

NOTICE OF MEETING

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

MONDAY, 16TH JANUARY, 2006 at 19:00 HRS - .

MEMBERS: Councillors Bull (Chair), Bevan, Jean Brown, Davies, Dawson, Harris (Deputy Chair) and Winskill

Co-Optees: Sheila Berkery-Smith, Bill Aulsberry, Lance Haward, Indu Shukla and Christendai Bhagwandeem

AGENDA

1. WEBCASTING

Please note: This meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site - at the start of the meeting the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed. The images and sound recording may be used for training purposes within the Council.

Generally the public seating areas are not filmed. However, by entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes.

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the Committee Clerk at the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. URGENT BUSINESS

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

4. 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.

5. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 20)

To confirm and sign the minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on:

- i) 21 November 2005
- ii) 30 November 2005
- iii) 12 December 2005

6. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS

To consider any requests received in accordance with Standing Orders.

7. EXECUTIVE MEMBER QUESTIONS

The Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety.

8. GROWING UP IN HARINGEY (PAGES 21 - 56)

(Report of the Director of Haringey Teaching Primary Care Trust) - Presentation

9. SCRUTINY REVIEW UPDATE ON YOUTH DEMOCRACY

(Report of the Deputy Director (Resources & Community) – Children's Service – **to follow**)

10. SCRUTINY REVIEW OF ALLOTMENTS (PAGES 57 - 88)

(Report of the Chair of the Review Panel) – To agree the report outlining the conclusions and recommendations of the Review

11. SCRUTINY REVIEW OF STREET SWEEPING AND CLEANING

(Report of the Chair of the Review Panel) – **to follow**

12. SCRUTINY REVIEW OF FLY TIPPING (PAGES 89 - 92)

(Report of the Chair of the Review Panel) – To consider deferring this review to the next municipal year.

13. SCRUTINY REVIEW OF MOBILE PHONE MASTS – CHAIR’S POSITION (PAGES 93 - 98)

(Report of Overview & Scrutiny Manager) – To approve the membership, scope and terms of reference for the Scrutiny Review of Mobile Phone Masts

14. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY MEMBER REQUESTS (PAGES 99 - 104)

15. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

Yuniea Semambo
Head of Member Services
River Park House
225 High Road
Wood Green
London N22 8HQ

Giancarlo Laura
Principal Support Officer (Council)
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**MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
21 NOVEMBER 2005**

MEMBERS: Councillors *Bull (Chair) *Harris (Vice-Chair), *Bevan, *J Brown, *Davies, Dawson, and *Winskill.

Co-optees: Mr. B. Aulsberry and *Mrs. I Shukla (REJCC non-voting Representatives) Mrs. C Bhagwandeem plus 2 Vacancies (parent governors), Ms S. Berkery-Smith and L. Haward (Church Representatives).

* Members Present

As neither the Chair nor the Vice-Chair were present at the commencement of the meeting, Cllr Brown was proposed as Chair until the arrival of Cllr Bull from another meeting he was attending in his capacity as Chair of the Scrutiny Review of Teenage Pregnancy. This was approved upon a vote.

SC86. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for lateness received from Cllr Bull, Cllr Harris and Cllr Davies.

SC87. LATE/URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

None received

SC88 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Winskill declared an interest in relation to Items 6, 7 and 8 as a Friend of Hornsey Hospital.

SC89. MINUTES: 8 November 2005

The minutes of 8 November 2005 will be made available at the next meeting of Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

SC90. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS

There were no deputations or petitions.

SC91. HEALTH BUDGET SCRUTINY (Report of the Director of Finance, Haringey TPCT) (Agenda Item 6)

The Director of Finance, Haringey Teaching Primary Care Trust, gave a presentation on the Trust's financial planning. Three main strategic challenges were highlighted, these being NHS targets, managing demand and changing the way clinical services are delivered and improving mental health services. All of these were influenced by the Government's document entitled Commissioning a Patient care led NHS, which detailed proposed reorganisations of PCTs and health authorities and

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the changing role of PCTs.

Haringey TPCT's current financial position was detailed, with a significant underlying deficit driven by new terms and conditions for staff, increasing secondary care activity and Government targets. To achieve financial balance, the Trust aims to take a tougher approach to commissioning, make savings on management costs and overheads, reduce hospitalisation and find new ways of delivering care. The Director of Finance, Haringey Teaching Primary Care Trust, commented that balance would be achieved by 2007/08 after being likely not to do so this year and in 2006/07.

The Committee raised a number of issues in relation to the presentation. The issue of spearhead status was raised, and it was commented that Haringey had been designated this status and this had led to tougher targets being set on issues such as teenage conception and smoking rates. The issue of the condition of the Health Centre on Fernlea Road, and it was commented that the GPs were responsible for the maintenance of the premises, and that he would look into the issue. The issue of shared working between organisations dealing with people with mental illness was raised, and it was commented that the Trust was working hard to identify care pathways for all patients to cure the endemic problem of passing from organisation to organisation.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee approved the financial planning position set out in the presentation.

At this point, Cllr Bull joined the meeting and took the Chair.

SC92. FINANCE BUDGET SCRUTINY (Report of the Director of Finance) (Agenda Item 7)

The Executive Member for Finance introduced the report, highlighting the improved Council Tax collection rates and the reduction of the grant from the Government. The Committee asked whether the Council was able to spend more if it raised more through improved Council Tax collection, and it was commented that any surplus could be spent next year but thereafter the rate of Government grant would be adjusted. The Committee raised the issue of processing of benefits claims, and it was commented that the average turnaround time had dropped to 38 days, notwithstanding the need to send back 75% of forms received to the customer for more information.

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The New Capital Investment Proposals were discussed, and the Committee raised the issue of investment being budgeted for both the repair and the replacement of Hornsey Town Hall Public Hall roof. It was commented that at the stage of producing the document that a decision had not been taken as to whether to repair or replace the roof, but now it had been decided to go with the replacement option. The Committee agreed to remove the capital investment proposal covering the repair of the roof.

The asset disposal programme was discussed, and it was commented that though the Asset Stream Board did not have any Members on it, Members are informed of any proposals to sell off land that is politically sensitive or in a Member's ward. The development of Hornsey Town Hall was raised, and it was commented that the Council would pursue all funding options in a twin-track approach. The issue of contractors and consultants on the Council payroll was discussed, and it was commented that a report detailing the plan to control all contractors and consultants centrally would be presented to the Procurement Committee on 6th December. It was agreed that this report would be circulated to the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee approved the financial planning position set out in the report and the pre-business plan reviews covering Benefits and Local Taxation business unit, Corporate Finance business unit, Corporate Procurement business unit and Property Services business unit with the exception of New Capital Investment Proposal number 4, repairs to Hornsey Town Hall roof. The Committee raised concerns over the central control of contracts, consultants and temporary staff working in the Council, and it was agreed that a report covering this issue would be distributed to the Committee before 12 December 2005.

**SC93. HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO BUDGET
SCRUTINY** (Report of the Director of Social Services and
Director of Finance) (Agenda Item 8)

The Executive Member for Health & Social Services introduced the report, highlighting the pressures on the budget caused by rising numbers of older people, people with dementia and people with complex disabilities, plus increased life expectancy of people with disabilities and rising expectations for individualised packages of care. These pressures have led to a

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projected £0.6m overspend on the Social Services budget for 2005/06.

The Committee raised the issue of the cut in the supported capital expenditure grant, which was being used to fund the adaptations programme. It was commented that this cut would have a detrimental effect on the programme, but that the Council were moving funding of the adaptations programme to base funds, which would allow a stronger response to the challenge. The concern of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee regarding the cut in the supported capital expenditure grant was noted.

The issue of the refurbishment of Grange Home Care and Day Care premises was raised, and it was commented that although there had been no planned maintenance programme in relation to the building, day-to-day repairs had been made. It was agreed that the costs of these repairs would be detailed to Members. The issue of the proposed re-design of the Winkfield Resource Centre was discussed, and it was commented that the figure quoted was an estimate and that the proposed feasibility study would return a more accurate figure. It was agreed that a more realistic estimate of the costs would be provided to the Committee before 12 December.

The proposed review of charging policy in Older People's Services was discussed, and it was commented that residential care charges would be made fairer and there would be no more than the first six weeks free for certain people. The Committee requested more details on the proposed savings figure, and it was agreed that the findings of the review would be presented before the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee approved the financial planning position set out in the report and the pre-business plan reviews covering Adult Services and Older People's Services. The Committee raised concerns over the estimated cost of the re-design of the Winkfield Resource Centre, and the cost of day-to-day repairs to the Grange Home care and Day Care premises, and it was agreed that a more detailed briefing on these issues would be made available to Members before 12 December 2005. It was also agreed that the Committee would be consulted over the findings of the review of the charging policy when this is completed.

**SC94. ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT & PERFORMANCE
PORTFOLIO BUDGET SCRUTINY (Report of the Assistant**

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Chief Executives, Strategy, Access and OD) (Agenda Item 9)

The Executive Member for Organisational Development & Performance introduced the report. The Committee raised the issue of slippage on the Tech Refresh budget and the Executive Member commented that the additional spend was necessary to modernise the system and would bring efficiency savings. The IT Capital Programme was discussed, and it was commented that improvements would be made in the collection methods of Council Tax and parking fines, the costs of back office functions and non-cashable savings. The Committee raised concerns over the number of people using e-services, and it was commented that this was increasing year by year and the Council had to offer more contact pathways for residents.

The issue of recruitment budget was raised and it was commented that Haringey needed to compete with other employers and the spending was required for stands and publicity materials. The correction of the schools payroll charge was discussed and it was agreed that this would not be approved until more information on this was provided to the Committee before 12 December.

The issue of the Vision and Values consultation development was raised and after a vote it was agreed that this would be approved by the Committee. The payment of Member broadband monthly charges was discussed, and it was agreed that the exact figures for the charges would be provided to the Committee before 12 December 2005. The issue of trial extended opening hours was discussed, and it was commented that this was an estimate of the cost implications of extended opening hours to the public, which would be established by a feasibility study. The ACE (Access) agreed that the bid was not essential this year and that the cost of the feasibility study could be contained from existing resources. The Overview & Scrutiny Committee rejected the bid pending the outcome of the feasibility study.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee approved the financial planning position set out in the report and the pre-business plan reviews covering Corporate IT, Legal business unit and Organisational Development, with the exception of New Revenue Investment Proposal 21, Correction of the Schools Payroll Charge, which is to be re-considered following the circulation of a detailed briefing note before 12 December 2005 and New Revenue Investment Proposal 38, Trial Extending of Opening Hours, which was

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rejected pending a feasibility study. The Committee raised concerns over the figures budgeted for Members' Broadband charges, and it was agreed that a detailed breakdown of this figure would be made available before 12 December 2005.

SC95. SCRUTINY REVIEW PROCESS (Report of the Head of Legal Services and Head of Improvement, Performance and Scrutiny) (Agenda Item 10)

This item was deferred until a future meeting of Overview & Scrutiny Committee

SC96. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY MEMBER REQUESTS (Agenda Item 11)

This item was deferred until a future meeting of Overview & Scrutiny Committee

SC97. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS (Agenda Item 12)

There were no new items of urgent business.

Notes:

The meeting ended at 22:30HRS

**Councillor Gideon Bull
Chair – Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

**MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
30 NOVEMBER 2005**

MEMBERS: Councillors *Bull (Chair) *Harris (Vice-Chair), *Bevan, *J Brown, *Davies, Dawson, and *Winskill.

Co-optees: Mr. B. Aulsberry and *Mrs. I Shukla (REJCC non-voting Representatives) Mrs. C Bhagwandeem plus 2 Vacancies (parent governors), Ms S. Berkery-Smith and L. Haward (Church Representatives).

* Members Present

SC98. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for lateness received from Cllrs Harris and Dawson, and for absence from Cllr Canver.

SC99 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

SC100. LATE/URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

None received

SC101. MINUTES: 8 November 2005

The minutes of 8 November 2005 meeting of Overview & Scrutiny Committee were agreed and signed by the Chair, subject to the following amendments:

- i) That it be noted that the report being prepared by Housing Service for 12 December would cover the number of posts saved in Housing Service for the equivalent posts created for the ALMO.
- ii) That a report covering the Next Day Fix scheme be prepared for the Committee before 12 December.

SC102. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS

There were no deputations or petitions.

**SC103. CRIME & COMMUNITY SAFETY PORTFOLIO BUDGET
SCRUTINY** (Report of the Assistant Chief Executives (Access, Strategy & OD) & Director of Finance and Report of the Director of Environmental Services & Director of Finance) (Agenda Item 6)

The Head of Safer Communities gave a brief introduction on the budget proposals for the Safer Communities business unit. The

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Committee raised the issue of NRF funding in new Revenue Investment Proposals 1 and 2, and it was commented that these issues were listed to highlight the risk. The Committee wished to note that a strategy for mainstreaming posts currently funded from NRF monies would be desirable. The proposed cut of 0.5 staff posts in the Youth Offending Service was raised, and the Committee rejected this proposal.

The Assistant Director, Enforcement, gave a brief introduction on the budget proposals for the Enforcement business unit. The Committee raised the issue of the proposed new mortuary and it was commented that a section 106 agreement could not be used on this and that it was subject to the normal planning process. The issue of MVM licence costs was raised, and it was commented that a new figure for the cost would be provided by December 12. The Committee agreed not to approve the MVM licence costs proposal until the new figure was circulated.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Committee approved the financial planning position set out in the report and the pre-business plan reviews covering Safer Communities business unit with the exception of New Cashable Efficiency Saving number 2, Cut 0.5 staff post in YOS.
- ii) That the Committee approved the financial planning position set out in the report and the pre-business plan reviews covering Enforcement business unit with the exception of New Revenue Investment Proposal 49, MVM licence costs, for which a report will be prepared before December 12 2005 detailing new figures for investment proposals.

**SC104. EQUALITIES & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PORTFOLIO
BUDGET SCRUTINY** (Report of the Assistant Chief Executives, Access, Strategy & OD) (Agenda Item 7)

The Leader of the Council, Cllr Adje, gave a brief introduction on the Equalities business unit. The Committee raised the issue of increased spending on Black History Month events and it was commented that this figure was increasing due to the programme gathering momentum and more people getting involved. The Committee approved of this increase, and agreed with the leader that it was a matter of pride that the Borough invested in this area. The proposed loss of post in Equalities was raised, and the Leader commented that he hoped that the Committee would not approve this measure. The Committee commented that it was unhappy with being advised to reject

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proposals put before them by Executive Members. The Leader commented that the Executive wished to have the proposals prepared by officers looked at by the Committee before they were considered by the Executive. It was agreed to reject the proposed review of the role of Equalities.

The Executive Member for Community Involvement gave a brief introduction on the business units in the portfolio. The Committee raised a number of issues with figures in the report being inaccurate, and it was noted that these need to be checked more thoroughly before being presented before the Committee. The Committee also requested that in future an extra column be added to the sheets noting the Executive Member's responsible for each proposal.

The issue of funding for the schools libraries service was raised, and it was commented that the schools would withdraw from the service if their costs were increased, so investment would have to be made. The issue of Member Learning and Development was discussed and it was commented that member attendance at training sessions was higher than perceived, and that an induction programme would be developed for new Members following the forthcoming Council Elections. The role of the proposed new Member Learning and Development Manager and the contingency budget for Member Services Review were discussed, and it was agreed that more information would be distributed to the Committee before 9th December before these proposals could be agreed.

The Committee raised the issue of the proposal to roll out the new areas for Neighbourhood Management. It was commented that these areas would be based on the seven area assembly boundaries, and that the proposed figure would be divided equally between each of the seven areas for the Neighbourhood Managers to use for driving forward area based working. Cllr Davies requested that it be noted that he believed this to be an unfair distribution of funds as the area assembly for his area covered four wards. Cllr Dawson requested that it be noted that these proposals were in line with the discussions of the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel on this issue. It was agreed that the proposal would not be agreed without more information being provided to the Committee before 9 December.

The proposed restructure of Member Services was discussed and it was agreed to reject this proposal. The issue of town twinning budget was raised, and the Committee requested that the budget be used to conduct a consultation on whether town twinning should continue in any form or not. It was agreed that

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more information regarding the nature of official relations between the Borough and other towns be provided to the Committee. The issue of spending on Haringey People was discussed, and the Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy) commented that the total cost of the newsletter would be made available to the Committee. Cllr Winskill abstained from agreeing New Cashable Efficiency Saving 3, proposal to reduce new initiative development fund.

RESOLVED:

i) That the Committee approved the financial planning position set out in the report and the pre-business plan reviews covering Equalities business unit with the exception of New Cashable Efficiency Saving number 18, review of role of Equalities. A briefing note on the details of the proposed affected post be prepared for the Committee before December 12 2005.

ii) That the Committee approved the financial planning position set out in the report and the pre-business plan reviews covering Libraries, Archives and Museums, Neighbourhood Management, Customer Services, Member Services and Communications business units with the exception of New Cashable Efficiency Saving number 21, review of structure of Member Services and New Cashable Efficiency Saving number 20, deletion of town twinning budget, which would be subject to more information on the relationship between Haringey and twinned towns.

That reports giving more detail on New Revenue Investment Proposal number 31, new Member Learning & Development Manager, New Revenue Investment Proposal number 34, contingency for Member Services Review and New Revenue Investment Proposal number 49, roll out of seven new areas for Neighbourhood Management be prepared before December 12 2005 to allow the Committee to make a decision on these proposals.

SC105. ENTERPRISE & REGENERATION PORTFOLIO BUDGET SCRUTINY (Report of the Assistant Chief Executives (Access, Strategy & OD) & Director of Finance and Report of the Director of Environmental Services & Director of Finance) (Agenda Item 8)

The Executive Member for Economic Development and Regeneration gave a brief introduction on the budget proposals for the Planning business unit. The issue of appeals costs

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contingency was discussed, and it was commented that this additional funding was needed to fund appeals against planning decisions and defend the Council's decisions. The issue of Section 106 cost recovery was discussed, and it was commented that the Council was able to force developers to pay for Council staff costs which produced savings.

The Executive Member for Economic Development and Regeneration gave a brief introduction on the budget proposals for the Strategy business unit. The issue of the budget cut for Upper Lee Valley was discussed and it was commented that this funding was being used for Wood Green Town Centre activity, but that other monies were being sourced to replace this proposed cut. Upon a vote, the Committee agreed to reject the proposal.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Committee approved the financial planning position set out in the report and the pre-business plan reviews covering Planning, Environmental Policy & Performance business unit
- ii) That the Committee approved the financial planning position set out in the report and the pre-business plan reviews covering Strategy business unit with the exception of New Cashable Efficiency Saving number 4, cut budget for Upper Lea Valley.

SC106. CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO BUDGET SCRUTINY
(Report of the Director of Children's Services & Director of Finance) (Agenda Item 9)

The Executive Member for Children and Young People gave a brief introduction on the budget proposals for the Children's Service. The issue of the missing figures for the Building Schools for the Future investment proposals was discussed, and it was commented that the Council had not received confirmation of the final figure but was working on a provisional figure of £130m. The issue of amalgamations was discussed, and it was commented that the this funding would be used to ensure single points of entry and a single larger staff room for amalgamated schools. It was commented that the investment proposal for catering would cover the kitchens used by the external catering companies. The issue of the Inclusive Learning Campus for Broadwater Farm was discussed, and it was commented that this would provide a path through education for local children up to 18 years of age.

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The Committee raised the issue of New Revenue Investment Proposals 8, 9 and 14, and it was agreed that these should be under the New Capital Investment Proposals heading. The issue of Special Educational Needs transport costs was discussed, and it was commented the Council would work with special schools to deal with the issue together.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee approved the financial planning position set out in the report and the pre-business plan reviews covering Children and Families, School Standards and Inclusion, Community and Resources, Delivery & Performance and Business Support and Development business units. It was agreed that New Revenue Investment Proposals 8, 9 and 14 would be moved into the New Capital Investment Proposals section.

SC107. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY MEMBER REQUESTS (Agenda Item 10)

This item was deferred until a future meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

SC108. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS (Agenda Item 11)

There were no new items of urgent business.

Notes:

The meeting ended at 22:15HRS

**Councillor Gideon Bull
Chair – Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

**MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
12 DECEMBER 2005**

MEMBERS: Councillors *Bull (Chair) *Harris (Vice-Chair), *Bevan, *J Brown, Davies, *Dawson, and *Winskill.

Co-optees: Mr. B. Aulsberry and *Mrs. I Shukla (REJCC non-voting Representatives) Mrs. C Bhagwandeem plus 2 Vacancies (parent governors), Ms S. Berkery-Smith and L. Haward (Church Representatives).

* Members Present

SC109. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence received from Cllr Davies.

SC110. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

SC111. LATE/URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

None received

SC112. DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS

There were no deputations or petitions.

SC113. SUPPORT TO SMALL BUSINESS UPDATE: (Report of the Assistant Chief Executive, Strategy) (Agenda Item 9)

The Business & Enterprise Manager introduced the report, highlighting progress on recommendations made in the scrutiny review of Maximising Support to Small Businesses, including the implementation of a single gateway to guide small business and the increased membership of the North London Chamber of Commerce.

