



Summons to Attend

Full Council

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To: The Mayor and Councillors of Haringey Council.

Dear Sir/Madam,

A meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Haringey will be held at the on MONDAY, 13TH OCTOBER, 2008 at 19:30 HRS, to transact the following business:

AGENDA

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

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

A member with a personal interest in a matter also has a prejudicial interest in that matter if the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the member's judgment of the public interest and if this interest affects their financial position or the financial position of a person or body as described in paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct and/or if it relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to them or any person or body described in paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct.

4. **TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 14 JULY 2008 (PAGES 1 - 12)**
5. **TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS AS THE MAYOR MAY LAY BEFORE THE COUNCIL**
6. **TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**
7. **TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER AND HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES**
8. **TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**
9. **TO CONSIDER REQUESTS TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS AND/OR PETITIONS AND, IF APPROVED, TO RECEIVE THEM**
10. **TO CONSIDER OPPOSITION BUSINESS SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO.12**
11. **TO ANSWER QUESTIONS, IF ANY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE NOS. 9 & 10**

Oral Question 1 - To the Leader of the Council from Councillor Gorrie:

Would the Leader of the Council confirm his total confidence in the ability and performance of his Cabinet member for Resources?

Oral Question 2 – To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Dogus:

What is the Cabinet Member's assessment of this year's GCSE results in Haringey and; is she confident that we are on target to meet the Government's London Challenge and the National Challenge?

Oral Question 3 - To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Engert:

Following the harrowing press reports regarding the Child A case please could the Cabinet member confirm whether the request made by Liberal Democrats for a special Overview and Scrutiny committee meeting to discuss the case with officers and external agencies has been agreed and whether any provisional date has been set?

Oral Question 4 - To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Griffith:

Can the Cabinet Member confirm that an additional £700,000 has been made available to Haringey, over the next two years, in order for the council to deliver the Government's Youth Crime Action Plan and, if so, can she let us know how the money will be spent and what impact she hopes it will have?

Oral Question 5 –To the Leader of the Council from Councillor Wilson:

Could the Leader of the Council confirm whether he has been providing support and advice to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People in respect to the handling of the Child A case based on his experience and lessons learnt while he was Leader during the Victoria Climbié case?

Oral Question 6 - To the Cabinet Member for Resources from Councillor Egan:

Will the Cabinet Member make a statement about the council's plans for the restoration of Hornsey Town Hall?

Oral Question 7 - To the Cabinet member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Butcher:

DEFRA advises local authorities that "source separation of materials is the first step to maximising the value of recycling" and notes that "the earlier in the collection chain a recyclate is separated the lower the likely cost and environmental impact of the collection scheme"

Please explain why the Council has decided to convert all 75 separate recycling banks in Haringey into commingled banks?

Oral Question 8 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Bull:

Can the Cabinet Member provide us with an update on the on the works being carried out as part of the Decent Homes programme?

12. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING BODIES (PAGES 13 - 76)

- a) Cabinet – Reports 4, 5 & 6 – 2008/09
- b) Audit Committee – Annual report for 2007/08 Municipal Year

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

Motion E (2008/09)

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

“This Council;

Is strongly opposed to the proposed third runway at Heathrow Airport on the grounds that it will result in hugely increased CO2 emissions and noise pollution for the residents of Haringey and will make it virtually impossible for the UK to hit its targets for reducing carbon emissions, which we must do if we are to hold global warming to below 2°C.

Does not believe that maintaining a healthy economy in Haringey and London's position as a major financial centre is dependent on a third runway.

And resolves to,

To join the 2M (Two Million Voices) campaign against the Heathrow expansion as many other local authorities, such as neighbouring Camden and Islington, have already done”.

Motion F (2008/09)

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

“This Council notes:

- that 16 and 17 year olds can leave school, get married, have a full-time job, must pay taxes on their income, and can join the armed forces, but are not allowed to vote in public elections;
- that 16 and 17 year olds have been calling for the right to vote for many years through the Votes at 16 coalition;
- that disconnection between young people and the political establishment is growing.
- the continuing good work by Haringey’s Youth Council and its members

This Council believes:

- that young people are interested in politics and have valid views on issues that affect them;
- that 16 and 17 year olds are old enough to have the right to vote in public elections;

- that refusing to allow 16 and 17 year olds to vote is likely to further depress turnout and encourage young people to give up on formal political structures.

This Council resolves:

- to support the moves to lower the voting age for all public elections to 16;
- to call on the Government to establish the Youth Citizenship Commission with a clear remit to develop the necessary framework for reducing the voting age to 16.
- that the leader of the Council write to Bridget Prentice MP, minister in charge of reform in electoral administration, to show the Council's commitment to pushing for votes for 16 and 17 year old and requesting that the government seriously considers decreasing the voting age".

Motion G (2008/09)

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

Mobility Benefits for Blind Residents

This Council notes:

1. That blind people experience significant barriers to independent mobility
2. That blind people are often isolated and find it difficult to access basic services without mobility assistance
3. That blind residents face additional costs as a result of their impairment, such as using taxis or private hire vehicles

This Council further notes:

1. That blind people are not entitled to the higher rate mobility component of disability living allowance
2. Loss of usable sight clearly causes significant independent mobility problems and incurs significant additional and unmet costs

This Council resolves:

1. To ask the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Work & Pensions, the Rt Hon. James Purnell MP, expressing these concerns

2. To ask the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council to write to our local MPs asking that they sign up to EDM number 1982 and write to the Secretary of State expressing these concerns
3. To support the Royal National Institute of Blind People's (RNIB) campaign on securing the higher rate mobility component of DLA for blind people.

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

Friday, 3 October 2008

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL
MONDAY, 14 JULY 2008

Councillors	Dobbie (Mayor), Adje, Aitken, Allison, Amin, Baker, Basu, Beacham, Bevan, Beynon, Bull, Butcher, Canver, Cooke, Davies, Demirci, Diakides, Dodds, Dogus, Edge, Egan, Engert, Gorrie, Griffith, Haley, Hare, B. Harris, C. Harris, Jones, Khan, Knight, Kober, Lister, Mallett, Meehan, Mughal, Newton, Oatway, Patel, Reid, Reith, Santry, Thompson, Vanier, Weber, Whyte, Williams and Wilson
Apologies	Councillor Adamou, Alexander, Bloch, Hoban, Oakes, Peacock, Rainger, Stanton and Winskill

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTION BY
CNCL19.	TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Adamou, Alexander, Bloch, Hoban, Oakes, Peacock, Rainger, Stanton and Winskill.	
CNCL20.	TO ASK THE MAYOR TO CONSIDER THE ADMISSION OF ANY LATE ITEMS OF BUSINESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 100B OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 See minutes 24, 26, 30 and 31.	
CNCL21.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declarations received.	
CNCL22.	TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 19 MAY 2008 RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 19 May 2008 be signed as a true record.	
CNCL23.	TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS AS THE MAYOR MAY LAY BEFORE THE COUNCIL 1. The Mayor was sad to report the death of Ronnie Harris the former Conservative Councillor for Muswell Hill ward who passed away in May. In commenting that Ronnie Harris served on Haringey Council from 1964 until 1994 and before that in the Highgate ward for Hornsey Borough Council, the Mayor, on behalf of the council, expressed sincere sympathy to her family and	

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friends and acknowledged the outstanding contribution and service she had given to the Borough.

The Leader and Councillor Aitken paid personal tribute to Ronnie.

The Council stood and observed a one minute silence in memory of Ronnie Harris.

2. On behalf of the Council the Mayor gave a fond farewell to Tony Konieczny the Deputy Head of Pendarren House Outdoor Education Centre, who would be leaving at the end of July after 28 years of service. On behalf of Haringey Council, the Mayor sent him the Council's very best wishes for the future and thanked him for his outstanding contribution to the education and development of young people of the Borough.
3. The Mayor expressed his delight in announcing that two Haringey residents have been chosen as joint winners of the Carers of the Year award. Sharon Lindsay and Hilda Curry were chosen as the people who best exemplified the work and qualities of a carer. The award was the Council's way of recognising their hard work and commitment. The Mayor passed on his and the Council's congratulations to both and to the 16,000 unpaid carers in Haringey who also deserved the Council's thanks and support.
4. The Mayor advised the meeting that members of the Council's Road Safety Team were present in recognition of all the road safety work that they have done with Haringey schools. In particular, the Mayor asked that the Council recognise that Haringey was one of only four boroughs that had ensured that every school in the borough had a School Travel Plan. Haringey won the School Travel Plan Borough of the Year award for 2008. As well as attracting funding for this work from Transport for London, the team had made a major contribution to reducing road casualty figures, which were now at a record low. The Mayor congratulated the team for all their hard work. Councillor Haley also praised the Team for all their hard work and achievements and presented the Team with an award of recognition.
5. The Mayor expressed his sincere appreciation to the residents, community groups, council staff and voluntary organisations that do so much over the summer period, celebrating, acknowledging and enriching the lives of so many people. The Mayor commented that it was impossible to select any particular group or organisation. The Mayor stated his delight in representing the Borough at events recognising achievements, talent and dedication. Events included: garden parties, pensioner's socials, numerous processions, community festivals, school productions, award ceremonies and sports events, and the Mayor expressed his particular delighted for the NMI Tottenham based company which received the Queens Award for Enterprise/Innovation the previous week.

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	<p>6. The Mayor also thanked all those who supported his first fundraising event during the previous week, which helped raise funds for his charity "Different Strokes". To date nearly £2,500 was raised. The Mayor also mentioned a full report which he had tabled giving details of his mayoral engagements to date.</p> <p>7. The Mayor presented a certificate to the past Mayor Councillor Sheik Thompson in recognition of his services to the Mayoralty. The certificate recorded the Council's thanks and appreciation to Councillor Thompson and Kyoko Thompson for the services they had rendered to the borough from May 2007 to May 2008.</p>	
<p>CNCL24.</p>	<p>TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE</p> <p>The Mayor agreed to admit the report as urgent business. The report could not be circulated earlier as information was awaited from the Party Groups. The report needed to be admitted in order that the vacancies on committees could be filled for the remainder of municipal year 2008/09.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the changes to Political Group composition effective from Tuesday 10 June 2008 with Councillor Demirci ceasing to be a member of the Liberal Democrat Group and becoming a member of the Labour Party and Labour Group be noted. 2. That the membership of the Audit and Pensions Committees be reduced by one Liberal Democrat position in order to reflect their overall number of seats on the Council and the resultant Membership for those Committees for the Liberal Democrat Group be as follows: <p><u>Audit Committee</u> Cllr Davies Cllr Gorrie Cllr Mughal</p> <p><u>Pensions Committee</u> Cllr Beacham Cllr Butcher Cllr Wilson</p> 3. That Councillor Newton be appointed to the vacant position on the Licensing Committee as a result of (1) above. 4. That Councillor Wilson replace Councillor Demirci on the Planning Committee as a result of (1) above. 5. That Councillor Demirci replace Councillor Adamou on Planning Committee 	

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	6. That Councillor Bevan replace Councillor Diakides on Haringey Council and Employee JCC.	
CNCL25.	TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER AND HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES There were no matters to report.	
CNCL26.	TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES The Mayor agreed to admit the report as urgent business. The report could not be circulated earlier as information was awaited from the Party Groups. The report needed to be admitted in order that the vacancies on outside bodies could be filled for the remainder of municipal year 2008/09. RESOLVED: That the appointments to outside bodies as set out in the attached schedule be approved.	
CNCL27.	TO CONSIDER REQUESTS TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS AND/OR PETITIONS AND, IF APPROVED, TO RECEIVE THEM A deputation was received from Ms Sue Hessel on behalf of the Faith Plant and Community Centre, which provided work and support for residents with learning disabilities. Members asked questions of the deputation and received responses thereto. The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Wellbeing responded to the deputation. The Mayor thanked the deputation for attending.	
CNCL28.	TO CONSIDER OPPOSITION BUSINESS SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO.12 The opposition gave notice of their wish to debate Post Offices. Councillors Gorrie and Oatway spoke on behalf of the Opposition Group. Councillor Bob Harris responded on behalf of the Majority Group. The Mayor thanked Councillors for their contributions.	
CNCL29.	DEPUTY MAYOR IN THE CHAIR The Mayor requested the meeting to agree to the Deputy Mayor chairing the item on Council questions, whilst he left the room.	

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	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Deputy Mayor be appointed as Chair for the item on Council questions.</p>	
CNCL30.	<p>TO ANSWER QUESTIONS, IF ANY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE NOS. 9 & 10</p> <p>The Mayor agreed to the admission of this report as urgent business. Under Standing Orders, notice of questions was not requested until eight clear days before the meeting, following which matters raised had to be researched and replies prepared, in order to be given at the meeting.</p> <p>There were 8 oral questions and 25 for written answer.</p> <p>Oral Questions 6- 8 were not reached in the allotted time and written answers would be supplied to these questions.</p>	
CNCL31.	<p>TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING BODIES</p> <p>The Mayor agreed to admit the report of the Standards Committee and Cabinet report number 3 as urgent business. The reports could not be circulated earlier as information was still being compiled. The reports were urgent as the Cabinet report contained recommendations for the Council to consider and there was a requirement for the first meeting in the Municipal Year to consider the Annual report of the Standards Committee.</p> <p><u>STANDARDS COMMITTEE – ANNUAL REPORT – REPORT NO.1 2008/09</u></p> <p>The Chair of the Standards Committee presented the Annual report of the Committee for 2007/08. The Leader of the Council moved the Constitutional changes contained within the report.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Annual report of the Standards Committee be received and the following Constitutional recommendations contained therein be adopted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Changes to the role and function of the Standards Committee in Part 2, Article 9, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report (ii) Changes to the Functions of the Monitoring Officer in Part 2, Article 12, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report (iii) Changes to the terms of reference of the Standards 	

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	<p>Committee and the addition of its Assessment, Review and Hearings Sub-Committees in Part 3, Section C, as set out in Appendix 3 to the report</p> <p>(iv) Changes to the delegated powers of the Head of Local Democracy and Member Services in Appendix E Part F7 Section 9, as set out in Appendix 4 to the report.</p> <p><u>CABINET REPORTS 1, 2 & 3 2008/09</u></p> <p>The Leader gave a brief resume of the reports of Cabinet which were before the meeting for consideration. Members questioned details of the reports and the Leader responded accordingly.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Cabinet reports nos. 1, 2 & 3 be received and that the recommendations contained in Cabinet report No.3 as follows be adopted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the draft Haringey Local Code of Corporate Governance be formally adopted and the measures outlined to publicise the Code after its adoption be approved. 2. That the Haringey Greenest Borough Strategy as set out in Appendix B to the report be formally adopted. 3. That authority to make any minor amendments to the Strategy be delegated to the Director of Urban Environment in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation. 4. That following adoption of the Strategy, a detailed implementation plan be prepared. <p><u>GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE REPORT NO 1 2008/09</u></p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the General Purposes Committee report no. 1 be received and adopted:</p>	
CNCL32.	<p>TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE NO. 13</p> <p><u>Motion A (2008/09)</u></p> <p>RESOLVED:</p>	

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That Council Procedure Rules be suspended for consideration of this item in order to permit outside speakers to take part in the debate.

It was moved by Councillor Meehan and seconded by Councillor Lister that:

“This Council celebrates the significance of the 90th birthday on 18 July 2008 of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, former President of the Republic of South Africa. The struggle for freedom and multi-racial democracy by the people of South Africa is one that has had the support of this Council for many years.

During the height of the apartheid regime’s repression in the 1980’s, this Council was active in drawing attention to the efforts of the international community in bringing pressure to bear on the South African government, including calls for the unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners. The borough was home to Oliver Tambo, the then leader of the ANC and his family. On the eve of independence in South Africa, as the Tambo family prepared to return home, Haringey Council bestowed the Freedom of the Borough on Oliver and Adelaide Tambo.

Since the negotiated settlement and the advent of multi-racial elections in April 1994, this Council has continued to support efforts to build local democracy in the new South Africa; most recently through its links with schools and the support we have received from the High Commissioner for South Africa, Her Excellency Dr Lindiwe Mabuza. Our links with schools in Johannesburg and Pretoria continue to develop with two visits from officers from the Children and Young People’s Service and from staff and young people from our schools. Several schools have now good links, especially Alexandra Park Secondary school. The party was honoured to meet Nelson Mandela whilst in South Africa.

Last October, we were especially pleased to commemorate what would have been the 90th birthday of Oliver Tambo by commissioning a bust which is now on display at the Albert Recreation Ground. On that occasion the Council was honoured to welcome the first lady of South Africa Zanele Mbeke, the Secretary of State for Justice, the Rt Hon Jack Straw MP and other distinguished guests.

This Council applauds the extraordinary achievements of Nelson Mandela and the many millions of South Africans who made the sacrifices necessary to achieve democracy and to work together towards a better life for all.

This Council recognises that at a time of rising economic and political uncertainty in South Africa and the region, the need for

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ongoing practical support for South African local communities remains strong.”

The Council was also addressed by Mike Terry and Abdul Bham, who each gave an account of their personal knowledge and past involvement with Nelson Mandela. Other members of the Council also spoke.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared CARRIED unanimously.

Motion B (2008/09)

It was moved by Councillor Thompson and seconded by Councillor Meehan that:

“This Council recognises the cultural diversity of Haringey and wishes to celebrate the contribution of the Jamaican community, particularly in the fields of race relations, community and police relations, education, and the judiciary.

