### 2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Acting Director of Finance undertaken the role of Section 151 officer until permanent recruitment to the post of Director of Corporate Resources has been completed.

2.2 That the Council's Constitution be amended to reflect the matters at paragraphs 6.3, 6.4 and 6.5 of this report, until such time as the new Director of Corporate Resources takes up post.

Report Authorised by: **Chief Executive**

Contact Officer: **Ken Pryor, Deputy Head of Member Services.**  
Tel: 0208 489 2915

### 3. Executive Summary

3.1 The Council must appoint a section 151 officer who shall be the officer who is responsible for the administration of the Council's financial affairs.

**4. Reasons for any change in policy or for new policy development (if applicable)**  
N/A

### 5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

1. The following papers have been used in the preparation of this report and can be inspected at River Park House, 225 High Road Wood Green, London, N22 8HQ by

contacting Ken Pryor on 020 8489 2915.

The Council's Constitution

## **6. Background**

- 6.1 The Council must appoint a section 151 officer who shall be the officer who is responsible for the administration of the Council's financial affairs. The constitution at K1 and F.7 identifies the Director of Finance as the Chief Finance Officer (section 151 officer).
- 6.2 The report to Council of 13 November 2006 makes clear that the post of Director of Corporate Resources "replaces the deleted Director of Finance post". The Director of Corporate Resources therefore becomes the section 151 officer.
- 6.3 Given the impending departure of Andrew Travers on 23 February 2007, it is proposed that Gerald Almeroth, Acting Director of Finance, undertake the role of Section 151 officer until the permanent recruitment to the post of Director of Corporate Resources has been completed.
- 6.4 The Acting Director of Finance will retain line management responsibility for Corporate Finance, Corporate Procurement, Audit & Risk Management and Benefits and Local Taxation. The Acting Director of Finance needs to be able to exercise officers' delegated powers in these areas.
- 6.5 The Interim Director of Corporate Resources will retain line management responsibility for Corporate Property, Access and Customer Services, Information & Communications Technology and Legal Services. The Interim Director of Corporate Resources needs to be able to exercise officers' delegated powers in these areas.

## **7. Comments and the Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer**

- 7.1 The Council must by law appoint a single officer with overall responsibility for the administration of its financial affairs and that officer needs to have the appropriate professional qualification.



**COUNCIL QUESTIONS – 19<sup>th</sup> February 2007****Oral Question 1 – To the Executive Member for Children & Young People  
Housing from Councillor Adje**

Could the Executive Member for Children & Young People outline the progress made by Haringey schools in view of the recent release of educational statistics by the government?

**Oral Question 2 – To the Executive Member for Environment and  
Conservation from Cllr Newton**

Can he explain why the Council decided not to conduct a full public consultation over its new parking charges proposals?

**Oral Question 3 – To the Executive Member for Crime and Community  
Safety from Councillor Patel**

Could the Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety explain the implications of the Mayor of London's budget for policing in Haringey?

**Oral Question 4 – To the Executive Member for Crime and Community  
Safety from Councillor Alexander**

How she arrived at the figure of only 1.3% of the Borough's CCTV cameras being out of action when other evidence indicates this is a much more serious problem?

**Oral Question 5 – To the Executive Member for Health and Social  
Services and from Councillor Dogus**

Could the Executive Member for Social Services and Health report on the success of the Supporting People programme?

**Oral Question 6 – To the Executive Member for Enterprise and  
Regeneration from Councillor Hoban:**

Does she believe that the council is providing adequate support to businesses based on the Rangemoor Industrial Estate in Tottenham?

**Oral Question 7 – To the Executive Member for Children & Young People from Councillor Egan**

The academic year 2006/7 is a Year of Action on Sustainable Development for Schools. Could the Executive Member for Children & Young People outline how Haringey Schools have met this challenge so far?

**Oral Question 8 - To the Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety from Councillor Aitken**

What is the current strength of Police Officers in Haringey and how many of these are expected to retire in the next two years?