The Committee discussed the progress highlighted in the report and raised a number of issues. The Committee raised concern that the report had been published in February 2004 and that the Single Business Account would not be established until October 2006. The issue of liaison between planning and economic regeneration was raised, and the Committee requested that more information be provided on how the two business units work together to ensure a supply of business premises in the Borough. The Committee commented that it would demonstrate the importance of the updates following scrutiny review recommendations if the head of unit or appropriate Executive Member were present to give the update, and requested that a further update on this issue be presented

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in the next municipal year.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee noted the improvements detailed in the report subject to reservations raised concerning the amount of time taken for the establishment of a single gateway for small businesses and the lack of evidence of joint working between economic regeneration and planning business units, and requested that an update on progress be presented to the Committee in the next municipal year

SC114. MINUTES: 21 November 2005 and 30 November 2005

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of 21 November 2005 and 30 November 2005 meetings of Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be available at the next meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

SC115. BERNIE GRANT CENTRE UPDATE: (Report of the Director of Finance) (Agenda Item 8)

The Chief Executive of the Bernie Grant Arts Centre introduced the report and gave a short presentation on maximising the benefits of the Centre. The presentation covered regeneration benefits from the Centre, the arts and learning programmes and developing an audience. Builders have been hired and construction will commence in January 2006.

The Committee asked when the Centre would be up and running and it was commented that the planned date was September 2007, with the total budget for the Centre being £14m, £10.8m of which would be spent on construction. The Committee commented that many of the objectives were currently marked as 'in progress', and that it was perfectly understandable that this was the case at this stage of the project, but it requested that an update be given when progress could be judged. The Chief Executive of the Bernie Grant Arts Centre commented that September 2006 would be a good point to provide a further update as the first key people would be in post by May 2006 and construction work would give a greater idea of how the Centre will look, which would attract sponsors for the Centre. The issue of the governance structure was discussed and it was commented that work has been done on this by a consultant and an operating company will be established, which will work with the Bernie Grant Partnership. The issue of sustainability was raised, and it was commented

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that the Centre would have a mixed income, from a combination of ticket sales, Arts Council and Haringey Council funding and rental income from 20 on-site enterprise centres. The Chief Executive of the Bernie Grant Arts Centre commented that there would be an event in February 2006 which would enable interested parties to see the groundwork on the site and give an idea of how the scheme will look.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee noted the report and welcomed the new Chief Executive of the Bernie Grant Arts Centre to the post, and requested that an update on progress be presented to the Committee in September 2006.

SC116. EXECUTIVE MEMBER QUESTIONS: The Executive Member for Finance and the Executive Member for Community Involvement (Agenda Item 6)

The Executive Member for Finance, Cllr Milner, distributed an update of key issues and progress in his portfolio area, and gave answers to questions submitted in advance. The Executive Member answered supplementary questions put to him by the Committee as follows:

Q – Is there any reason for the 2% uplift in the Government's grant to Haringey and will it have any impact on services and council tax?

A – Haringey has not been singled out in any way, the same conditions have been applied to around two thirds of all London Boroughs. This is due to more funds being directed at areas of deprivation in the north of Britain. Haringey does well on specific grants such as the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund, and education funding now goes directly to the schools. There are no planned cuts in services as efficiency savings will be made by reducing back office functions and ploughing the savings into frontline services.

Q – In which areas will savings be made?

A – Savings should be made in areas such as procurement, agency contracts and the SAP project, which will provide savings worth £1m over two years.

The Executive Member for Community Involvement, Cllr Reith, distributed an update of key issues and progress in her portfolio area, and gave answers to questions submitted in advance. The

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Executive Member answered supplementary questions put to him by the Committee as follows:

Q – What is the total figure of net costs for Haringey People?

A – The total budget for Haringey People is £294k. We are going to push for greater advertising content now we can demonstrate that it is delivered to every household in the Borough. I will provide a full answer regarding net costs in writing to the Committee within ten days.

Q – What is the role and decision making power of the Voluntary Sector Grants Committee?

A – The Voluntary Sector Grants Committee agrees the policy of the awarding of grants against set criteria. I can provide further information on the decision making power of the Committee in writing to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee within ten days.

Q – What will the newly expanded Neighbourhood Management teams be working on?

A – The Neighbourhood Management teams will be working on an action plan for their own areas, which will be in conjunction with the areas' local groups.

Q – What progress has been made on the proposed library in White Hart Lane ward?

A – Suitable premises have yet to be identified, but the proposal remains a priority for the libraries team.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Committee's thanks to the Executive Members for attending be noted.
- ii) That the Executive Members' briefings and answers to questions be noted.

SC117. BUDGET SCRUTINY COMMENTS FOR THE EXECUTIVE:
(Report of the Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee)
(Agenda Item 7)

The Chair introduced the report and commented that it consisted of a compilation of comments and issues raised in the Budget Scrutiny process. The Committee raised issues regarding Neighbourhood Wardens, welcoming the investment proposed in the budget, and requested that the recommendations of the

**MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
12 DECEMBER 2005**

Scrutiny Review of Neighbourhood Wardens be noted by the Executive, and the town twinning budget, for which the wording was amended.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee approved the recommendations of the report and that the report be passed to the Executive for consideration subject to the following amendments/additions:

- i) That it be recorded that the Committee welcomed the investment for Neighbourhood Wardens and the Executive take note of the recommendations of the Scrutiny Review of Neighbourhood Wardens.
- ii) That point 14.5 be amended to read "The Committee suggested that the proposed town twinning efficiency saving be held pending further information on Haringey and other European towns' twinning arrangements".

SC118. NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS SCRUTINY REVIEW: (Report of the Chair of the Scrutiny Review) (Agenda Item 10)

The Chair of the Scrutiny Review of Neighbourhood Wardens, Cllr Dawson, introduced the report and commented that there were worries over the funding of neighbourhood wardens when ODPM funding came to an end, especially in the light of the findings of the review which concluded that the Wardens' powers should be enhanced. It was hoped that the service could be mainstreamed and developed by direct Council funding. The budget report dealing with the funding of neighbourhood wardens should be clarified as the figures can either be read to be £500k or £750k, when the current cost of funding the service is approximately £600k.

The Committee raised a potential source of discontent in the warden service, the pay and responsibility differential between some wardens. It was agreed that recommendation 4 of the Review be re-worded to reflect the need to train all wardens in the full range of enforcement powers. The issue of warden visibility was also raised and it was agreed that recommendation 2 be re-worded to include the supply of high-visibility clothing to neighbourhood wardens. The issue of park wardens and the Park Constabulary was raised, and it was commented that this was not covered in the scope of the review. The Committee recommended that this be considered as a future topic of a scrutiny review by the future Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

**MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
12 DECEMBER 2005**

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations of the Neighbourhood Wardens Scrutiny Panel in respect of the Review of Neighbourhood Wardens be endorsed and that the report be referred to the Executive for its consideration subject to the following amendments/additions to the recommendations:

- i) That recommendation 2 be re-worded to include the recommendation that Neighbourhood Wardens be supplied with high-visibility clothing.
- ii) That recommendation 4 be re-worded to include the recommendation that in future all Neighbourhood Wardens be trained in the full range of enforcement powers.

SC119. SCRUTINY REVIEW PROCESS (Report of the Chief Executive and Head of Legal Services) (Agenda Item 11)

The Overview and Scrutiny Manager introduced the report and commented on the recommendation that in the event of a dispute between Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Executive that Full Council be the arbiter of the dispute.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee approved the recommendation that the Council retain the final decision in the event of a dispute between the Executive and Overview & Scrutiny Committee and that the Committee approved the referral of amendments to the Constitution to the General Purposes Committee.

SC120. OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY MEMBER REQUESTS (Agenda Item 12)

The Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee commented that he had sent email requests to officers and Executive Members responsible for the outstanding requests on the list, and was awaiting responses. Any responses received would be circulated to the Committee by the Committee Clerk.

RESOLVED:

That a full update on the status of member requests be provided at the next meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committee following responses to email requests sent by the Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee to officers and Executive Members.

**MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
12 DECEMBER 2005**

SC121. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS (Agenda Item 13)

There were no new items of urgent business.

Notes:

The meeting ended at 21:30HRS

**Councillor Gideon Bull
Chair – Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

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Growing^{up} in Haringey

HARINGEY
HEALTH
REPORT 2005

Gerry Taylor
Public Health Directorate
Haringey Teaching Primary Care Trust

Policy context

Health Inequalities Programme for Action

Choosing Health

Every Child Matters

Children Act

Health for All Children

National Service Framework (NSF)

Partnership e.g. Healthy Schools

Haringey Health Report 2005

Role of the annual health report

Why children?

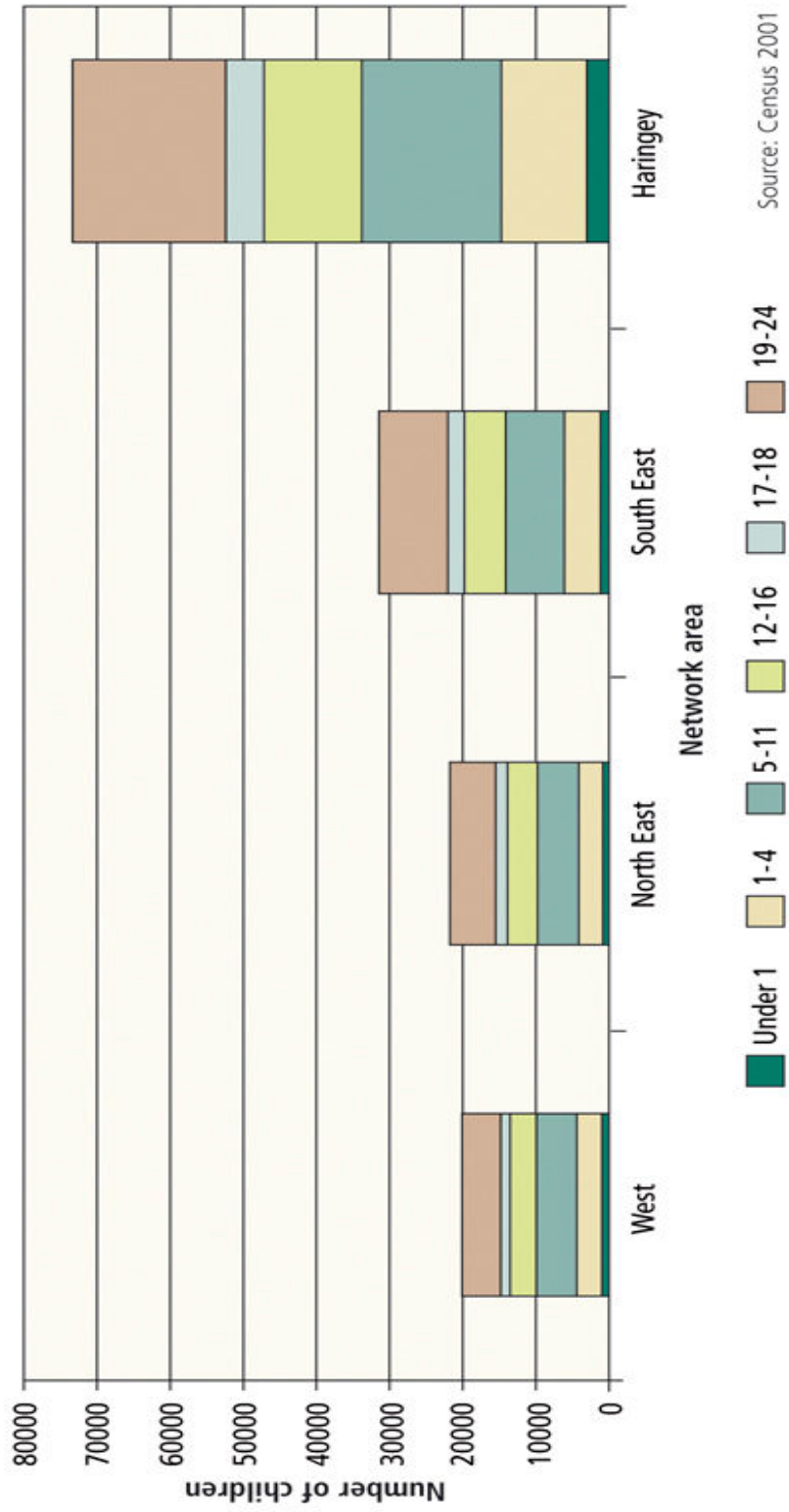
Scope of the report:

- Children and young people in Haringey
- Measuring health and illness
- Establishing and maintaining a healthy life
- Staying safe
- Enjoying and achieving
- Making a positive contribution
- Achieving economic well-being

Children and young people

- Haringey's population is relatively young and ethnically diverse.
- The number of CYP living in Haringey will grow over the next 10 years, and this growth will not be evenly distributed.
- Many CYP in Haringey living in families or households that are vulnerable to poor health.

Age distribution of children by Children's Network area, 2001



Predicted percentage increase in under 5s by ward 2001 to 2010 (Census count in brackets*)

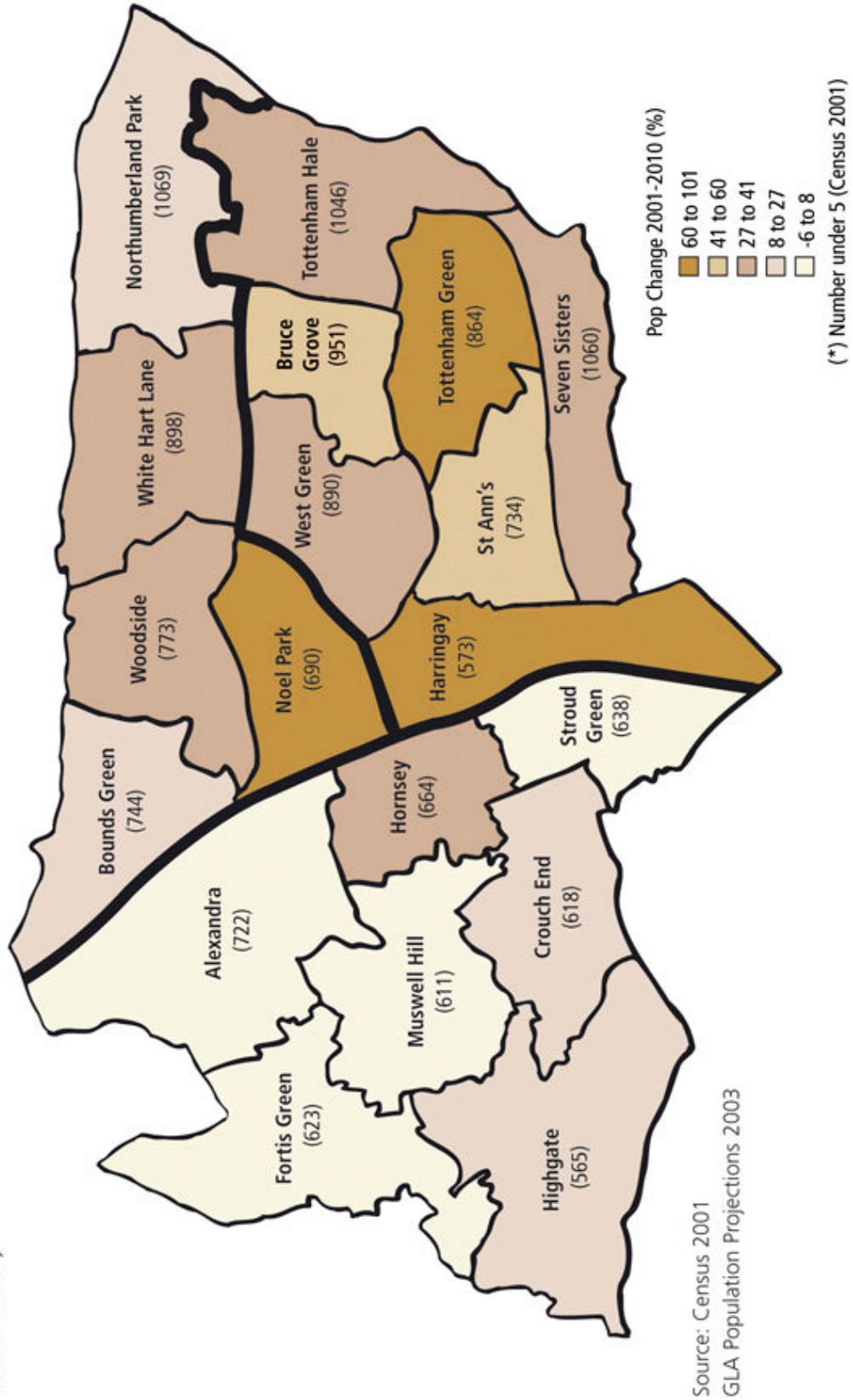
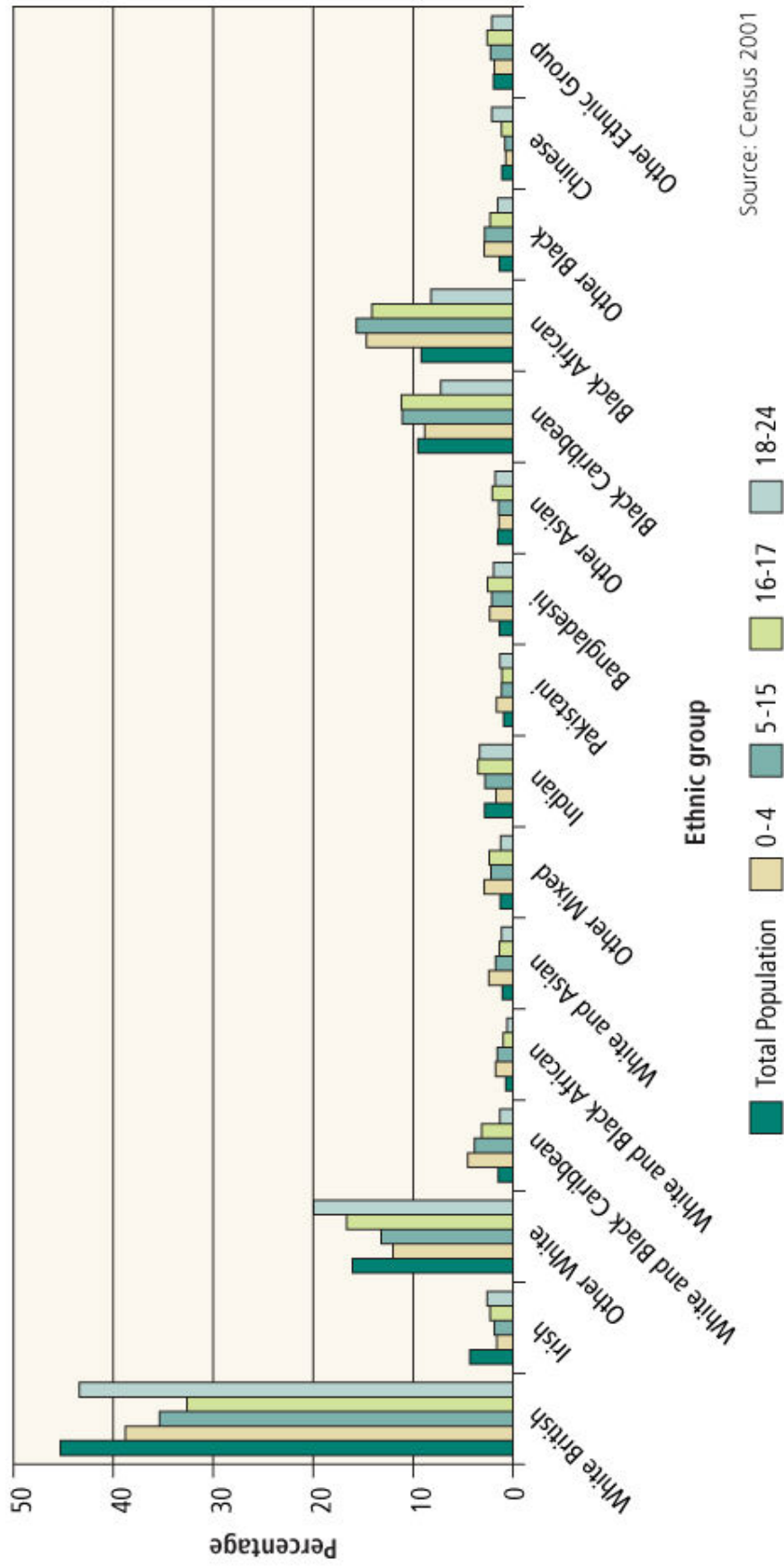