This Council notes that the proposal for this link has come from Councillor Sheik Thompson following discussions with the office of the Jamaican High Commission in London. The proposal will establish links between organisations in the Borough, especially Haringey Young Musicians, and organisations in the parish of Westmoreland, Jamaica, specifically the School Chorale and the Jamaican Combined Cadet Force of Mannings High School in Savanna-la-Mar. A full programme of cultural events is proposed to promote a mutual understanding of both cultures, beginning with cultural exchange visits and concerts.

Subsequent to the meeting at which this motion is tabled there shall be no financial burden to the Council.

It is resolved that this Council recognises and approves a linking arrangement between Westmoreland in Jamaica and Haringey”.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared CARRIED unanimously.

Motion C (2008/09)

Motion withdrawn.

Motion D (2008/09)

Motion withdrawn.

The Council then stood to listen to South African National Anthem in honour of Nelson Mandela’s forthcoming 90th Birthday.

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COUNCILLOR ALAN DOBBIE

Mayor

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Proposed Appointments to Outside Bodies

Council 14 July 2008

Body name	No of Reps				
<hr/>					
<u>Haringey Racial Equality Council, The Executive Committee</u>					Category: Community
	3	Term of Office:	1 year		
<u>Granted Aid: yes</u>	2 LAB, 1 LIBDEM				
<u>Retiring Representative (s) / Expiry</u>	Councillor Dhiren Basu	19/05/08	31/05/09		
	Councillor Dilek Dogus	19/05/08	31/05/09		
	Councillor Oakes	14/07/08	31/05/09		Councillor Oakes to replace Cllr Demirci.
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<u>Haringey Admissions & School Organisation Forum</u>					Category: Statutory
<u>14/saf</u>	3	Term of Office:	1 Year		
<u>Granted Aid: no</u>	2 LAB, 1 LIBDEM				
<u>Retiring Representative (s) / Expiry</u>	Councillor Liz Santry	19/05/08	31/05/09		
	Councillor Emma Jones	19/05/08	31/05/09		
	LIB/DEM VACANT	14/07/08	31/05/09		Remove Councillor Demirci
<hr/>					
<u>Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education, The Conference</u>					Category: Statutory
	5	Term of Office:	1 year		
<u>Granted Aid: no</u>	3 LAB, 2 LIBDEM				
<u>Retiring Representative (s) / Expiry</u>	Councillor Emma Jones	19/05/08	31/05/09		Remove Councillor Jones
	Councillor Sheila Rainger	19/05/08	31/05/09		
	Councillor Carolyn Baker	19/05/08	31/05/09		
	LABOUR VACANT	14/07/08	30/05/09		
	LABOUR VACANT	14/07/08	30/05/09		
<hr/>					
<u>London Councils, Grants Committee</u>					Category: Association
<u>14/alg/lbg</u>	3	Term of Office:	1 Year		
<u>Granted Aid: no</u>	3 LAB				
<u>Retiring Representative (s) / Expiry</u>	Councillor Nilgun Canver	19/05/08	31/05/09	Voting Member	
	Councillor Dilek Dogus	19/05/08	31/05/09	Deputy	Remove Councillor Dogus
	Councillor Lorna Reith	19/05/08	31/05/09	Deputy	
<hr/>					
<u>Haringey Admissions & School Organisation Forum</u>					Category: Statutory
<u>14/saf</u>	3	Term of Office:	1 Year		
<u>Granted Aid: no</u>	2 LAB, 1 LIBDEM				
<u>Retiring Representative (s) / Expiry</u>	Councillor Liz Santry	19/05/08	31/05/09		
	Councillor Emma Jones	19/05/08	31/05/09		
	Councillor Ali Demirci	19/05/08	31/05/09		Remove Councillor Demirci

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REPORT OF THE CABINET No. 04/2008-09
COUNCIL 13 OCTOBER 2008

Chair:
Councillor George Meehan

Deputy Chair:
Councillor Lorna Reith

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report covers matters considered by the Cabinet at our meeting on 15 July 2008. For ease of reference the Report is divided into the Cabinet portfolios.
- 1.2 We trust that this Report will be helpful to Members in their representative role and facilitate a fruitful dialogue between the Cabinet and all groups of Councillors. These reports are a welcome opportunity for the Cabinet on a regular basis to present the priorities and achievements of the Cabinet to Council colleagues for consideration and comment. The Cabinet values and encourages the input of fellow members.

ITEMS OF REPORT

Community Cohesion and Involvement

2. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: END YEAR 2007/08

- 2.1 We considered a report which sought our agreement to the criteria for selecting areas for equalities impact assessment and to the equalities impact assessment programme for 2008/09. We were informed that Equalities Impact Assessment was a duty on all public bodies which derived from a number of legal frameworks to promote equal opportunity and prohibit unlawful discrimination. The key legal frameworks were the Disability Discrimination Act, the Race Relations Amendment Act 2000 and the Sex Discrimination Act 2006. The Council was bound by this duty.
- 2.2 The Council was working to achieving Level 4 of the Equality Standard for Local Government (ESLG), which was a national framework for assessing the performance of local authorities on equalities. External audit and inspection regimes including the Audit Commission used the Standard's criteria when assessing local authorities on equalities. In order to achieve Level 4 to which the Council is aspiring, we would need to demonstrate compliance with the equalities public duties of which equalities impact assessment was a key component.
- 2.3 We report that we noted the schedule of impact assessments carried out in 2007/08 and we agreed the following areas for assessment in 2008/09 -

Chief Executive's Service Directorate:

- Flexible Working Model
- People Strategy
- Grievance, Capability, Bullying & Harassment
- Talent management and succession planning policy and framework
- Community Safety Strategy
- Quality Assurance Standards for funded groups
- Local Area Agreement

Urban Environment Directorate:

- Assisted Refuse/recycling collections
- Review of parking enforcement policy
- Paperless permits
- Relocation of R&R site
- Review of the Disabled Freedom Pass Qualifying Criteria
- Enforcement Strategy & Policy
- Licensing Policy
- Gambling Policy
- Restructure
- Worklessness Initiatives
- Wood Green Spatial Plan
- Regeneration strategy delivery plan
- Shop front improvement programme
- Income Maximisation
- Core Strategy
- Lawrence Road Planning Brief (SPD)
- North London Waste Plan
- Central Leaside Action Plan
- Housing SDP
- Open Spaces Strategy
- Lettings Policy
- Direct Lettings into Private sector
- Structure Review
- New Housing Strategy 2008-2011
- Homelessness Strategy 2008-2011
- Provision for Gypsies and Travellers
- Community Transport scheme

Children & Young People Directorate:

- CAMHS Strategy
- Teenage Pregnancy & Sexual Health Strategy
- Early Years & Children's Centres
- Mentoring Scheme
- Involving the parents of young people with Autism
- Family support strategy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Participation strategy
- Developing Sustainable Childcare
- Play Strategy
- School Admissions Recommendations 2007/8
- Connexions
- Re-organisation of Moselle & William C Harvey Special School

- Changes to Haringey Schools' Funding Formula and the Scheme for Financing Schools from 2008 -2009 - Outcome of the consultation 7 recommendations for change (AEN/SEN funding review)
- The Ethnic Minority Achievement review
- Supporting Teenage Parents project
- Children's Fund - Voice Theme

Corporate Resources Directorate:

- Introduction of e-benefit system
- Communication with tenants via text messaging or e-mail
- Pre-Business Plan Council budget
- Update of the Procurement Guidance to reflect move to e-procurement
- Recruitment and Retention Strategy of Legal Services
- Review of Commercial property portfolio
- Review of Community Buildings
- Office Accommodation Strategy
- Review of Management Structure of CPS

Adults, Culture and Communities Services Directorate:

- Bio Diversity Action Plan
- Sports Club Charges
- Lordship Recreation Ground Audience Development
- Carers Strategy
- User Payment Policy
- Personal and Sexual Relations Policy
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- End of Life Strategy
- Experience Counts
- Muswell Hill Playing Fields – Master plan

Adult Social Care and Well Being

3. ADULT, CULTURE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES ANNUAL COMPLAINTS REPORT 2007/08

- 3.1 We considered a report which outlined the performance of the Adult Social Care complaints handling procedures and practices for the period 2007/08. We noted that the Local Authority Social Services Complaints (England) Regulations 2006 (and statutory guidance) required that for monitoring purposes the Local Authority had to produce annual reports on the operation of their complaint procedures. The report provided recommendations for improving complaint handling and ensuring early resolution.
- 3.2 We also noted that in order to ensure that we are responding to enquiries within timescale, regular complaints meetings were conducted with Service leads, enabling complaints to be reviewed and monitored to ensure effective closure of cases at early resolution stage. Weekly reports on outstanding complaints were submitted to the

Service leads and Service Managers. Monthly performance reports were submitted to the Directorate Management Team (DMT) and cascaded down to management meetings. The Directorate continued to raise awareness of the Council's Feedback Scheme through publicity information. We were informed that the performance target for 2007/08 had been set at 80% of stage 1 complaints to be completed within the 10 day timescale and that 91% had been achieved.

3.3 In terms of initiatives for 2008/09 we were advised that an updated Social Care training tool had been purchased and the Designated Complaints Officer and a member of the Organisational & Development Team completed the "train the trainer" training for this particular tool. Discussions were underway as to the best way of rolling out this training. This course was aimed at all staff and the objective was to ensure that staff knew how to resolve complaints at Stage 1. A training course was also being developed for senior managers who investigated Stage 2 complaints and also for the adjudicating officer. The Complaints Improvement Plan had also been revised to include –

- Continuing to develop and embed the importance of learning from complaints to improve our services
- Achieve the performance targets
- Ensuring that investigators of Stage 1 complaints are briefed on the importance of resolution at Stage 1
- Ensure that complainants are kept informed through out the procedure
- Ensure that stage 1 responses cover all issues raised
- Publicise the complaints procedure wherever possible.
- Recommendation that meetings are to be held after each Stage 2 investigation, with the senior managers and the complaints team. These meetings will ensure all recommendations are carried out.

3.4 Information gathered by the Directorate's Contracts team from a range of sources indicated a need for a more pro active approach to the resolution of minor issues in order to ensure that new care packages set up were meeting needs and that service users had access to information. This feedback had indicated that in a significant number of instances minor problems/ issues were not brought to light before the 6 week review so could not be resolved prior to the case being closed and put back in to the review system. As a consequence some service users felt their concerns were not heard and in instances where they have raised complaints/issues no one has followed up to verify resolution has occurred. In some instances issues/complaints raised did not relate to service providers but the difference between issues for which the care provider was responsible and issues that were the responsibility of Council was not always clear to a service user. This lack of clarity could create tension between the service user and care provider/care worker and result in a lack of confidence by the service user in the Council who purchased the service, resulting in complaints.

4. RESPONSE TO THE SCRUTINY REVIEW OF ACCESS TO SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE

4.1 We considered a report which proposed a response to the Scrutiny Review of Access to Services for Older People. We noted that the Panel had looked at a number of issues

throughout the review and had made 16 recommendations in order to assist in improving the lives of older people in Haringey. The key findings of the Review had been -

- Along with the demographic pressures which were being faced in Haringey, there were also financial pressures. This included a 1% only increase in Social Care funding announced in the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007.
- Haringey Council, Haringey Teaching Primary Care Trust and the voluntary sector had shown that they could work well in partnership in order to drive change, particularly at a strategic level.
- There were examples of good practice in partnership working across Haringey with a commitment and drive to make further improvements by all parties.
- Robust processes were in place to ensure consistent and cost effective decisions were made when allocating care packages to make the best possible use of resources and optimise independence for older people.
- There were significant challenges in meeting the preventative and personalisation agenda whilst continuing to support those most in need.

- 4.2 The report pointed out that Haringey currently had a population of approximately 20,400 aged 65 years and over. Of these, approximately 4,200 received assessed services (including pieces of equipment) from Adult Services. Many more received non-assessed services. In line with the rest of the country, Haringey had a population that was incrementally growing older. Although population predictions indicated only an increase of around 3,000 people in the next 20 years, a sizeable proportion of these residents would be over 85 years and these were some of the most dependent residents of the borough who were most likely to require higher levels of support from health and social care systems. In addition to population growth, health inequalities across the Borough meant that some people were presenting with long term health conditions that required support earlier than might others.
- 4.3 In 2005, following extensive consultation, the Council, along with partners and older people's groups in the Borough published "Experience Counts" – a five-year strategy (which was currently under review) that set out key objectives setting the direction of travel for developing services for older people. The White Paper "Our Health, Our Care, Our Say" (DH 2006) had highlighted the need for preventative services and a personalised approach to services that made a real difference to the lives of individuals.
- 4.4 Adult Services was currently engaged with other parts of the Directorate in developing seamless pathways for people who approached any part of the Directorate into appropriate service provision. Adult, Culture and Community Services Directorate was currently in the process of further developing personalised services utilising the Social Care Reform Grant over the current year and following two years. This would lead to greater utilisation of Direct Payments and Individualised Budgets enabling people to be in greater control of their care and support. In common with most Councils, the adult social care budget was under increasing pressure and there remains a tension between targeting resources to those most at need under the Council's "Fair Access to Care

Services" (FACS) policy and investing in preventative services that were more widely available and support well-being.

- 4.5 We report that of the sixteen recommendations made in the Scrutiny Review 11 recommendations or parts of recommendations were accepted and 6 recommendations or parts of recommendations which were not applicable to Adult, Culture and Community Services, were noted. The agreed recommendations would need to be developed within the existing departmental budget while others would need to be resourced by Haringey Teaching Primary Care Trust (HTPCT). In particular, the broadening of the GP referral scheme and proposals from the HTPCT for improving foot health would be a call on HTPCT budgets. With regard to the Social Care Reform Grant, time limited resources were being provided to undertake the redesign of systems processes and transactions to transform service delivery, not to provide additional services. Alongside this additional investment, Councils were expected to spend some of their existing resources differently, utilising mainstream services to ensure the health and well-being of their communities and working in a collaborative way with third and private sector agencies.
- 4.6 During the course of our deliberations on the suggested response, clarification was sought of whether action would be taken on those recommendations of the Scrutiny Review that involved representations being made to the Department of Health to encourage more funding to allow the Council to support the low and moderate bandings of Fair Access to Care Services in line with the well being agenda, and also for Direct Payments to be extended to health care services. Confirmation was also sought that those recommendations which had been referred to the Primary Care Trust would be followed up. We report that we agreed that representations be made to the Department of Health on the matters detailed above subject to the Direct Payments for health care services proposed not affecting disability benefits. We also agreed that the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Well Being pursue with the Haringey Teaching Primary Care Trust the Scrutiny Review's recommendations concerning the GP referral scheme and proposals for improving foot health in Haringey.

Regeneration and Enterprise

5. HARINGEY REGENERATION STRATEGY – DRAFT DELIVERY PLAN

- 5.1 The Council will recall that our new regeneration strategy "People, Places, Prosperity" was agreed in January 2008 at which time it was agreed that an annual delivery plan would be produced so that the progress of the strategy could be monitored.
- 5.2 We considered the first annual Delivery Plan for our new regeneration strategy which sought to provide an accessible and succinct statement of our regeneration vision and objectives. The plan had not sought to set out every regeneration project that would occur in the Borough but instead tried to identify the key flagship projects under each of the three themes that would take forward their delivery. Future plans would set out the projects for the coming year and review the progress against the projects in the previous year. Many of the projects, especially those involving strategic sites would take several years before they were completed but each year particular milestones for the coming year would be identified.

- 5.3 Because the projects identified were flagship projects many of them were already within the Councils project management framework and were reported regularly to the appropriate boards. However, the delivery plan would enable partners and the public to see them a collective group and see how they link together to achieve our wider goals. We noted that the programme set in the delivery plan, especially the places theme, represented a very major programme of transformation covering significant parts of the Borough. In addition to the flagship programme there were a large number of smaller projects which would also contribute to these goals.
- 5.4 We report that the Delivery Plan along with the accompanying strategy would set the agenda for delivering major socio-economic and physical infrastructure developments in Haringey over the next 3 years to 2011. Our adoption of the delivery plan would identifies the projects within it as the agents for achieving the objectives of our People, Places and Prosperity strategy and would also demonstrate widespread joined-up working across Directorates and with external partners. Successful implementation would result in major physical change in the urban environment of Haringey along with greater economic vitality as a result of greater employment amongst residents and thriving prosperous businesses.

Housing

6. SERVICE IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES FOR LEASEHOLDERS

- 6.1 We considered a report which contained suggestions for changes to policy and practice with regard to rechargeable major works, in the main affecting leaseholders, which was of particular relevance as the Decent Homes Programme got under way. The report covered 3 areas:
- Suggestions for extending repayment options to leaseholders for rechargeable major works
 - Consideration as to whether leaseholders should be allowed to engage their own window replacement contractor in agreed circumstances
 - Consideration to extending opportunity to leaseholders to take advantage of discounted prices achieved through bulk purchase (for kitchen and bathrooms) through the Decent Homes Programme supply chains.
- 6.2 We noted that the question of payment options had been the subject of Government statements suggesting that local authorities should offer the full range of available payment options to help leaseholders pay their bills, and that they should share best practice. In addition the Audit Commission's Key Line of Enquiry (KLOE) in this area recommended that Local Authorities offer:
- flexible options
 - collect payments in advance
 - send a final invoice on completion
 - view forfeiture as the last resort

- 6.3 We also noted that in the course of preparing the report a review had been carried out of the information provided by all other London boroughs with respect to their policies for payment options and in allowing leaseholders to install their own windows and doors and that as part of the consideration of the relevant issues a questionnaire had been sent to Leasehold Managers in all other London boroughs. Homes for Haringey had undertaken considerable consultation on these proposals with leaseholders and leaseholders' suggestions had been incorporated in the report to address their main concerns
- 6.4 The Housing Strategy contained a number of key objectives and had the overarching aim of ensuring that Homes for Haringey provided and maintained an excellent housing service. Improving the quality and range of services to leaseholders was seen as contributing to the Council's key aims and objectives and we report that we agreed the following policy changes -
- The commencement of billing in advance for major works in order to improve the cash flow to the Council by bringing forward the start date for the receipt of payments by up to 18 months;
 - The provision to leaseholders of a higher discount (5%) for payment in full in order to provide an incentive to pay in full at the start of work, since they were only obliged to pay in instalments;
 - The provision of instalment periods of up to 3 years (including the 18 month advance billing period referred to above) on an interest-free basis;
 - Proposals to allow Interest only loans and a voluntary charge against the property;
 - Leaseholders being allowed to install and maintain their own windows and external doors in agreed circumstances and on a case by case basis; and
 - Leaseholders being enabled to benefit from the volume discounts available from the Decent Homes Programme (DHP) supply chains in respect of kitchen and bathroom units.

