

Chair:
Councillor Clare Kober

Deputy Chair:
Councillor Lorna Reith

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report covers matters considered by the Cabinet at our meeting on 26 January 2009. 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

Regeneration and Enterprise

2. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FOR THE NDC AREA

- 2.1 We considered a report which advised us that In February 2008, the Bridge New Deal for Communities Board had commissioned an interdisciplinary team led by Urban Initiatives to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for the Seven Sisters area. The Neighbourhood Plan was a document which would guide social, physical, and economic development in the area over the next ten to fifteen years. Its purpose was to consolidate progress made to date by The Bridge NDC and its partners, and to provide a vision to guide development proposals and environmental improvements by all stakeholders covering issues including transport, public open space, housing, employment, and community facilities.
- 2.2 We noted that it was the intention that the completed plan informed the development of the Council's Core Strategy and the possibility that it might in due course be adopted in whole or in part as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The Plan had been developed in parallel to an ongoing Sustainability Appraisal by the Council's independent consultants, in order to ensure it was fit for these purposes and included Design Guidance for the area. The Plan had been considered by the NDC Partnership Board in November 2008 who had approved it with the vision that it should help the Seven Sisters area should become 'The Greenest District' in Haringey.
- 2.3 We also received a deputation from representatives of the Save St. Ann's Hospital Campaign Group who expressed concern about the extent and nature of consultation carried out to date in relation to the development of the Neighbourhood Plan and about the mix of health services, family housing and public open space to be achieved. In this latter respect the deputation felt that the Plan was too focussed on housing provision and that the Council should press the Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust and the Haringey Teaching Primary Care Trust to make known the type and extent of the changes proposed to the health services on the hospital site so as to facilitate the consultation and decision making processes.

2.4 It was reported that the NDC Board comprised of representatives of a number of partners all of whom had been involved in the development of the Neighbourhood Plan which was a flexible, variable menu of proposals, rather than a rigid, fixed master plan. Each proposal was broken down into a 'toolkit' of potential actions which could be assembled in different combinations, realised in different timescales, and implemented to different extents. Its purpose was to provide a common point of reference for all stakeholders, through which to discuss the future of the area and role for environmental improvements and community, residential, and commercial developments in delivering change. None of the proposals could proceed without more detailed consultation, investigation, and development. The Council did not yet have details of the Mental Health Trust's proposed changes at St. Ann's and would wish to link these to any proposals coming forward for other health related uses in the vicinity. Once available these too would be subject to further consultation.

Children and Young People

3. CHILDRENS CENTRES – PHASE 3

3.1 We considered a report recommending a strategy for Phase 3 of our Children's Centre Programme. We noted that across Haringey, there were four Wards which did not have a designated centre; Alexandra, Crouch End, Fortis Green and West Green (the Broadwater Farm Centre was designated for Bruce Grove Ward). In addition, there were identifiable gaps in reach in Stroud Green and White Hart Lane Wards. Of these, Alexandra, Fortis Green and Crouch End Wards were amongst the 70% more advantaged wards, whilst Stroud Green, White Hart Lane and West Green fell into the 30% more deprived categories. The report assessed the case for additional provision in these Wards and set out proposals for each.

3.2 We report that we agreed the proposals in order to:

- provide new children's centre satellite facilities at Downhills school for West Green and Bruce Grove Wards; at Chettle Court to serve the north of Stroud Green Ward; at Tower Gardens to serve White Hart Lane Ward and within Muswell Hill ward.
- seek to work in partnership for the provision of services for Fortis Green ward, with Barnet, and for Crouch End and Stroud Green wards, with Islington.

3.3 We also agreed that a further report should be made to our meeting in October 2009, setting out a detailed strategy for children's centres and setting out proposals for capital and revenue expenditure for 2010/11.

4. CABINET RESPONSE TO THE SCRUTINY REVIEW OF CHILDREN'S CENTRES

4.1 The Council will be aware that it is imperative that we have well run children's centres which are models of excellence because they:

- are an early and vital link in the provision of services for children and young people under the age of 19 which "provide support for children and their families through a child's life stages";

- allow early targeted intervention of children and families who do not meet statutory thresholds for specialist services but who need help and support to prevent them becoming more vulnerable;
- assist compliance with the duty placed on the Council under Section 6 of the Childcare Act 2006 to “secure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that the provision of childcare (whether or not by them) is sufficient to meet the requirements of parents” to enable them to work or undertake education or training.