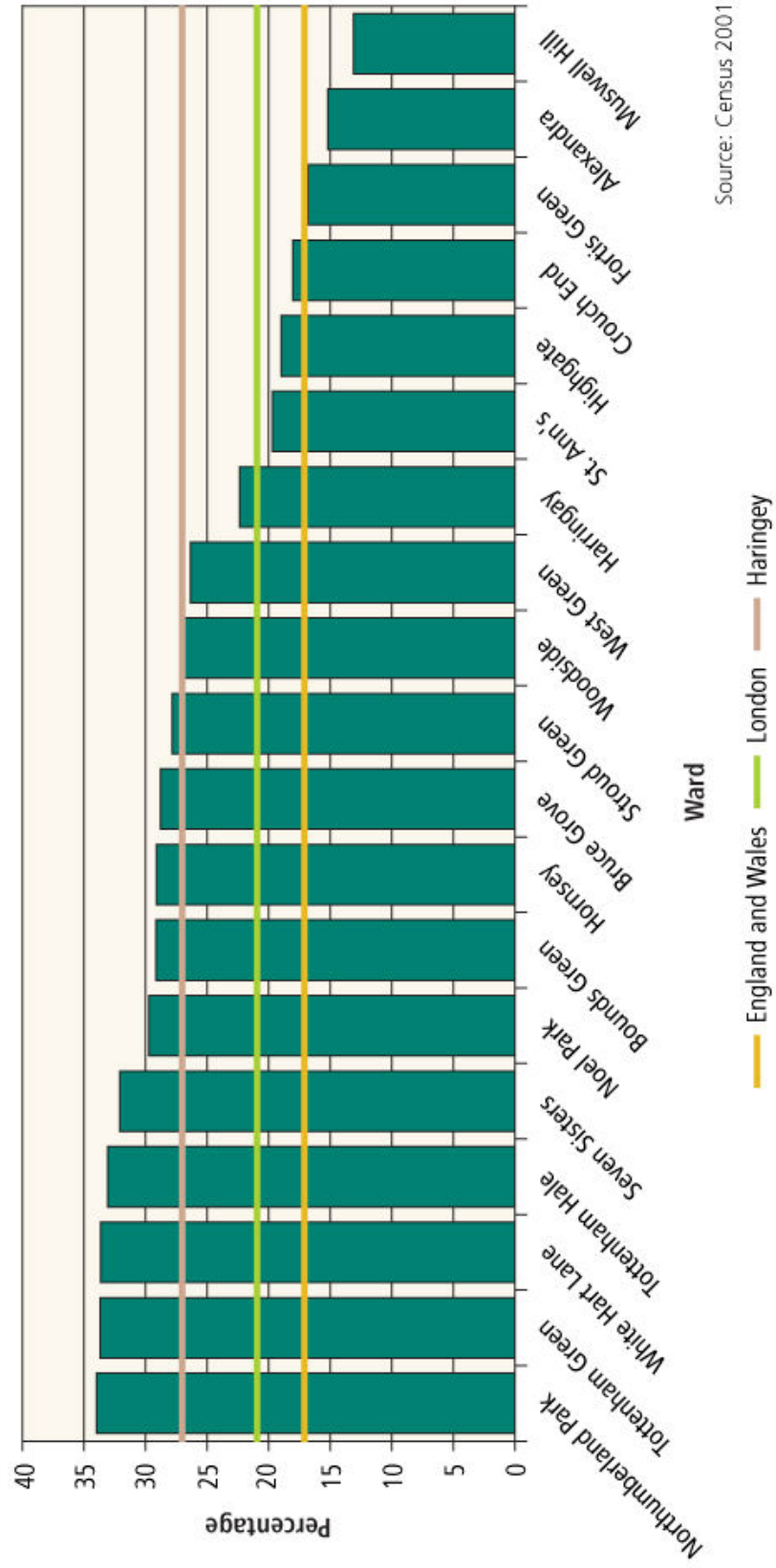
Figure 8 Ethnicity of children in Haringey by age group, 2001



CYP in special circumstances

- Lone parents- head 27% of households with dependent children
- Looked after children- 506 as of July 2005, 62% placed outside the borough
- Children seeking asylum – 357 unaccompanied children and 445 children within families seeking asylum
- Travellers – 52 children registered, all of white Irish ethnicity
- Homeless – 4,205 households with children in temporary accommodation (none in B&B)
- Population mobility and transience

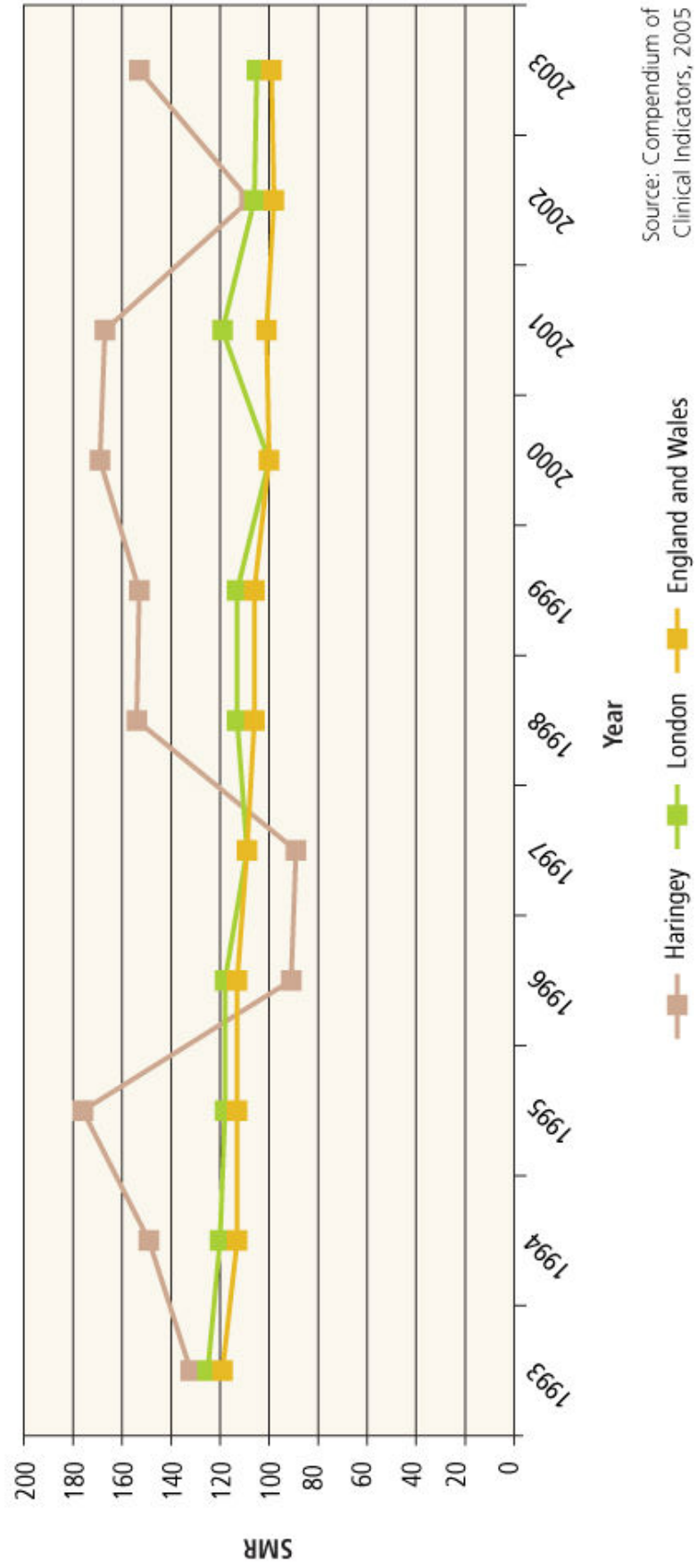
Proportion of all households with dependent children headed by a lone parent, 2001



Health and Illness

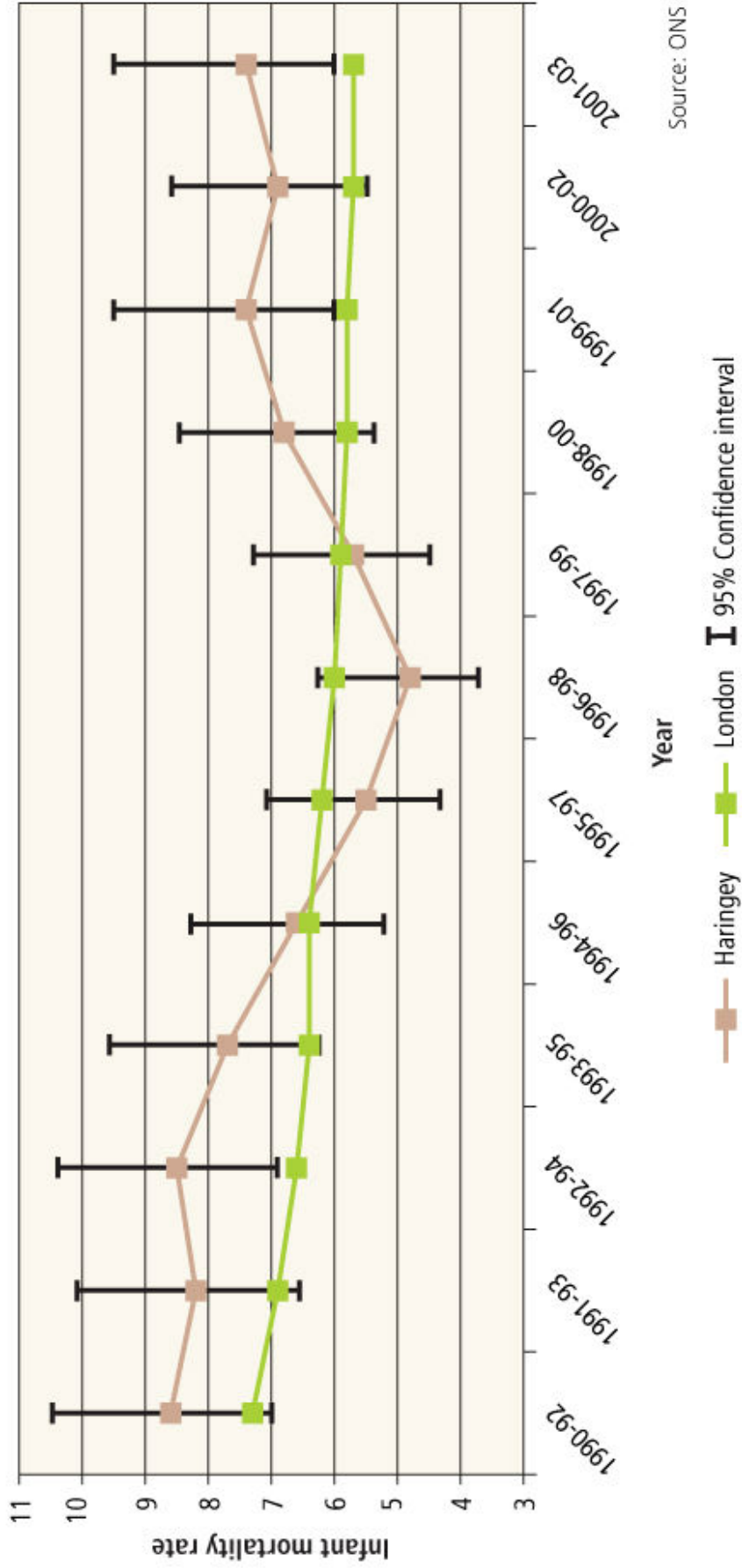
- Inequalities eg in Infant Mortality and Life Expectancy
- Importance of mental health and emotional well-being, and long-term conditions
- Pregnancies in early and later years are higher than average
- Poor immunisation coverage
- Limited understanding of CYP's need, access and utilisation of health care services

All Cause SMR for under 15s, 1993-2003

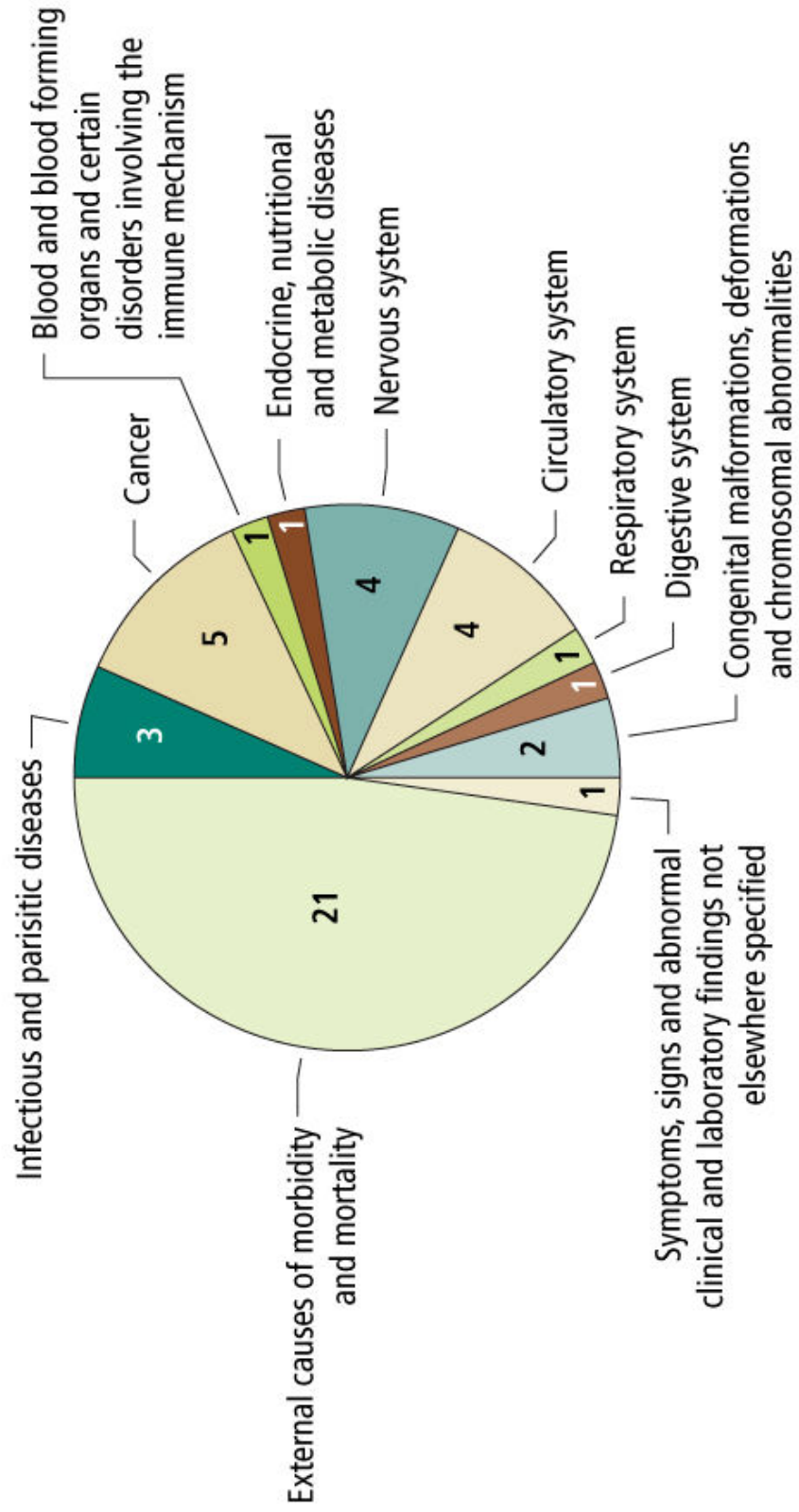


Source: Compendium of Clinical Indicators, 2005

Infant mortality in Haringey and London, 3 year rolling average, 1990/92-2001/03



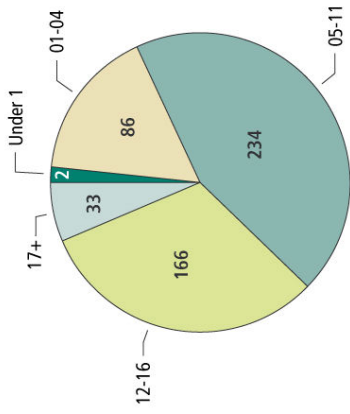
Cause of death in people aged under 25 in Haringey, 2002-2003



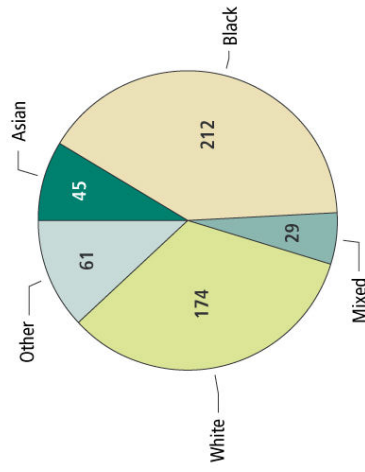
Source: ONS death files 2002-2003

Age, ethnicity and disability profile of children with disabilities registered with Haringey Council, August 2005

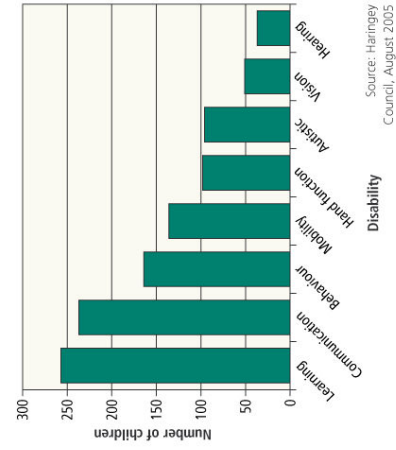
Age distribution, under 25 years



Ethnicity



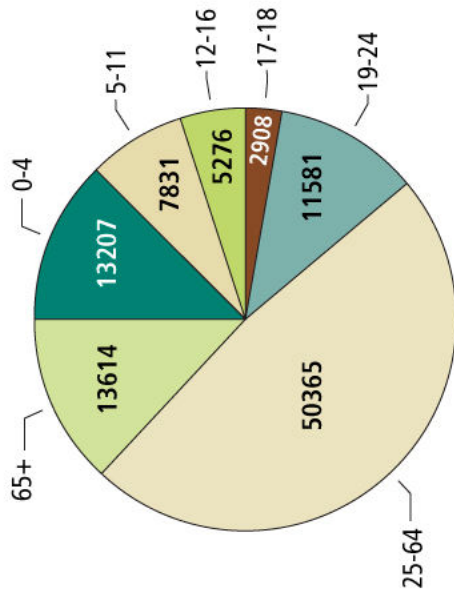
Type of disability



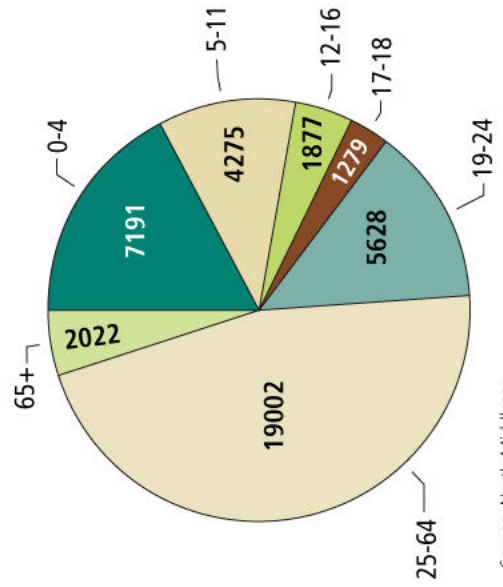
Source: Haringey Council, August 2005

Age profile of people attending
North Middlesex A&E department and
Walk-in Centre, 2004/05

North Middlesex A&E Department

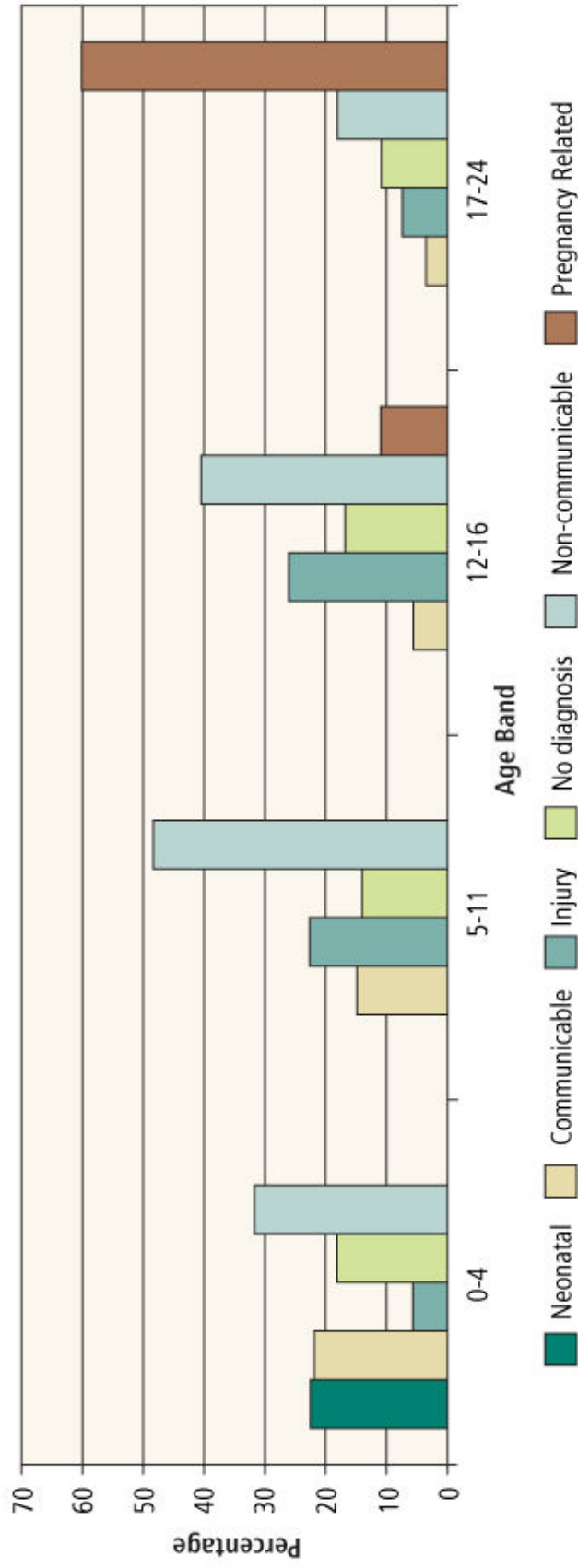


North Middlesex Walk-in Centre



Source: North Middlesex
University Hospital

Proportion of emergency admissions by cause and age, 2001-2004



Source: HIS 2005

A healthy Life

- The behaviours of CYP and their families will impact on their health throughout their lives
- Information on the extent to which CYP are adopting healthy patterns of behaviour is limited
- CYP and their families should be supported and empowered to make healthier choices