**Oral Question 9 - To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Bull**

Could the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation comment on the impact of the 'Streets for People' project, particularly with regard to the Tower Gardens Estate?

**Oral Question 10 - To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Williams**

Can he provide an update on any proposals to expand CPZs in Highgate.

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

**Written Question 1 – To the Executive Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Engert :**

Given that local authorities have had a duty from 8 January 2007 to provide positive activities for young people, how is Haringey going to deliver this programme in the West of the Borough. Given that the only youth club that the Council runs in Muswell Hill has had a history of closures including during most of the last summer holiday and is currently only offering two evening sessions a week. Further, how will the Council fulfil its duty to consult with young people in the West of the Borough to ensure what they offer is what the young people want?

**Written Question 2 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Beacham:**

Will the council work with the relevant authorities regarding the change in phasing of the Spouter's Corner traffic lights which is causing gridlock on Lordship Lane and Station Road, and explain how this situation arose?

**Written Question 3 – To the Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety from Councillor Gorrie:**

Following this Council's press statement on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2006 that Safer Neighbourhood Teams would be able to use new 'speed guns' please could clarification be given on:

- a) When did the safer neighbourhood teams receive these new handheld speed cameras?
- b) When did they receive the training to use these new devices?
- c) How many of the handheld speed cameras have they got?
- d) When did they start using them?
- e) How much did they cost?
- f) Have they now got to be resent to the manufacturer to be recalibrated due to the time taken for the safer neighbourhood teams to actually use the devices and what new cost will this entail?

**Written Question 4 – To the Executive Member for Organisational Development and Performance from Councillor Wilson:**

What was the total number of internal flights taken on council business in each of the last five calendar years by: a); councillors and b); officers.

**Written Question 5 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Newton:**

What measures are being taken by the Council to stop the fraudulent use of the blue badge parking scheme.

**Written Question 6 – To the Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety from Councillor Aitken:**

What are the figures for stop and search in Haringey by ethnic group and by age for the last two years; what statistics are available for stop and searches conducted by Ward Safer Neighbourhood Teams and if she could provide this information.

**Written Question 7 – To the Executive Member for Organisational Development and Performance from Cllr Whyte:**

1. Does the council not have a comprehensive record of all the databases it holds?
2. What protocols do individual businesses have to adhere to before accessing extracts from databases?
3. What are the individual business units?

**Written Question 8 – To the Executive Member for Health and Social Services from Cllr Baker:**

1. How much has the Council spent on consultants in each of the last four years?
2. What is the current (a) hourly cost to the council of delivering ordinary in-house care services (b) hourly charge to recipients of ordinary in-house care services (who pay the full charge), and (c) what would the increase in charge be if any subsidy was removed and recipients paid the full charge.

**Written Question 9 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Edge:**

When does the Executive Member intend to review the last (2006) extension of the Finsbury Park Controlled Parking Zone; and will he assure residents that he will not extend the Finsbury Park Zone again, until after this last extension is reviewed.

**Written Question 10 – To the Executive Member for Finance from Cllr Butcher:**

If she will set out the cost in terms of staff time in Human Resources and Finance departments of administering deductions from payroll to the Labour Party from Councillors pay; and if she will set out the reasons why Haringey taxpayers are paying for this party-political task to take place.

**Written Question 11 – To the Executive Member for Children and Young People from Cllr Weber:**

- 1) How many and which projects are currently running late in Childrens' Services for delivery of buildings or provision of a children's service?
- 2) Please list all building and services projects that are running late with reasons and solutions.
- 3) Please itemise what has been learnt from failures in project management. How will this information be incorporated into real practice to ensure less repetition in terms of delayed completion and overruns?

- 4) What alternative provision for childcare is made when projects are delayed that affect our young people, parents/carers?

**Written Question 12 – To the Executive Member for Children and Young People from Cllr Portess:**

Following the news before Christmas that the Blanche Nevile School had received an excellent report from its last Ofsted inspection, will the Executive Member give an assurance that the Council will maintain Blanche Nevile's distinctive identity and separate existence.