7. HARINGEY'S HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY 2008-11

- 7.1 The Council will be aware that Haringey's Homelessness Strategy supported the Sustainable Community Strategy and the delivery of the Local Area Agreement by helping to address some of the most pressing issues facing the Borough, including child poverty, community safety, educational attainment, health inequalities, poor housing conditions, worklessness and the planned reduction in the use of temporary accommodation.
- 7.2 We adopted the Strategy which provided the necessary framework and impetus for effective partnership working and the delivery of efficiently managed and co-ordinated services for people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homelessness. We considered a report which advised us that development of the Homelessness Strategy had been inclusive and there was widespread multi agency support for ensuring that it was implemented successfully. The appointment of Homelessness Champions, together

with the endorsement of the Integrated Housing Board, would ensure the Strategy is owned by stakeholders.

- 7.3 Development of the Homelessness Strategy had also afforded the opportunity for Haringey to review how effective it had been in tackling homelessness and to assess how well equipped it is to meet future needs. Drawing on the findings of a review of homelessness, Haringey's new Homelessness Strategy emphasised the need for early intervention, homelessness prevention and partnership. It also sought to reduce people's reliance on the homelessness legislation and social housing to meet their housing need.
- 7.4 Unlike most other local authorities, we had chosen to produce a three year Homelessness Strategy. As well as ensuring that everyone focused on the task in hand, the three year timescale reflected the fact that, in halving the Council's use of temporary accommodation by March 2010, the Strategy would transform not just the housing situation in Haringey but also the quality and effectiveness of partnerships.
- 7.5 The Homelessness Strategy identified nine key strategic objectives that met local and national strategic priorities, and focused on service delivery and improvement. Expressed as a set of stakeholder commitments, the nine key objectives described Haringey's aspirations and how they will be achieved:
- We will actively support and promote a partnership approach to preventing homelessness
 - We will invest in early intervention and effective homelessness prevention
 - We will increase the supply of affordable homes
 - We will provide choice and encourage independence
 - We will halve, by March 2010, the number of homeless households in temporary accommodation
 - We will improve the quality and suitability of temporary accommodation
 - We will work proactively to safeguard children and vulnerable adults
 - We will improve customer service, involvement and satisfaction
 - We will ensure that our policies and procedures are fair, transparent and widely understood
- 7.6 Responsibility for ensuring the successful and timely implementation of the Strategy would rest with the Homelessness Strategy Implementation Group which would comprise key stakeholders and will report directly to the Integrated Housing Board.
- 7.7 The new Homelessness Strategy demanded a fresh approach to the way in which everyone in Haringey tackles and prevents homelessness. With its emphasis on multi agency working, implementation of the Homelessness Strategy would ensure that all of

the key issues are discussed and addressed. In order to make a meaningful impact on the number of homeless people who were not in education, employment or training, homelessness services would be aligned with Jobcentre Plus, the employment advisers and the Haringey Guarantee.

- 7.8 The creation of a homeless households support service (which would comprise the network of people whose work would involve regular contact with homeless people in temporary accommodation) would ensure that service users received consistent messages and were kept fully informed about services, initiatives and their move-on options. More than ever before, service users would be actively consulted and involved in designing, monitoring and improving the services provided for people who were homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.
- 7.9 We report that with its ambitious Action Plan, the Homelessness Strategy had the potential to completely transform Haringey's housing and homelessness services and, given the impact that homelessness was having on the health, educational attainment, life chances and well-being of Haringey's residents, it was essential that everyone in the borough did everything they could to assist its implementation.

8. TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION REDUCTION PLAN 2008-10

- 8.1 We considered a report which advised us that Haringey had the second largest number of Households in Temporary Accommodation in London. It was critical that we achieved the Government's target for 2010 and this was a key priority for the Council to achieve a successful outcome. The production of a Homelessness Strategy which was a requirement for each local authority was the subject of a separate report to our meeting and appears elsewhere in our report. Given the levels of housing need and homelessness in Haringey, it was a core strategic document and our success in addressing homelessness and achieving the reduction in the levels of temporary accommodation required by 2010 was not only critical for the Council but also to the lives of many of the borough's residents.
- 8.2 The requirement for a Homelessness Strategy and the delivery of the Temporary Accommodation Reduction Plan would impact upon the Council's assessment under the new CAA framework. They were also important for the achievement of the Council's broader objectives set out in the Council Plan, the LAA targets and in the Community Strategy.
- 8.3 The report set out the Council's planned actions through a Temporary Accommodation Reduction Plan to achieve a target number of 2600 households in Temporary Accommodation by 31 March 2010 in line with targets set by the Department for Communities for Local Government. The achievement of this target remained one of our highest priorities over the next two years. The Plan was split into 3 major objectives -
- Objective 1 - Controlling the gateway for households entering Temporary Accommodation.
 - Objective 2 - Managing the Temporary Accommodation client base.

- Objective 3 - Improving the supply of permanent accommodation to reduce numbers of households in Temporary Accommodation
- 8.4 We noted that the costs associated with the measures proposed under the first 2 objectives, namely controlling the gateway for households entering temporary accommodation and managing the temporary accommodation client base would be contained within existing approved resources. However, the proposal to clear a backlog of homelessness assessments, estimated cost £78,000 currently had no budget provision. A bid had been made to the Capital Ambition funding for London, which should provide a sum of £200,000 to be allocated to fund the backlog project and provide for additional resources to support the delivery of the overall Housing Improvement Plan.
- 8.5 The main thrust of reducing the numbers in Temporary Accommodation was via objective 3, improving the supply of permanent accommodation through the use of Assured Short hold Tenancies (AST's). Currently approved budget provision of £586,000 was sufficient to fund 293 AST's at an average cost of £2,000. Any AST's above 293 would require additional resources, which must be identified and approved before any further AST's were secured. In order to meet these proposed targets and acceleration of the programme additional funding of £952,000 was now required.
- 8.6 Almost half of the cost of acquiring an additional 600 Assured Short hold Properties could be achieved through managing a reduction through the release of the more expensive properties currently procured and maintaining or increasing as required properties acquired as Private Sector Leases which were secure tenure for a longer period and were more cost effective. This was expected to produce a cost saving of £432,000 in 2008/09. The target property tenures were included in the plan proposed. In respect of the funding for the remaining cost of £520,000 to achieve the accelerated programme in 2008/09 funding could be transferred from the reserve held for homelessness subsidy issues which was increased by £692,000 as a result of the under spend in 2007/08. This funding must only be used for the payment of incentives for the supply of AST's.
- 8.7 We also noted that the delivery of the target of 2600 or less households in Temporary Accommodation by 2010 was a huge challenge, but not one that could not fail. It was of the highest priority for the Housing Service to deliver and resources from outside the service had been identified to provide hands on support to both deliver and take responsibility for delivering outcomes. The first key milestone was to achieve the target of 4000 by March 2009. We report that we agreed a target of no more than 4000 households in Temporary Accommodation by 31/03/2009 and no more than 2600 by 31st March 2010. We also agreed the key objectives set out in the report as well as the funding for the additional costs of providing assured short hold tenancy properties in 2008/09 as set out above.

Children and Young People

9. ANNUAL SCHOOL PLACE PLANNING REPORT

- 9.1 We considered a report on demand for pupil places in our primary, secondary and special schools and which updated us on action to respond to this demand.

9.2 The report suggested that on the basis of discussion held the work priorities for 2008/09 should be -

- To develop plans and demographic data during the autumn of 2008 to ensure the potential PAN reinstatements were still required by 2010 and plans were in place to allow this to happen if necessary.
- To consult on increased capacity at Rhodes Avenue primary school for September 2011.
- To provide an update on the proposed additional provision around Tottenham Hale.
- To monitor the demand for school places in the Wood Green area.
- To continue to work with colleagues on SEN data and projections.
- To continue to work with colleagues on post 16 projections.

9.3 We report that we endorsed the work priorities outlined above and agreed that the consultation on the possible expansion of Rhodes Avenue primary school in the west children's network to create an additional form of entry proceed and that a further report be submitted to us in January 2009 on the outcome of the consultation and to determine whether statutory notices are published. Approval was also granted to the consultation on additional school capacity around Tottenham Hale be carried out from September 2009 and to an additional school place planning principle arising from the recent Primary Strategy consultation. A further report on school places would be presented to us in July 2009 and we will keep the Council informed of developments.

Environment and Conservation

10. PUBLIC REALM COMMISSIONING STRATEGY – OPTION APPRAISAL

10.1 We considered a report the purpose of which was to appraise the four procurement options in order for us to select the most appropriate option to deliver the aims and objectives of the Haringey Strategic Partnership and Council Plan and, for Public Realm and Specialised contract options, to identify a suitable procurement process and ascertain the most appropriate contract vehicle.

10.2 We noted that officers had completed a procurement option appraisal on how the Council would commission future frontline Highways, Street Lighting and Waste Management Services. The four options appraised were:

- Public Realm (Option 1) – Combining all frontline (Highways/Street Lighting and Waste Management) services into one public realm contract.
- Specialised (Option 2) – The Highways/Street Lighting and Waste Management services would tender their own 'specialised' service contracts.
- Externalised Highways/Street Lighting contracts and Waste Management Services provided In-House (Option 3) – The Highways/Street Lighting services would be tendered and all waste management services would be provided by an In-house team.

- Externalised Highways /Street Lighting and an Extension to the Integrated Waste Management Contract with a continued In–House Recycling Service (Option 4).
- 10.3 The subsequent commissioning strategy set out in detail the development, results and conclusion of this option appraisal, in order to enable us to consider all the technical information and select the most appropriate procurement scenario to deliver Haringey's Sustainable Community Strategy objectives. We also noted that this project fell within the remit of the Achieving Excellence programme and a key underlining aspect of this programme had been to demonstrate that projects delivered improvements in performance and customer perception together with ensuring services were efficient and provided value for money. These three principles had been incorporated throughout the option appraisal.
- 10.4 We were advised that the total annual revenue and capital value of the existing public realm service were £20 million and £9 million respectively. The funding the Council received from Transport for London's (TfL) Local Implementation Plan was subject to an annual bidding process and therefore could vary year on year. The money funded schemes which included Principal Road renewal, road safety projects and town centre improvements. Any new contractual arrangements would need to be flexible enough to respond to changes in funding streams, including during the course of a financial year when Transport for London often released additional funds to allow the implementation of additional projects in the borough.
- 10.5 The report recommended an extension to the existing waste management contract with Haringey Enterprise Ltd (HEL), by a period of 16 months (with a new end date of April 2011), in order to pursue the proposed route of the Competitive Dialogue process for procurement of the specialised waste management contract (Option 2) and to gain the maximum benefit from this procedure. The implications of extending the contract would be a deferment of planned budget savings of £1.165 million per annum from 2010/11 to 2011/12. The Value for Money (VfM) analysis included within the options appraisal had confirmed that these savings could be achieved under either option 1 or 2.
- 10.6 We were also advised that the existing contract with HEL allowed for uplift in 2009/10 above the level of inflation. This was estimated at £300,000 above the current provision for inflation. HEL had proposed efficiency savings of £200,000 subject to an extension which would leave a shortfall of £100,000 in the service's budget as a result of the extension which would need to be taken account during the Council's budget setting.
- 10.7 The increased duration of the Highways/Street Lighting contract(s) from 2 years to 4 years was likely to increase VfM for the Council (although it was not possible to accurately quantify this increase at this point) as it would enable the contractor to spread the significant initial investment required for staff and other resources over the longer contract period and allow this investment to be paid back over a longer period. The savings achieved from extending the contract duration to 4 years would be channelled

into improving quality and to meeting the level of investment required to improve highways condition performance. A report has been completed into the level of investment required to achieve top-quartile performance, which estimated a required investment of around £3.65 million per annum over 10 years. The findings of this report would be presented to the Cross Party Members Steering Group for the Public Realm procurement to enable the affordability of the suggested investment levels to be considered.

- 10.8 In order to complete the street lighting replacement programme a further £9 million would be required over the next 10 years as well as £1 million for investment in illuminated signs over this time. The Council's budget setting process for 2008/09 to 2010/11 agreed resources of £500,000 phased £350,000 in 2008/09 and £150,000 in 2009/10, to meet specialist legal and technical costs associated with the procurement of a single contract, as anticipated under the Public Realm option. It is anticipated that the proposed procurement under Option 2 would be managed within this budget.
- 10.9 We report that we approved the Specialised Contracts option as set out at Option 2 and the use of a Competitive Dialogue procurement process. We also approved the extension of the Integrated Waste Management and Transport contract with Haringey Enterprise Ltd as proposed as well as the extension of the proposed Highways/Street Lighting contract period as detailed above. Approval was granted to the extension of the current Highways and Street Lighting contracts with John Crowley (Maidstone) Ltd and EDF Energy Contracting respectively and to the establishment of a Cross Party Member Steering Group to oversee and steer the development of the ongoing waste and highways procurement projects. The constitution including the membership of the Group would be determined by Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation.
- 10.10 Approval was also granted to a formal public consultation on future waste management services being carried out with Haringey Sustainable Community Partners, residents, traders and visitors.
- 11. NEW APPROACH TO CONSULTATION FOR THE EXTENSION OF CONTROLLED PARKING ZONES**
- 11.1 We considered a report which proposed the adoption of a new approach to consultation for the extension of existing Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ's) where evidence of a majority of support had been provided by residents.
- 11.2 We were informed that there were 15 CPZ's in the Borough which had been introduced in areas where commuter and shopper parking pressures had a negative impact on residents. These were usually located in areas that attracted high levels of non-resident parking, such as train/tube stations and commercial areas. Prior to the introduction of the Zones, residents were often unable to park near to where they lived and there were traffic management and safety implications where vehicles would circulate in areas looking for parking spaces.

- 11.3 Reviews of the existing CPZ's had resulted in extensions to the Zones where responses had indicated support for inclusion. At the same time where the majority of responses from roads opposed parking controls then those roads had been omitted from further consideration where it had been possible so to do. As the number of CPZ's in the Borough increased roads just outside the Zones often suffered from displacement parking which resulted in the Council receiving more requests each year from residents of roads just outside a Zone asking that their roads be included.
- 11.4 It was not possible to review all Zones on an annual basis and it was proposed that we consider extending Zones to smaller areas where evidence of support had been provided to the Council that the majority of residents and businesses clearly supported parking controls for their road. If there was clear evidence of such support then the Council would move straight to statutory consultation for the introduction of parking controls rather than have a formal consultation period first as per the present arrangement.
- 11.5 The adoption of this new approach would allow residents just outside a CPZ the opportunity to petition the Council for inclusion in the CPZ and provided sufficient evidence of support for inclusion existed this would replace the existing first stage and measures would be taken to extend the CPZ to include the additional road(s). The advantage of this approach would be the cost benefit of only having to conduct one consultation rather than two and for the Council to be more responsive to resident demand.
- 11.6 The approach proposed would also speed up the delivery of parking controls for the benefit of residents suffering from displacement parking. Whereas it currently took some 14 months to implement or extend a CPZ, the adoption of the approach proposed would reduce this by about half. As part of the process proposed consideration would be given to extending the statutory consultation area to roads neighbouring the area of support which would allow residents of the neighbouring roads to decide whether or not they would also support inclusion in the knowledge that the existing Zone was to be extended and that they might experience a level of displacement parking.
- 11.7 We report that we approved the adoption of the new approach to consultation for the introduction of extensions to existing controlled parking zones as outlined above and agreed that funding be identified and secured to enable the new Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) schemes to be implemented. We also agreed to a proposed programme of extensions which were set out in an Appendix to the report.

12. ADOPTION OF REVISED NORTH LONDON WASTE STRATEGY

- 12.1 We considered a report the purpose of which was to seek approval for the adoption of the revised North London Joint Waste Strategy (NLJWS) 2008 and associated Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report.