Healthy behaviours

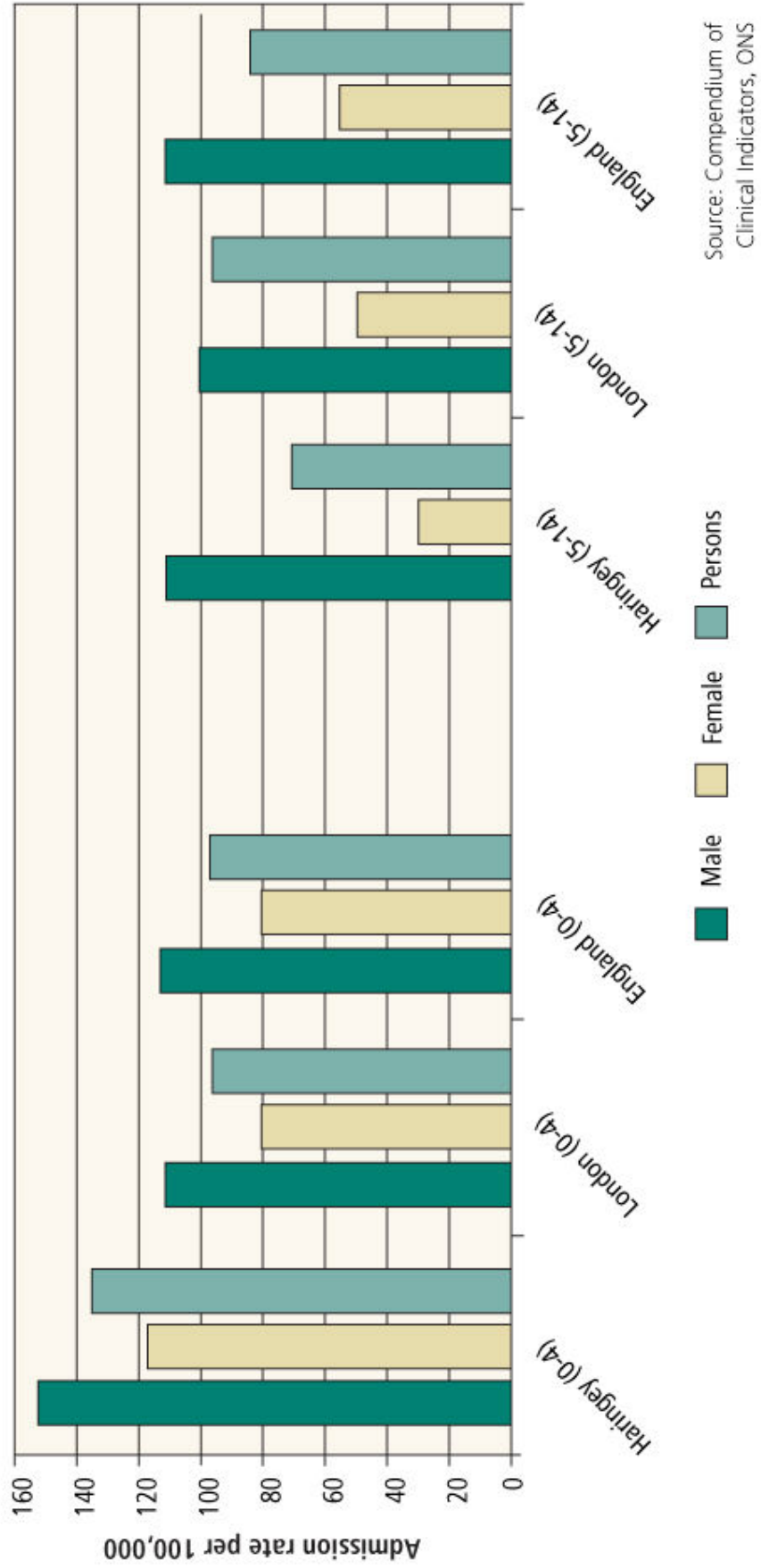
- Physical activity
- Food and nutrition
- Oral health
- Smoking
- Substance misuse
- Alcohol
- Sexual health
- Teenage pregnancy

Staying Safe

Children need to be safeguarded against

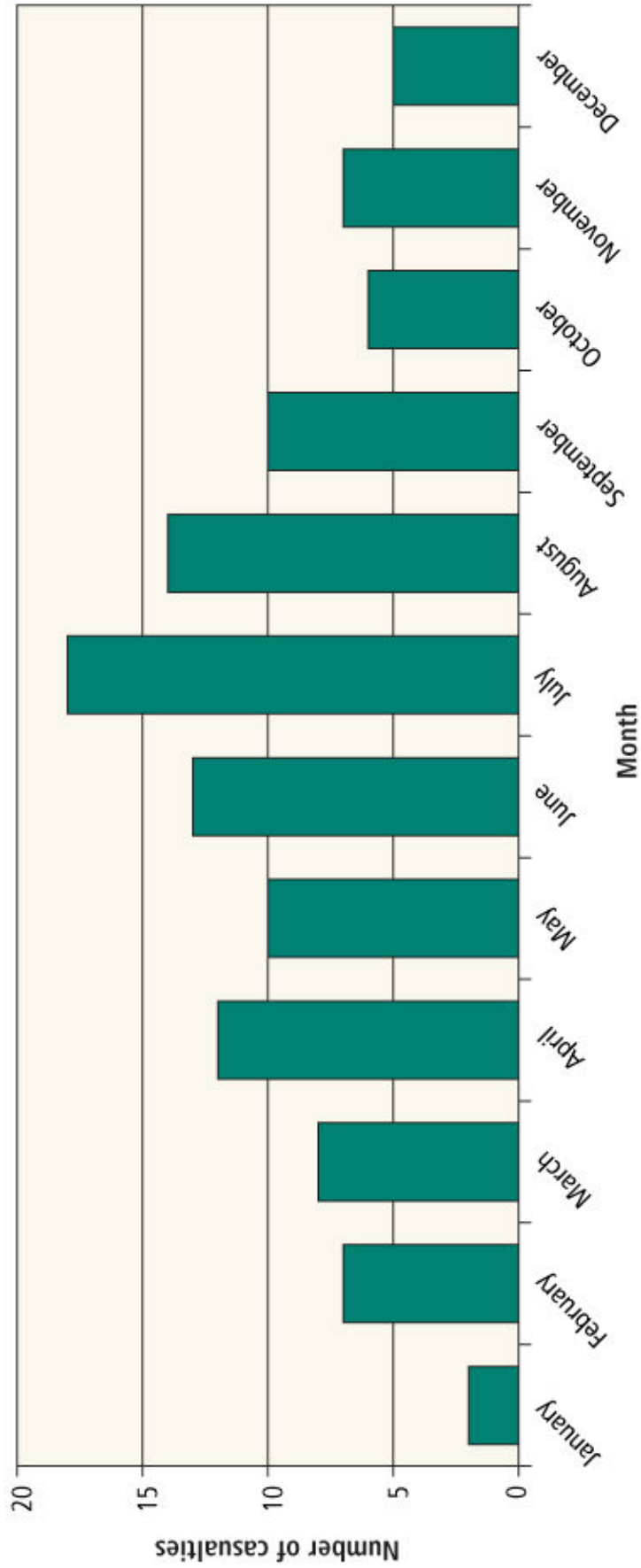
- Accidental injury
- Maltreatment and abuse
- Bullying
- Crime
- Anti-social behaviour

Directly standardised rate of hospital admission for serious accidental injury in Haringey, London and England, 2002/03



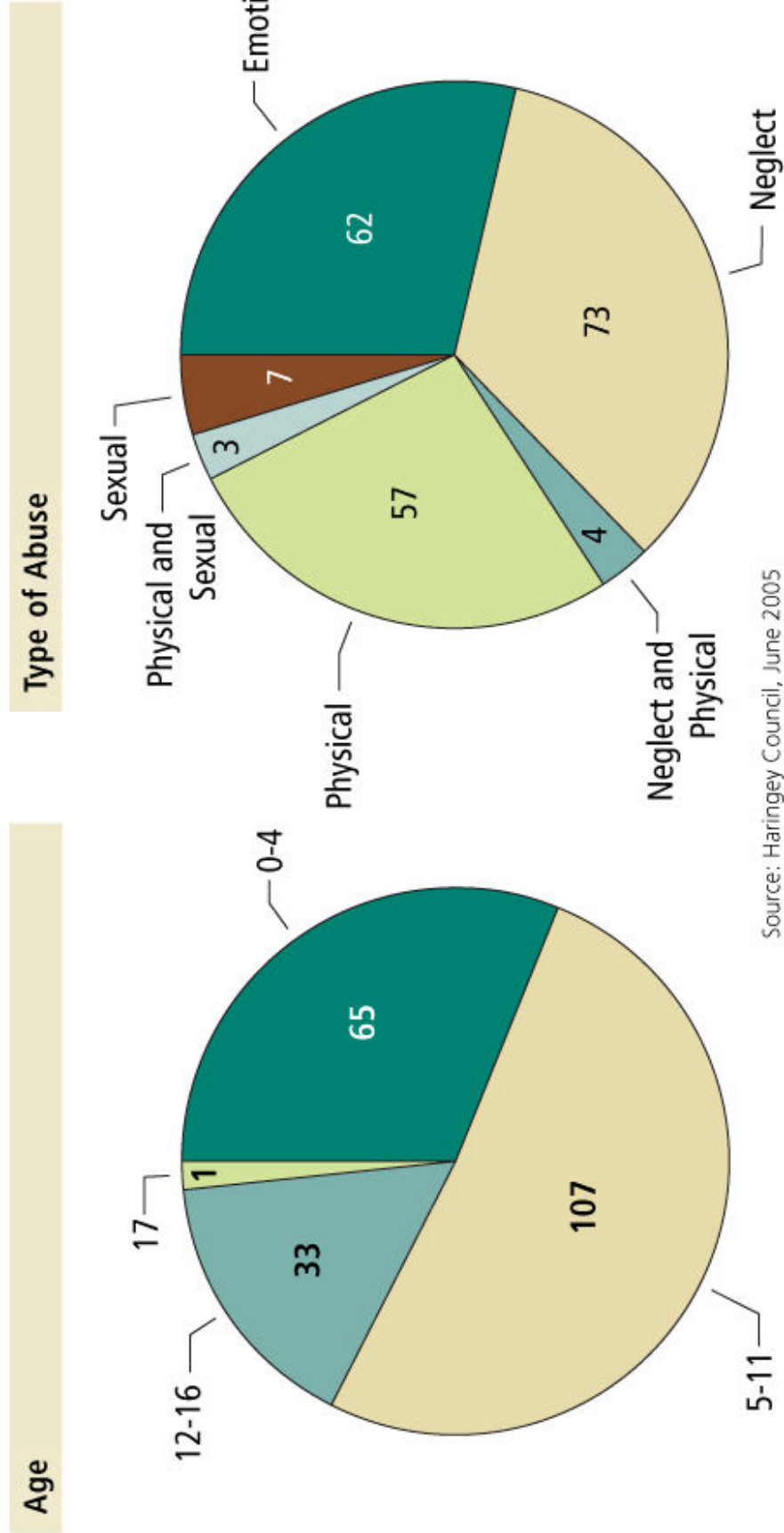
Source: Compendium of Clinical Indicators, ONS

Number of child road traffic accident casualties per month, 2004



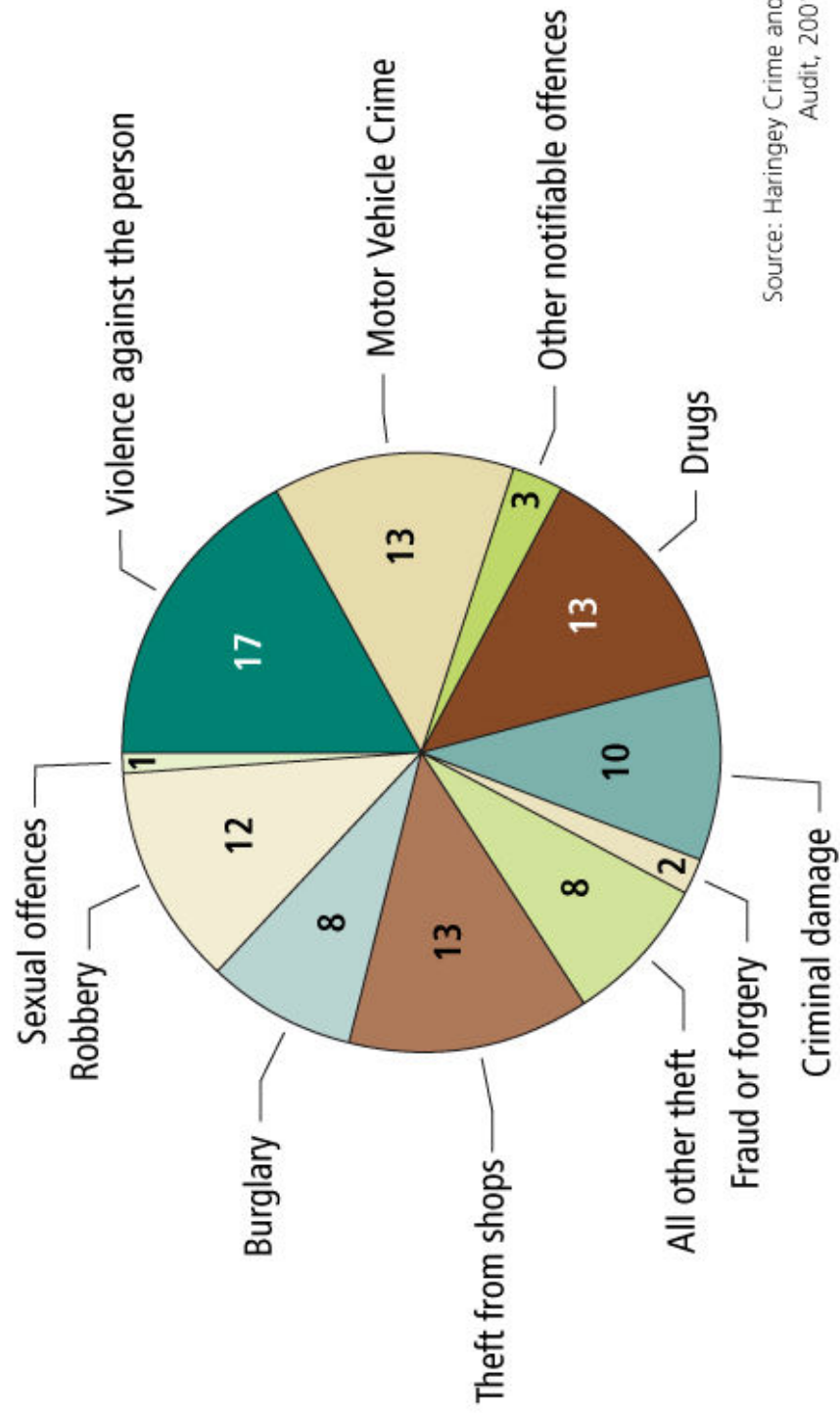
Source: LRSU 2005

Children on the Child Protection Register, June 2005



Source: Haringey Council, June 2005

Types of crimes committed by 10-17 year olds, April 2001 to March 2004

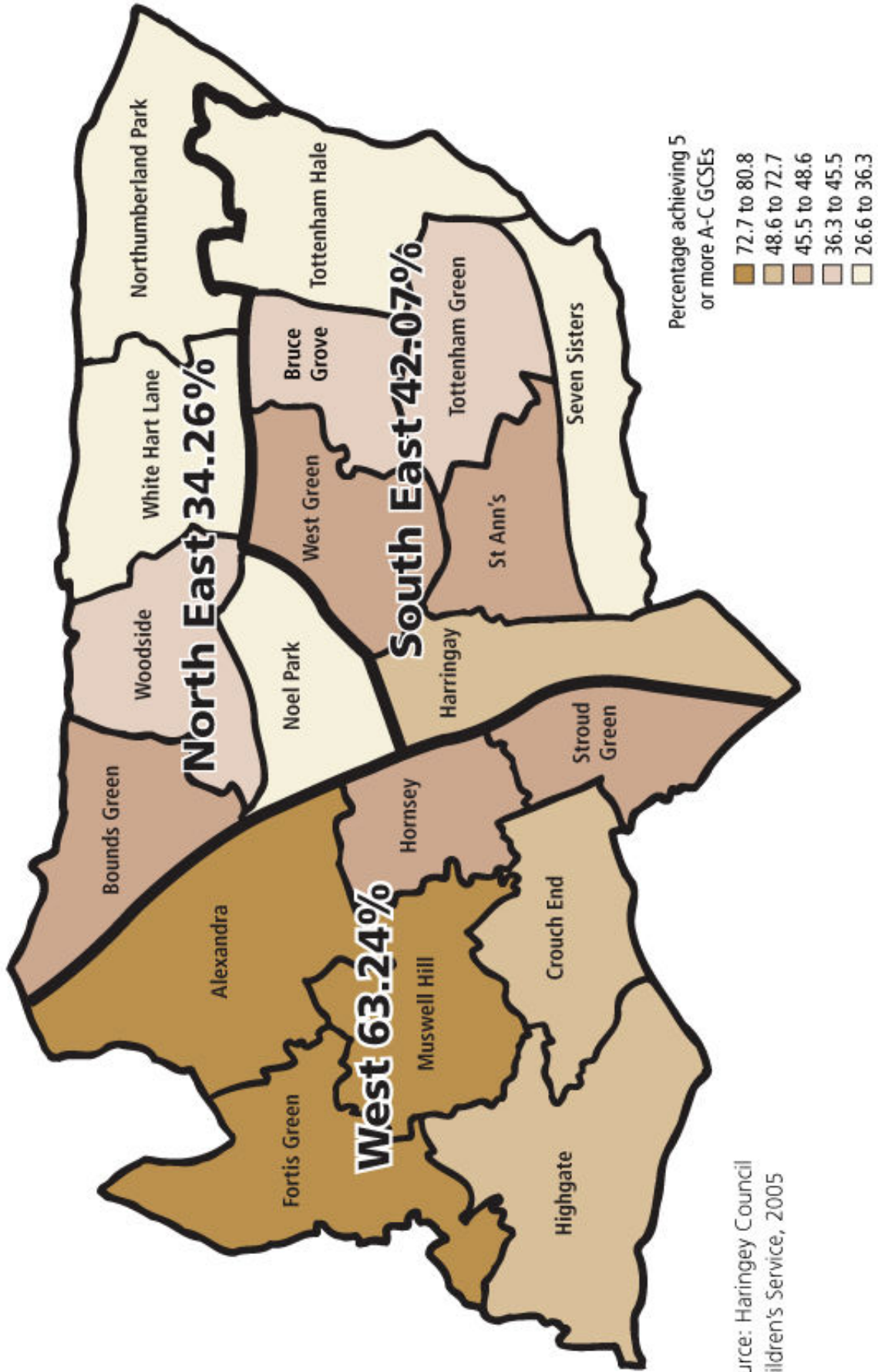


Source: Haringey Crime and Drugs Audit, 2001-2004

Enjoying and achieving

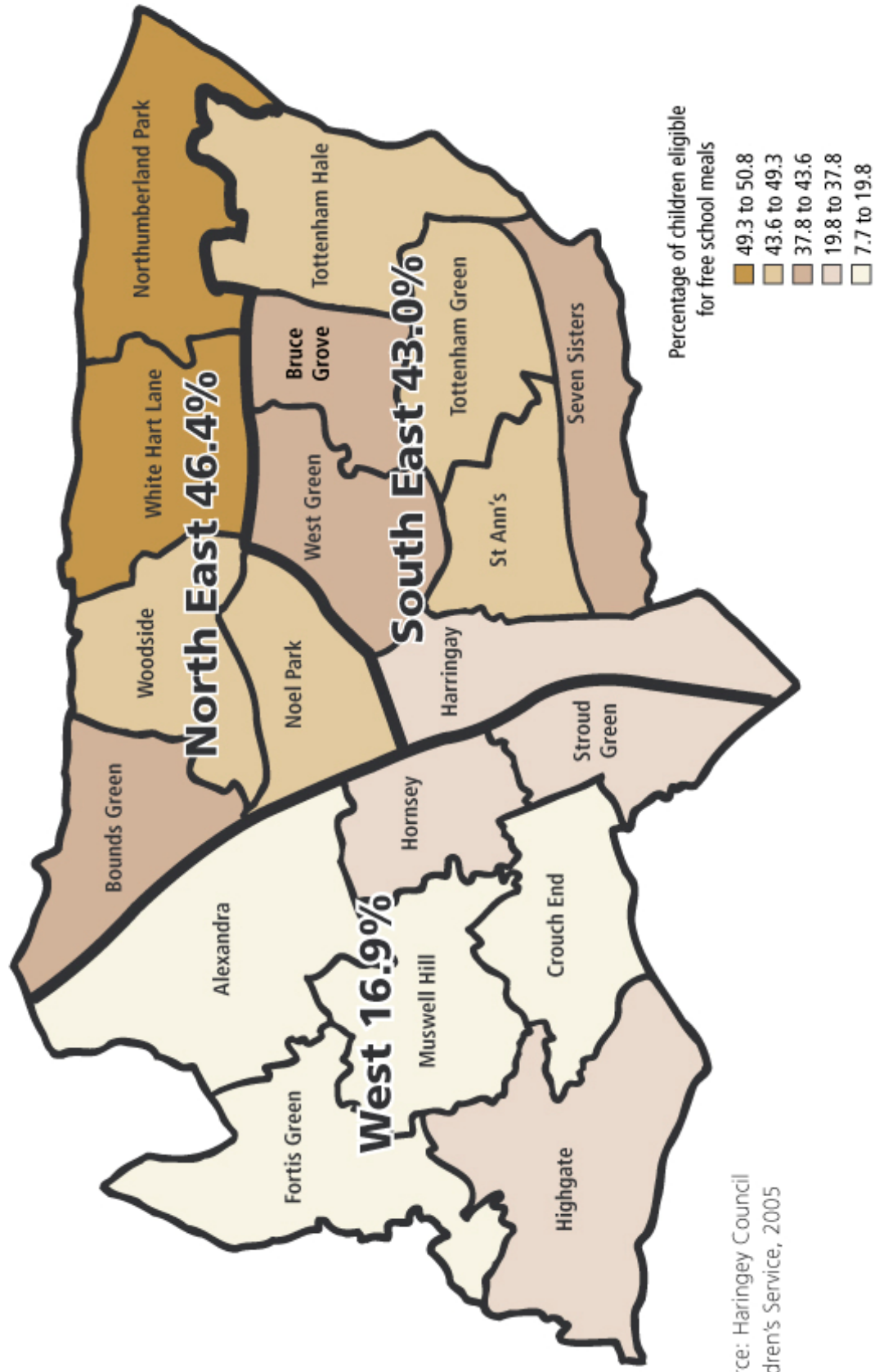
- Education can provide a foundation for healthier lives
- Children should be ready for, attend and enjoy school
- Schools can help children achieve personal and social development
- Breakfast clubs in schools support health and learning
- Health inequalities can be reduced through good quality child care and early years education