**Written Question 13 – To the Executive Member for Community Involvement from Cllr Beynon:**

Can she outline the current status of development plans for Muswell Hill Library. In the meantime, the library is in a poor state of repair. What levels of funds have been committed to maintain the current fabric of the building until any redevelopment work begins?

**Written Question 14 – To the Executive Member for Children and Young People from Cllr Bloch:**

A recent meeting of nursery providers expressed their serious misgivings to Haringey officials about changes to the administration of the Nursery Education Grant, with several providers saying they could be forced to leave the scheme, which would be a detriment to early years' provision in the borough. How will Haringey address the concerns of these providers to help ensure that subsidised nursery education is as widely available as possible?

**Written Question 15 – To the Executive Member for Housing from Cllr Harris:**

Did he not give a promise to all Haringey's council tenants and leaseholders in 2005, during the ALMO consultation, that their homes would be improved by 2010, and can he outline how he is going to explain to Haringey's tenants and leaseholders why they are going to now have to wait a further three years in some cases for 30 year old kitchens and bathrooms to be replaced?

**Written Question 16 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Williams:**

Regarding the consultations on CPZs in Highgate, if he would:

1. Set out in writing the timetable for the remaining stages of the consultation, covering statutory consultation, executive decision and implementation for any extensions to both schemes.

2. Set out the reason why the process is taking so long.

**Written Question 17 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Davies:**

Can he provide a complete breakdown of street cleaning per ward in Haringey including the frequency of cleaning for each street?

**Written Question 18 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Alexander:**

1. How many road traffic schemes (pedestrian and traffic signals) in Haringey are running behind schedule,
2. What action has Haringey taken with TFL (and when) to get this backlog of work carried out.
3. The Arena Shopping Mall area of Green Lanes and Endymion Road in Harringay ward is one scheme in particular where pedestrian's lives are being put at risk thorough a lack of appropriate crossing. Are there any plans to increase pedestrian safety in this area?

**Written Question 19 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Hoban:**

Can he please confirm whether Thames Water is currently maintaining the mains water pressure in the borough of Haringey at the level recommended by Ofwat to ensure sufficient pressure is available for the delivery of essential services, e.g. the fire service?

**Written Question 20 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Reid:**

Given the scale of the impact on residents and the considerable amount of continued construction in the area that both Thames Water and St James are engaged in (such as the Treatment Plant & potentially Hornsey Depot site) can the Executive Member please confirm how the background and causes of the flooding incident at the New River Development on 10th January have been and are being investigated. Can the Executive Member confirm that the details of the investigation and its findings will be made public together with clear lessons learnt and actions taken to avoid any repeat.

**Written Question 21– To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Oakes:**

With regard to CPZ consultation:

1. Why Haringey is apparently still using an address list which does not contain one third of the housing units in Bounds Green Ward
2. Why at least one road in Bounds Green and Richmond Road has been omitted from the scheme when residents have informed the Council that 27/40 houses there actually want a CPZ whilst the next road has a CPZ. While 100 yards away two roads have been forcibly included in a CPZ area they have totally rejected in spite of repeated (unanswered) letters to the Council?

**Written Question 22 - To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Oatway:**

- (a) Please confirm whether the council's insurance cover extends to funding the cost of replacing trees which are severely damaged through inclement weather?
- (b) With regard to damage sustained by two trees based on the Triangle public open space sited at the junction of Palace Gates Road and Crescent Road in Alexandra ward, which were blown down in the recent storm, could he please confirm the proposed timetable for replacement and the funding source.

**Written Question 23 - To ask Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Winskill:**

Cllr Haley will recall that the introduction of advertising banners on the Borough's lampposts was greeted by many complaints from residents and conservation groups protesting at the impact that these items would have on the look of our Borough and possible implications for safety on our roads.