4.2 We noted that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had endorsed a scrutiny review of Children’s Centres which had set out to look into the following key areas:

- The range and quality of the provision provided at the Council’s children’s centres including ancillary issues such as family support.
- Health services and the contributions made by users. In particular whether this provision enabled “early intervention” and specific action to be taken to narrow the gap in achievement between the lowest achieving children and the rest.
- The manner in which children’s centres worked with other local providers of childcare.
- The processes for measuring performance including self evaluation.
- The processes for identifying best practice and ensuring its disseminated elsewhere.

4.3 Whilst the review acknowledged that much work was already being undertaken by the Children and Young People’s Service on most of the areas identified for review, it made six recommendations. We report that we welcomed the scrutiny review of the Children’s Centres and agreed a response and action plan which reflected our commitment to ensuring the actions proposed were implemented as swiftly as possible.

Housing

5. DRAFT HOUSING STRATEGY FOR CONSULTATION

5.1 We considered a report which sought our approval to consult on a draft housing strategy which would cover the ten year period 2009-19. We noted that Haringey faced a number of challenges in achieving its aspirations for housing. The Borough had high levels of housing need, and a shortfall in affordable housing. Responding to these issues was key for the borough, 26% of residents considered affordable decent housing to be the most important thing in making somewhere a good place to live, and 17% thought it was the thing that most needed improving in the local area. Poor housing had also been found to have a negative impact on other areas of life for children and young people, in particular their health and well-being, and educational attainment.

5.2 The make-up of the borough’s neighbourhoods was diverse, exhibiting affluence and deprivation, including areas which were successful and areas of potential. Significant regeneration programmes were working to transform neighbourhoods in the borough at Tottenham Hale and Haringey Heartlands. The economic down-turn raised challenges to our work to renew and regenerate the Borough’s housing at the same time as the

introduction of the Homes and Communities Agency and the new Mayor's Draft Housing Strategy provided an opportunity to strengthen our dialogue and partnership with regional and national partners to ensure that we had the best opportunity to achieve our aspirations for Haringey.

- 5.3 The draft strategy identified as its vision the creation of balanced neighbourhoods of choice, which met the housing aspirations of Haringey's residents and offered quality, affordability and sustainability for current and future generations. It also identified the key actions, along with the key indicators to be used to measure progress in achieving the aims. As this would be an over-arching strategy, the majority of actions were addressed in more detail through existing delivery mechanisms. The strategy would not replicate these, but would clearly signpost through its implementation plan where responsibility for the detail of implementation lay. Delivery would be overseen by the Integrated Housing Board through its quarterly monitoring process.
- 5.4 We report that we noted the content of the draft strategy and granted permission for the draft strategy to be taken to wider consultation. The outcome of the consultation would be reported to our March 2009 meeting with the final strategy being brought forward to our April 2009 meeting for approval. We shall keep the Council informed of any developments.

Adult Social Care and Well Being

6. ANNUAL REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE

- 6.1 We considered a report which informed us of the outcome of the Commission of Social Care Inspection's (CSCI) annual Review of Social Care for 2007/08 and which highlighted some of the key achievements and areas for development for the Adult, Culture and Community Services Directorate.
- 6.2 We considered a report on the annual review monitoring meeting for Haringey which took place on 26 August 2008. The purpose of the meeting was to review progress on performance across a range of targets for Adult Social Care Services. CSCI sent the Council their summary report for 2007/08 annual performance assessment of social care services for Adult Services which was based on a Performance Assessment Notebook (PAN). The purpose of the PAN was to provide the Council with an assessment from CSCI which outlined strengths, achievements, and areas for development. A Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) had been drawn up to ensure that identified areas for development in the PAN and the key areas for improvement, in CSCI's summary letter, were addressed.
- 6.3 We were pleased to note that significant improvements had been made in 20 of 23 Performance Assessment Framework indicators and that the Directorate was on course to further improve performance. CSCI's recognition of "*dramatically improved Performance Indicators*" and promising capacity to improve reflected that the Council was well placed in 2008/09 to build on the significant improvements made in 2007/08. Performance against the seven outcomes for adult social care as set out in the White Paper "*Our Care, Our Health, Our Say*" were as follows -