Proportion of pupils in Haringey achieving 5 or more A*-C GCSEs by ward, 2004



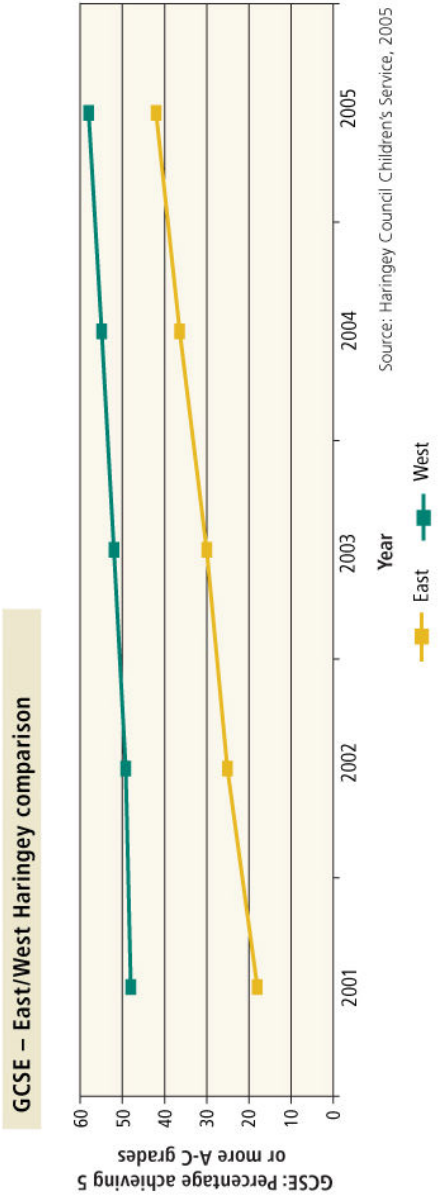
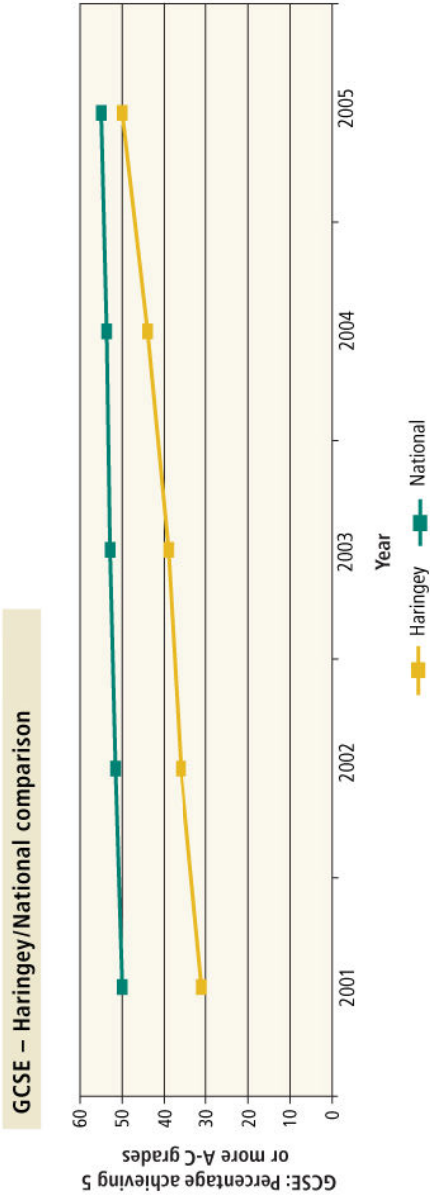
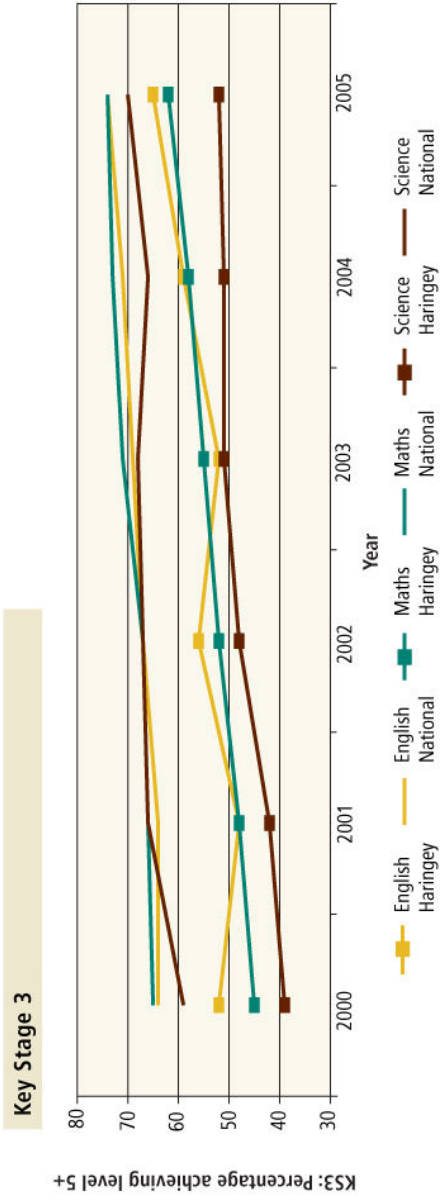
Source: Haringey Council
Children's Service, 2005

Proportion of children eligible for free school meals by ward, July 2005



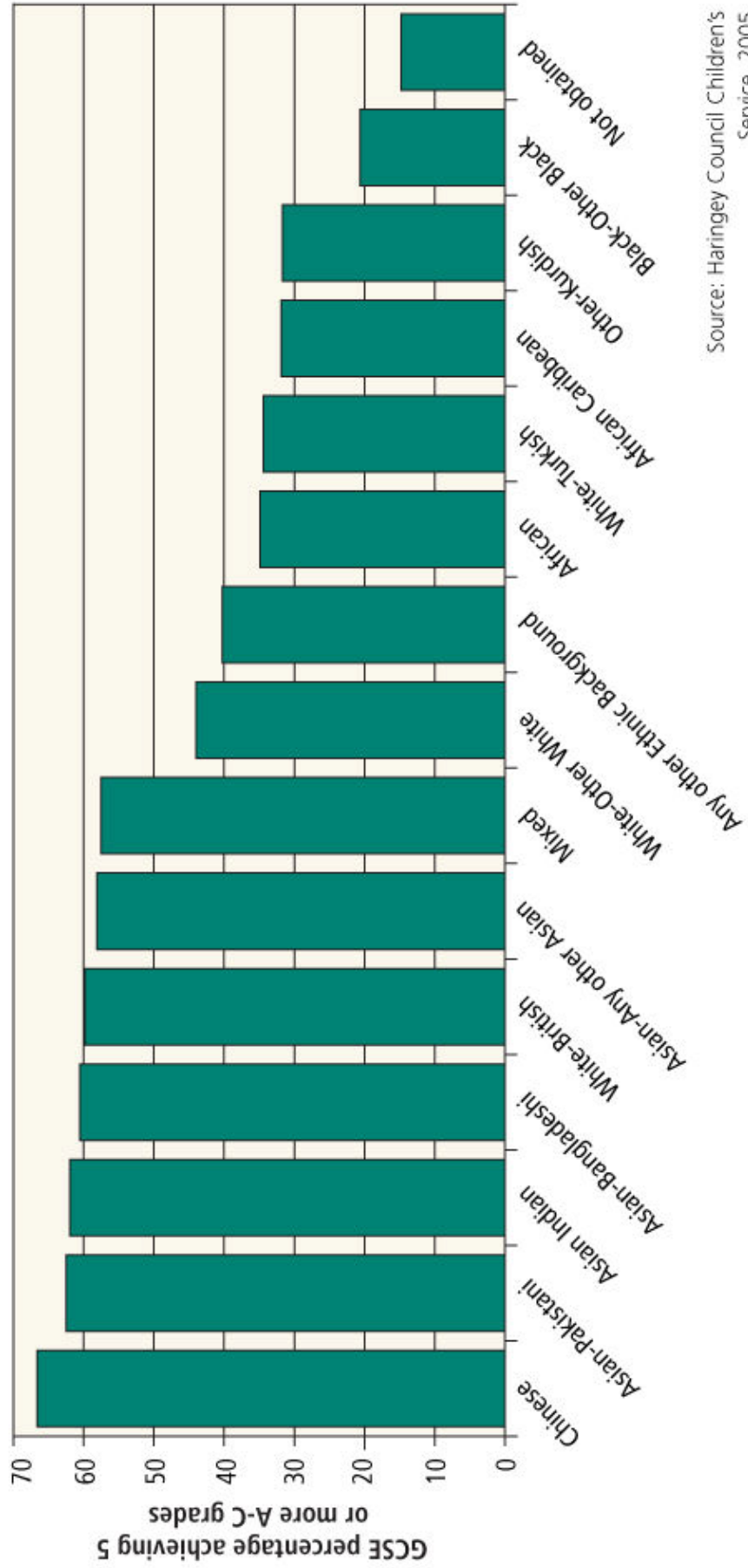
Source: Haringey Council
Children's Service, 2005

Attainment in Secondary School 2000-2005: Key stage 3 and GCSE



Source: Haringey Council Children's Service, 2005

Proportion of children in Haringey attaining 5 or more A*-C GCSEs by ethnic group, 2004

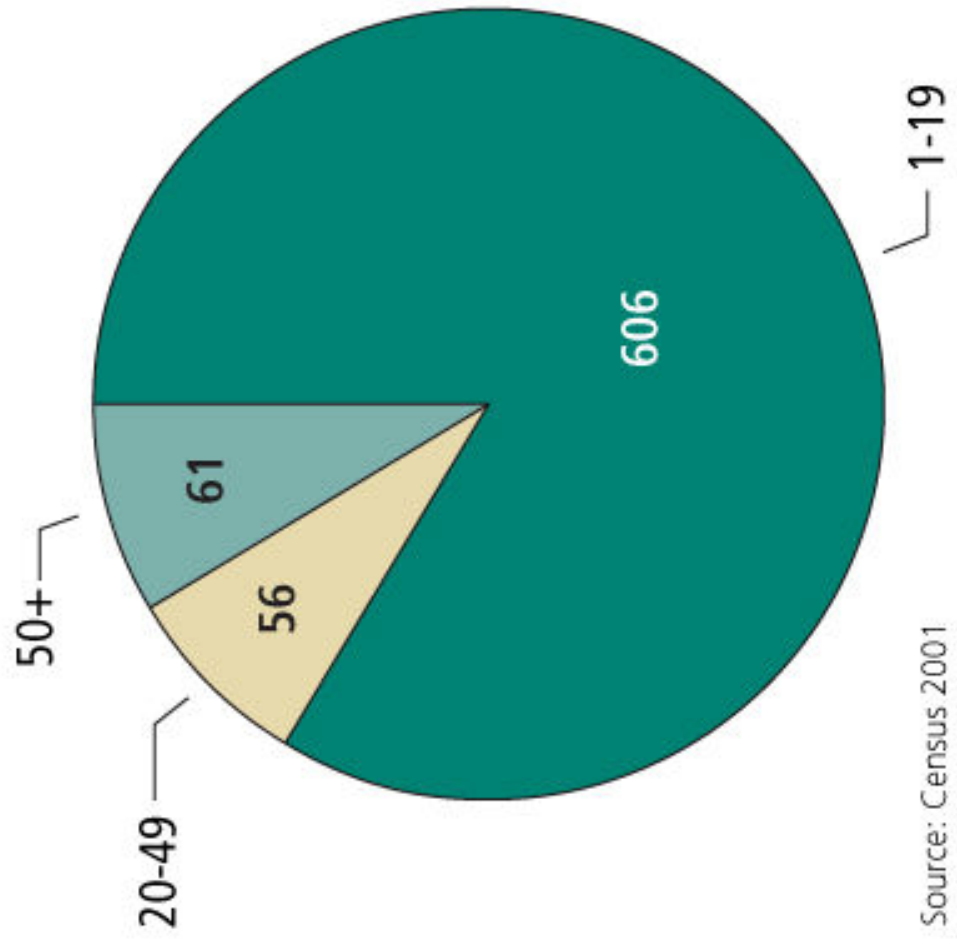


Source: Haringey Council Children's Service, 2005

Making a positive contribution

- Social and community support and participation are important to a child's development and health
- Young people may face barriers to community participation, including discrimination and care responsibilities

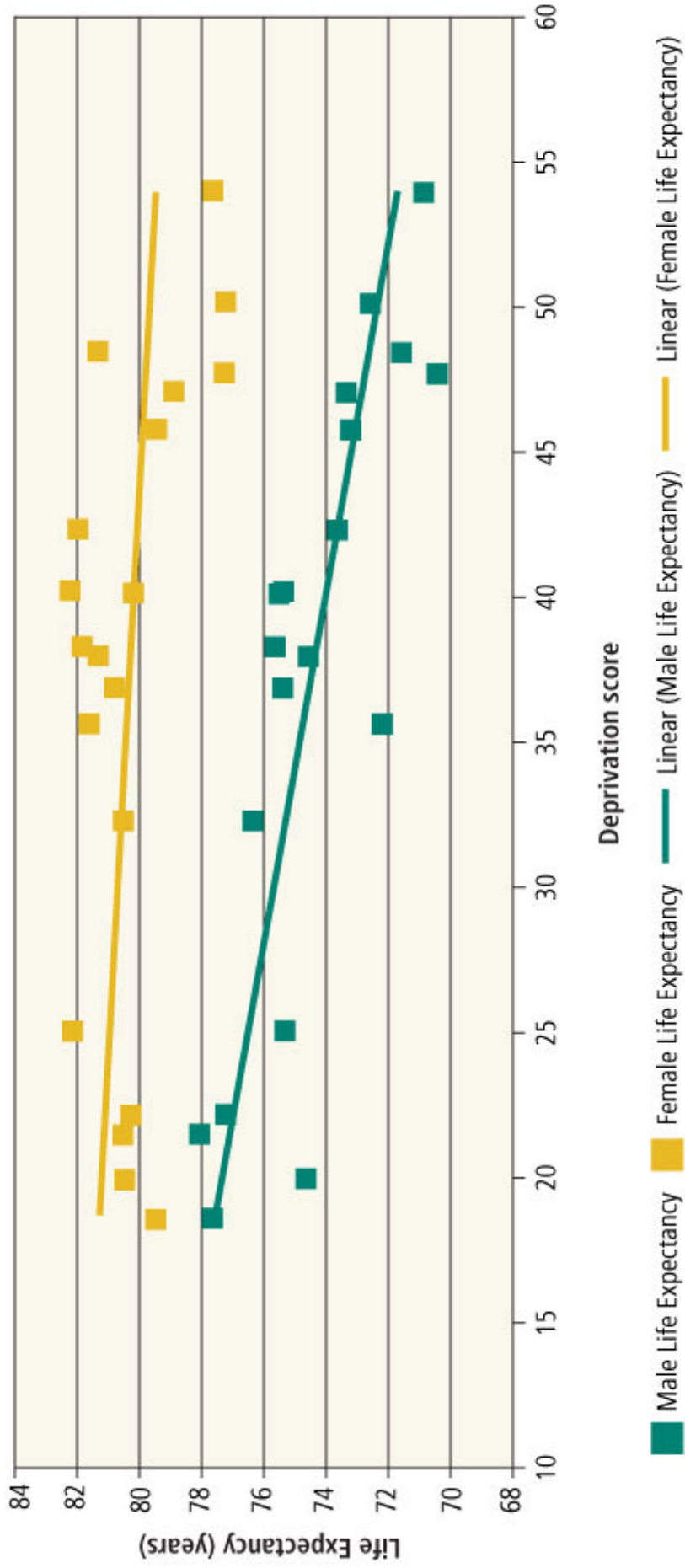
Number of hours of unpaid care per week provided by dependent children in Haringey, 2001



Achieving economic well-being

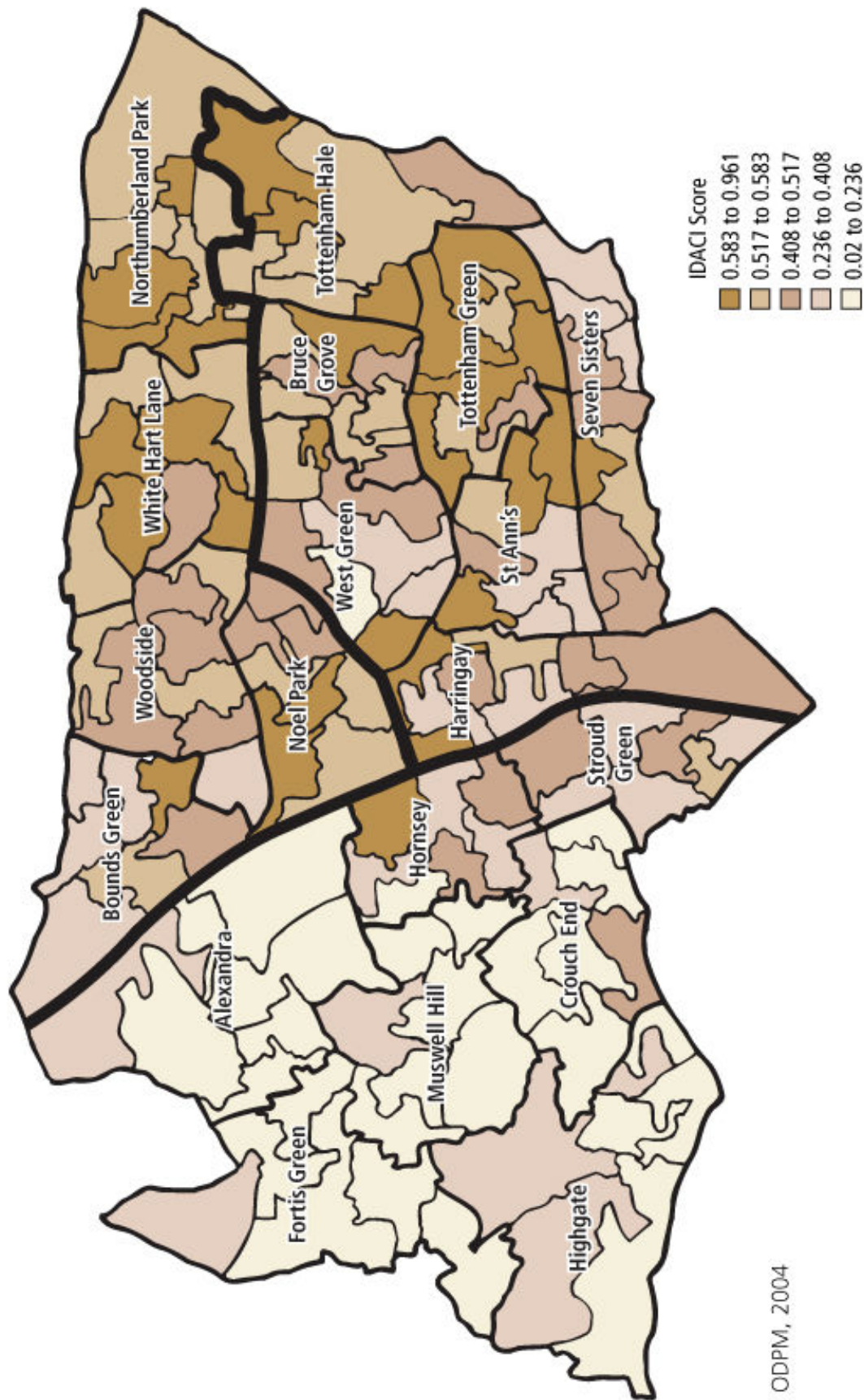
- The economic well-being of families is key to their health and well-being
- A significant number of CYP in Haringey live in relative poverty and deprivation
- There are stark inequalities in the attainment of qualifications and employment status across Haringey