Will he tell us:

- How many letters of complaint have been received by Haringey about these banners?
- How many sites there are in the Borough and give their exact location?
- What are the criteria for selecting suitable sites and ruling out unsuitable sites?
- Have there been any structural problems with lamp columns as a result of the display of these banners?
- How many have been removed at the instigation of Haringey officers and the reasons why?
- How long is the borough's contract with the agency and are there any default clauses?
- What is the annual income to the Borough from this contract?
- How much officer and staff time is taken up in monitoring the contract and what is the value of that time?

- What are the planning regulations concerning this form of advertising, and is permission required within conservation areas?

**Written Question 24 – To the Executive Member for Housing from Cllr Demirci:**

How many complaints and members enquiries to Homes for Haringey are dealt with within the 10 working day time limit? How many are dealt with in 4 weeks, how many in 6 and many have had to wait more than 6 weeks for a response to a complaint or query?

**Written Question 25 – To the Executive Member for Children and Young People from Cllr Hare:**

Following the introduction of the new Admissions Code of Practice, would the Council, as Admissions Authority, consider proposing new admissions criteria for oversubscribed schools, for example, random allocation or banding. Would the Executive Member provide details of any changes to admissions criteria that they have considered.

**Written Question 26 – To the Executive Member for Housing from Cllr Rainger:**

How many family sized houses (3-4 bedrooms) belonging to the council are lying empty and in a state of disrepair and what is the council doing to remedy this bearing in mind the acute pressure on this type of housing in the borough.

**Written Question 27 - To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Mughal:**

Can the Executive Member explain why there will be no warden service available to ensure the health and safety of park users and the nursery, at the park in Noel Park, during the football sessions planned for the half term holidays in February?



**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE. No. 14/2006-07  
COUNCIL 19 FEBRUARY 2007**

Chair:  
Councillor George Meehan

Deputy Chair:  
Councillor Lorna Reith

## **INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 We reported to the Council on 5 February for discussion on Financial Planning 2007/08 to 2009/10 which we considered at our meeting on 23 January 2007. We now report for information on other items considered at that meeting. For ease of reference the Report is divided into the Executive portfolios.
- 1.2 We trust that this Report will be helpful to Members in their representative role and facilitate a fruitful dialogue between the Executive and all groups of Councillors. These reports are a welcome opportunity for the Executive on a regular basis to present the priorities and achievements of the Executive to Council colleagues for consideration and comment. The Executive values and encourages the input of fellow members.

## **ITEMS OF REPORT**

### **Organisational Development and Performance**

#### **2. THE COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE – NOVEMBER 2006**

- 2.1 We considered a report which set out the routine financial and performance monitoring for November 2006 in the balanced scorecard format. In summary the balanced scorecard showed that for the excellent service perspective 66% of indicators were on target or close to the end of year target at the end of November. For 24 of the 36 (67%) customer focus measures, performance targets were being met or close to being met. For financial health 23 of the 31 measures traffic lighted achieved amber or green status meaning for 74% of indicators performance levels were achieving target or being maintained at an acceptable level. Our organisational development /capacity indicators including staff survey results showed that for 16 of the 18 (89%) measures, performance was at or close to expected levels. Overall 70% of indicators were achieving or close to achieving target. In addition 70% of indicators had maintained or improved performance since the end of last year. The scorecard appendix we considered also included some estimated top quartile data (All England) so that progress could be assessed not only against the targets we set but in terms of how we compared with others and how close we were to attaining what we ultimately were aiming to achieve.
- 2.2 With regard to finance and in summary, based on the November position, the revenue budget showed a balanced position. We were advised that Financial Regulations required proposed budget changes be subject to our approval. We approved those shown in the table below which fell into one of two categories:
  - Budget virements, where it was proposed that budget provision be transferred between one service budget and another. Explanations were provided where this was the case;

- Increases or decreases in budget, generally where notification had been received in-year of a change in the level of external funding such as grants or supplementary credit approval.

2.3 Under the Constitution, certain virements were key decisions. Key decisions were:

- for revenue, any virement which results in change in a directorate cash limit of more than £250,000; and
- for capital, any virement which results in the change of a programme area of more than £250,000.