- 12.2 We noted that the 2008 draft of the NLJWS has been updated in several areas from the 2004 version to account for:
- The Government's updated Waste Strategy for England 2007 which includes more ambitious recycling and composting targets (50% by 2020).
 - The GLA Act now requires London strategies to be 'in general conformity with' rather than 'have regard to' the Mayor of London's Municipal Waste Management Strategy.
 - Minor changes to language and wording to remove ambiguity, make the strategy up-to-date, and improve the precision of the document.
- 12.3 Haringey's future recycling target as set out in the Recycling Strategy for Haringey 2006-2020 was to reach 45% recycling by 2015/16 in line with the proposed NLJWS 2008 target of 50% by 2020. The draft 2008 version of the NLJWS which was the subject of consultation had also included a proposed revision of the recycling target for 2010/11 from 35% to 40%. However, following the consultation process the original target of 35% has been reinstated, and this will be reflected in the final draft of the NLJWS 2008. There were 23 proposed amendments to the Strategy which were listed in an Appendix to the report.
- 12.4 We also noted that the effects of the policies within the NLJWS were all predicted to demonstrate positive environmental benefits in all of the objective areas and thus it had not been necessary to change any of the policies contained within the NLJWS as a result of the SEA process. However, as a result of the SEA, Chapter 6 'Identifying the Best Option for North London' replaced the previous 'Identifying the Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO) for North London'. This was due to the European SEA Directive (Directive 2001/42/EC) necessitating a retrospective SEA of the NLJWS replacing the BPEO as the principle decision making tool supporting waste management strategy preparation.
- 12.5 While the focus of the SEA process was on environmental effects in this case it was decided to broaden the assessment to cover social and economic effects making it more consistent with the Sustainability Appraisal process. However, it had left out other balancing factors such as deliverability and cost, which were previously incorporated into the BPEO. The SEA Environmental report noted that there were no issues of conflict identified between the objectives contained within the NLJWS and the other plans and programmes that were considered to be relevant. However, it was noted that the publication of Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management 2005 and the publication of Waste Strategy for England 2007 could result in some issues because both were published after the publication of the 2004 draft of the NLJWS. Accordingly, the NLJWS was updated in particular the recycling and composting targets to bring them in line with the new national waste strategy objectives. A new additional target for recycling and composting of 50% by 2020 had been introduced, and this was reflected in the amended action set out in the Appendix to the report.
- 12.6 Changes had also been made to all four of the existing NLJWS scenarios and a new 5th option – the 'Procurement Scenario' had been added to the Strategy. Whereas in the previous 2004 draft of the strategy a recommended scenario was put forward (the Procurement Scenario), following the consultation process it had been decided not to

recommend a particular scenario. This would enable the procurement process for future waste management facilities to be technology neutral.

- 12.7 Changes to the previous options had been made to reflect current national waste strategy targets, and all scenarios had been remodelled on the basis that the current collection systems being used by the boroughs would be retained in the future rather than the previous assumption that collection systems would converge. The previous 'best' option (Option 3 – Partnership Scenario) was very similar to the new Procurement Scenario (Option 5) with two notable exceptions. The first was the increased capacity of the Energy from Waste (EfW) plant in the procurement scenario (540,000 tonnes per year; a 90,000 tonnes increase). The second was the choice of a Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) plant instead of an Anaerobic Digestion (AD) plant. However, no particular scenario was being formally recommended as part of the 2008 NLJWS. New appraisal indicators and criteria had been proposed following the SEA but none which would adversely affect Haringey.
- 12.8 We report that we approved the revised draft of the NLJWS which would prepare the way forward for managing North London's waste in a sustainable manner and in accordance with European, national and regional policies and strategies. We also agreed the associated SEA Environmental Report. We also agreed that, subject to any amendments remaining broadly in line with the content of the existing version of the NLJWS, authority to agree any amendments to the Strategy that became necessary following consideration of the draft by each partner Borough's formal approval process be delegated to the Director of Urban Environment in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation.

13. RESPONSE TO THE SCRUTINY REVIEW OF WASTE RECYCLING COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

- 13.1 We considered a report which set out the Cabinet's response to the report of the Scrutiny Review of Waste, Recycling, Collection and Disposal.
- 13.2 We noted that the Scrutiny Review had contained 23 main recommendations and 34 sub-recommendations giving a total of 57 recommendations in all. Of the recommendations and sub-recommendations that had been made:
- 32 had been agreed;
 - 18 had been agreed in principle;
 - 1 had been agreed in part;
 - 1 had been partly agreed and partly agreed in principle; and
 - 5 had not been agreed.
- 13.3 The responses to these recommendations had been broken down into the following categories:
- new contract requirements;
 - policy;
 - collection methodologies;
 - Information and education;

- business waste recycling
- recycling and waste reduction from Council buildings; and
- promoting re-use.

13.4 The Scrutiny Review had provided a valuable examination of the current arrangements for waste collection and recycling. Through this scrutiny review there had been an opportunity to -

- consider how services are currently set up to deliver the outcomes and targets required by the Council;
- think about what the future challenges are for these services, both in a national and local context;
- inform the design and specification of the contract that will replace the Integrated Waste Management and Transport Contract; and
- consider the future for the policies and strategies around waste as a resource and the emerging focus on CO2 and climate change, especially through the new Waste Strategy 2007 for England and the new National Indicator set.

13.5 We report that we approved the suggested response to the Scrutiny Review of Waste Recycling Collection and Disposal and we agreed to the recommendations being incorporated within the Front Line Services business plan subject to the proviso that any recommendations requiring additional funding would be dealt with as part of the Council's budget setting process in 2009/10 and beyond as appropriate.

Resources

14. FINANCIAL PLANNING 2009/10 – 2011/12

14.1 We considered a report which set out key financial and business planning issues to enable us to consider the resource strategy for the administration and we noted that there were a number of national policy issues were outlined that would need to be considered as part of the Council's business planning process. The national local government funding position was guided by the previous years three year settlement following the comprehensive spending review 2007.

14.2 We also noted that the local strategic context was defined by our manifesto commitments and their incorporation into the Community Strategy and the Council Plan. These priorities and actions informed the business planning and resource allocation process. The existing medium term financial strategy was soundly based and provided additional investment in Council priorities whilst delivering significant levels of efficiency savings. This report rolled the three year strategy forward one year and identified a subsequent budget gap in that third year. It also proposed a further target for efficiencies in the first two years thereby offering the Council additional flexibility for investment and delivering more opportunities for increased value for money. The overall savings target proposed in the report was £7.6 million.

- 14.3 In overall terms, taking account of the starting position at the end of the 2008/09 budget process and given that we had a three year grant settlement and a matching medium term financial strategy in place, and after allowing for the matters set out in the report, an overall position was as set out in an Appendix to the report. This set out the gross budget showing the starting position, changes anticipated for that year, and the funding elements assuming a 3.0% increase in Haringey's Council Tax (as per previous planning assumptions). This assumption might be re-considered in light of the overall financial position later in the process.
- 14.4 An assumption on the level of Revenue Support Grant had been made that provided the new year of 2011/12 with a floor increase estimated at 1.5%, the same as in 2010/11. While the review of the formula would be carried out in time to make changes from 2011/12 onwards, the impact of these changes would not be known for some time.
- 14.5 A review of the risks identified in the report incorporating some sensitivity analysis around the range of financial consequences had been carried out and the Financial Planning Risk Analysis updated and we noted that the levels of reserves were considered sufficient to deal with the identified risks. For the purposes of prudence the report recommended that an allowance be made for additional pension fund contributions in the third planning year at this time while other changes and variations against existing contingencies would be reviewed again later in the process. The total resource shortfall of £7.6 million shown in the Appendix demonstrated the continuing financial challenge faced over the planning period. As mentioned above the savings targets proposed allowed for consideration of some further investment options as part of the budget process, which represented 0.6% of the net budget for each of the first two years which was in addition to the existing 12.1% already in the plans.
- 14.6 We report that a more detailed business planning and budget timetable will be presented in due course, but the key dates are outlined in the table below. Informal budget challenge meetings will be chaired by the Leader and will include the Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cabinet Member for the Service as well as senior officers. All revenue and capital budgets will be part of this process.

Activity	Date
Key priorities stated in Council plan	Jun 08
Cabinet consider financial planning report	Jul 08
Pre-business plan review (PBPR) preparation	Jul – Sep 08
PBPR officer review process	Sep 08
Budget challenge meetings	Early Oct 08
Cabinet agree release of PBPRs for consultation	Nov 08
Budget consultation process including Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Dec 08
Cabinet consider draft settlement	Dec 08
Cabinet agree budget package	Jan 09
Council agree budget package and council tax	Feb 09
Finalise individual business plans and overall Council Plan	Apr 09

Leader

15 THE COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE – APRIL/MAY 2008

- 15.1 We considered the regular finance and performance monitoring report for April and May 2008 which was based on the financial monitoring reports prepared for the budget and performance management review meetings held on 19 May and 16 June 2008 for periods 1 and 2 and the service submission of key performance indicators that had been agreed for 2008/09 and submitted in the Directorate Dashboards. The report gave an indication of the level and quality of services delivered on the ground. It monitored the Council's position in relation to a number of indicators that would be used to assess the Council in the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA).
- 15.2 In an Appendix to the report performance against 60 monthly indicators linked to the Council's priorities was detailed:
- Making Haringey one of London's greenest boroughs
 - Creating a better Haringey: Cleaner, Greener and Safer
 - Encouraging lifetime well-being
 - Promoting independent living
 - Delivering excellent services
- 15.3 A significant number of the new national indicators lend themselves to quarterly or annual monitoring and in future a more detailed report would be prepared on a quarterly basis. This would also review activity against key objectives as set out in the Council Plan.
- 15.4 We noted that overall good progress had been made in the first two months of 2008/09. Out of the 62 indicators for which performance information is available, 46 (74%) were shown to be achieving green or amber status as at May. The report highlighted a number of areas for focussed monitoring. For these, it was imperative that the action was taken to bring performance in line with agreed targets.
- 15.5 With regard to the financial implications, the overall revenue budget monitoring, based on the May position, showed that the General Fund was forecast to spend at budget. Some budget pressures were detailed in the report that Services were seeking to contain within the budget. The dedicated schools grant element of the overall Children & Young People's budget was projected to spend at budget. While in relation to the housing revenue account (HRA), the net revenue projection was also to spend at budget. The aggregate capital projected position in 2008/09 was projected to under spend by £0.5 million, this projected under spend was within the Adults, Culture & Community area and the reason for this was detailed in the report.
- 15.6 Financial regulations require proposed budget changes to be approved by Cabinet. These are shown in the table below. These changes fall into one of two categories:
- Budget virements, where it was proposed that budget provision be transferred between one service budget and another. Explanations are provided where this is the case;

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

Under the Constitution, certain virements are key decisions. Key decisions are:

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

Key decisions are highlighted by an asterisk in the table.

The following table sets out the proposed changes. There are two figures shown in each line of the table. The first amount column relates to changes in the current year's budgets and the second to changes in future years' budgets (full year). Differences between the two occur when, for example, the budget variation required relates to an immediate but not ongoing need or where the variation takes effect for a part of the current year but will be in effect for the whole of future years. Proposed virements are set out in the following table.

Period	Service	Key	Amount current year (£000)	Full year Amount (£000)	Description
1	Various	Rev*	11,762		Area Based Grant (ABG) allocation for 2008/09 that was not in the base budget.
1	Various	Rev*	886	886	Budget adjustments to reflect revised service arrangements with Homes for Haringey (HfH).
1	CR	Rev	86	86	Some staff changes and a redistribution of resources within the Department.
1	Various	Rev*	552	552	Allocation of Improvers Budget into services.
1	PPPC	Rev	97		Enfield Primary Care Trusts contribution to Health Alliance budget for 2008/09 regarding Joint Enfield & Haringey HIV Prevention Programme.
1	CR	Cap*	2,450		Setting agreed accommodation strategy phase 2 budget for 2008/09.
1	CR	Rev	128	128	Setting agreed accommodation strategy phase 2 budget for 2008/09.
2	UE	Rev*	600	910	London Development Agency funding relating to ULV North London Pledge (LDA Area Programme/Project).
2	UE	Cap	(212)		New Deal for Communities Programme £212k allocation used in 2007/08.
2	UE	Cap*	3,983		Growth Area Fund (GAF 3) grant. Capital grant determination for 2008/09.

2	ACCS	Cap	(500)		Re-phasing of Muswell Hill Library capital refurbishment programme into 2009/10. Capital receipt connected with the scheme is not likely to be delivered this year (2008/09).
2	CR	Cap*	(2,205)		Following the Corporate IT prioritisation board in May which reviewed the call on the IT capital programme, projects have been agreed in principle pending development of full business cases. This robust process has lead to the need to re-profile expenditure and therefore budget into the next financial year. The current 2008/08 approved IT capital programme is £4.645m. Each project manager has recently produced details of spend profiles, that results in a requirement to move £2.205m into 2009/10.

16. HARINGEY'S LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT 2008/09 TO 2009/11

- 16.1 We reported the draft Local Area Agreement (LAA) to the Council on 31 March 2008 for noting and endorsement. We have now considered an update on the progress made in the development of the 2008/09 – 2010/11 Local Area Agreement seeking our endorsement of the final version after negotiations with the Government Office for London (GoL). We noted that the Haringey Strategic Partnerships (HSP's) Performance Management Group (PMG) agreed the final submission on behalf of the Partnership at its meeting on 28 May 2008. The concluding negotiated changes detailed in the body of the report, were incorporated within the submission, were approved by the PMG.
- 16.2 We were informed that the HSP had negotiated the selection of 35 improvement indicators, a number of local targets (which included our existing stretch targets), from the list of 198 national indicators as set by Government. These improvement indicators and local targets sat alongside 16 attainment targets for the academic year 2008/09. Thematic Boards considered and agreed their final selections based on local priorities and the recommendations of GoL and the various Government departments. The indicators were aligned to thematic boards and had identified lead agencies with a named senior officer as required by statute. Many of the indicators were cross cutting and delivery would impact across thematic areas. In these instances the indicators would be reported to and monitored by more than one thematic board.
- 16.3 We were also informed that the partnership's target leads had successfully negotiated with Central Government three year targets for the 35 national indicators within Haringey's LAA. These were listed within the outcomes framework which had been formally submitted to Government Office for London on 30 May 2008. It was reported that GoL had now advised that a number of national had been deferred until 2009/10. However, thematic boards would continue to performance manage these indicators locally and progress against the indicators would be submitted to GoL in 2009/10.
- 16.4 In addition to the deferred indicators, a number of changes Haringey's selection of 35 national indicators and local targets were agreed by the HSP PMG prior to submission to GOL and these are set out below -

- National Indicator 54 - Disabled Services for Children (deferred until 2009/10) was substituted with NI 60 Core Assessments.
- National Indicator 32 - Repeat Incidents of Domestic Violence (local target) was removed due to the national definition of the target being tightly defined to the delivery of the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) which had not yet been rolled out to this area.
- Two local worklessness indicators: Number of eligible individuals supported into employment through the Haringey Guarantee taking up working tax credit; and Number of eligible Haringey Guarantee participants taking up child tax credit, was replaced with the Number of registered Haringey Guarantee participants with a completed better off calculation. This substitution was made due to technical issues with recorded measurable data.

17. DELEGATED DECISIONS AND SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS

- 17.1 We were informed of the following significant action taken by Directors under delegated powers -

Director of the Children and Young People's Service

Waiver of Contract Standing Order Requirement to Tender (approved in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People) in connection with the award of the contract for Positive Activities for Young People to Y-Gen Ltd.

Creation of six new posts in the Children and Young People's Participation Team

Award of contracts for BSF Design Quality Indicator Facilitation Role (for 12 schools)

Children's Fund Programme 2008/09 – Waiver of Contract

Haringey Autism and Markfield Summer Play Scheme – Waiver of Contract

Variation of Contract for ICT Technical and Design Consultancy for Building Schools for the Future

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Chair:
Councillor George Meehan

Deputy Chair:
Councillor Lorna Reith

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report covers matters considered by the Cabinet at our special meeting on 28 July 2008.
- 1.2 We trust that this Report will be helpful to Members in their representative role and facilitate a fruitful dialogue between the Cabinet and all groups of Councillors. These reports are a welcome opportunity for the Cabinet on a regular basis to present the priorities and achievements of the Cabinet to Council colleagues for consideration and comment. The Cabinet values and encourages the input of fellow members.

ITEM OF REPORT

Resources

2. FUTURE ACCOMMODATION FOR CIVIC AND CEREMONIAL FUNCTIONS

- 2.1 The Council agreed an Accommodation Strategy in May 2003 to improve customer focus by integrating customer access points, improve facilities for democratic and civic functions and modernise work spaces for employees. As part of the strategy a number of options were considered for the future of the Civic Centre site. It was decided to refurbish the Council Chamber and associated facilities for democratic and civic functions and to dispose of the remainder of the site no longer required for administrative functions including the car park. The refurbishment, which at the time was estimated at £2.5million, was to be funded from the proceeds of the sale of the North Wing and car park.
- 2.2 We considered a report which set out the strategic case for developing the Civic Centre at Woodside House in preference to refurbishing the existing Civic Centre or acquisition/development within the Wood Green Hub. Key issues to be considered in the relocation of the Civic Centre to Woodside included the social, economic and environmental regeneration opportunities arising from both the current Civic Centre site and the Woodside House proposed Civic Centre site.
- 2.3 The relocation to Woodside House would bring tangible benefits to the community through an improved setting for the buildings in the park, enhanced facilities for marriage and other life events and a Civic Centre that was modern, attractive and welcoming to encourage participation by all in civic and democratic activities. The release of the current site would provide enhanced physical regeneration for the area and additional residential accommodation. If approved this would contribute to better use of the Council's resources, improved value for money in operating costs and improved facilities for Members, employees, visitors and service users.
- 2.4 During the course of our deliberations it was acknowledged that careful consideration would need to be given to the timing of the disposal of the existing Civic Centre and we noted that the proposal was in line with the accommodation strategy and provided value for money. Alternative options to Woodside House have been explored and had been

rejected. We noted that all the existing users of Woodside House, including the drop in provision would be found alternative accommodation in the area and their services re-provided. A number of options were being considered and current users would be kept fully informed. Their concerns regarding consultation and provision of information to the users of Woodside House were noted, together with those of a leaseholder of a building in the Park. Contact had been made with relevant groups and individuals by officers and further contact would be made to provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to engage and express views on the proposals during the pre-planning consultation planned for the end of August and beginning of September 2008.