Relationship between male and female life expectancy and ward-level index of multiple deprivation scores in Haringey



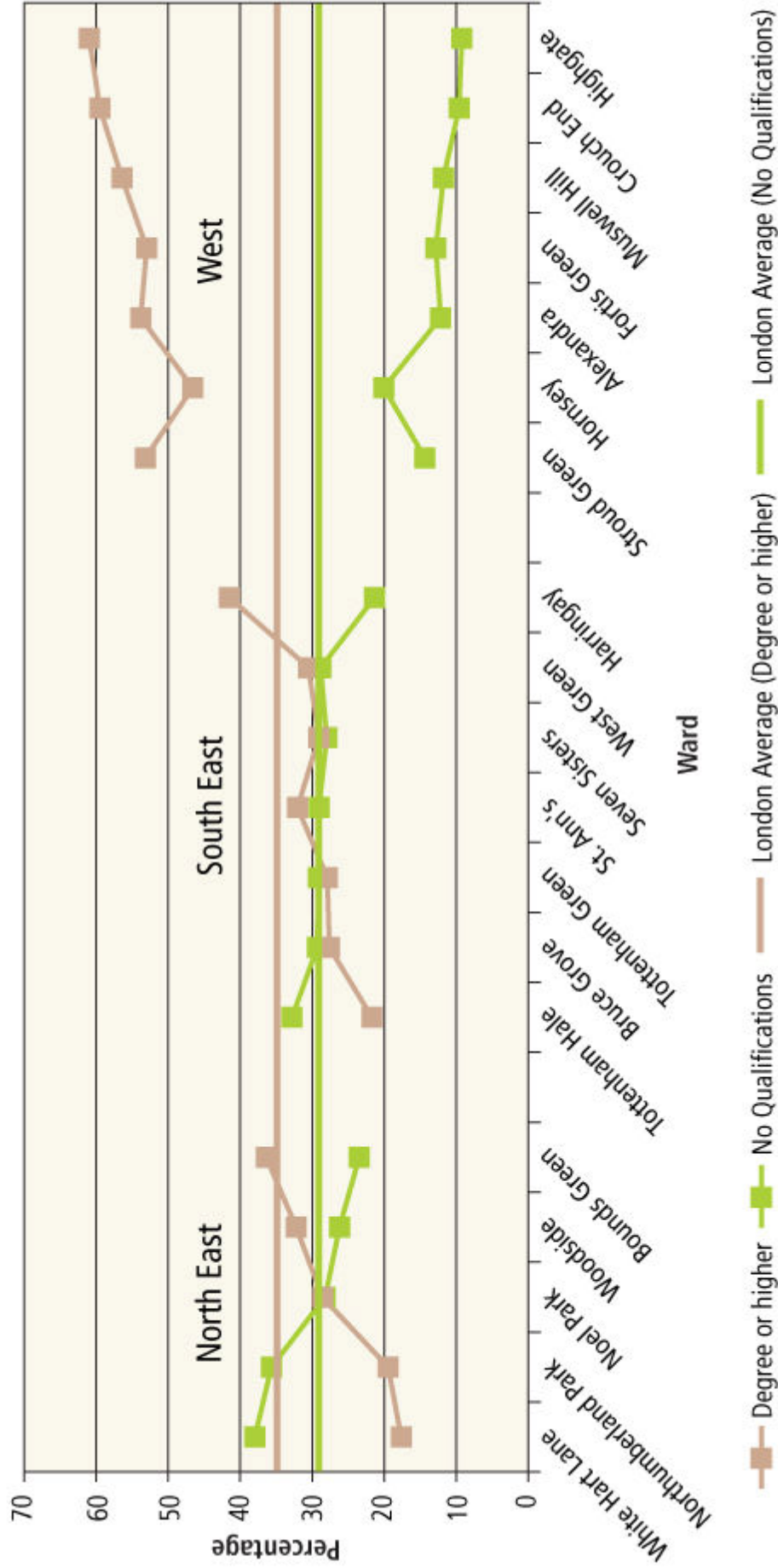
Source: Life Expectancy: LHO, 2004
Deprivation Score, ODPM, 2004

Income deprivation amongst Haringey children



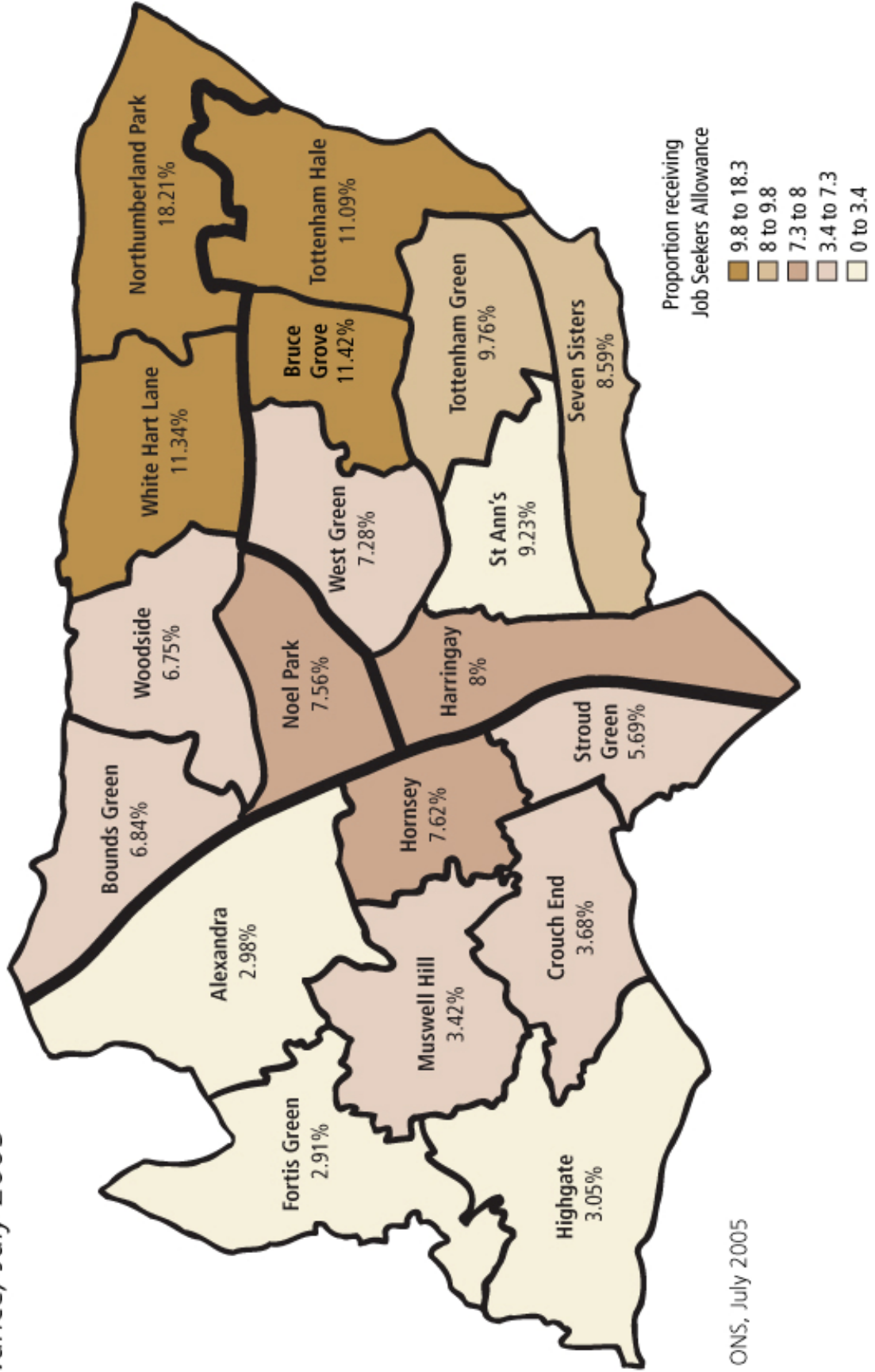
Source: ODPM, 2004

Qualifications profile of Haringey residents aged 16-74, Census 2001



Source: Census 2001

Proportion of economically active work force in Haringey claiming Job Seekers Allowance, July 2005



Source: ONS, July 2005

Recommendations

- Improved data quality, analysis and use
- Physical activity and healthy eating
- Enhance emotional well-being
- Minimise impact of inequalities
- Prevent avoidable premature deaths



Scrutiny Services

Report of the Scrutiny Review of Allotment Service Delivery - Management Options



January 2006

CONTENTS

- 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**
- 2. INTRODUCTION**
- 3. THE VALUE OF ALLOTMENTS AND PLANNING GUIDANCE**
- 4. CURRENT PROVISION AND DEMAND**
- 5. MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF SITES**
- 6. LEGAL ISSUES**
- 7. FUNDING AND CHARGES**
- 8. COMMUNICATION**
- 9. FUTURE DIRECTION**
- 10. CONCLUSIONS**

APPENDICES

- | | |
|----------|---|
| A | List of sites and occupancy rates |
| B | Location of sites |
| C | Comparable information on shed sizes |
| D | Comparable London Borough's data |
| E | Budgetary information |

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.0 This Executive summary outlines the work undertaken by the Panel during the course of the review and areas identified by Members for recommendation.
- 1.1 The suggestion for Overview and Scrutiny to examine Allotment Service Delivery Management options was agreed at the start of the Municipal Year.
- 1.2 The Panel's aim was to review the current arrangements by the Council for management of the Allotments service and, in particular to consider issues relating to meeting of local needs, value for money and funding sources and to make recommendations on possible improvements to the service.
- 1.3 During the course of the review the Panel:-
- Visited Creighton Road, DeQuincey and Shepherds Hill Allotments
 - Met with the Allotments Lettings Officer
 - Heard from Planning regarding policy provision in the UDP
 - Sent a questionnaire and met with Allotment Site Secretaries
 - Met with Parks and Recreation Services to discuss the current issues and challenges facing the service
- 1.4 As a result of the above process, which is detailed in the report, the Panel have made the following key findings and **recommendations**:

• Key Findings

- At present there is no dedicated Allotments Officer. This means that the Area officers have to cover parks as well as Allotments, resources are stretched and the service delivered to some sites is unsatisfactory.
- There are not enough plots available across the Borough to meet current and projected demand. There is a particular deficit in a number of Wards.
- There was concern in relation to management of plots in terms of adherence to guidance on permitted shed size, removal of tenants that did not maintain their plots, and sub letting of plots
- There was a need for more investment in Allotments demonstrated by a number of maintenance issues raised. However it was acknowledged that funds had to be raised externally.
- There were no formal consultation mechanisms in place and information exchange could be improved.

Recommendations

1. That a dedicated officer for Allotments be appointed.
2. That options for the development of future sites, either temporary or permanent, be explored, to include:-
 - a survey of land for potential new sites and underused land,
 - consideration to the securing of additional land through the use of S106, and possible diversification of existing open spaces,
 - use of S106 also to be considered to improve the quality and therefore use of existing allotments.
3. That following consultation with the proposed Allotment Forum the tenancy agreement be updated and simplified to include an examination of:-
 - The procedures for removal of plot holders
 - The size of permitted shed and other developments
 - A system for temporary sub letting
 - The permitted uses of sites.
4. That further consideration be given to the allocation of capital funding to enable underused allotments to be brought back into use at the earliest opportunity in the most cost effective manner possible, e.g. use of community services.

That there be a review of rent charges to ensure that they are comparable with other Authorities. The Panel agreed that non Haringey residents should be charged a significantly higher levy than Borough residents. Any increase in income from the review must be used to make improvements to the Allotments service.
6. That an Allotments Forum be established. The Forum to consider the publicity given to Allotments to be achieved through promoting the use of the internet, Council's website, Newsletters, Events etc. Site Secretaries to be given support to translate site specific documentation.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

Background

- 2.1 There is national, regional and local policy that reflects the need to retain allotments where there is demand, and also to provide allotment space where there is a demand and where there is a deficit of allotment space.
- 2.2 Recreation Services are responsible for the management of 26 allotment sites across the Borough containing 1,665 plots.
- 2.3 Over recent years interest in allotments has increased due to public awareness of 'green' issues and concerns over links between food and health. Modern housing developments are also being developed with smaller garden sizes which may stimulate demand for community gardens and allotments. Demographic changes including a larger number of older, but relatively healthy individuals could also stimulate demand for allotment plots, as allotment participation is highest amongst the over 50s

The Open Space Study identified that there are 42 hectares of allotment land in Haringey and that an additional 32 hectares would need to be brought into use by 2016, to meet both existing demand and anticipated demand that generated by future population growth. It was against this background that the proposal to undertake a scrutiny review on the issue came about.

Scrutiny Review Scope and Terms of Reference

The terms of reference of the review were:-

To examine the overall legislative context for the provision of allotments.

- To identify current levels of demand for allotments within the overall needs and demands for Open Space provision.
- To review existing management, policy, and letting of allotments.
- To develop more effective measures to manage underused plots.
- To examine the health and safety, security and vandalism associated with allotments.
- To examine the role of allotments in the context of sustainable development, healthy living and education objectives.

Membership of Panel

The membership of the Panel was Councillors Davies and Santry.

THE VALUE OF ALLOTMENTS AND PLANNING GUIDANCE

- 3.1 Allotments have been part of the fabric of many communities for nearly 100 years. An allotment is a small piece of land (approximately 250 square metres in size) generally owned by the local council, which can be rented by the public primarily for the growing of fruit and vegetables.
- 3.2 Within the policy arena, the contribution of allotments to urban regeneration, sustainable development and quality of life is being increasingly recognised. Benefits of allotments include:
- ❖ Providing access to affordable fresh vegetables, physical exercise and social activity;
 - ❖ Localised food production brings environmental benefits of reducing use of energy and materials for processing, packaging and distributing food. Allotments also perform a role in recycling green waste;
 - ❖ Therapeutic value in promoting good physical and mental health. Gardening is identified as one of the Health Education Council's recommended forms of exercise for the over 50s;
 - ❖ Allotments are an important component of urban green space and provide a green lung within urban environments;
 - ❖ Cultivated and untended plots contribute towards maintaining biodiversity, particularly where plots are maintained using organic methods;
 - ❖ Allotments have an important role to play in the implementation of plans for encouraging local sustainable development and community development, potential links exist with local schools, and with the mentally and physically ill and disabled. At present such links only exist at Stockton Road and Wolves Lane allotments; and
 - ❖ Allotments have an important historical and cultural role in community heritage, values and identity.

The Biodiversity Value of Allotments in Haringey

- 3.3 13 allotments in Haringey are classified as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (Sites of Local Importance) within the Unitary Development Plan. They cover an area of 29.4 ha.
- 3.4 Allotments provide valuable habitats for wildlife. In Haringey they can support important populations of amphibians and reptiles, particularly slow worms and grass snakes, as well as birds, mammals and invertebrates. Mature trees may also support bats, which are protected by law.

- 3.5 Allotments may contain a range of habitats that support wildlife. Hedgerows and scrub can provide nesting and foraging places for birds, are used by a range of invertebrates and provide cover for mammals such as foxes. Compost heaps support invertebrates, provide breeding sites for grass snakes and locations for mammals such as hedgehogs to over-winter. Flowers provide nectar sources for bees and butterflies. Freshly dug soil is visited by foraging birds such as blackbirds, robins, starlings and pied wagtails. Undisturbed margins next to hedgerows provide nesting sites for small mammals such as mice and field voles. Unused plots may support a range of wild plants and other wildlife.

Planning Policy Guidance

- 3.6 The national planning framework relating to allotments is set out in PPG17 published in July 2002. This guidance identifies the role of informal open space including allotments as performing:
- The strategic function of defining and separating urban areas;
 - Contributing towards urban quality and assisting urban regeneration;
 - Promoting health and well being;
 - Acting as havens and habitats for flora and fauna;
 - Being a community resource for social interaction; and
 - A visual amenity function.
- 3.7 PPG17 also identifies the issues which Local Planning Authorities should take into account in considering allotment provision and circumstances when disposal may be appropriate.
- 3.8 Policy 3D7 of the **London Plan**, Realising the Value of Open Space, recognises the value and benefits of open space associated with, among other things, health, biodiversity and the environment, and the policy refers to allotments as valuable open space.
- 3.9 Para 2.26 of the **Mayor's Biodiversity Strategy** sets out the value of allotments as considerable areas of wildlife habitat in London that are managed organically, or with the minimum use of pesticides. It acknowledges their importance, particularly for people who do not have access to a private garden and for helping to develop a closer community. It also acknowledges how growing one's own food provides very important contact with nature, and can also involve the expression and celebration of Londoners' diverse culture origins through, for example, growing some of the ingredients for traditional cuisine, which can be hard to source in this country.

Provisions of the 1998 UDP and the Revised Deposit UDP in relation to open space and allotments.

- 3.10 Chapter 4 of the current UDP is concerned with Open Space and the Natural Environment. The strategic aims of the chapter include to safeguard and enhance the remaining green and open character of Haringey by protecting areas and features contributing to that open character, recreational open space and open space serving other roles.
- 3.11 Chapter 8 of the Revised Deposit Unitary Development Plan is concerned with open space. The guiding principle of the chapter is that everybody in the borough should have good access to well-maintained, good quality, sustainable open space. The key objectives of the chapter are:-
- to maintain a satisfactory level of easily accessed open space in the borough with a variety of uses,
 - to ensure that the flora and fauna of nature conservation value in the borough is protected and encouraged, and that the provision helps to meet the aims of the Haringey Biodiversity Action Plan (Draft 2002).
- 3.12 **Policy OS11** of the Revised Deposit UDP states that; “the Council will seek to protect allotment space and will have regard to possible future demand in times of lesser uptake of allotment space. The value of allotment space visually and in ecological, biodiversity and historical terms will also be taken into account where there is development pressure on the land. Where allotments become surplus to demand, and it is considered that there is unlikely to be future demand, other forms of public open space or facilities for the wider community which maintain the openness of the site will be sought.

4. CURRENT PROVISION AND DEMAND

- 4.1 There are currently some 42 hectares of allotment land in Haringey, 26 allotment sites containing 1665 plots. All sites are managed with the exception of the Fortis Green site, which is privately managed by Thames Water and Mill Mead Road Allotments, which are owned and managed by Lee Valley Park Authority (LVPA).
- 4.2 A summary table with the names of sites, number of plots per site, number of vacant plots and percentage occupation of plots is attached. (Appendix A)
- 4.3 In summary, 92% of plots were occupied as of June 2005.
- 4.4 A map (Appendix B) illustrates the location of the different allotment sites within the Borough with the exception of Devonshire Road which is not available to the public.

- 4.5 There is no formal guidance on how allotment needs should be assessed, however the Local Government Association good practice guide 'Growing in the Community' identifies issues which should be considered. Local Authorities are duty bound to provide allotments for their residents if they consider there is demand under section 23 of the 1908 Allotments Acts (as amended). The 1969 Thorpe Report recommended a minimum standard of allotment provision of 0.2 hectares (0.5 acres) per 1000 population (this is reflected in Policy OP1.7 of the 1988 UDP). In the context of Haringey this would equate to an area of 43 hectares. In 1996, the National Allotment survey identified an average provision in England of 15 plots per 1000 households. Haringey compares well with these figures providing 17.9 plots per 1000 households (2001).
- 4.6 It will be important to ensure that local standards of provision reflect local circumstances of supply and demand. This assessment fulfils the requirements of the Revised PPG17 to provide a robust and defensible assessment of allotment needs accounting for different components of demand identified above.

Catchment Areas

- 4.7 Using an accepted 800m indicator, more than three quarters of the Borough (in terms of area) is located within walking distance of an allotment site. However from this information alone it cannot be concluded that there is sufficient need in the underserved areas for additional allotment sites.
- 4.8 Previous studies have found that, although participation is highest amongst those who live in close proximity to their plot, the relationship between site size, occupancy, availability and catchment area, indicates that some plot holders are able and prepared to travel to alternative sites where a plot is not available at their nearest site. However the extent to which local allotment demand can be satisfied outside of the immediate neighbourhood is limited. Many plot holders wish to be near to their plot for reasons of security and ease of access. The Open Space residents' survey indicates that 50% of allotment users travel to their site on foot, with 75% taking only 0-10 minutes travel time. Furthermore, given the age and socio-economic profile of existing and potential allotment holders, a significant proportion of plot holders are unlikely to have access to a car.

Demographic Change

- 4.9 Between 2001 and 2016 the population of the Borough is expected to increase by some 25,000 households. This is supported by the **Open Space and Sports Assessment** which was produced by Atkins Consultants for the Council in 2003. The Assessment concludes that between 2001 and 2016 there will be an estimated requirement for up to 32ha of allotment land (approx 450 allotment plots). This demand will obviously depend upon the success of marketing initiatives and the

extent to which additional households in the borough are able to take up/access the existing supply of allotments. The Assessment also concludes that, currently, across the borough some 16% of households are not well served by the distribution of existing allotment sites.

- 4.10 At present parts of several wards are not well served by the existing distribution of allotment sites. Wards where the existing supply of allotments may be particularly deficient are Bounds Green, Bruce Grove, Crouch End, Fortis Green, Harringay, Northumberland Park, Seven Sisters, St Ann's, Tottenham Green.
- 4.11 Within the context of overall demand for land within the Borough, up to 2016, which will need to provide for population growth, education, community facilities, business needs and open space, it was not considered realistic to provide sufficient permanent allotment sites to meet the targets given in 4.9 above.