Key decisions are highlighted by an asterisk in the table.

Period	Service	Key	Amount current year (£'000)	Full year Amount (£'000)	Description
8	Children & Young People	Rev	52		LPSA pump priming grant allocation.
8	Chief Executive's	Rev	70		Business Awards programme (£45k) funded from sponsorship income and Haringey People additional advertising income (£25k).
8	Finance	Cap*	-813		Review of Accommodation Strategy spend.
8	Finance	Cap	60		Youth Justice Board capital infrastructure grant.
8	All	Rev	105	105	Transfer of additional budgets to IT to pay for IT hardware.
8	Chief Executive's	Rev*	125	300	New Members allowances scheme.
8	Environment	Rev*	-269	-269	PEPP's restructure.
8	Environment	Cap	-198		Removal of carry forward already included within Route 29 allocation.
8	Environment	Rev	239	239	Transfer of CCTV function budget from Highways to Parking.
8	Environment	Cap	15		Haringey cycle link 78 improvements in Finsbury Park funded by TFL grant.
8	Environment	Rev	24		CABE enabling agreement for Hale Village project (£12k) and Markfield Recreation Ground (£12k) funded from DCLG Growth Area Fund.
8	Children & Young People	Cap*	7,280		Acquisition of land for the new secondary school in Haringey Heartlands funded from DCLG Growth Area Fund (£4.2m), Section 106 funds (£1m) and BSF through a future capital receipt (£2.08m).
8	Children & Young People	Cap*	-2,080		Contribution from BSF for above land purchase.

### **3. PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHT REPORT – NOVEMBER 2006**

- 3.1 The Council will be aware that the programme is the vehicle for the delivery of corporately significant projects and projects that are key political priorities. It underpinned the Council's corporate planning process, ensuring that the projects undertaken reflected and helped to deliver Community Strategy and corporate priorities.
- 3.2 The report provided an opportunity to monitor, challenge and support the Council's key projects to ensure that they finished on time, to budget and deliver the outcomes for the community. We considered a report which provided details of all the Council's corporately significant projects, covering the period up to the end of November 2006.
- 3.3 We were informed that a key driver in developing the programme structure had been to improve financial oversight of the Council's key corporate projects. Accordingly, projects were required to report detailed financial information in their project highlight reports each month. In receiving the report we noted that the key areas of financial concern as at the end of November had been –
- Primary Schools – the concerns surrounding the current programme and finances had been considered in detail and the updated position presented within the overall capital programme for the Council. The programme formed part of the financial planning report on which we have already reported to the Council.
  - Children's Centres – the 2005-06 overspend would be contained within the 2006-07 funding allocation. Phase 2 was being further considered in the light of experience from Phase 1 and a revised programme for Phase 2 would be produced before the start of the 2007-08 financial year.
  - Procurement – this project had a target of £2 million of savings, equally split over 2005/06 and 2006/07. Only £1.2m had been identified with projects implemented, so there would be a shortfall of £0.8m against the target in 2006/07. A review of further potential projects was underway jointly with all departments and the savings target was being re-phased as outlined in the financial planning (budget) report.

**N.B.** These highlight reports reflected the position of some of the Council's corporately significant projects as at 30 November 2006 and might have changed in the meantime.

## **Finance**

### **4. COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY BUILDINGS PORTFOLIO**

- 4.1 We considered a report which advised us of the current position of the 44 buildings occupied by community organisations and managed by Corporate Property Management Services. The report proposed standard heads of terms and conditions that should be adopted for any future lease arrangements for community use.
- 4.2 We noted that the report set out conclusions from a review of the Community Buildings portfolio that were within the Corporate Property Services current management, and a policy framework for the future community use and occupation by community organisations. We also noted that the standard Heads of Terms were proposed for any future leases and, where legally possible, for any renewals subject to there being no

existing adverse financial considerations of so doing. The report also proposed that, subject to a review of the financial and other implications and to those implications being resolved, other community buildings identified as such should also be brought within the remit of the proposals and brought back to us, as required.