Areas for Judgement

Delivering Outcomes	Good
Improved health and emotional well-being	Good
Improved quality of life	Good
Making a positive contribution	Good
Increased choice and control	Good
Freedom from discrimination and harassment	Good
Economic well-being	Good
Maintaining personal dignity and respect	Good

Capacity to Improve (Combined Judgement)	Promising
Leadership	Promising
Commissioning and use of resources	Promising

Performance Rating **Two Stars ★★**

6.4 We report that we noted the content and outcome of CSCI's annual review for 2007/08 and the action proposed action to respond to the identified areas for development.

Enforcement and Community Safety

7. ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR STRATEGY 2008/11

7.1 We considered a report and noted that following work to help launch the Anti Social Behaviour Action Team (ASBAT) and raise the profile of Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) during 2003, our approval was now for the second ASB Strategy which would cover the period 2009-2011.

7.2 The Anti Social Partnership Board dealt with a wide spectrum of anti-social behaviour including activities that called for different legal remedies and informal solutions. Key changes since the previous (2003) Strategy were:

- Roll out of Safer Neighbourhood Teams
- Roll out of the ASBAT Service borough wide
- Development of national agenda to primary focus on young people (Youth Task Force) under DCSF
- Joint enforcement activity
- Three year partnership plan cycle and national strategies 2008-2011
- Move towards area-based working and problem-solving
- Prevention emphasis e.g. parenting support / Good Neighbour Agreements
- Introduction of the Community Justice Courts
- Greenest Borough strategy
- Emphasis on perception targets in the national indicator set, e.g. NI21
- Improved data capture

7.3 We report that we approved the updated Strategy which was required to capture the developments above and best practice. Actions to achieve delivery were detailed in the 2009/10 action plan.

Resources

8. COMMERCIAL PORTFOLIO REVIEW

- 8.1 We considered a report on a detailed review of the Council's Commercial Property portfolio carried out by specialist consultants Drivers Jonas to assess the suitability and performance of the portfolio in relation to the Borough's community strategy priorities. The report also reviewed the future retention and development strategy for the portfolio and considered options for its future management.
- 8.2 We noted that the review had concluded that -
- 93% of the properties in the portfolio met the Council's strategic objectives and could be continued to be managed on the current basis, 7% of the properties required further assessment as they might require additional investment to improve condition or performance or might be suitable for future disposal.
 - the financial performance of the portfolio was above the industry benchmark.
 - the current management of the portfolio needed improvement and a more pro-active approach was required.
- 8.3 We also noted the options appraisal set out in the report regarding the future ownership, investment and management of the commercial portfolio and, in view of the portfolio assessment from the property review and recent developments in the management of the portfolio, we agreed to the continued retention of the commercial portfolio focussed on meeting service, regeneration and financial objectives subject to the development of a prioritised asset management plan. We also agreed to the continued in-house management of the commercial portfolio with a focus on strategy, delivery and improved outcomes through a review of capacity and capability of the team and external consultants. Further research and work would be carried out to consider the opportunities that might accrue from a wider multi agency approach to property use and development as set out by Central Government including through the Homes and Communities Agency and the single conversation initiative.

9. FINANCIAL PLANNING 2009/10 – 2011/12

- 9.1 This matter was the subject of a report to the Council meeting on 9 February 2009.

Leader

10. THE COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE – PERIOD 8 – APRIL TO NOVEMBER 2008

- 10.1 We considered the regular finance and performance monitoring report covering Finance and Performance of the Council for the period April to November 2008 which detailed the Council's performance against agreed targets. Financial and Performance information was based on the financial monitoring reports prepared for the budget and performance management review meetings for period 8.