Waiting Lists

- 4.12 At present there are 425 people on the Council's and LVPA allotment waiting list, although this figure fluctuates throughout the year with greatest demand in summer months. The sites most in demand include Alexandra Park, The Grove and Railway Bank, Mannock Road, Quernmore Road and Shepherds Hill, the majority of which are in the south-west of the Borough. The turnover at these sites is around 18 months. The Panel heard from Site secretaries that some sites had closed their waiting lists.
- 4.13 The extent of unfulfilled demand needs to be considered in conjunction with the size and distribution of sites (see Appx A). Although allotment sites exist in many parts of the Borough there are fewer sites located in the central area and south-east corner. Furthermore the sites which do exist are relatively small leading to unsatisfied demand.
- 4.14 There are an estimated 179 plots in the Borough that are underused. The reason for this is largely because they are in a poor condition. The key issue affecting the quality of the services is lack of capital and revenue investment over a long period of time. This is documented in The Urban Green Spaces Taskforce, Final report, Green Spaces, Better Places (May 2002). The report focuses on the under expenditure in Parks and Open Spaces during the remaining 20 years of the 20th century and provides clear background and relevant initiatives that can be replicated for all open space including allotments.
- 4.15 Allotments which are well maintained are likely to prove more attractive and be easier to let.
- . For the last 2 years, 04/05 and 05/06, Recreation Services have been successful in obtaining £85,000 of NRF funding to enable works to take place on allotment sites. Evidence of how the money had been invested was seen by the Scrutiny Panel at Creighton Road Allotment

site, where £30,000 had been spent on the site. The money had been utilised on tree lifting, rubbish removal, and clearing of plots, signage and general maintenance. A voluntary organisation, BTCV had been working on the site to bring back plots into use. An action Plan has now been produced and a Management Committee established.

Additionally a further £50,000 NRF has been agreed for White Hart Lane/ Northumberland Park area to bring allotments into use.

Use of Planning Powers

4.18 The Panel explored the possibility of the use of S106 monies to secure additional sites. The Panel heard that there is no general requirement/guidance in Haringey that asks for allotments or money for their provision per se. Any monies for allotments will have to be negotiated on an individual basis when dealing with planning applications and this can only be done if the tests are met, e.g. if a proposal involves any impact on existing allotments. Currently, no money has been negotiated or received in respect of improving allotments. The money that has been negotiated for our recreation department has to be spent on defined projects, which has not included allotments. However, given the findings of the Atkins Open Space Study and the likely shortfall of allotments in the borough given population projections, it *may* be possible to seek allotment provision in the future if the circumstances were appropriate.

New sites

4.19 The Panel received evidence from Site Secretaries suggesting that the provision of new sites should be explored. This could possibly be achieved through looking more closely at underutilised Council owned land. With the current high levels of demand for housing it is unrealistic to secure any large allotment sites, however the improvement of existing sites near developments and the development of new sites on the fringes of new developments should be considered when S106 money is under negotiation.

Recommendation

That options for the development of future sites, either temporary or permanent, be explored, to include:-

- a survey of land for potential new sites and underutilised land,
- consideration to the securing of additional land through the use of S106 and possible diversification of existing open spaces
- Use of S106 also to be considered to improve the quality and therefore use of existing allotments.

5. Maintenance and Management of sites

- 5.1 The Open Space residents' survey indicates that 75% of allotments are in 'very good' or 'good' condition.
- 5.2 Recreation Services is responsible for the health and safety of sites, for providing security and for securing sites against vandalism. For the majority of sites, informal assistance is provided through site secretaries who undertake informal inspections and report the outcome of these to the Council.
- 5.3 Site security is a significant issue for the majority of sites. Where people are mindful to gain unauthorised access, it is difficult to prevent, even where fences and gates are in a good condition.
- 5.4 Vandalism is not viewed as a major issue for plot holders though where this does occur, it is clearly very distressing.
- 5.5 Site Secretaries raised issues relating to overgrown trees, lack of water and non removal of skips. They were also concerned over the lack of funding for basic maintenance such as fencing repairs, pathways and dilapidated buildings.

Erection of sheds



- 5.6 The Panel saw evidence of the use of sites as community areas where families congregated. It was noted that some structures had been erected in excess of the guidelines. Advice received from the Legal Service was that the construction of any buildings on allotments is considered as development. This is because any permitted development rights relate to plots that are over 5 hectares, and none of the individual allotment plots in the borough are this large! On that basis enforcement action could be taken against the construction of any oversized sheds where it was deemed to be appropriate. However the Council would have only four years to take any enforcement action from the date that the shed is built. Alternatively, the Council could

grant retrospective planning permission within that four year period and attach relevant conditions as appropriate (e.g. that the shed shall only be used for purposes ancillary to the main use of the plot as a domestic allotment). Legal Services advised that the position in respect of the sheds which were within the four year period should be addressed. Gates, fences and walls can all be constructed around the plots assuming that they do not exceed 2 metres in height (1 metre where the gate/wall/fence abuts with an adopted highway).

5.7 A comparison with other Boroughs on permitted development is set out at Appendix C.

Recommendation

That following consultation with the proposed Allotment Forum the tenancy agreement be updated and simplified to include an examination of:-

- The procedures for removal of plot holders
- The size of permitted shed and other developments
- A system for temporary sub letting
- The permitted uses of sites.

6. Legal Issues

The Allotment Acts

6.1 The legal framework for Allotments has developed in a piecemeal fashion and is encapsulated within a number of Acts identified below.

Principal Allotments Legislation

Act and Date	Relevance
Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908	Consolidated all previous legislation and laid down the basis for subsequent Acts.
Allotments Act 1922	Placed duty on local authorities to provide sufficient allotments according to demand. Makes provision for local authorities to compulsorily purchase land to provide allotments. Limited the size of an individual allotment to one quarter of an acre and specified that they should mostly be used for growing fruit and vegetables.
Allotments Act 1925	Required local authorities to recognise the need for allotments in any town planning development.
	Established 'statutory' allotments which a local authority could not sell or convert to other purposes without Ministerial consent.

Act and Date	Relevance
Allotments Act 1950	Made improved provisions for compensatory and tenants rights. Confined local authority's obligation to 'allotment gardens' only.

For legal purposes there are two types of allotment (Statutory and Temporary). 'Statutory Allotment' status, refers to land of which the freehold or very long lease is vested in the allotments authority, and which was either originally purchased for allotments or subsequently appropriated for allotment use. Statutory allotments are afforded protection under section 8 of the Allotments Act 1925, which provides that the consent of the Secretary of States must be obtained for disposal of allotments by a local authority.

6.2 Such consent may not be given unless the Secretary of State is satisfied that:

- The allotment in question is not necessary and is surplus to requirements;
- Adequate provision will be made for displaced plot holders, or that such provision is unnecessary or impracticable;
- The number of people on the waiting list has been taken into account; and
- The authority has actively promoted and publicised the availability of allotment sites and has consulted the National Society of Allotments and Leisure Gardeners.

Various parameters have been laid down through case law to assist in the definition of 'adequate provision' and 'not necessary' etc.

A 'temporary allotment' is land rented by the authority but ultimately destined for some other use. Unlike local authority allotments, privately companies and institutions are not under any obligation to provide allotments. Neither temporary nor privately owned allotments are afforded protection under the various allotment Acts although they are subject to protection through planning legislation.

Tenants Agreement

6.5 The Council is responsible for the registration and recording of tenants. All new plot holders have to sign a tenancy agreement which covers issues such as payment of rent, sub-letting, maintenance of plots and buildings.

6.6 Site Secretaries were concerned at the length of time taken to remove plot holders who did not maintain their plots.

6.7 The Council is responsible for the enforcement of the tenancy Agreement which involves sending out dirty plot letters and notices to

quit. Initially one month is given to tenants to start cultivation. A form is sent to plot holders with the letter giving them the option to terminate their tenancy or to explain why they have not been able to work on their plot. Another site inspection is carried out, then a notice to quit is issued. Another month is given to allow for cultivation to start. If nothing has happened then the tenancy is terminated. However the most difficult offenders then move onto the Council's complaints procedure and the whole process of eviction can be very protracted. Although many Boroughs had similar experiences, the Panel were informed that Brent Council did not have any problems evicting their plot holders with the whole process taking only 6 weeks and they have never had anyone appealing.

- 6.8 The Panel acknowledged that there could be circumstances which temporarily prevented plot holders from maintaining their plots and therefore there should be a system in place for temporarily sub letting. Responsibility for the waiting lists lay with the Council for sites without a Management Committee and Site Secretary. Those that had a Management Committee and Site Secretary processed their own waiting lists. The Panel noted that at some sites plot holders could come off their sites for a period and when they returned they would go to the top of the waiting list. This is an option that can be considered under the review of sub letting.
- 6.9 There was a discussion on how details of waiting lists were made available and whether residents on waiting lists were regularly contacted. One site had the waiting list posted on a notice board and another invited those on the waiting list to open days.
- 6.10 The Panel was advised that the Council's records on tenants were reasonably accurate. The only discrepancy can come when a new plot holder has a 2 or 3 month trial on an allotment. This is organised by the Site Secretary and the details passed to the Council if they decide to formally apply for the plot at the end of the trial. As referred to previously the Panel noted that there was some variation in the size and structure of buildings erected and that enforcement of the guidelines was sporadic.

Recommendation

That following consultation with the proposed Allotments Forum the tenancy agreement be updated and simplified to include an examination of:-

- The procedures for removal of plot holders
- The size of permitted shed and other developments
- A system for temporary sub letting
- The permitted uses of sites.

7 .Funding and Charges

- 7.1 The current charges for an allotment is Rent £4.20 per sq m and Water £2.40 per sq m. The average amount paid is £32.50 per annum for a plot of 125sq metres. There is a reduced rate for OAPs and disabled people. At present there is no price variation for out of borough residents.

Out of Borough plot holders

- 7.2 Previous studies have shown that several allotments will have a significant number of plot holders from outside the Borough. This is most likely to be the case in the South of Haringey as the neighbouring Boroughs of Hackney, Islington and Camden do not have allotments sites that fall within 1km of the Borough boundary. There are currently 241 out borough residents. This compares with other Boroughs set out in Appendix D. Most out of Borough plot holders are likely to live in areas just beyond the Borough boundary and may not have access to nearer provision within their own Borough. Most other Boroughs were in a similar position to Haringey with long waiting lists. For example Camden has over 400 people on their Waiting Lists with an estimated wait of over 10 years.
- 7.3 At present the allotments service is funded primarily through Recreation Services budgets. The Annual budget is £59,500 which was split £34,000 to the West area, £14,000 to the East area and £10,000 to the Central area. Additionally the site secretaries have a small maintenance budget of £300. Last year the income from lettings was £48,000 (although there were some rebates). Therefore the net cost to the Council for the allotment operation is £13,200 (see table at Appendix E)
- 7.4 Budget proposals had been put forward for savings from Allotments part of the Environment Services budget of £15,000 for each of the next two years. This would be achieved by increasing charges to plot holders. However the Overview and Scrutiny Committee postponed the recommendations pending the recommendations of the Scrutiny Review of Allotments.
- 7.5 The Panel heard that £100,000 had been allocated to improving allotments as part of the Parks Improvement Programme for 2005/6 which was welcomed. Allocation was determined on the basis of need, as identified by site inspections.
- 7.6 £55 k NRF monies was to be spent in the north east of the Borough on bringing allotments back into use.
- 7.7 With regard to bringing allotments up to a good quality standard the service was seeking a proposal and cost for an Asset Management Plan survey for all parks, open space and allotment sites. This project

will look at quantity, condition/quality, life expectancy, priority and cost for replacement or repair of existing assets. This piece of work is scheduled to commence in January 2006 and run through to at least May 2006.



- 7.8 There was an acknowledged need for securing external funding. There are a number of potential funding sources that could be applied to fund specific improvement projects. Of these some would be available to the Council whereas others would only be available to voluntary organisations.
- 7.9 The Panel heard that Brent Council had an established Allotments Forum which had been successful in raising funds for improvements to Allotments. They have secured grants from the Lottery and Esmee Fairburn for fencing repairs, the most recent grant was for £7000. Whatever money the group raises, the Council matches.
- 7.10 Several external funding sources exist which could be drawn upon to fund specific projects rather than ongoing management and allotment administration. These may include:
- SRB Budgets and Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) – Several SRB schemes exist within the Borough. There is a possibility that these funds could be tapped for initiatives relating to allotments, subject to the initiative fulfilling the aims and objectives of the SRB strategy;
 - Big Lottery Fund;
 - The Co-operative Group Community Divided;
 - Awards for All
 - Esmee Fairburn
 - Bridgehouse
 - Scarman Trust

- The Shell Better Britain Campaign;
- and
- Support in kind including B&Q “You can do it”, Better Neighbourhood Grant Scheme, BCTV, Princes Trust volunteers, and probation service.

Recommendations

That further consideration be given to the allocation of capital funding to enable underused allotments to be brought back into use at the earliest opportunity in the most cost effective manner possible, e.g. use of community services.

That there be a review of rent charges to ensure that they are comparable with other Authorities. The Panel agreed that non Haringey residents should be charged a significantly higher levy than Borough residents. Any increase in income from the review must be used to make improvements to the Allotments service.

8 Communication

- 8.1 In particular the Panel heard that there was a lack of new information given to existing plot holders and a mechanism was needed for allotment holders to share and exchange good ideas such as an Allotments Forum.
- 8.2 The scrutiny review was carried out under accepted guidelines including consultation with allotment holder representatives. The meeting with Site Secretaries was valuable and highlighted the need for significant improvements in communication.
- 8.3 The way in which plots are promoted and publicised influences demand. At present little active promotion and publicity has taken place. Currently the Council provides a contact for the use of allotments on their website and in the 'Haringey People' magazine which is delivered monthly to every home in the Borough. Other promotional initiatives through the use of posters and other Council information channels to broaden demand for allotments could be used. Site Secretaries were in favour of the provision of a newsletter and for every site to have a notice board. In addition it was suggested that more information should be provided on the Council's Website such as details of waiting lists, the tenancy agreement and other useful

information. The publication of a good practice guide was seen as a useful document that could be produced.

Recommendation

That an Allotments Forum be established. The Forum to consider the publicity given to Allotments to be achieved through promoting the use of the internet, Council's website, Newsletters, Events etc. Site Secretaries to be given support to translate site specific documentation.

9. Future Direction

- 9.1 At present responsibility for the management of allotments rests with the Area Manager within whose area the site is located. Additionally, the Parks Customer Services Officer spends approximately 50% of their time in the management of allotments.
- 9.2 According to some Site Secretaries there was a lack of clarity regarding roles and responsibilities and there was not always clear communication between Area Managers and Site Secretaries.
- 9.3 There was universal support from the Site Secretaries for the establishment of a dedicated Allotment Officer to whom Site Secretaries could contact with particular issues.
- 9.4 If appointed such a post holder could:-
- be responsible for the setting up of an Allotments Forum.
 - co-ordinate site management and follow up of plot inspections.
 - work with site Management Committees in seeking to raise external funding and could examine the potential for self management of sites.
 - review the Tenancy Agreement.
 - develop active social and educational roles through links with schools and other community organisations. These roles can be encouraged through specific initiatives which integrate allotments within other strategies and programmes and foster allotments within the wider community.
 - drive forward the recommendations in this report
- 9.5 The costs of such a post could be in the region of £30K plus revenue costs. If approved, funding for this would need to be further explored.
- 9.6 Details of other Boroughs that have Allotments Officers is set out in Appendix E.

Recommendation

That a dedicated officer for Allotments be appointed.

10 Conclusions

- 10.1 It was clear to the Panel that allotments were valued by individual plot holders and provided a valuable contribution to sustainability as well as being an important leisure and recreational facility.
- 10.2 There is currently provision for an additional 179 allotment holders within the Borough from vacant plots. Overall it is estimated that between 2001 and 2016 there will be demand for a further 450 plots arising from demographic changes and 712 plots from areas underserved by existing provision. In addition, between 75 and 150 plots could be taken up through improvements to site management and promotion of underused sites. Therefore, there is an estimated requirement for up to 1552 plots or 31ha of allotment land (latent demand plus demand linked to improvements minus number of vacant plots) depending upon the success of marketing initiatives and the extent to which additional households are able to take up/access existing supply.
- 10.3 It would not be feasible to acquire sufficient land for allotments within the London context to meet the demand identified above. However given that allotment sites do not have to be particularly large, allotment provision could be associated with new development in the Borough. Scope may exist within underserved areas to bring forward allotment land through diversification of existing open spaces. Within other local authorities, school sites have proved good locations where there is sufficient space available, to develop allotments jointly as outdoor classrooms for curriculum use and as a community resource.
- 10.4 At present allotment provision is funded solely from the Parks Service allotment budget. In order to achieve a step change in the quality of allotment provision and management it will be necessary to secure additional funding. This may be achieved by integrating the improvement of allotments within other initiatives relating to regeneration, neighbourhood renewal and bidding for external funding.
- 10.5 The Parks Service has an opportunity to develop a coherent vision for allotments within the Borough. The Open Spaces Strategy action plan proposes that a strategy for allotments be produced by the Policy and Development Section of Recreation Services in 2007/8. This vision should recognise the multiple roles which allotments can play and the benefits of allotment gardening and be used as a basis to gather support and funding for improvements from other sources within the

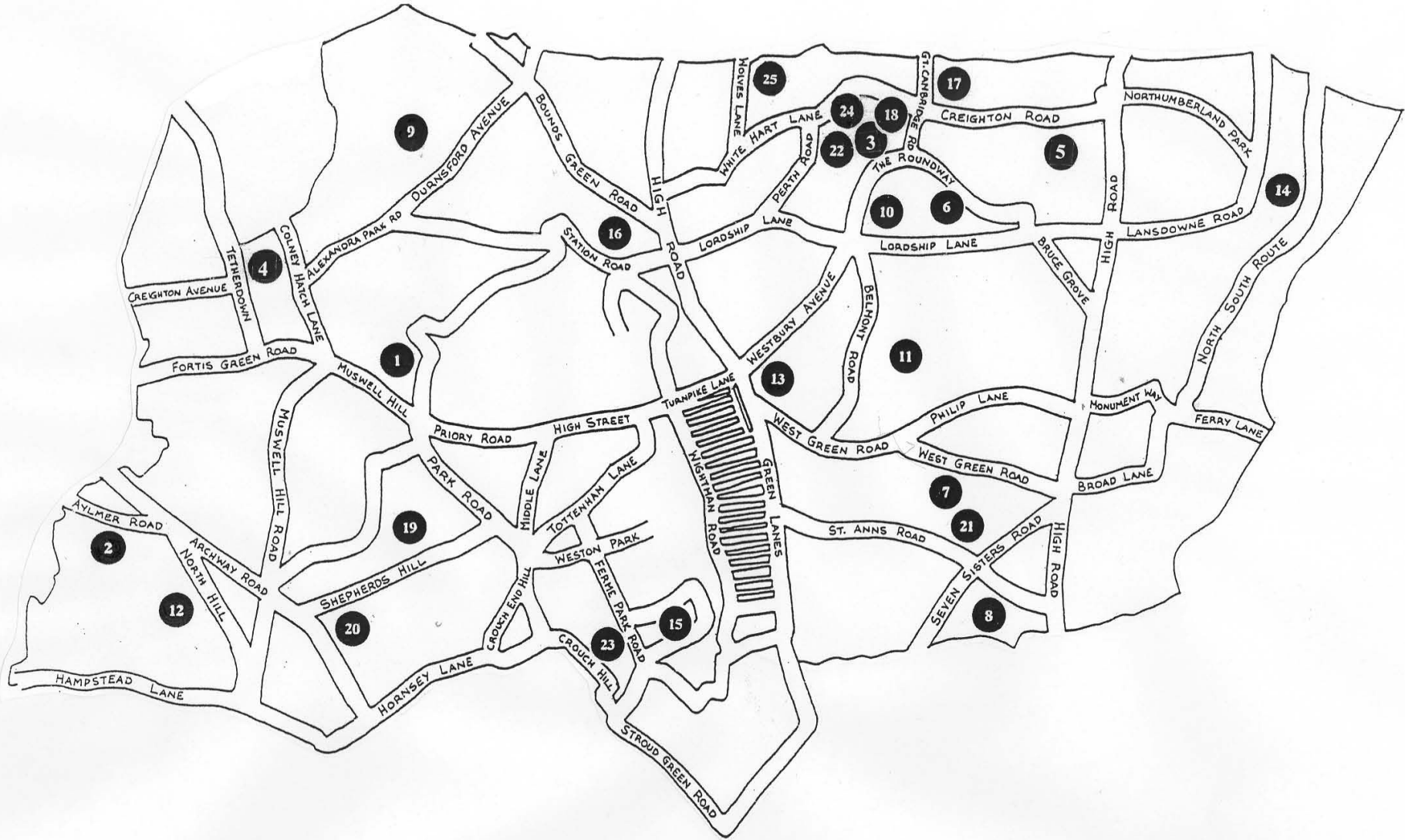
Council, external funding sources and relevant community and voluntary sector partners.

