

**MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MONDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2009**

Councillors Councillors Adamou (Vice-Chair), Adje, Mallett, Newton, Winskill, Butcher and Bull (Chair)

Apologies Councillor Aitken, Helena Kania (LINK) and Yvonne Denny (Education Representative)

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION
OSCO01.	WEBCASTING It was noted that the meeting would be recorded for live or future web-casting on the Council's website.
OSCO02.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies for absence were received from Helena Kania (LINK Co-optee), Yvonne Denny (Education Co-optee) and Councillor Aitken who was substituted by Councillor Butcher.
OSCO03.	URGENT BUSINESS There were no urgent items.
OSCO04.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Councillors Bull and Winskill declared personal interests as Haringey leaseholders. Councillor Butcher declared personal interests as a Haringey leaseholder and a School Governor. Councillor Adamou declared a personal interest as one of her daughters was a social worker and one of her daughters was a teacher.
OSCO05.	DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS There were no deputations/petitions/presentations/Questions

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OSCO06. BUDGET SCRUTINY - REVIEW OF PRE BUSINESS PLAN REVIEWS 2010/11 TO 2012/13

The Committee requested further information on the following aspects of the budget:

General Questions for all Cabinet Members

1. Fees & Charges – where budgets are under pressure, for example due to the recession, how is the pressure being dealt with if no investment bid has been made?
2. Specific Grants – where grant levels are due to change in 2010/11 (substantial increase or decrease) how is the variance being dealt with?
3. Are services challenging suppliers in these recessionary times on price? Have any price reductions been secured?

Portfolio specific requests for the Committee on 7th December 2009

1. Leader and Performance Portfolio

Pre Agreed Revenue Investments

Request No.	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
1	52	One off funding for elections	300k	How much of this is likely to be saved if national election is held on same day?
2	52	Delivery of LDF	100k	Does the figure provide for the cost of any anticipated planning enquiries?

Pre Agreed Revenue Efficiency Savings

Request No.	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
3	53	Deletion of post in secretariat	10k	What team is the post being deleted from and why is it only achieving £10K?
4	53	Savings on Counsel	100k	What is the current total spend on Counsel by Legal Services? Further information requested on the impact on in-house service.

New Revenue Efficiency Savings Proposals

Request No.	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
5	54	Deletion of post in the secretariat	24K	What team is a post being deleted from and why is it only saving £24k?
6	54	VFM review of non corporate legal service	50k	Has this saving been confirmed and why is there no anticipated impact on service?
7	54	Deletion of Policy officer post	60k	More detail on impact to other services requested

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8	54	Deletion of post in Service Improvement team	45k	Is this a vacancy? If so how long has the post been vacant? Will there be any discernable impact on other services?
9	General	Haringey Forward Project	N/A	The committee requested a full update of all Forward Haringey projects including target savings, savings achieved to date and an update on the Corporate Review of Support Services.

2. Resources Portfolio

General

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £k	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
10	22	Gross Budget Trail	N/A	A reconciliation between the pre-agreed savings listed in Appendix A of the November Cabinet Financial Planning Report and those listed in the Overview and Scrutiny report Appendix 1 is required.
11	22	Gross Budget Trail	N/A	An explanation on the proposed use of balances/reserves to fund the three year proposed Council budget is requested.
12	23	Resource Shortfall Tracker	N/A	What assumptions are being made on future formula grant settlements for the Council and how do our assumptions compare with other Local Authorities?
13	24	General	N/A	What bids have been received for funding from the recession contingency and have any awards been made?
14	24	General	N/A	The Head of Corporate Procurement is requested to give a briefing on the work done with the Council's top 5 suppliers (in terms of annual payments made) in securing price reductions. The briefing to include a general update on recessionary price negotiations.
15		Resources	N/A	The Assistant Chief Executive (POD) be requested to provide details of vacancy levels and associated agency staff (including consultants) across the Council. How many consultants are employed by the Council that are not covering vacancies?