- 2.5 In response to a number of other concerns raised we were advised that these too could be aired during the pre-consultation period referred to above. The proposed refurbishment of Woodside House would offer value for money and would provide a new civic amenity with facilities and a suitable ambience for meetings and excellent registrar facilities. The proposals had also been embedded in the Council's accommodation strategy for a considerable period. With regard to the relocation of existing users of Woodside House, we indicated that the alternative accommodation should be suitable to users and near to good transport links.
- 2.6 We report, for information, that having considered the options for the future provision of democratic and civic functions as outlined in the report together with the accompanying feasibility study we approved the refurbishment and extension of Woodside House to establish it as the new Civic Centre for Haringey. In so doing we noted that the relocation would enable the disposal of the existing Civic Centre site.
- 2.7 We also approved Option 4 (double curve) as set out in the report as the design for the Council Chamber to enable this to be developed during the next design stage. We noted that relocation options for all current users at Woodside House had been considered in conjunction with the services concerned and alternative accommodation would be arranged so that relocation could take place by December 2008 and having noted further that stakeholder engagement had been carried out as part of the Feasibility Report, we approved further consultations, including public exhibitions, to be undertaken between July and September 2008.
- 2.8 We agreed a total capital budget of £12 million to include the cost of constructing the new Civic Centre at Woodside House to relocate the Council Chamber, Committee Rooms, Registrar's Services and ancillary facilities from the existing Civic Centre site and the Council's costs for managing the project, re-provision of services at Woodside House, achieving vacant possession and other associated investment required as a result of this development. We also agreed the appointment of Capita Symonds in accordance with the Council's Procurement Framework to continue the design and project management services to enable the next stages of the project to be completed (RIBA stages C and D).
- 2.9 We authorised the Director of Corporate Resources to approve the final Design Reports (Stage D plus) scheduled for completion in November to enable a planning application for the scheme to be submitted by the Head of Corporate Property and noted that approval would be sought from our Procurement

Committee in October 2008, following submission of the planning application but prior to consent being granted, to appoint a contractor in accordance with the Council's Procurement Framework to enable early engagement in the design process and carry out enabling works.

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Chair:
 Councillor George Meehan

Deputy Chair:
 Councillor Lorna Reith

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report covers matters considered by the Cabinet at our meeting on 16 September 2008. For ease of reference the Report is divided into the Cabinet portfolios.
- 1.2 We trust that this Report will be helpful to Members in their representative role and facilitate a fruitful dialogue between the Cabinet and all groups of Councillors. These reports are a welcome opportunity for the Cabinet on a regular basis to present the priorities and achievements of the Cabinet to Council colleagues for consideration and comment. The Cabinet values and encourages the input of fellow members.

ITEMS OF REPORT

Community Cohesion and Involvement

2. **ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2006-07 ON THE COUNCIL'S HANDLING OF CUSTOMER FEEDBACK – COMPLAINTS, COMPLIMENTS, SUGGESTIONS AND MEMBERS ENQUIRIES**
 - 2.1 We considered the annual report on the operation of the Council's corporate feedback and members' enquiries procedures which detailed the Council's performance, key achievements and developments in 2006-07. The report included the Local Government Ombudsman's annual letter which summarised the complaints that he received against the Council in the year, and any lessons learned. It also included the Council's response to the issues the Ombudsman raised.
 - 2.2 We noted that the key achievements over the last year included -
 - Improved and above target stage 1 and 2 performance to timescale
 - Improvement in average completion time for stage 1 complaints
 - Fewer new complaints at stage 1 and reduced escalation to stage 2
 - Customer satisfaction increase of 5% to 51% with handling of stage 1 complaints
 - Introduction of a complaints protocol for the Haringey Strategic Partnership
 - Continued excellent response times to Ombudsman enquiries
 - Improved performance in responding to members' enquiries
 - Successful corporate launch of the WOW! Awards scheme for compliments from customers: Haringey is the first public sector organisation to participate in the scheme
 - Receiving one WOW nomination/compliment for every 1.8 stage 1 complaint, compared with only one for every 11.8 the previous year
 - Winning the National Customer Service award for WOW! of the year, and having a finalist in 2008

- 2.3 While there were a number of significant improvements made during the year the report also highlighted some issues that needed to be addressed to achieve corporate targets and further improvement in learning from feedback.
- 2.4 We report that we noted the annual report on the operation of the Council's handling of customer feedback including complaints, compliments, and suggestions and Members' enquiries. We also noted the performance and the key achievements in the year and the Local Government Ombudsman's annual letter and the Council's response to it. We also agreed that the definition of a Members' Enquiry be amended as set out below -

'Under the current definition of a Member's enquiry, if enquiries are *about* a constituent, but not on their behalf, issues relating to consent to the provision of personal data may arise. It is therefore recommended to delete from the description the words 'about or'. The definition would then read "*any enquiry from an elected member requesting information on behalf of an individual or community group, and/or in relation to a council policy, where the member is entitled to that information*".'

Leisure, Culture and Lifelong Learning

3. TREE STRATEGY AND PLANTING PROGRAMME

- 3.1 The Council will be aware that key objectives are identified in the Community Strategy and Greenest Borough Strategy that relate to the management of our tree stock and those on private land. The strategic aim of the Council is to create an environmentally sustainable future for healthier people with a better quality of life.
- 3.2 We considered a report which proposed a Tree Strategy which would support the Council's strategic objectives by ensuring that trees within the Borough were protected, managed in a proactive and systematic manner and their overall number was increased. There were five key objectives in implementing this strategy.
- To protect and enhance the Borough's natural environment.
 - To increase the pro-active management of Council owned trees.
 - To increase public involvement in the management of Council trees.
 - To improve tree management and create a safer, healthier tree population.
 - To encourage other agencies to adopt the Tree Strategy.
- 3.3 We were advised that an Action Plan had been prepared to support the tree strategy. It set out what it was hoped to achieve between now and 2011 and identified the key actions necessary to meet the key objectives and build on the recent improvements in the management and enhancement of the Borough's tree population. Successful implementation of the Tree Strategy would involve co-operation across Council services.
- 3.4 In order to measure the success of the Tree Strategy, a series of performance indicators would be used, including:
- No of new trees successfully established each year.

- No of vacant tree pits planted with replacement trees.
- No of trained Tree Wardens actively partaking in community events.
- No of street trees maintained on a three year cycle.
- No of parks and open space sites inspected and database updated.
- No of Insurance claims successfully defended.
- Public satisfaction with parks and open spaces

3.5 We noted that the Tree Section had successfully developed the tree maintenance and planting programme in recent years and that most of the Council's tree stock was managed in a proactive and systematic manner. However, the Council faced challenges in dealing with climate change and the increased demand for tree maintenance to mitigate subsidence damage and we report that we approved the strategy and agreed it be adopted as Council policy.

4. SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN - HARIACTIVE

4.1 The council will be aware that "Healthier people with a better quality of life" is one of the 6 outcomes sought through the Haringey Community Strategy 2007-2016. In respect of the Council Plan, it fell within the Council objective to "Encourage lifetime wellbeing at home, work, play and learning".

4.2 We considered a report which advised us that participation in sport and physical activity could make an important contribution towards this outcome by improving both physical and emotional health, reducing public expenditure on health services and promoting a sense of pride and achievement through the efforts and accomplishments of local people. This was underpinned in the Local Area Agreement outcomes where there were 4 national indicators to which sport and physical activity participation could contribute -

- Participation in regular volunteering
- Adult (16 plus) participation in sport and physical activity. (Stretch target)
- Obesity levels amongst primary school age children in Year 6.
- Mortality rate from all circulatory diseases at ages under 75.

4.3 We were advised that the principal focus of the Council's current work was towards achieving an increase in adult participation. This was based on the result of the Active People survey that was first undertaken in 2005/6. This established a range of key performance indicators for participation in sport and physical activity with the key indicator being KPI 1:- the proportion of adults participating three times a week for thirty minutes at moderate intensity. The result from 2006 was 22.9% and the HSP and the Council were seeking to achieve 26.9% by 2010. Reducing obesity levels amongst young people with a particular focus on year 6 arose out of the Government White Paper – "Every Child Matters" and was a target within the Children and Young People's Plan.

4.4 There were strong links between the adult increasing physical activity participation target and the Transforming Adult Social Care change programme for Adult Services. These links were via the principal of promoting access through the provision of information and appropriate support with clear links to our Access Pathways Project in the Achieving Excellence programme. There were also established links between the onset of

circulatory disease and a lack of physical activity. Other factors affecting circulatory disease were diet, smoking and stress.

- 4.5 There was widespread public interest in sport and physical activity because of the success achieved by the Great Britain team at the Beijing Olympics and the staging of the 2012 Olympics in London. This offered a unique window of opportunity for sport and physical activity to increase participation, particularly amongst young people and younger adults aged 16-24 who were reported as being the most enthusiastic supporters of the London 2012 Olympics. In June 2008, interim (half yearly results) from the latest Active People survey was published which, though not statistically valid because of the small sample size, reported a drop in the headline participation indicator of 3.9% from 2006. This appeared to be part of a London wide trend with participation across London reducing by an average 2.7%.
- 4.6 Within Haringey, the Council and its partners had already taken action designed to increase participation. This included -
- Substantial additional investment in Council leisure facilities;
 - Financial support through the HSP for a number of initiatives;
 - Securing external funding through Sport England for new activity programmes;
 - The opening of a new private sector facility "Fitness First" in Green Lanes.
 - HARIACTIVE is proposed to act as an umbrella for all existing sport and physical activity initiatives.
- 4.7 Additionally, HARIACTIVE will have a number of component parts. These were the development of the HARIACTIVE brand as part of a high profile campaign designed to promote awareness of the benefits of participating in sport and physical activity with targeted campaigns aimed at particular groups. Improvement of the provision of information available via a number of mediums in order for it to be accessible to different target groups and the introduction of a range of new activity sessions to target particular sections of the community.
- 4.8 We considered that the HARIACTIVE initiative was an innovative approach towards achieving a challenging target which would require the Council and partners to be focused and sophisticated in using high quality marketing information to influence and change local people's behaviour in respect of physical activity participation. It was strongly linked to current work being undertaken in the Regional Public Health group designed to more effectively target resources through improved use of marketing information.
- 4.9 We noted that in order to achieve the 26.9% target, it was proposed to launch the HARIACTIVE campaign from April 2009. Whilst this would explicitly be seeking to persuade people to participate three times a week, it was anticipated that the campaign would generally help to persuade local people to become more active and hence reduce the number of local residents, currently measured at 49%, who did not participate at all.
- 4.10 In agreeing the two new initiatives proposed we noted that they and those other developments requiring funding would need to be considered as part of the Pre-Business

Planning process for 2009/10 and as there were limited resources for new revenue investment proposals, any items would need to meet a key priority in the Council Plan.

- 4.11 We also noted that the core funding for the major proposal arising from the report, the high profile campaign from April 2009 to persuade more people to become more active (HARIACTIVE), for the campaign was to be provided through a new grant of £100,000 from Sports England together with £70,000 from Local Area Agreement top-up funding in 2008/09 and 2009/10 (£35,000 in each of two years). In this connection we were informed that the Sport England grant application had now received Stage 1 approval and the ability to undertake the HARIACTIVE campaign was reliant on the successful final outcome of this bid, which was expected at the end of September. We asked that officers also explore the availability of funding for the proposals from the Haringey Teaching Primary Care Trust.

Regeneration and Enterprise

5. HOUSING SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

- 5.1 The Council will recall that the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) was adopted in July 2006 and that we are committed to clarifying the housing policies of the UDP, in particular with regard to housing density policy. It was agreed that in advance of a full review of UDP policies carried out through the Core Strategy process, a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) would be the most appropriate way to clarify existing UDP housing policies.
- 5.2 We considered a report which advised us that the draft Housing SPD along with an accompanying sustainability scoping report had been issued for consultation for a six week period in April/May 2008 and that a total of 14 written responses had been received from individuals or organisations.
- 5.3 Overall the SPD had been welcomed but there was an expression of concern from the GLA in relation to a proposal for a 50:50 housing tenure split between social rented and intermediate affordable housing provision as a starting point. The GLA had pointed out that this was not in conformity with the London Plan which stated that Boroughs should take account of the London wide 70:30 housing tenure split in setting Borough housing targets.
- 5.4 We report that in order to bring the SPD into conformity with the London Plan (2008) we agreed that the draft SPD needed to reflect the target split of 70% socially rented and 30% intermediate affordable housing. In so doing we noted that any policy variations from a 70:30 housing tenure split would need to be locally justified and that it was through the Core Strategy process that we could introduce a 50:50 tenure split which would reflect local circumstances as well as being justified by robust housing evidence.

Enforcement and Community Safety

6. 2ND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND GENDER VIOLENCE STRATEGY

- 6.1 We considered a report on the 2nd Haringey Domestic Violence and Gender Based Strategy, a comprehensive and far-reaching policy intended to put Haringey at the forefront of best practice in supporting the survivors of Domestic Violence and Gender Based Violence, particularly those who face multiple difficulties in surviving these violent crimes.
- 6.2 We noted that the aim of the Strategy was to reduce Domestic Violence and Gender Violence, by providing high quality support services to those who experienced Domestic Violence and Gender Based Violence in Haringey. The Strategy was also well-placed to enable us to meet the 'Safer For All' priority in the Haringey Community Strategy which stated, "We will make homes safer and create places that people and children enjoy using and take pride in" (Haringey Community Strategy 2007 – 2016, 'Safer For All' priority).
- 6.3 Domestic Violence was a priority because we were strongly committed to making Haringey a safe place for its residents. Domestic Violence represented 30% of violent crime in Haringey and as such required a commitment from all key agencies to eradicate this crime. Our aim was to create a Borough where there is zero tolerance of Domestic Violence; our approach to achieving this was by strong partnership working, creating a society in Haringey where Domestic Violence was unacceptable in any form.
- 6.4 The Haringey Domestic and Gender Based Violence Strategy followed directly on from the first Haringey Domestic Violence Strategy and continued the work started in that approach. In order to put the second strategy in context we have reviewed the achievements and challenges of the first strategy. They include: the expansion of services at Hearthstone; setting up an expert DV service users group; setting up murder review panels; working with perpetrators; establishing a sanctuary scheme; agreeing an information sharing protocol; partnership work with health professionals, a raft of initiatives with children and young people.
- 6.5 The new areas covered in the Strategy were Gender Based Violence which included domestic violence, rape and sexual assault, sexual harassment and stalking, trafficking and sexual exploitation and crimes in the name of honour. Gender Based Violence was a priority because as a public body the Council was required by the Gender Equality Duty, April 2007 to proactively promote equality of opportunity between women and men and eliminate unlawful discrimination and harassment. From November 2007 all local authorities had been put on notice by the Equality and Human Rights Commission that they would be monitored under the Gender Equality Duty to ensure they were taking action on violence against women. Other areas for development would be better use of pooled budgets and improved partnership arrangements, Organisations that rotated staff roles on a regular basis needed to ensure a continuously and constantly available level of service and improve support for survivors through the legal process. Witness protection, specialist advocates, tougher sentencing and, above all, a Specialist Domestic Violence Court should increase convictions and reduce victim retraction rates.
- 6.6 The Council had a duty to safeguard children and young people and protect them from harm. Priority 8 of our Children and Young People's Plan included the specific aim "to reduce risk to specific groups, for example, those at risk of sexual exploitation, those with disabilities and those subjected to domestic violence". The Domestic Violence and Gender Based Violence Strategy would contribute to meeting this objective by increasing

the safety of children and young people who experienced Domestic and Gender Based Violence.

- 6.7 We report for information that we approved the 2nd Haringey Domestic Violence and Gender Based Strategy

Children and Young People

7. DRAFT CHILD POVERTY STRATEGY FOR CONSULTATION

- 7.1 We considered a report which advised us that the Government had set itself a target to end child poverty by 2020 and was strongly encouraging local services to take an ever more active role in reducing poverty. As a local authority we had an important role in helping to tackle the issue by:

- delivering key services that are critical to improving children's life chances;
- co-ordinating activities to reduce worklessness and poverty;
- engaging with individuals and groups at risk of being marginalized;
- tailoring solutions to meet the needs of local people

- 7.2 These roles were recently confirmed by the London Commission on Child Poverty (LCPC) which again stressed the important contribution that local services, including Council provided services, could make to reducing poverty. We have previously made it clear that we wanted to see a renewed drive by the Council to improve the circumstances and opportunities of the Borough's poorest children. A Child Poverty Working Group was established last year, chaired by our Vice Chair, the Deputy Leader.

- 7.3 The Child Poverty strategy identified 4 objectives that we need to meet in order to achieve a substantial reduction in child poverty. These were adapted from already existing service priorities, although they also reflected objectives identified and recommendations made in the London Child Poverty Commission report.

Objective 1: Increasing parental employment in sustainable jobs

Objective 2: Maximising incomes through improving the delivery of benefits and tax credits

Objective 3: Reducing educational attainment gaps for children in poverty

Objective 4: Ensuring all Haringey children have decent and secure homes.

- 7.4 The fundamental aim of the strategy and draft action plan proposed was to ensure that all Council services and local partners were working together in a joined up way to reduce child poverty in the Borough and ensure that today's children did not become the parents of poor children tomorrow. It was acknowledged that the voluntary and community sector played an important role in providing services such as child care and benefits advice to low income families. Their contribution was vital to the development of the strategy and draft action plan and their input was to be sought during the consultation stage. Consultation would also take place with a range of partners through the Haringey Strategic Partnership and its Theme Boards including community groups, schools HAVCO and the Citizen's Advice Bureau.