- 4.3 We report that we noted the current unsatisfactory position pertaining to the 44 buildings that were subject to varying terms of occupation and responsibility which had resulted in a general decline in the physical condition of the building stock. We also agreed a policy framework for all future community use of Council buildings to be linked to the Community Strategy objectives and that occupation by community organisations should be in accordance with good asset management practice with the Council acting as an effective and socially responsible landlord.
- 4.4 We further agreed the Heads of Terms and conditions for any new leases instructed that officers seek to implement these standard terms and conditions on existing agreements as they were renewed, either by agreement or through negotiations, subject to there being no existing adverse financial considerations of so doing. We were informed that under the terms of the proposed new lease the Council would retain responsibility for structural and external repairs and maintenance, which would enable better control over the condition of the properties. We were also informed of the need for a dedicated post within Corporate Property Services to actively manage this portfolio and achieve the outcomes proposed in the report and to this effect we noted that the Head of Corporate Property Services had made a bid for this in the current business planning process.
- 4.5 We authorised officers take action where it was considered that the Council was at risk due to the non compliance of tenants terms particularly in regard to Health & Safety implications and to this end we were advised a programme of joint inspections were being set up with officers from Health and Safety, Voluntary Sector Team and Corporate Property Services. We were advised that further individual reports be brought back to us as required, on individual Community Buildings where decisions were required as to future use, condition or management.

## **Housing**

### **5. HARINGEY HOUSING DIVERSITY AND EQUALITIES STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

- 5.1 We considered a report which recommended that we adopt a Housing Diversity and Equalities Framework and agree an Action Plan. We noted that the development and implementation of the Framework and associated Action Plan would assist the Council in complying with its equalities duties as a public authority and as a service provider. In particular it would assist the Council in meeting the requirements to promote equality of opportunity and eliminate unlawful discrimination inherent in its duties as a public authority under Section 71 of the Race Relations Act 1976, Section 49A of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and Section 76A of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975. In addition the Framework would also assist compliance with the general duties concerning the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief and on the grounds of sexual orientation introduced by the Equalities Act 2006.

- 5.2 We were informed that the Housing Strategy had highlighted the diversity and equalities challenges arising from meeting local housing needs and related objectives and policies. The Diversity and Equalities Housing Framework set out current practice including examples of best practice. It also identified actions to develop an excellent housing service which would help in attaining two stars in a future Audit Commission inspection and further build upon the progress identified in the Corporate Performance Assessment on diversity and equality.
- 5.3 The focus of the Diversity and Equalities Framework had been to highlight the difficulties residents faced accessing affordable housing solutions, and in achieving a good quality of life through responsive services within Haringey across all tenures. The Council had a proactive and positive approach to equalities work much of which had diversity at the forefront given the make up of the Borough and its residents. It was imperative to document the inequality experienced by Haringey's residents and to develop housing policies and services, across all tenures, that would, in the long term, address inequalities and eliminate discrimination.
- 5.4 We report that we approved the Housing Diversity and Equalities Framework and agreed the Action Plan.