- 10.2 The report detailed performance against 63 monthly reported indicators all linked to the Council's priorities:
- 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
- 10.3 The aggregate projected positions for revenue and capital was also shown together with proposed budget changes (virements) for approval in accordance with financial regulations, and the RAG status of planned savings and planned investments.
- 10.4 While the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) would take account of our performance against all 198 National Indicators (NIs), a significant number of the new national indicators lend themselves to quarterly or annual monitoring rather than monthly. These would be shown quarterly to ensure that Members and senior officers were aware of the full list of indicators which would be used to judge the Council and the Strategic Partnership at the end of the year.
- 10.5 Overall good progress had been made on the indicators monitored in the first eight months with 89% of indicators showing green or amber lights in 2008/09. Performance highlights included:
- Serious knife crime and robberies were both down, Haringey's reductions were respectively the 9th and 8th largest reductions in the Metropolitan Police area.
 - Percentage of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEETS) was low in October at 6.8%
 - Visits to the borough's sports centres, were ahead of target with 889,000 visits so far this year
- 10.6 However the report also highlighted areas for focussed monitoring such as recycling and average re-let times and set out the agreed actions to bring performance in line with targets. Child protection performance data was under review and not included in the report.
- 10.7 In terms of finance, the overall revenue budget monitoring, based on the November position, showed that the General Fund was forecast to spend at budget. However, there were a number of budget pressures which services were some budget pressures that services were seeking to contain within the approved budget limit. The aggregate capital projected position in 2008/09 was projected to under spend by £4.9 million. In net terms, Children and Young People were projected to under spend by £2.5 million, Urban Environment by £0.9 million, the HRA by £0.9 million, Corporate Resources by £0.4 million and Adults, Culture and Community by £0.2 million.
- 10.8 Financial regulations required that proposed budget changes be approved by the 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.

10.9 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.

10.10 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.

Revenue Virements						
Period	Service	Key	Amount current year (£'000)	Full year Amount (£'000)	Reason for budget changes	Description
8	UE	Rev	119		Funding Allocations 2008/09	LDA European Social Fund Programme – Project Haringey Guarantee Extension.
8	UE	Rev	220		Corrective budget realignment	North London Strategic Alliance (NLSA) Subscriptions income.
8	UE	Rev*	275		Corrective budget realignment	Upper Lee Valley Partnerships Subscription income.
8	UE	Rev	56		Corrective budget realignment	West Anglian Routes Subscription income.
8	ACCS/N SR	Rev	125		Corrective budget realignment	Wolves Lane Faith plant centre transferred back to the Council. 6 month rescue package projected at £125k.
8	PPPC	Rev	87	87	Corrective budget realignment	Some staff changes and a redistribution of resources within the Directorate.
8	CR	Rev	230		Corrective budget realignment	Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) Local Housing Allowance grant brought forward from 2007/08 to be spent in 2008/09.
8	CR	Rev	139		Corrective	DWP Employment Support Allowance grant

					budget realignment	brought forward from 2007/08 to be spent in 2008/09.
8	UE/PPP C/NSR	Rev	50		Corrective budget realignment	Additional Requirement for festive lighting funded from PPPC and corporate resources.
8	UE	Rev	150		Funding Agreement	NLSA London Growth Area coordinator grant.
8	All	Rev*	2,293		Corrective budget realignment	Single Status contribution distributed to services 2007/08 and 2008/09.
8	CR/NSR	Rev*	300		Corrective budget realignment	One-off £300K virement from NSR to Legal to fund the projected Local Land charges overspend.
Capital Virements						
8	PPPC	Cap	(164)		Corrective budget realignment	S106 funding transferred back Urban Environment centre (who control s106 funds) for reallocation once approved.
8	CYPS	Cap	118		Corrective budget realignment	Pupil Development Centre (PDC) accommodation project to be funded from revenue.
8	UE	Cap	189		Corrective budget realignment	Virement for section 106 and section 278 capital schemes.
8	UE	Cap	50		New funding allocations	Increase in Transport for London (TfL) funding for local safety scheme.
8	UE	Cap*	600		New funding allocations	Increase in Transport for London (TfL) funding for Tottenham town centre project.
8	UE	Cap	88		Corrective budget realignment	Bruce Grove increase in budget to reflect current spend. Additional amount funded from English Heritage and private contributions.
8	CYPS	Cap	50		Corrective budget realignment	Budget for post adoption support, funded from Childrens PSS (Personal Social Services).