7.5 Some priorities of the draft Action Plan were still to be determined and would be finalised in September 2008. Current initiatives already being undertaken included

- Promoting the Haringey Guarantee
- Developing the 'Families Into Work' programme in Northumberland Park
- Working with Job Centre Plus to promote take up of Working Tax and Child Tax credits
- Providing income maximisations information through a range of sources
- Initiatives to improve educational attainment gaps through Children's Centres and Extended Schools
- Delivery of the 'Tackling Fuel Poverty' project
- Joint work between the Education Welfare Office and Housing Officers to minimise the disruption of moving on children's education

7.6 The Strategy had been designed to deliver two of the Sustainable Community Strategy's (SCS) objectives:

- Economic vitality and prosperity shared by all
- Healthier people with a better quality of life

Delivery of the Strategy would be key in meeting the new LAA target on tackling child poverty, as well as current LAA targets around worklessness and improving educational attainment.

7.7 We report that we considered the Strategy to be a step in moving towards closer joint planning and working across the Council and with partner agencies in tackling child poverty and we approved the draft Action Plan for consultation, the outcome of which would be reported to us in December 2008 at which time our formal approval would be sought for the Action Plan amended as necessary.

8. ADMISSIONS TO SCHOOLS APPROVAL TO CONSULT

8.1 We considered a report which sought our approval to consult on the arrangements for admission to community primary and secondary schools and to St. Aidan's Voluntary Controlled School for the 2010/11.

8.2 Section 89 of the School Standards and framework Act 1998 as amended required admission authorities to consult annually on their admission arrangements for the following academic year. The Children and Young People's Service gives advice to Governing Bodies who are the admission authorities for other maintained primary and secondary schools in Haringey.

8.3 Although consultation for all admission authorities did not have to be completed by 1 March and determined by 15 April 2009 our approval to consult was sought earlier than in previous years in order for a report back to us to be made in March. The new arrangements would then come into effect from the September 2010 intake.

8.4 We report that we approved for consultation the proposed admission arrangements for all community primary and secondary schools and St. Aidan's Voluntary Controlled

Primary School. Also, to the proposed admission arrangements for sixth form provision in Alexandra Park School, the Highgate/Hornsey Consortium and the Sixth Form Centre.

- 8.5 We also approved the proposed consultation for a Qualifying Scheme for the co-ordination of transfer from primary to secondary school as a member of the Pan-London consortium and to a Qualifying Scheme for the co-ordination of admission to reception classes within the Borough and an amended timetable to bring Haringey into line with neighbouring authorities to assist parents in making cross-borough applications.
- 8.6 We agreed further a reduction in the published admission number for Woodside High School from 243 pupils to 216 pupils entering Year 7 in September 2010 in order to rationalise the number of secondary school places available with the opening of Heartlands High School balanced against demand.

9. CHILDREN ACT COMPLAINTS ANNUAL REPORT

- 9.1 We considered a report about complaints made under the Children Act procedures between April 2007 and March 2008.
- 9.2 We were informed that under the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act Representations Procedure a report on complaints made under the Children Act must be prepared each year, presented to a committee of the local authority and made available as a public document. The report covered complaints made about social services provided under the Act such as the delivery of services, care and supervision, social work court reports, adoption and decision making. Complaints may be made by children and young people, their parents or those with parental responsibility, foster carers, special guardians and prospective adopters.
- 9.3 We noted that the report outlined the three stages of the Children Act complaints process and covered:
- the numbers and types of complaints;
 - the outcomes of complaints and stage of the process reached;
 - the timescales they were completed in;
 - a summary of the data available on complainants, such as age, gender and ethnicity;
 - learning or service improvements that have taken place following a complaint;
 - information about expenditure;
 - information about advocacy services provided under the regulations.
- 9.4 Information about complaints made to the Children and Young People's Service which was dealt with under the Council's corporate procedures was included in the Annual Report on Customer Feedback and Members Enquiries presented to us in a separate report. We noted that there were 2 sets of timescales for each stage of the procedure. If the complaint was complex or an advocate was involved the complaint could be resolved within an extended time period which provided an additional 10 working days at stage 1 and an additional 25 working days at stage 2. At stage 2 of the Children's Act procedure all complaints were logged under the extended timescale due to their complexity or the involvement of an advocate.

- 9.5 We also noted that 25% more complaints had been resolved successfully within timescale in 2007/08 compared to 2006/07. Stage 1 was resolved by social workers and social care managers. This improved performance should be seen against low numbers of complaints escalating to the next stage demonstrating the effective and efficient work undertaken by staff. Meeting the timescale at stage 2 was much more difficult. Haringey was not alone, neighbouring boroughs experienced similar problems in meeting timescales. The stage 2 process was very detailed and complex and it involved interviewing all staff associated with the case and viewing all files records. This was often a time consuming and complex process and problems in co-ordinating diaries and scheduling interviews could make it difficult to meet timescales.

Environment and Conservation

10. CONTROLLED PARKING IN CROUCH END – CONSULTATION RESULTS AND PROPOSALS

- 10.1 We considered a report which informed us that since the introduction of parking controls in the Crouch End and Highgate areas in the last two years, including the introduction of two controlled parking zones by the neighbouring Borough of Islington, some parking displacement had occurred in roads on the periphery of these schemes. Sustainable Transport and local councillors received a number of representations requesting that we consider introducing parking controls to address the parking pressures experienced in the area.
- 10.2 In the past parking controls had been opposed by the local community and had not been introduced. However, due to the representations received it was agreed to enter into consultation with the local community to consider whether parking controls would be of benefit. Prior to entering into consultation with the wider community the Council held two focus group meetings at the Hornsey Town Hall on 10 October and 13 December 2007. The focus group meetings gave local resident/trader representatives, Ward Councillors and Council officers an opportunity to discuss the issues, identify a consultation area and explore how we should consult the local community.
- 10.3 Consultation documents, consisting of background information, location plan, questionnaire, translation sheet and a pre-paid envelope were delivered by hand, to all properties within the agreed consultation area during the weekend of 17 May 2008. The deadline for responses was 16 June 2008. Late responses were however accepted until a cut off date of the 23 June 2008. During the consultation period exhibitions were held at Hornsey Library on Saturday 31 May and at Coolhurst Tennis Club on Wednesday 4 June. The exhibitions gave local residents/traders the opportunity to speak to Council officers prior to completing and returning their questionnaires. In total over 100 members of the public attended the exhibitions. The document was made available to download from the council's website and documents were also available at the two exhibitions held as part of this process.
- 10.4 The feedback from the consultation was presented to the Focus Group at its meeting of 31 July 2008. It was agreed that a further Focus Group meeting would

be held in September, prior to any decision by the Cabinet, to discuss/agree the recommendations of the report. Whereas the report proposed the extension of the Highgate Station Outer and Finsbury Park A CPZ's and to provide two new Crouch End zones, Crouch End A and Crouch End B and the operational hours of the new Crouch End zones, the Focus Group had asked that the Cabinet consider the following alternative recommendations:

- Highgate Station Outer be extended as proposed;
- Mount View Road be included in the proposed Crouch End 'A' CPZ rather than the Finsbury Park 'A' CPZ
- The operational hours of the new Crouch End zones should be as follows:
 - Crouch End A: 2 hours 10am – noon
 - Crouch End B: 2 hours 2pm – 4pm.

- 10.5 However, we noted that the above recommendation for a 10am – noon CPZ would place pressure on the Council's Enforcement Team and additional resources would be required to effectively enforce the proposed Crouch End 'A' zone.
- 10.6 The feedback from the Focus Group meeting which took place on 4 September was reported to us verbally and it was reported that with regard to the Proposed Extension of the Highgate Station (Outer) CPZ the Focus Group had suggested the inclusion of Shepherds Close for the purposes of statutory consultation, on the basis that it could be excluded from the final scheme if residents continued in their opposition. With regard to the new Crouch End 'A' and 'B' Zones while residents generally supported the proposals concern had been expressed about the impact of the expanded Coleridge Primary School and the possibility of having a traffic management survey was mentioned. There was an emerging change of heart on the part of residents of Coolhurst Road regarding the Road's inclusion in a CPZ. In response to the issues highlighted we were informed that while consultations about 'fast track' CPZ proposals could take place, if residents of a road initially opted out of a CPZ and later wished to be included, it had to be understood that further consideration would be given to their inclusion as part of a future programme and no assurance could be given as to priority. During the expansion of Coleridge School a number of matters had been considered including traffic issues and the School was working hard with a Travel Plan as part of which a further review of the concerns raised could be considered. In the meantime the Council's officers would be asked to ensure that any parking restrictions were enforced.
- 10.7 We also received a deputation from residents of Granville Road who expressed concern about displacement parking in their Road should the proposed extensions to Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ's) be agreed. We advised the deputation that in an earlier consultation in which the majority of respondents from Granville Road had indicated that they did not wish to be included in a CPZ and it would not now be possible to include Road in the present proposals. However, in recognition of the possible displacement on the boundary of the Finsbury Park (A) CPZ between Ferme Park Road and Albany Road (South of Mount View Road) further consideration could be given to this area when the 2009/10 Parking Programme was agreed.

10.8 We report that we authorised officers to proceed to statutory consultation for an extension to the Highgate Station Outer CPZ to include Claremont Road, Stanhope Gardens, Stanhope Road and Shepherds Hill between Archway Road and Stanhope Road, operating between the existing periods of 10am and 12 noon Monday to Friday. Shepherds Close would be included in the statutory process to provide them with a final opportunity to be included in the extension.

10.9 We also authorised officers

- To proceed to statutory consultation for the introduction of a new Crouch End A CPZ to include Christchurch Road, Waverley Road, Haslemere Road, Tregaron Avenue, Briston Grove, Dickenson Road, Elm Grove, Oakington Way, Womersley Road, Mountview Road (between the borough boundary and Ferme Park Road), and Crouch Hill (between Dickenson Road and Cecile Park), operating between 10 am and 12 noon Monday to Friday.
- To proceed to statutory consultation for the introduction of a new Crouch End B CPZ to include Hurst Avenue and Avenue Road, operating between 2pm and 4pm Monday to Friday.
- To proceed to statutory consultation for the introduction of double yellow lines to all uncontrolled junctions and other selected locations within the original consultation area to prevent indiscriminate parking.

We also agreed that the residents/traders of the original consultation area be informed of the forgoing decisions.

Leader

11. THE COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE QUARTER 1 - APRIL/ JUNE AND JULY 2008

- 11.1 We considered the regular finance and performance monitoring report for April - July 2008. This report gave an indication of the level and quality of services delivered on the ground. It monitored Haringey's position in relation to a number of indicators that would be used to assess the Council in the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) and the Local Area Agreement (LAA).
- 11.2 The Corporate Programmes delivered the corporately significant projects. These underpinned the Council's corporate planning process, ensuring that the projects undertaken reflected and helped to deliver the Community Strategy and corporate priorities. This report provides an opportunity to monitor, challenge and support the Council's key projects to ensure that they finish on time, to budget and deliver the outcomes for the community.

- 11.3 We noted that, in terms of performance, overall good progress had been made in the first four months of 2008/09. Out of the 94 indicators reported in this period, 84 (89%) were shown to be achieving green or amber status. The majority of projects in the Better Haringey and Regeneration Corporate Programmes were on schedule to deliver the agreed benefits and good progress had also been made against the business plan milestones across the Council with the majority being achieved. The report highlights areas for focussed monitoring and sets out the agreed actions to bring performance in line with targets.
- 11.4 With regard to the financial implications, the overall revenue budget monitoring, based on the July position, showed that the General Fund was forecast to overspend by £0.8 million. This projected overspend was within Adults, Culture & Community and Children & Young People. The reasons for this projected overspend were detailed in the report and there were also some budget pressures outlined that services are seeking to contain within the budget. We noted that the dedicated schools budget (DSB) element of the overall Children & Young People's budget was projected to spend at budget and that, in relation to the housing revenue account (HRA), the net revenue projection was an under spend of £1million following savings arising from the letting of the new gas boiler maintenance contracts. The aggregate capital projected position in 2008/09 was projected to under spend by £1.6 million. This projected under spend was within Adults, Culture & Community and the reasons for this were detailed in the report.
- 11.5 Financial regulations require proposed budget changes to be approved by Cabinet. These are shown in the table below. These changes fall into one of two categories:
- Budget virements, where it was proposed that budget provision be transferred between one service budget and another. Explanations are provided where this is the case;
 - Increases or decreases in budget, generally where notification has been received in-year of a change in the level of external funding such as grants or supplementary credit approval.

Under the Constitution, certain virements are key decisions. Key decisions are:

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

Key decisions are highlighted by an asterisk in the table.

The following table sets out the proposed changes. There are two figures shown in each line of the table. The first amount column relates to changes in the current year's budgets and the second to changes in future years' budgets (full year). Differences between the two occur when, for example, the budget variation required relates to an immediate but not ongoing need or where the variation takes effect for a part of the current year but will

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be in effect for the whole of future years. Proposed virements are set out in the following table.

Period	Service	Key	Amount current year (£'000)	Full year Amount (£'000)	
3	CYP	Rev	112		Integrated Children's Systems grant from the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) to fund ICS Phase 1B; to configure IT systems for national compliancy and to provide training.
3	CYP	Cap*	435		Life Cycle works to be undertaken on C&YP properties and be funded from PFI reserve.
3	ACCS	Cap	116		Increase in the Disabled Facilities grant allocation for 2008/09.
3	CYP	Rev	54		Some staff changes and a redistribution of resources from School Standards & Inclusion to Change for Children business unit.
3	UE	Rev*	1,691		New Deal for Communities revenue allocation for 2008/09 funded by the Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG).
3	CR/NS R	Rev*	350		Reduction of the Local Land Charges income budget funded from the contingency held for this purpose. Searches have reduced partly due to the introduction of HIPS and the economy slowing down.
3	PPPC	Rev*	536		Drug and alcohol strategic partnership spend for 2008/09 funded from the Haringey PCT substance misuse pooled treatment budget.
3	PPPC	Rev*	1,262		Drug Interventions Programme (DIP) for 2008/09 funded by grant from the Home Office.
3	PPPC	Rev	53		Pump Priming year 2 allocation funded by the Treasury.
3	PPPC	Rev*	353		Healthy Alliance funding from Haringey NHS for 2008/09 and carry over of the under spend from 2007/08.
3	PPPC	Rev*	290		Youth Justice Board Youth Offending Team Grant for 2008/09.
3	PPPC	Rev	203		Youth Justice Board Prevention grant for 2008/09.
3	PPPC	Rev*	449		Youth Justice Board North London Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Scheme grant for 2008/09.
3	PPPC	Rev	233		Youth Justice Board funding for 2008/09 Resettlement and Aftercare.
3	PPPC	Rev	181		Age Concern - Increased salaries spend and recharge income.
3	UE	Cap*	800		Part of acquisition of 85 Marsh Lane funded from S106 monies.
3	UE	Cap*	720		Part of acquisition of 85 Marsh Lane funded from LABGi monies.
3	UE	Cap*	(4,996)		Decent Homes Programme 2008/14 - allocation of the Major Repairs Reserves. The capital programme is being amended to reflect the agreed level of funding allocated.
3	UE	Cap	239		TfL funding for the Bus Priority Network.
3	CYP	Rev	85		Some staff changes and a redistribution of resources from Change for Children to School Standards & Inclusion business unit.
4	ACCS	Cap*	(250)		Downhills Park bid for funding from the Big Lottery has been rejected.
4	UE	Cap	(224)		Reduction of School Travel Plans budget in line with TfL funding.

4	PPPC	Rev*	600		Achieving Excellence budget funded from the specific reserve for Achieving Excellence.
4	CE	Rev	234		Spend on the GLA Election held on 01/05/08 and funded by the GLA.
4	PPPC	Rev	100		Challenge & Support Project funded by grant from the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF).
4	UE	Cap	225		TfL funded scheme for Cycling Greenways (Parkland Walk North, Parkland Walk South and Finsbury Park to Lee Valley).
4	UE	Cap	70		Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment grant received to fund the Waste Contract shortfall.
4	UE	Cap*	400		Provisional allocations of s.106 has been identified, subject to any further consideration of the negotiations with National Grid which are ongoing, the outcomes of which will potentially negate the requirement to use s.106.
4	UE	Rev*	600	910	LDA funding for the ULV North London Pledge project 2008/09.
4	UE	Rev	200		LDA funding for the Sub-regional engagement programme 2008/09
4	UE	Rev	125		LDA funding for the Lee Valley Festival 2008/09.
4	UE	Rev	225		LDA funding for the ULVP Coordinator of the ULVP Area 2008/09
4	CYP	Cap	105		Targeted Capital Fund (TCF) allocations to support building improvements to schools.
4	ACCS	Rev*	300		Additional resources to extend dampening to address the general pressures within Older People commissioning budgets.
4	CYP	Cap*	850		The 2008/09 C&YP Primary capital budgets have been re-phased and re-profiled to reflect changed spending patterns in some projects and to accommodate the 2007/08 overspend.

12. MATTERS PROGRESSSED UNDER URGENCY PROCEDURES

12.1 We report for information the following decision taken under Urgency Procedures

Approval to the appointment of Councillor Dogus to serve on the Haringey Strategic Partnership's Children and Young People's Strategic Theme Board for 2008/09 (in place of Councillor Jones).