- 10.6 The vision should include an action plan which seeks to integrate allotment gardening within other strategies and programmes and identifies improvements to individual allotment sites and other projects and initiatives to foster participation in allotment gardening. It will be necessary to identify resources to implement projects including human resources to implement improvements.
- 10.7 The Haringey Open Space Strategy (HOSS) has been developed from analysis of the trends and issues arising from a number of detailed studies, including the Atkins Open Space Assessment. Assessments have been undertaken of Haringey's open spaces, their facilities and their users. The HOSS concentrates on achieving a variety of open space outcomes or goals which are based, in part, on the outcomes of the Atkins Open Space Assessment (see above). The HOSS concludes that careful planning and innovative solutions are required if Haringey is to meet the level of allotment demand predicted over the next 10 years.
- 10.8 However, within the resources available the Council's priority is towards Parks and Open Spaces where there are 10,000 visitors per annum. Additionally there are at present no performance indicators relating to Allotments.
- 10.9 Any proposals for change must be seen in the above context.

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SITE	NO OF PLOTS	NO OF VACANT PLOTS	% OF PLOTS OCCUPIED
		Jun-05	
ALEXANDRA PARK	151	4	97
AYLMER ROAD	31	7	77
COURTMAN ROAD	28	20	29
CREIGHTON AVENUE	123	0	100
CREIGHTON ROAD	79	5	94
DE QUINCEY ROAD	14	7	50
DEVONSHIRE ROAD	11	10	9
ELMAR ROAD	21	0	100
FRANKLIN STREET	34	4	88
GOLF COURSE	201	14	93
GOSPATRICK ROAD	16	9	44
HIGHAM ROAD	22	0	100
HIGHGATE	163	10	94
MANNOCK ROAD	20	1	95
MARSH LANE	76	4	95
QUERNMORE ROAD	9	0	100
THE GROVE & RAILWAY BANK	18	0	100
RANELAGH ROAD	9	0	100
RECTORY FARM	95	4	96
RIVULET ROAD	12	5	58
SHEPHERDS HILL	191	8	96
SHEPHERDS HILL RAILWAY GDNS	18	0	100
SOUTH GROVE	8	1	87
STOCKTON ROAD	18	0	100
WHITE HART LANE	83	14	83
WOLVES LANE	204	1	100
TOTAL	1655	128	92

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1.	Alexandra Park/ Nursery/ GLM	2.	Aylmer Road	3.	Courtman Road	4.	Creighton Avenue
5.	Creighton Road	6.	De Quincey Road	7.	Elmar Road	8.	Franklin Street
9.	Golf Course	10.	Gospatrick Road	11.	Higham Road	12.	Highgate
13.	Mannock Road	14.	Marsh Lane	15.	Quernmore Road	16.	Ranelagh Road
17.	Rectory Farm	18.	Rivulet Road	19.	Shepherds Hill	20.	Shepherds Hill Railway Gdns
21.	South Grove	22.	Stockton Road	23.	The Grove & Railway Bank	24.	White Hart Lane
25.	Wolves Lane						

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Comparable allotment information on shed size from neighbouring London boroughs
APPX C

London Borough	Number of sites	Number of plots	Named contact, job title & number	Standard shed size	Permissions needed	What happens when problems arise?
Haringey	26	1665	Anne Jones Parks Customer Services Officer	6' length 4' width 6'6" high (7'6" with greenhouse)	Written permission required before any shed is constructed	Plot holders are sent a letter asking them to either reduce the size of the shed or remove it altogether
Islington	3	26	Mark Rowe Horticultural Project Officer	No sheds are permitted	1 new site has oversized sheds on it that have been there for years	On this site, allotment holders will be issued leases and then the terms will be enforced
Barnet	48	3000	Tracy Sawyer Greenspace Officer	10' x 8' for sheds and greenhouses	Written permission required before any shed is constructed	If sheds are not reduced to allowed size, the allotment holder is evicted
Waltham Forest	32	1800	Ken Johnson Allotment Officer	6' x 6' x 6'	Permission required before any shed is constructed	Still deciding what to do. On sites with very large sheds, they are considering shutting the site down and turning off the water, and then forcing the plot holders to reapply for their plots
Brent	23	1109	Phil Bruce-Green Allotment Officer	6'3" width 10' length 8' high	If not using a Council owned shed, permission is required before any shed is constructed	If the shed exceeds the permitted size, a verbal warning is given. After this, a notice to quit is issued if no action is taken

Additional advice provided by Jeff Barber from the London Mentors of the Allotments Regeneration Initiative (ARI)

Comparable allotment information from neighbouring London boroughs –APPX D

London Borough	Number of sites	Number of plots	Charges (annual)	Waiting list	Site management	Allotment Officer
Islington	3	26	£35	145 people 8 –10 years	Each site has an allotment association. Council inspects quarterly to ensure compliance with terms of their lease.	No. Inspections carried out by Horticultural Project Officer
Barnet	48	3000	£50 for borough residents. £100 for non-borough residents.	Sites near edge of borough and close to transport lists have waiting lists but people can be accommodated within a year.	Each site has a committee. 10 sites are leased. Remainder are direct let and self collect (committee collect money for council and take an administration fee). Council has a colony system through which all allotment information is logged.	No. Greenspace Officer.
Waltham Forest	32	1800	£35 for class A plot (toilets, kitchens) £30 for class B plot (dip tanks) £23 for class C plot (no dip tank) 15% more for non-borough resident	Waiting lists in popular areas near Leyton, variable time length of wait. Other areas have no waiting list.	Some sites leased to allotment association. Some owned by Council but self manage (capitation grant paid), other sites are direct lets.	Yes.
Enfield	36	2229	Grade A -£55 for borough residents and £65 for non borough residents. Grade B - £36 for residents and £41 for non borough residents	No waiting lists	31 sites managed by Council, others by Site Secretaries.	Yes

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A summary of the allocation of the allotments budget in FY2004 (1April 2004 to 31 March 2005)

APPENDIX E

Historically all the cost and income was held in one specific cost centre. In order to develop better local management of the sites and their budgets, it was decided that the cost and the income budget, for each allotment site should be integrated within neighbourhood area. In 2004/05 a calculation was performed which apportioned the expenditure budget by the % of allotment rental income. Following this Neighbourhood budgets were changed, on SAP, to reflect this.

GL account	Account text	Budgeted amount	Central - V12303	East - V12302	West - V12301	Total	Comments	2005/06
60700	RentInc Allotments	-£53,000	-£6,200	-£16,400	-£30,400	-£53,000	Income charged to plot holders	-59500
14003	R&M - Day to Day Ext	£16,800	£2,000	£5,200	£9,600	£16,800	An element is used for R&M and the rest is distributed to Allotment associations, provided they meet certain criteria that we set.	17200
14006	R&M - Grounds Maint	£4,200	£500	£1,300	£2,400	£4,200	For R&M	4300
15400	Prem - Water Rates	£22,500	£2,600	£7,000	£12,900	£22,500	For water related charges	23100
15401	Prem - Sewerage	£600	£100	£200	£300	£600	For water related charges	600
50300	CapFin - Interest	£12,200	£1,400	£3,800	£7,000	£12,200	This charge is a capital charge, that the council levy against us for the land that the plots occupy. We do not spend against this budget allocation.	12500
		£3,300	£400	£1,100	£1,800	£3,300	Net position	-1800

	This is the cost of an allotment administrator of which 50% of their	
<u>£16,000</u>	salary currently budgeted in V12100.	15000
<u>£19,300</u>	Net cost to the council for the allotment operation	<u>13200</u>

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Agenda item:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

12 January 2006

Report Title: **Fly Tipping Scrutiny Review**

Report of: **Chair of Fly Tipping Scrutiny Review**

Wards(s) affected: **ALL**

1. Purpose

1.1 To consider deferring this review to the next municipal year

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Officers be instructed to report to the first Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting in the next Municipal Year on terms of reference for a detailed scrutiny review into fly tipping together with information about the way in which it could be undertaken so that consideration can be given to carrying out such a review.

Report Authorised by: Cllr Winskill – Chair of Review Panel

Contact Officer: Geoffrey Woodham Tel 0208 489 2921

3. Executive Summary

3.1 The report explains why this review should be deferred to the next municipal year.

4. Reasons for any change in policy or for new policy development (if applicable)

4.1 N/A

5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

5.1 Previous reports and decisions

6. Finance, Legal and Equalities Comments

6.1 None as a result of this report.

7. Background,

7.1 In May 2005 the Overview and Scrutiny Committee used a new assessment process to agree a work programme for the Municipal Year 2005/6 which included a short scrutiny review (two Panel meetings) of fly tipping.

7.2 Although the new assessment process worked well and enabled the Committee to identify topics which tied in with Council objectives it did not take account of services' workloads with the result that Environmental Services were required to undertake six reviews. This is an issue which will be addressed this year so that as part of the assessment process Members will be made aware of the likely impact of reviews on services' workloads.

7.3 Because of the number of reviews being undertaken by Environmental Services it was decided to commence this review in late September so as to stagger the work involved. Once work commenced it became clear that fly tipping was a complicated area which could not be properly covered in a couple of meetings and that the review needed to be far wider than initially intended. As a result of meetings involving myself, scrutiny officers and officers from Environmental Services it was agreed that the issues which needed to be looked at included:

- . The way the Council responds when fly-tipping occurred.
- The problems caused by speedy removal of fly-tipped materials and how these might be addressed.
- The action which might be taken to explain the Council's waste management policies to new residents.
- The Council's current enforcement policy together with information as to its success.
- The problems caused by unlicensed waste operators and the action which might be taken including warning users of such service that they faced heavy fines.
- Fuller information about the action taken to prevent fly-tipping in Haringey including information about the services the Council and their contractors provide and the problems that occur.
- the legal remedies open to the Council, in particular the new powers which come into force next year.
- The resources available for dealing with fly-tipping and how they are utilised
- The way in which the Council's services compared to other Boroughs and whether any problems arise as a result of neighbouring Boroughs' waste management problems

- Liaison with the Environment Agency and the Police to take enforcement measures and whether this could be improved
- Partnership arrangements with the Environment Agency and , the use made of their fly tipping data base.

7.4 As there is insufficient time to undertake what could be a lengthy review before the election this scrutiny topic should be delayed until next year.

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Overview and Scrutiny Committee
On 16 January 2006

Report title:	Scrutiny Review of Mobile Phone Masts – Chairs Position
Report of:	Overview and Scrutiny Manager – Trevor Cripps
Wards effected:	All
1. Purpose	To approve the membership, scope and terms of reference for the Scrutiny Review of Mobile Phone Masts.
2. Recommendations	<p>2.1 That the Committee re-confirm the proposed scope and terms of reference.</p> <p>2.2 That the Committee appoint a new Chair for the review from amongst its membership, due to Councillor Bull stepping down as Chair.</p>
Report authorised by:	The Chief Executive – Max Caller
Contact officer:	Carolyn Banks
Telephone:	020 8489 2965

3. Access to Information:

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 -Background Papers

Joint Report of Director of Environmental Services, Director of Housing, Overview and Scrutiny Manager and Health and Safety Manager to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 22 November 2004 on Mobile Phone Masts.

For access to the background papers or any further information please contact Carolyn Banks on 020 8489 2965

4 Background

On 22 November 2004 the Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a full report on mobile phone base stations. One of the issues dealt with in this report was the suggestion that mobile phones and base stations could be hazardous to health. However the Government have accepted responsibility for dealing with health issues and have received advice from experts that base stations do not constitute a health risk. The Committee recommended that current planning consultation procedures should be reviewed and subsequently decided to make it the subject of a scrutiny review.

5. Membership of the Review

Initial Membership

Cllr Gideon Bull (Chair)

Cllr Dhiren Basu

Cllr. Wayne Hoban

1 vacancy

At the Review Panel Meeting on 19th December 2005 the Chair of the Review Panel Councillor Bull declared an interest.

He advised that, “his employing company had recently been taken over by a company with business interests in the mobile phone market. They were not one of the five operating companies. He would be taking further advice on whether he needed to update the public register of Members interests to make his position perfectly clear or to make a further statement.”

Upon receiving further advice from the Council’s Legal Department, Councillor Bull has declared that his interest could be regarded as prejudicial and personal and has therefore stepped down as Chair of this scrutiny review.

Under the Council's Constitution Part I.2, Section 7 (c), "Chairs of Scrutiny review Panels will be drawn from among the Councillors sitting on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee may appoint any person as it considers appropriate as Chair, having regard to the above and with regard to the objective of cross-party chairing in proportion to the political balance of the Council."

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee needs therefore to appoint a new Chair for the Scrutiny Review Panel on Mobile Phone Masts, from amongst its current membership.

6. Review Progress

Attached at Appendix A is the scope and terms of reference for the review. Sections 3a, 3b and 3d, have been covered in meetings held on 25 November, 19 December 2005 and 13 January 2006.

SCRUTINY REVIEW OF MOBILE PHONE MASTS

SCOPE AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Aims of the Review

To ensure that the Council complied with Government guidance for consulting on planning applications for mobile phone base stations.

2. Terms of Reference

To review existing consultation processes for mobile phone base stations in Haringey to ensure they complied with the Government's planning policy guidance

3. Methodology

It is proposed that the review will be undertaken by:-

- a) Receiving a presentation from the Environment Service on the current planning and consultation process
- b) Receiving evidence from local residents and interest groups on the planning and consultation processes
- c) Examining other Council's consultation processes
- d) Meeting with the Mobile Operators Association on consultation processes.

4. Key Stakeholders

Environmental Services
Executive Member for Environment and Conservation
Local Community groups

5. Timescale

The timescale for this review will be extremely tight. It is therefore proposed to limit the review to a maximum of three meetings with the final report being presented to the Overview and Scrutiny review meeting in March 2006.

SCRUTINY REVIEW TIMETABLE	
Review Stage	Target Date
1. Public Consultation meeting	Took place on 19 December 2005
2. Meeting with Mobile Operators Association	Took place on 13 January 2006
3. Issues paper to consider main aspects of the review	Late January 2006
4. Scrutiny Review meeting to discuss conclusions	Late Jan/Early February 2006
5. Draft report and agree final version for consideration by Overview and Scrutiny Committee	March 2006

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**O&S Member Requests for
Information 2005-06**

Date of O&S Meeting	Councillor Requesting	Request/Action	Contact Officer Responsible	Date Information Received
02/08/05	Cllr Winskill	details of what is happening on Hornsey High Street, contact details of the Lead Officer	Regeneration Team	Answer distributed to members 15/12/05
02/08/05	Cllr Winskill	Statement on what is going on with the redevelopment plans for Hornsey Central Depot and how the land sale is progressing.	Cllr Peter Hillman	Second email request sent – 28/11/05
02/08/05	Cllr Winskill	copy of the LBH CD welcoming people to the Borough	Ethnic Minority Achievement Team, Children's Service	No spare copies due to cost issues. Will soon be available on Haringey website
29/09/05	Cllr Bevan	Clarification of involvement of Housing Services in the Haringey CCTV Strategy	Cllr Isidoros Diakides	Email request sent to support officer – 10/10/05
29/09/05	Cllr Bull	Request for O&S members to receive structure chart of Housing Fora	Geoff Turner, Housing	Answer distributed to members 06/10/05
29/09/05	Cllr Davies	How much of the 93% of all Council Tax dues recovered this year was done without recourse to legal processes	Gerald Almeroth, Finance	Answer distributed to members 07/11/05
29/09/05	Cllr Harris	Can members be given a breakdown of A level grades by school and individual grade percentages	David Holmes, Children's Service	Answer distributed to members 06/10/05
29/9/05	Cllr Harris	Can members be given a breakdown of vocational and non-vocational GCSE results by school and individual grade percentages	David Holmes, Children's Service	Ready in January 2006
29/9/05	Cllr Harris	Can members be given a breakdown of English and Maths GCSE grades by school and individual grade percentages	David Holmes, Children's Service	Answer distributed to members 06/10/05

29/9/05	Cllr Bevan	<p>Include the following to the scope of SCRUTINY OF ALLOTMENTS</p> <p>Failure of the Council to maintain records of the user / person responsible of every allotment plot.</p> <p>Failure of the Council to ensure a maximum size of shed allowed on each plot and failure to enforce re building of excessive size structures / sheds on allotment plots.</p>	Cllr Dawson, Chair of Scrutiny Panel	Extended scope agreed and added to review
29/09/05	Cllr Bevan	<p>Include the following to the scope of the SCRUTINY STREET SWEEPING</p> <p>Failure of Accord after the clearance of fly tipping sites to ensure that the area is also swept clean. It is standard practice for Accord to remove bulk but leave the area littered and dirty.</p>	Cllr Dawson, Chair of Scrutiny Panel	Extended scope agreed and added to review
29/09/05	Cllr Bevan	<p>Include the following to the scope of the SCRUTINY NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS</p> <p>To investigate and ensure implementation of the wider powers now available to wardens re enforcement. Particularly concerning the parking of cars on footpaths and the dropping of litter.</p>	Cllr Davies, Chair of Scrutiny Panel	Extended scope agreed and added to review
29/09/05	Cllr Bull	Comparison of numbers of parking tickets issued in Haringey compared with other areas in the country	Anne Fisher	Answer distributed to members 08/11/05
24/10/05	O&S Cttee	Can presentation laid round by BEH	Deborah	Answer distributed to members 26/10/05

		Mental Health Trust be distributed to members	Cohen, BEH Mental Health Trust	
24/10/05	Cllr Winskill	Can O&S members receive a briefing on the plans for Children's Centres in Hornsey in relation to Red Gables	Tim Robertson, Children's Service	Children & Families Service currently preparing report on this for Executive – will be made available to O&S when ready for Executive
24/10/05	Cllr Davies	How does the figure of £850k collected in debt in year to August 2005 compare with the figure of the previous year	Cllr Sulaiman	Answer distributed to members 14/11/05
24/10/05	Cllr Davies	What percentage of debt collection court cases are successful	Cllr Sulaiman	Answer distributed to members 14/11/05
24/10/05	Cllr Winskill	What is the global debt figure on Council Tax collection	Cllr Sulaiman	Answer distributed to members 14/11/05
24/10/05	Cllr Winskill	Budget: According to Cllr Milner's report to the executive due to be given 1st November, "On capital there is a potential slippage and subsequent additional costs on the Tech refresh project." Please indicate what the original budget was, what the current budget is and how any "potential slippage" will impact on this budget. What are the reasons for changes to the budget?	Cllr Sulaiman	Answer distributed to members 14/11/05
24/10/05	Cllr Winskill	Members' Tech Refresh: what arrangements have been made to consult with members about their IT requirements? Have assessments been made of individuals': Technical competence	Cllr Sulaiman	Answer distributed to members 14/11/05

		Current use of IT Actual and potential need for IT Remedial training requirements Future training requirements Will the new kit be provided to suit individual's needs or on a One Size Fits All basis?		
24/10/05	Cllr Bull	Can members sign a disclaimer so they can modify and use their Haringey PCs for non-Council work, as this would make them a more effective tool?	Cllr Sulaiman	Answer distributed to members 14/11/05
24/10/05	Cllr J Brown	Can Cllr Wynne's letter to the Secretary of State for Health be distributed to members?	Cllr Wynne	Answer distributed to members 03/11/05
08/11/05	Cllr Bevan	Report to be prepared detailing ALMO recruitment figures and costs	Cllr Diakides/ Stephen Clarke	Email request sent 22/11/05 – answer due before 16/1/06
08/11/05	Cllr Bevan	Report to be prepared for Members with details of repairs to be undertaken on the Next Day Fix scheme	Cllr Hillman/ Anne Fisher	Answer distributed to members 15/12/05
21/11/05	Cllr Winskill	Can the report on the Council's temporary workers and contractors going to Procurement Cttee be made available to Members?	Michael Wood, Head of Procurement	Answer circulated to members 05/12/05
21/11/05	Cllr Winskill	Can we have a report on the cost of day-to-day repairs to Grange Home Care and Day Care premises?	Cllr Wynne/ Anne Bristow	Answer distributed to members 15/12/05
21/11/05	Cllr Davies	Can we have a report on the estimated figures for re-design and new build of Winkfield Resource Centre?	Cllr Wynne/ Anne Bristow	Answer distributed to members 15/12/05
21/11/05	Cllr Winskill	Can we see details of the proposed savings from the review of charging	Cllr Wynne/ Anne Bristow	Answer distributed to members 15/12/05

		policy?		
21/11/05	Cllr Bevan	Can more details be provided regarding the correction of the schools payroll charge before 12 December	Cllr Sulaiman/ Stuart Young	Answer circulated to members 12/12/05
21/11/05	Cllr Davies	Can the exact figures be provided regarding payment of Members' broadband charges?	Cllr Sulaiman/ Lidia Lewis	Answer circulated to members 28/11/05
30/11/05	Cllr Davies	Can the new figure for MVM licence costs be provided to the Committee?	Robin Payne, Enforcement	Answer circulated to members 07/12/05
30/11/05	Cllr Bull	Can we have more info on the proposed member learning and development manager post and the contingency for member services review?	Yuniea Semambo, Member Services	Email request sent 02/12/05
30/11/05	Cllr Winskill	Can the committee be given more details on what the proposed 50k funding per neighbourhood management area will be spent on?	Zena Brabazon, Neighbourhood Management	Answer circulated to members 05/12/05
30/11/05	Cllr Bull	Can the Committee be given a figure of the total spent on Haringey People?	David Hennings, ACE (Strategy)	Answer circulated to members 06/12/05
12/12/05	Cllr Winskill	What are the net costs of Haringey people magazine?	Cllr Reith	
12/12/05	Cllr Bull	Can the decisions of the Voluntary Sector Grants Committee be called in?	Cllr Reith/ Davina Fiore	Emails circulated by Davina/Terence Mitchison 19/12/05

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