11. DELEGATED DECISIONS AND SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS

11.1 We were informed of the following significant actions taken by Directors under delegated powers -

Director of Children and Young People's Services

Building Schools for the Future Programme – Approval to the award of the contract for advanced works package to Gladesmore School to Balfour Beatty.

Building Schools for the Future Programme – Approval to the ordering work packages and related design work from the main works to Northumberland Park School to Apollo London.

Director of Corporate Resources

Disabilities Discrimination Act - Access to Services (2 buildings) – Approval to the award of the contract for the installation of an accessible W.C. and access ramp.

Note by the Head of Local Democracy & Member Services

HARINGEY'S LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT - 2008/09 TO 2010/11

The Cabinet reported to the Council at the meeting on 31 March 2008 on the requirement contained in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 that local strategic partnerships have new Local Area Agreements in place by June 2008. These were to include up to 35 improvement targets negotiated with the Government. On consideration of our report the Council noted and endorsed the 2008/09 – 2010/11 Local Area Agreement for submission to and negotiation with the Government Office for London.

At its meeting on 24 February 2009 the Cabinet will consider a report by the Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance Partnerships and Communication) the purpose of which is to advise that Haringey's Local Area Agreement is subject to annual review. This year there is a distinct 'refresh' element to the annual review to conclude 'unfinished business' from the initial negotiations and some limited revisions to targets where new evidence is available. Cabinet will be asked to consider the LAA refresh and note that local areas are required to submit their final refreshed LAAs to Government Office on 2 March 2009.

The report (which will be published as part of the agenda for the Cabinet meeting on 24 February) will recommend consideration of the following proposed changes to the targets within the LAA:

- To include safeguarding target NI 59 initial assessments for children's social care; as designated target replacing NI 1 % of people who feel people from different backgrounds get on well (NI 1 will become a local target).
- NI 61 stability of looked after children adopted following an agency decision; NI 62 stability of placements of looked after children – number of moves; and NI 67 child protection cases which were reviewed within the required timescales. These are to become local targets
- Key Stage 3 targets to be removed from LAA
- NI 127 self reported measure of social care users (local Target) to be removed from LAA
- Removal of local stretch target of 'number of people on Incapacity Benefit helped into sustained work.

Guidance issued by Central Government for the LAA review and refresh suggests that any revisions to the LAA need to be approved in accordance with local arrangements put in place by the responsible authority. Locally, the HSP Performance Management Group is overseeing the refresh process on behalf of the Partnership and it will be approved by the HSP following Cabinet approval in February.

There is a separate report from the Constitution Review Working Group (CRWG) on a constitutional point that must be resolved before a formal decision is taken on the LAA Refresh report. Haringey's statutory powers in relation to the LAA have become a "Local Choice Function" which means that they can only be exercised once full Council has determined to allocate the powers to the Cabinet in the Council's Constitution. An

alternative for Members would be to allocate the LAA functions to full Council. CRWG will meet on 19 February 2009 and will recommend Members at this meeting of the full Council to amend the Constitution to enable the Cabinet to take the formal decision on LAA Refresh report on 24 February. The recommendation of the CRWG will be circulated to all Members as soon as practicable after that body has met

Because of the need to submit the final refreshed LAA to Government Office for London on 2 March the Cabinet is to be recommended to authorise the Leader (who is also Chair of the Haringey Strategic Partnership) to agree any final revisions required by Government Office for London after the report has been approved by the Cabinet and the HSP Performance Management Group. As the Council noted and endorsed the initial 2008/09 – 2010/11 Local Area Agreement they are now asked to endorse the proposed delegation to the Leader of the Council of authority to agree the final refreshed version of the LAA. Members are advised that this will be legally consistent with the allocation of the formal decision-making powers to the Cabinet.

RECOMMENDATION

That the proposed delegation to the Leader of the Council of authority to agree the final refreshed version of the Local Area Agreement for submission to the Government Office for London be endorsed.