13. DELEGATED DECISIONS AND SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS

13.1 We were informed of the following significant action taken by Directors under delegated powers -

Director of Adult, Culture and Community Services

Burial Chambers - Requirement to tender under CSO 6.04 be waived in order to procure the required specialised products and cemetery expertise to develop a Burial Village through landscaping of existing cemetery sections and fitting and construction of bespoke modular chambers and memorials at Haringey cemeteries.

Coggers Nationwide Amusements – Application for 2008 Events - Applications for Family Funfairs to be held at:

[a] Down Lane Recreation Ground – 24 -27 July 2008

[b] White Hart Lane - 17- 20 July 2008

(The income from Funfairs forms part of the Parks Service base budget).

Transition Team from Children and Young People to Learning Disability Partnership, Combined Team - Following the transfer of the Transition Team to the management of the Combined Team for Adults with Learning Disabilities, two transition social worker posts proposed. Funding all agreed and therefore no adverse financial impacts.

Horticultural Plant and Equipment Lease - Two year lease agreement with Swan Plant Hire Ltd for the hire of gang mowers and tractors which will enable the Parks Service to carry out borough-wide grass cutting

Application for event in Finsbury Park on 13 July 2008 - Approved in consultation with Cabinet Member to sign off events where more than 10,000 people in attendance expected. (RISE Festival)

Refurbishment of Priory Park playground – Award of the works contract to improve the playground area to create a more inclusive safe play area for all users to English Landscape Ltd.

Parkland Walk Greenway Improvements – Appointment of Mayer Brown to manage a programme of works worth around £225,000 in total as part of on going improvements to Parkland Walk as these public rights of way to form a major part of the Council's Greenway routes.

Establishment changes within Adults Older People's Service – Deletion of the post of Home Care Service Manager and various changes made to establishment. Full year savings achievable £63,979.

Establishment Changes within Libraries, Culture and Learning – Following an inspection of HALS in December 2007 a partial restructure of the service has become necessary to meet the changing requirements of funding and inspection bodies.

Establishment changes within Adults – Adaptations - Deletion of Team Manager PO7 with efficiencies valued at £57,000 and Head of Service PO8 to be available on closed ring fence management assessment.

Establishment changes within Commissioning and Strategy – Policy and Strategy Deletion of post of Head of Policy and replacement with a new Senior Policy officer post to meet the Personalisation agenda (funding from Social Care Reform Grant until 31.03.2011).

Markfield Beam Engine Restoration Project – Award of the repairs contract for the beam engine in the Markfield museum, to Century Millwrights. These works form part of a major regeneration programme (£3.6 million) taking place in Markfield Park.

Establishment changes within Adults – Osborne Grove - To create 10 SAP position numbers for the Osborne Grove Assistant Nursing Managers Bank Staff to reduce reliance on the use of costly agency staff and improve on the consistency of staff working with clients. Specific funding established for the purpose of covering annual leave, sickness absence and training days.

Establishment changes within Recreation Services – Additional posts within the Policy and Development Team:

[a] Sports Hubs and Club Development

[b] Leisure Project Officer

(Financial contributions from Sport England of [a] £27,000 and [b] £8,000 – additional funding from ABG/other revenue resources).

Establishment Changes within Culture, Libraries and Learning – Archives and Records Management - Team restructure to provide a Council-wide records audit, proposed implementation of an electronic records management system and the need for organised off-site storage to reflect the importance of records management within the Council.

Dry side of male and female changing room refurbishments – Award of works package to Moyglen Construction Ltd. This project is the final part of a major capital works programme carried out at Park Road Leisure centre.

Director of the Children and Young People's Service

Establishment Change – additional Nursery Officers at Woodside Children's Centre and deletion of Nursery Assistant posts

Establishment Change – additional Early Years Practitioners at The Triangle Centre

Establishment Change – new position of Head of Information Strategy and Communications

Director of the Corporate Resources

Invocation of Contract Standing Orders 6.03 in connection with the Hearthstone Expansion Project for a one year period.

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Chair:
Councillor Gmmh Rahman Khan

Deputy Chair:
Councillor Toni Mallett

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report covers matters considered by the Audit Committee during the municipal year 2007/08.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Terms of Reference of the Audit Committee require it to maintain an overview of the Council's arrangements for corporate governance and the regulatory framework; internal control; risk management; and internal and external audit. This report has been produced to advise Full Council of the matters considered by the Audit Committee at its meetings during the municipal year 2007/08, in fulfilment of its Terms of Reference. It is presented to Full Council for information.
- 2.2 The Audit Committee is required to meet at least four times per year in accordance with the Council's reporting and financial cycles. During 2007/08, the Committee has met on five occasions and each meeting was quorate.
- 2.3 To support members in their role, officers provided a briefing session on the function, status, responsibilities and role of the audit committee. The Council's Section 151 Officer (or his deputy) and Head of Audit and Risk Management were in attendance at each meeting. The Council's external auditors, The Audit Commission, attended the Committee to present, amongst other reports, their Annual Audit and Inspection Letter.

3. Summary

- 3.1 The Audit Committee takes its responsibilities very seriously and considers its role in enhancing the Council's internal control environment, which is considered effective by both internal and external audit, to be significant in assisting the Council achieve the highest possible rating as part of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) process. During 2007/08, key achievements for the Committee were:
- Contributing to the CPA process and assisting the Council achieve a score of 3 out of 4 for Internal Control as part of the Use of Resources assessment;
 - Providing input into the Internal Audit function thorough review and approval of the annual audit plan and quarterly review process, including monitoring implementation of audit recommendations as part of the formal follow up reporting process;
 - Reviewing and approving the Council's internal audit strategy; and
 - Contributing to and approving the Council's Statement of Internal Control and Annual Governance Statement.
- 3.2 The following sections describe the work of the Audit Committee in relation to the key tasks identified within the committee's agreed Terms of Reference which were in effect during 2007/08.

4. Corporate Governance and regulatory framework

- 4.1 In performing their role in this area, the Audit Committee consider the actions taken by the Council's managers and receive information during the course of the year in order to discharge their responsibilities. Council officers are responsible for ensuring adequate systems of control and assurance are in place and the s151 Officer and Head of Audit provide assurances to this effect to the Audit Committee.
- 4.2 During 2007/08, the Committee fulfilled this responsibility by reviewing and approving the Council's Annual Governance Statement (AGS). The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2006, require the Council to review the effectiveness of its systems of internal control and to publish an AGS each year, with the financial statements. The Audit Committee are the lead body for this and are able to discharge this duty by receiving at their meetings, reports relating to the key areas of Internal Audit; Risk Management; External Audit; and Housing Benefit Counter-Fraud activity. In 2007/08, the Committee made recommendations at its meeting on 12 May 2008 which were incorporated into the final AGS and published with the Council's financial statements.
- 4.3 In addition, the Audit Committee reviewed the Council's draft Local Code of Corporate Governance (LCCG) which was presented to its meeting on 12 May 2008. Members recommended changes to the draft LCCG, including the need to reflect the political reality of having an opposition party, and providing greater clarity in relation to the distinctions between the ruling party, the opposition and committees, such as the Audit and Pensions Committees, where all Members worked together for the best interests of the taxpayers. The changes were incorporated into the LCCG prior to presentation at Full Council for formal adoption.
- 4.4 Members reviewed and approved the 2007/08 annual audit plan at the Audit Committee meeting on 26 April 2007, part of the 2006/07 Municipal year. Members were satisfied that the plan was appropriate to deal with the Council's key risks. The Head of Audit and Risk Management provided the Committee with quarterly reports on performance against this plan and a summary of key findings and recommendations for individual audits. This provided the Committee with assurance that any significant weaknesses were being addressed by management. The Committee noted that no key financial systems were provided with a 'no' or 'limited' assurance rating during 2007/08.
- 4.5 The Audit Committee received and considered the 2007/08 annual audit and inspection plan from the Council's external auditors, which had been issued jointly by the Audit Commission and RSM Robson Rhodes (now Grant Thornton) at the meeting on 10 July 2007. The Committee raised a number of issues relating to the plan and questioned whether the actions highlighted in the plan with regard to the social services and ICT were achievable. The Audit Committee also requested the Chief Financial Officer to ensure compliance with specific issues relating to the plan, including risks with regard to the operations conflict between the BSF programme and the existing PFI schools and the management issues relating to Alexandra Palace and Park to safeguard the overall issues of tax-payers as well as the Council.

- 4.6 The Audit Committee received quarterly reports on counter-fraud activity relating to Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit from the Deputy Head of Benefits and Local Taxation. In order to ensure that the Committee fulfilled its Terms of Reference, Members requested that information on payments made and resultant overpayments be included in all quarterly reports after the first report was reviewed and this was completed. Members raised concerns about whether sufficient resources were in place to prevent fraud at the outset and were advised that verification processes were in place to ensure the risk was minimised and that the procedures had been reviewed by the Benefits Fraud Inspectorate and were found to be adequate.
- 4.7 Members were advised that, at the end of 2007/08, the Housing Benefit service had achieved a good performance against targets and a CPA rating of 4 (excellent). Members were advised of a Housing Benefit anti-fraud and corruption strategy which had been drafted and recommended that this be subject to further review and input from relevant Members to ensure that the strategy was effective.
- 4.8 Members also received details of the inspection by the Benefits Fraud Inspectorate and the 20 recommendations made as a result. Members expressed concerns about the emphasis of targets, set by the Department for Work and Pensions, on fraud rather than benefit take up and were advised that income maximisation in respect of benefit take up was a Council priority. Members raised concerns that the emphasis from the Council appeared to focus on fraud, rather than benefit take up, but were assured that the Council's procedures met central government standards and requirements and the Council had a clear responsibility to both prevent and detect fraud.

5. Risk Management

- 5.1 The Audit Committee are responsible for reviewing the effectiveness of systems for the assessment and management of material areas of risk within Haringey and monitoring their maintenance and development in accordance with the Council's Risk Management strategy. In order to fulfil this responsibility, the Audit Committee has received regular reports during 2007/08 on the Council's Risk Management framework, together with summary details of business unit and departmental risk registers. The Council's corporate risk register was presented to the Audit Committee twice yearly for review.
- 5.2 At its meeting on 12 May 2008, the Audit Committee reviewed the proposed new risk management framework for the Council which set out how all the various processes involving risk, including health and safety, business continuity, emergency planning and business planning would be drawn together and managed. Members questioned if all areas of the Council had risk registers in place and the Head of Audit and Risk Management confirmed that all Business Units and Departments had these in place. Members also questioned who was responsible for monitoring that risk registers were kept up to date and were advised that Business Unit managers and Directors were responsible, but that Internal Audit completed regular checks on risk registers as part of the annual audit plan. Members were also advised when each risk register was last updated and reviewed as part of the regular reports to the Audit Committee. Members were

satisfied with the assurances given on the Council's compliance with the risk management framework.

6. Internal Audit

- 6.1 Internal Audit is provided primarily by an outsourced function, through a contract awarded to Deloitte and Touche, and supplemented by in-house staff undertaking investigations into allegations of fraud and financial irregularities.
- 6.2 During 2007/08, Internal Audit completed 91 reviews across all Council directorates, including schools and individual social services establishments, with 76 final reports and 16 draft reports having been issued at the year end. Quarterly reports on progress against the annual audit plan were provided to the Audit Committee throughout the year. The Chair of the Audit Committee commented on a number of areas during the year which were highlighted by the audit recommendations made and which he considered needed to be addressed. Members were given assurance that appropriate action would be taken.
- 6.3 In 2006/07, Members requested that Internal Audit provide detailed reports on the implementation of audit recommendations as part of the agreed follow up programme. The provision of detailed reports on the implementation of Priority 1 recommendations continued throughout 2007/08 and Members were advised that, at the end of the year, 93% of all Priority 1 recommendations had been fully implemented, with the remaining 7% in progress. Members wanted to ensure that all outstanding recommendations were addressed and required officers to take appropriate action to resolve any issues and provide the Committee with target dates for final implementation. Revised target dates and reports monitoring compliance with these were presented to the Committee. The Committee subsequently agreed that the actions taken were considered reasonable.
- 6.4 The Chief Financial Officer informed the Committee that the Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer were reviewing progress against outstanding Priority 1 recommendations on a monthly basis. The Committee asked how Priority 2 and 3 recommendations were followed up, and the Head of Audit and Risk Management reported that all recommendations would be followed up as part of the audit programme for the financial year following the year in which the report was completed. The Committee asked officers that details of the implementation of all recommendations be reported to the Committee as part of the quarterly progress report. In order to ensure that sound management practices were in place, the Chief Financial Officer further reassured the Chair that in addition to Internal Audit procedures he had his own systems of financial administration and control in place.
- 6.5 The Committee also considered reports detailing investigations into financial irregularities. During 2007/08, Members noted that 26 investigations had been completed, but were concerned about the effect of officers being suspended from duty while investigations were completed. Members were advised that Internal Audit worked closely with Human Resources to manage the cases as quickly and effectively as possible. In addition, performance information on the length of time taken to complete investigations was included in the quarterly reports for 2007/08 to provide Members with further information in this area.

- 6.6 In compliance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations, the Committee received a report on the effectiveness of internal audit. This assessment was completed as part of a reciprocal peer review process with the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and Waltham Forest LBC. Members noted that Haringey's internal audit function had been assessed as effective in comparison to the CIPFA Code of Practice. Members questioned the role of the Audit Committee in the decision making process and were advised of the Terms of Reference for the Committee and the opportunity that these presented to make recommendations and require explanations from officers.
- 6.7 The Audit Committee received the Council's annual internal audit plan and audit strategy at its meeting on 12 May 2008. Members questioned the level of resources allocated to the review of key financial systems and questioned whether these should be reviewed and more allocated to higher risk areas. Members were advised that resources were allocated on a risk basis and that changes to key financial systems took place every year which had to be reviewed. Members were also advised that external audit required an annual assessment of the effectiveness of the key financial systems and it was more cost-effective to use internal audit resources to complete this. Members were also advised of resources which were allocated to high risk areas including project management and procurement. The Chair was satisfied with the assurances of the Chief Financial Officer that the internal audit plan complied with standards required by CIPFA.
- 6.8 The Audit Committee received the annual audit and assurance report at its meeting on 24 June 2008 and requested that it be presented to Full Council for information. The report is therefore attached as an appendix for information.

7. External Audit

- 7.1 The Council's external audit service in 2007/08 was provided by Robson Rhodes (subsequently merged with Grant Thornton), although the Audit Commission continued to complete work on the Council's statement of accounts and CPA Use of Resources assessment. The Council's external auditors attended all of the Audit Committee meetings during the year. The Audit Committee has received reports and presentations from the Audit Commission and Grant Thornton during the year to assist it in fulfilling its responsibilities in this area.
- 7.2 The Audit Commission's report on the Use of Resources auditor judgements was presented to the Committee on 12 May 2008. Members noted the improvements in ratings that the Council had received for Value for Money, to 3 out of 4 in the Use of Resources assessments and overall that the Council had retained its score of 3 out of 4 overall for the Use of Resources assessment. However, the Committee noted that the overall score in the theme of Financial Reporting had dropped from a 3 to a 2, largely as a result of the Council not maintaining its 'notable practice' status achieved the previous year. Members noted the issue raised in relation to capital budget underspends and expressed disappointment in the Financial Reporting score. Members requested officers to ensure that action was taken to address the issues raised. The Audit Committee received a report setting out the planned actions to address the Audit Commission's recommendations made in their Use of Resources judgement. Members noted that although the Use of

Resources test was getting more difficult each year, their expectation was that the Council should be focused on achieving a score of 4 out of 4.

- 7.3 The Audit Committee received the Annual Audit and Inspection Letter from the Audit Commission at its meeting on 12 May 2008. The issues and recommendations raised were discussed with the Audit Commission and Members expressed concern about the wording of specific improvement opportunities included in the Letter and as no recommendations had been raised to address the issue. Members were advised that the improvement opportunities were linked to the Use of Resources judgement. Members noted that two areas of potential risk had been included in Grant Thornton's work and requested that action was taken to resolve these.

8. Statement of Accounts 2006/07 and Accounting Policies

- 8.1 At the meeting on 10 July 2007, Members received a report on the accounting policies which were in operation during 2006/07. The Committee were concerned over some aspects of the accounting policies followed in the preparation of the financial statements. The Committee were advised that the accounting policies would form part of the external audit review of the financial statements and any issues would be reported back to the Committee. No issues were subsequently raised by the external auditors.

9. Other issues

- 9.1 Members wished to ensure that they had the necessary skills and training to be able to fulfil their roles appropriately. The Head of Audit and Risk Management agreed to ensure that appropriate training and briefing sessions were put in place for Members of the Committee. During 2007/08 separate training sessions were provided on the roles of internal and external audit, the role of the Audit Committee and risk management.
- 9.2 The Audit Committee was subject to a review of its effectiveness during 2007/08, in accordance with the recommendations of the CIPFA Guidance on Public Sector Audit Committees. The review was undertaken by the Head of Audit and Risk Management, in consultation with Members and recommendations made in order to comply with best practice and guidance. Members were satisfied with the outcome of the review and the implementation of the recommendations which would continue in 2008/09.
- 9.3 The Interception of Communications Commissioner's Office (ICCO) visited Haringey in 2007 to inspect the Council's policies and procedures in relation to the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA). The Audit Committee was informed of the Inspector's findings at their meeting on 28 January 2008. The ICCO reported that the Council complied with the requirements of RIPA and that the Council's arrangements for compliance were adequate. Members were satisfied with the Council's response to the recommendations made, all of which had been implemented.

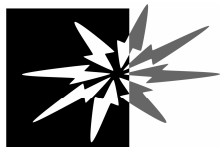
10. Conclusion

- 10.1 Over the last year the Audit Committee has fulfilled its terms of reference and presented a challenge in relation to the Council's system of internal control and financial reporting arrangements. Over the next 12 months it is intended that the proposed developments will continue to enhance and develop the Committee's role and provide an effective challenge to all areas of the Council.