## **Enterprise and Regeneration**

### **6. ESTABLISHING A HARINGEY GROUNDWORK TRUST PARTNERSHIP**

- 6.1 We considered a report which sought our approval of Groundwork's proposed business plan and ratification of proposal to become a formal council partner and for core funding to support a new Groundwork Trust for Haringey. We noted that Groundwork was a federation of Trusts in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, each working with partners to improve the quality of the local environment, the lives of local people and the success of local businesses in areas in need of investment and support. A primary environmental regeneration charity, Groundwork's mission was to "build sustainable communities through joint environmental action".
- 6.2 We were informed that, last year, Groundwork Trusts nationally delivered projects to the value of £117 million in neighbourhoods characterised by high unemployment and crime levels, poor public health, run down housing and public spaces, waste ground and struggling local economies. The first Groundwork Trust was established on Merseyside in 1981 and there were now over 50 Trusts in the UK. Each Groundwork Trust was a partnership between public, private and voluntary sectors with its own board of trustees. National and regional offices of Groundwork UK supported the work of the Trusts, by distributing Government funding, securing support for national/regional programmes and promoting good practice. Groundwork worked closely with the Government and national and regional assemblies, local authorities, public bodies and the private sector.
- 6.3 In 2004, Groundwork approached the Council with the proposition of expanding their operations into Haringey and the North London sub-region. At the time, the Council had no form of voluntary sector environmental development body and this approach was seen as an opportunity to engage a long term cross cutting environmental/regeneration delivery body.

- 6.4 The proposed Groundwork partnership aimed to consolidate a number delivery gaps in the Council's environmental, regeneration and neighbourhood spheres. Groundwork in Haringey would prioritise programmes that contributed to both sub-regional strategies particularly within the context of sustainable regeneration of the Lee Valley, and narrow the gaps between the east and the west of the Borough by focusing on areas of greatest need. Groundwork will add greatest value in Haringey by:
- Strengthening our focus and capacity for improvement on environmental, climate change and sustainability issues.
  - Brokering partnerships with the private, public and voluntary sector to deliver local environmental regeneration
  - Strengthening the capacity of local communities to successfully regenerate their neighbourhoods
  - Engaging the private sector more fully in environmental regeneration/stewardship.
  - Attracting and investing resources to maximise the impact and targeting of Groundwork activity to areas of need and in doing reduce pressure on council resources to deliver improvements.
  - Providing additional project management capacity to increase the volume of environment regeneration projects that can be undertaken
  - Improving consultation and engagement with local communities
- 6.5 Groundwork's close association with Government departments and other bodies was also seen as an advantage that could further strengthen the Council's existing partnerships with such agencies and pave the way for greater involvement on regional/sub-regional projects and programmes. We report that we approved Groundwork's business plan proposal and ratified a 6 year partnership for agreement for the establishment of Groundwork North London.

## **Crime and Community Safety**

### **7. DISCRETIONARY LICENSING IN THE PRIVATE RENTED SECTOR**

- 7.1 The Council will be aware that, in April 2006, we successfully introduced mandatory Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) licensing. At our meeting on 21 February 2006 we also expressed a commitment to piloting and testing discretionary licensing powers and agreed for a further report to be brought to us at a future meeting.
- 7.2 We considered a report which advised us that problems of poor management and facilities were not only confined to those HMOs which were subject to mandatory licensing, nor did these problems relate only to HMOs. For this reason, the Housing Act 2004 gave Councils powers to require certain other private rented accommodation to be licensed in specified circumstances. It was proposed to use these new powers to ensure that other private sector landlords improved the management, amenity and safety standards of their properties, and also to tackle anti-social behaviour.
- 7.3 A discretionary scheme currently required the consent of the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) but we were informed that the Secretary of State intended to extend general approval for additional licensing schemes to those authorities in England classified overall as "Excellent" or "Good" in Comprehensive Performance Assessment".

In all other circumstances an individual scheme would require confirmation from the DCLG. We were also informed that additional HMO licensing schemes would apply to a particular type of HMO, or for a particular area of the borough where the Council considered that a significant proportion of the HMOs of that type were being ineffectively managed and as such presented concerns for either the occupants or the public. A selective licensing designation might be made if the area was one experiencing low housing demand or was experiencing a significant and persistent problem caused by anti-social behaviour, where the designation with other measures, would lead to a reduction in, or elimination of, the problem.

- 7.4 We report that having considered the options and implications for the introduction of discretionary licensing in Haringey we approved a discretionary licensing scheme to commence in the Myddleton Road, N22 area in April 2008, subject to DCLG approval. Having also noted that the Council had the discretion to charge for licensing so that the function was self-financing we also agreed that a licence fee be charged for each property application.