11. Recommendations

- 11.1 That this report is received by Full Council for information.

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Haringey Council

Agenda item:

[No.]**Audit Committee****On 24 June 2008**Report Title: **Annual Audit Report and Assurance Statement 2007/08**Report of: **Head of Audit and Risk Management**Wards(s) affected: **All**Report for: **Non-key decision****1. Purpose**

1.1 To inform Members of the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the system of internal control and risk management operating throughout 2007/08 and present a summary of the audit work undertaken to formulate the opinion, including reliance placed on work by other bodies.

1.2 This report also fulfils the requirements of the Audit Committee terms of reference.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Audit Committee notes the content of the annual audit report and assurance statement for 2007/08.

2.2 That the annual audit report and assurance statement is referred to the next available Full Council meeting for information.

Report Authorised by: **Chief Financial Officer**

Contact Officer: Anne Woods, Head of Audit and Risk Management

Tel: 020 8489 5973**Email:** anne.woods@haringey.gov.uk**3. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985****3.1 List of background documents:**

The following background documents were used in production of this report:

- Accounts and Audit (amendment) (England) Regulations 2006.
- CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit 2006
- CIPFA guidance on the Annual Governance Statement

4. Background

4.1 One of the terms of reference for the Audit Committee is *'to consider the Head of Audit and Risk Management's annual report and a summary of Internal Audit activity (actual*

and proposed and the level of assurance it can provide about the Council's corporate governance arrangements.'

- 4.2 In addition, the 2006 CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit sets out annual reporting requirements for the Head of Audit and Risk Management. In order to satisfy the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice, the Head of Audit and Risk Management issues a formal annual report which:
- Includes an opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the organisation's internal control environment;
 - Discloses any qualifications to that opinion, together with the reasons for the qualification;
 - Presents a summary of the audit work undertaken to formulate the opinion, including reliance placed on work by other assurance bodies;
 - Draws attention to any issues that the Head of Audit and Risk Management considers particularly relevant to the preparation of the Annual Governance Statement (AGS); and
 - Compares the work actually undertaken with the work that was planned and summarises the performance of the Internal Audit function against its locally set performance targets.
- 4.3 The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Haringey Council's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.
- 4.4 The CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit states that the internal control environment comprises three key areas: internal control; corporate governance; and risk management processes. The opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control environment is based on an assessment of these key areas.
- 4.5 The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006, which came into effect on 1st April 2006, require that 'the relevant body shall conduct a review at least once in a year of the effectiveness of its system of internal control and shall include a statement on internal control, prepared in accordance with proper practices, with any statement of accounts it is obliged to publish.'
- 4.6 As part of the 2006 Regulations, the Council is required to review, at least annually, the effectiveness of its system of internal control. The review of effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of internal audit and the council's senior managers who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control environment. The review of effectiveness is also informed by comments made by the council's external auditors in their annual letter and other review agencies and inspectorates in their reports.

5. Basis of assurance

- 5.1 The Head of Audit and Risk Management's opinion is derived from work completed during 2007/08 as part of the agreed annual audit plan, and any investigations into

breaches of financial irregularity. Where relevant, any assessment of the council's corporate governance arrangements and risk management processes are also taken into account.

- 5.2 The internal audit plan for 2007/08 was developed to provide management with independent assurance on the adequacy and effectiveness of the systems of internal control. The plan was designed to ensure adequate coverage over the year of the Council's accounting and operational systems.
- 5.3 Internal audit work has been conducted in accordance with mandatory standards and good practice contained within the CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit and additionally from internal audit's own quality assurance systems.
- 5.4 The opinion is limited to the work carried out by Internal Audit based on the annual internal audit plan. Wherever possible, the work of other assurance providers, including external audit, has been taken into account.

6. Overall Audit Opinion 2007/08

- 6.1 The Internal Audit work, using a risk based approach, included reviews of those systems, projects, and establishments sufficient to discharge the Chief Financial Officer's responsibilities under s151 of the Local Government Act 1972; the 2006 CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit and the 2006 Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations. The opinion is based on the work undertaken. Work was planned and performed in order to obtain the information necessary to provide sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance of the internal control systems tested.
- 6.2 Based upon the work of Internal Audit and other sources of assurance outlined in this report, the Head of Audit and Risk Management can provide an opinion that the system of internal control in operation during the year to 31 March 2008 accords with proper practice and is fundamentally sound. The opinion relates only to the systems and areas reviewed during the year and any details of significant control issues identified are included in the report.

7. Assurance from the work of Internal Audit

- 7.1 During 2007/08, Internal Audit undertook 91 planned reviews, using a risk based approach. The outcome of the reviews indicated that generally the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the system of internal control is satisfactory.
- 7.2 Internal Audit were satisfied with management responses in those areas which had received a 'limited' assurance rating. In addition, detailed monitoring was undertaken during 2007/08 on all Priority 1 recommendations to ensure that appropriate action was undertaken to address the risks identified during the course of the original audit. As at the 31 March 2008, 92% of all Priority 1 recommendations had been fully addressed and action was being taken to address the remaining 8%. Internal Audit were satisfied with the responses from management on this area of follow up work.
- 7.3 A detailed report on the work of Internal Audit is attached at Appendix A to this report.

8. Assurance on Corporate Governance

- 8.1 The Council's corporate governance arrangements provide effective direction and control of its functions, and how the Council relates effectively to the local community. These arrangements are underpinned by the Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance which has been developed to comply with the CIPFA/SOLACE recommended framework and guidance on corporate governance. The council's draft Local Code of Corporate Governance, which codifies the council's governance arrangements, was reported to the Audit Committee in May 2008. The arrangements which support the Local Code of Corporate Governance have been in place and operating effectively for a number of years.
- 8.2 Corporate controls are in place to help ensure that policy setting and decision making is carried out in accordance with the Council's Constitution and also that the actions of Members and officers comply with established policies, procedures, relevant laws and regulations.
- 8.3 A review of the council's Corporate Governance arrangements was completed as part of the 2007/08 annual audit programme. The council's arrangements were measured against the requirements of the CIPFA/SOLACE guidelines. Although the report has not yet been finalised, no fundamental risks were identified during the review and the initial feedback has been that a substantial assurance rating will be provided. The detailed findings will be reported to the Audit Committee in due course.
- 8.4 The annual assurance report should draw attention to any issues that the Head of Audit and Risk Management considers particularly relevant to the preparation of the council's Annual Governance Statement (AGS). CIPFA guidance dictates the form and basic content of the AGS and its approval and publication with the authority's statement of accounts represents the end process of the annual review of internal control.
- 8.5 As part of the process to compile the AGS, all Directors and Assistant Chief Executives were required to provide an assessment of the governance arrangements operating within their area of responsibility. The assessments covered the key areas of corporate governance including:
- Risk Management;
 - Performance Management
 - Financial Management;
 - Corporate Governance;
 - Procurement and contract management;
 - Information Management;
 - Project Management;
 - Partnerships;
 - Business Continuity Plans; and
 - Internal audit recommendations.
- 8.6 These self assessment statements underpin the AGS. The completed assessments identified that all significant governance issues which had been brought to the attention of Directors and Assistant Chief Executives had been appropriately dealt with, or had been included in the AGS.

8.7 Corporate governance is effective in most areas within the council. The main areas for continuing action were included within the AGS relate to:

- Embedding partnership governance arrangements;
- Embedding the Local Code of Corporate Governance across the Council and providing corporate governance assurances to officers and members;
- Improving corporate data management systems and procedures; and
- Fully embedding the revised corporate Management of Risk Strategy.

9. Assurance on Risk Management

- 9.1 A substantial amount of work has been undertaken to implement and further embed risk management arrangements throughout the organisation and in key business processes. During 2007/08, the council's corporate risk management strategy was reviewed and updated to reflect the progress made to date in embedding risk management. The revised risk management strategy draws together all key areas into a cohesive framework to ensure that the council manages its risks in the most appropriate way.
- 9.2 Regular reports to managers and members during 2007/08 by Internal Audit provided updates on the management of key business risks. Risk registers and the processes to keep these updated are fully embedded at business unit, departmental and corporate levels.
- 9.3 In addition, Internal Audit reviewed a number of business unit risk registers and tested the key controls which management had stated were in place to ensure the controls were in place and effective in managing the identified risks. Based on the testing completed, where no risk registers were assessed as providing 'limited', or 'no' assurance, the risks identified within business units were being managed appropriately.
- 9.4 Risk management is contained within all the key business and project management processes of the Council. It is a specific requirement of all business plans that all key risks are identified, together with the management controls in place. This ensures that any resource implications are considered at the business planning stage. The Council's project management framework has risk identification and management as one of its core objectives, therefore allowing any key risks to the success of the project to be appropriately managed from the beginning of the project.
- 9.5 Training on risk management was provided to managers and members during 2007/08 by Internal Audit. In addition, Internal Audit worked with the Supporting People team to deliver training on risk management to the external providers of services. As a result, key service delivery partners have developed risk registers which are based on the council's framework and are aligned to the council's service delivery objectives.
- 9.6 Feedback from the CPA recognises the development of this area and the systems put in place ensure that risks are considered at the most appropriate level. The Council's risk management arrangements are generally effective and work will continue to ensure that this area continues to improve.

10. Assurance from External Inspections

- 10.1 The CIPFA guidance states that in practice councils are likely to take assurance from the work of Internal Audit when discharging their responsibility for maintaining and reviewing the system of internal control and that external audit and other review

agencies and inspectorates are also potential sources of assurance. In formulating the overall opinion on internal control, the Head of Audit and Risk Management took into account the work undertaken by external inspections.

- 10.2 In 2007/08 the Audit Commission completed their annual assessment for the Use of Resources, including financial standing, financial reporting, financial management and internal control. Their conclusion was that the council had maintained its position in four of the five themes and has arrangements in place around Financial Management, Financial Standing, Internal Control and Value for Money that are performing well. a number of improvement opportunities were highlighted and an action plan was put in place to ensure that these are being addressed.
- 10.3 The Audit Commission's Annual Audit and Inspection letter concluded that the council is improving well and has been assessed as a three-star authority under the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) framework.
- 10.4 During 2007/08, the Housing Benefits Security arrangements were inspected by the Benefits Fraud Inspectorate (BFI). Six high priority recommendations were raised and a further 14 lower priority recommendations were made. A response plan was agreed and reported to the Audit Committee in January 2008, which highlighted the fact that all high priority recommendations had been addressed by management.
- 10.5 The Interception of Communications Commissioners Office (ICCO) also inspected the council's policies and procedures relating to Part 1, Chapter 2 of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA). The ICCO concluded that the council's arrangements were lawful and in accordance with the regulations. A number of recommendations were made to further improve processes, and these were reported to the Audit Committee, together with the agreed action plan to address the recommendations, all of which have been completed.

11. Assurance on the Effectiveness of Internal Audit

- 11.1 In April 2008, a review of the effectiveness of the council's internal audit arrangements in place during 2007/08 was completed by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. The review used the CIPFA Code of Practice and the council's compliance with the standards required of it as its basis. The review concluded that Haringey had complied with the Code of Practice and that Internal Audit arrangements were effective. The full report, including areas for improvement and the resulting action plan to address these, was submitted to the Audit Committee for approval.

12. Qualifications to the Head of Audit Opinion

- 12.1 Internal Audit has unrestricted access to all areas and systems across the council, a right which is explicit within the Council's constitution, and has received appropriate co-operation from officers and members.

Annual Report on Internal Audit Activity 2007/08

1. Summary of Internal Audit work

- 1.1 Internal Audit services, excluding the investigation of allegations of fraud and corruption, are provided by Deloitte & Touche. A full report is issued for every planned project in the annual audit plan. The report provides an overall audit opinion according to the seriousness of the findings. In addition, each recommendation is given a priority rating, to assist service management in prioritising their work to address agreed recommendations. The overall classification given was that applying at the completion of the audit work. In each case, recommendations are agreed with the client for the work and an action plan completed, showing responsible officer and timescales to address the weaknesses identified.
- 1.2 The recommendations made should be sufficient to address all the control weaknesses identified. As long as the recommendations have been implemented as agreed in the action plan, the risks presented should be addressed, and the residual risk would fall. A definition of the overall classification is shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1

Assurance Level	Definition
Full Assurance	There is a sound system of control designed to achieve the system objectives.
Substantial Assurance	There is a basically sound system, but there are weaknesses which put some of the system objectives at risk.
Limited Assurance	Weaknesses in the system of controls are such as to put the system objectives at risk.
No Assurance	Control is generally weak leaving the system open to significant error or abuse.

- 1.3 For 2007/08 a total of 81 projects, including schools and social services establishment visits, formed the 2007/08 annual audit plan. Resources to assist departments with the development and implementation of risk management and project management arrangements were also delivered, although no reports are issued in these areas.
- 1.4 In addition, requests for additional audit work were made during 2007/08 and a further ten projects were completed. A summary of the work completed, by 31 March 2008, against the planned work is shown at Table 2 below. Including additional projects, a completion rate of 83% (based on final reports issued) was achieved by 31 March 2008.

Table 2 – Planned work vs. actual completion rates

	Number of projects planned	Number of final reports issued	Number of draft reports issued	%
Key systems	12	8	4	67
Other systems	39	29	10	74
Establishments	4	4	0	100
Schools	26	24	2	92
Additional projects	10	10	0	100
Total	91	75	16	83

- 1.5 Internal Audit performs reviews of the Council's key systems on an annual basis. This is completed in agreement with the council's external auditors (for 2007/08 this was the Audit Commission) as part of the managed audit approach to ensure that audit resources are used effectively and duplication of work between internal and external audit is minimised.
- 1.6 The assurance levels provided for the key systems work is shown in Table 3 below. Four reports are still to be finalised for 2007/08, However, based on the findings of the draft reports, all are expected to be given a 'substantial' assurance rating. For comparison purposes, the assurance levels for 2005/06 and 2006/07 are also included.

Table 3 – key systems assurance ratings

Assurance level	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Full	0	1	1
Substantial	11	10	7
Limited	1	1	0
Nil	0	0	0
Total	12	12	8

- 1.7 All general systems work is followed up to ensure recommendations have been implemented. The results of the follow up programme are reported separately. The timing and nature of each follow up depends on the risk assessment of the area at the end of the original audit project.
- 1.8 There are no national or Best Value performance indicators for internal audit work. However, three local performance indicators are reported to the Audit Committee on a quarterly basis. These are in line with current best practice targets across the public sector. Performance of the whole service for 2007/08 is recorded in Table 4 below.
- 1.9 Internal Audit issues questionnaires on the completion of all key systems and general systems work in order to obtain feedback from the identified client. The average satisfaction rating from the 26 customer evaluation questionnaires received during 2007/08 was 3.25, on a scale where 1 is low and 5 is high.

Table 4 – Local performance measures

Performance indicator	Actual	Target
Audits completed against the planned programme (Deloitte)	83%	95%
Time taken to complete investigations by in-house staff (2007/08 referrals)	13.4 weeks	12 weeks
User satisfaction (1 low, to 5 high)	3.25	3.75

1.10 This level of audit coverage is satisfactory and complies with the 2006 CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit.

2. In-house team – fraud and irregularities

2.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, Internal Audit investigates all cases that fall outside the remit of the Housing Benefit Fraud Investigation Team and the Council's Information Security Policy.

2.2 During 2007/08, a total of 25 investigations were completed involving Council employees. The allegations covered a number of issues including misuse of blue badges, working whilst off sick and council tax and housing benefit fraud. Table 5 below summarises the investigations completed by department.

2.3 For comparison purposes, figures for 2005/06 and 2006/07 are included. Cases from previous years have been included in the current organisational structure, e.g. Library Services investigations are now included within ACCS. The table below excludes investigations completed for Homes for Haringey. Of the 26 cases investigated, 23 were concluded within the 2007/08 financial year and 3 were carried forward into 2008/09.

Table 5 – Investigations by department

Department	Investigations Completed 2005/06	Investigations Completed 2006/07	Investigations Completed 2007/08
Chief Executive – POD	0	0	0
Chief Executive – PPC	1	3	0
Corporate Resources	4	9	4
Children and Young People's Service	2	7	7
Adults, Culture and Community Services	4	5	6
Urban Environment	8	7	8
Total	19	31	26

2.4 The Council's anti-fraud and corruption arrangements are robust, with a clear strategy and detailed fraud response plan in place. Regular reminders regarding expected standards of behaviour and how to report suspected fraud are provided via staff and other newsletters and the council's intranet and website. All referrals are investigated

and the investigation team is adequately resourced and trained. Investigations are managed according to all relevant statutory requirements, including Data Protection, Regulation of Investigatory Powers and Police and Criminal Evidence Acts, which are supported by agreed internal procedure manuals.

- 2.5 Operational arrangements are supported by Codes of Conduct, the Employees Disciplinary Code and the Whistle-blowing Policy. All of these are available via the Council's intranet and website. In addition, the council has a dedicated email address and telephone number, which is advertised on the Council website, by which members of the public can reports instances of suspected fraud or irregularity.
- 2.6 During 2007/08, 54 referrals were made via the council's email reporting facility. Of these, 20 were not fraud related and were referred on to the relevant department in order for the issue to be dealt with; 17 were in relation to housing benefit/council tax issues; 7 related to planning and enforcement issues; 4 related to Right-to-Buy processes and discounts; 2 related to school admissions issues; 2 related to the award of grants; 1 related to housing application processes and 1 related to an individual's identity.