## **Community Involvement**

### **8. HARINGEY LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2007/10**

- 8.1 The Council will be aware that the Local Area Agreement (LAA) is a three year agreement between the local authority, its partners and central government. We considered a report to which was attached Haringey's Local Area Agreement as agreed by the Haringey Strategic Partnership. We noted that the key aspects of the agreement were the introduction which laid out the draft overall priorities as emerging through the Sustainable Community Strategy and five priority themes for the LAA. We noted that there were four blocks in the LAA, viz: children and young people; healthier communities and older people; safer and stronger communities: and economic development. Each of these blocks included the following -
- mandatory targets which had been set by Central Government;
  - optional targets which partners believed were important locally and where partnership working could add value to overall outcomes;
  - funding streams that were nationally pooled and those that partners had identified locally for alignment.
- 8.2 We also noted that there would be a Reward Element which would include 12 stretch targets to be agreed with Government Departments. If the stretch was delivered this would draw down funding known as the Performance Related Grant (PRG) potentially worth £9m in three years time. Currently there were 14 targets which were being negotiated. The final intention was to agree 12 targets which would receive pump priming funding not exceeding £81,000.
- 8.3 The agreement also included three freedoms and flexibilities that Haringey had requested from Central Government in order to deliver some of the key local outcomes around worklessness and the environment. However, the signs were that these would not be granted by Central Government. An equalities impact assessment carried out on the LAA

had shown no adverse equalities impacts arising from the Agreement and we report that we approved the final draft.

## **Environment**

### **9. RECYCLING STRATEGY**

9.1 We considered a report the purpose of which was to -

- propose the adoption of a recycling strategy for Haringey; and
- outline the options for developing the recycling collection service over the next two years.

9.2 The strategy proposed set out a vision for recycling in the Borough in the period until 2020 and identified the aims and objectives for delivering this. We noted that recycling collection services would need to be developed to achieve equitable services for all residents which provided the opportunity to recycle the full range of materials as conveniently as possible. This would require the expansion of doorstep and near entry collection services for residents in blocks of flats, including Homes for Haringey estates, and the development of kerbside collection services to capture the full range of materials. The report also set out the options for expanding and developing recycling collection services over the next two years leading into the tendering of a new Integrated Waste Management Contract due to commence in December 2009.

9.3 We report that we adopted a Recycling Strategy for Haringey and agreed that it be reviewed and updated annually in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment. Having noted that existing service provision would need to change we also formally agreed to expand mixed multi-material kerbside collections in order to deliver services capable of meeting the expectations of residents, achieve higher recycling rates and compliance with EU Landfill Directives.

## **Leader**

### **10. ACTIONS TAKEN UNDER URGENCY PROCEDURES**

10.1 We were informed of the following actions taken by Directors in consultation with Executive Members.

Acquisition of Former Rail Land for a New Secondary School on Haringey Heartlands

Approval to terms for the purchase of the site known as the former rail sand sidings at Haringey Heartlands.

Council Tax Base for 2007/08

Approval, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, the amount calculated as the Council's tax base for the year as 84,468. Also endorsement of the current approach to locally defined discounts originally introduced from 1 April 2004 continuing for 2007/08.



**12. DELEGATED DECISIONS AND SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS**

- 12.1 We were informed of significant actions which involved expenditure of more than £50,000 taken by Directors under delegated powers.

**Chief Executive**

Changes to Officer Scheme of Delegation to Implement Council Reshaping. This delegated action brings into operation the amendments require to reflect the new structure. Existing delegated powers to the new Directors and their second tier officers have therefore been re-allocated within each section of the scheme of delegation.

**Assistant Chief Executive Access**

Survey for St. Ann's Library Hall Extension

Mechanical and Electrical Consultants for Redevelopment of St Ann's Library Hall

Structural Engineering Design Consultants for Redevelopment of St. Ann's Library

Redevelopment of St. Ann's Library Hall Extension – Lifelong Learning Facilities

Software to convert and maintain web site metadata to IPSV.

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