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Pre-Agreed Revenue Efficiency Savings

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £k	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
16	61	Reconfiguration of cashier and payment services to customers	95	More information on the progress of the project is required.
17	61	Review of Commercial Portfolio and implementation of Manhattan	30	More details on the progress of the project is required.
18	61	Commercial Income from property	33	More information required

New Revenue Investment Proposals

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £k	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
19	63	NNDR Additional budget requirement	240	More information required
20	63	Realigning the rental income debit with the budget	298	More information required
21	69	Alexandra Park & Palace	150	What is the 'general master-plan' for Alexandra Park and Palace?
22	69	Alexandra Park & Trust Core Revenue costs	243	An explanation of the on-going revenue costs is required
23	69	Alexandra Park & Ice Rink Capital Bid	211	Can the costed business case for the Ice Rink be provided (showing projected income streams) – links to capital bid.
24	69 & 81	Alexandra Park & Palace	N/A	The Director of Corporate Resources is requested to give a general briefing on the Alexandra Place revenue and capital bids.

New Revenue Savings Proposals

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
25	64	Non renewal of current insurance policies for Computer and Money/Cash	100k	What risk is the Council exposed to and how has it been mitigated?
26	64	Additional savings from current VFM review	100k	Further information and a breakdown of savings requested
27	64	Improved procurement and delivery methods for adult social care	30k	Further information requested

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		training		
28	64	Vacant consultant Graduate programme	OD post/trainee	50k
				More detail requested on the deletion of the OD post in terms of impact and how is the aiming high programme funded? How much is budgeted for Aiming High?

Capital Investment Bids

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
29	72 item 25	IT Capital Programme	1,500k	More information on what projects are planned to be funded from this bid is requested
30	73 item 31	Hornsey Town Hall Refurbishment & Development	5,654k	More information on the project including feasibility is requested
31	73 item 32	Accommodation Strategy Phase 2	3,420k	More information requested
32	78 item 2	Town Centres	100k	More information requested

3. Enforcement and Safer Communities Portfolio

Pre Agreed Revenue Efficiency Savings

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
34	40	Review funding of Town Centre Mgt. in Wood Green	46k	It is a difficult financial climate for high street retailers what is the impact on taking these savings now? Would there be any advantage to delaying them?
35	40	Reduction in Town Centre Mgt. budget	38k	It is a difficult financial climate for high street retailers what is the impact on taking these savings now?

New Revenue Efficiency Savings Proposals

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
36	41	Deletion of Lead Officer on H&S work	45k	There are many H&S issues within enforcement can more detail be given on the impact of the proposal and how we can reduce work with HSE.
37	41	Staff saving from merger of Planning and regeneration	40k	The committee requests more information on the staff savings of this merger. What is the new structure?

4. Community Cohesion and Involvement Portfolio

Pre Agreed Revenue Efficiency Savings

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
		Corporate	69k	More detail on the impact of

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38	36	Voluntary Sector Team (CVST)		savings requested
39	36	Haringey People – additional advertising income	42k	The committee request further detail of overall income and cost analysis for the production of Haringey People. Who are our current advertisers and what are they charged?
40	36	Print efficiencies – design and print	79k	A list of what is printed is requested and more detail on how these savings will be achieved. Has there been an analysis of the amount of printed material wasted, if not should one be done?

New Revenue Efficiency Savings Proposals

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
41	37	Savings in general running costs	11k	The Committee requested further specific detail of these savings. What running costs?
42	37	Review of local democracy	41k	The Committee requested further specific detail of how these savings will be achieved
43	37	Neighbourhood Management - reduction in operations budget	35k	What is being cut and what will be the impact of these savings? How is this budget currently spent? Can Neighbourhood Management be moved back into Local Democracy?
44	37	Broadwater Farm Community Centre	16K	The Committee requested further specific detail of these savings and their impact
45	37	Put SMART TALK “on-line”	27k	Please explain what the difference model is.
46	37	Decrease the outsourced design work and bring “in-house”	50k	Please explain what the difference model is
47	37	New Docutech lease	8k	Please explain what the difference model is
48	37	Electronic press cuttings	10k	Please explain what the difference model is

5. Children and Young People Portfolio

New Revenue Investments

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
49	33	Commissioning Budget growth	2,644k	The committee requests details of the gross sum to be added to the CYP budget (as this is described as net in the report) and the number of children involved . Also an analysis is requested itemising the growth areas and what additional resources the

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				service will get and the expected benefit. The committee wishes to know how the Government grant monies have been used and whether we are requesting more grant support from Government and whether the increased level of need identified in Haringey has been identified and growth matched by our comparator authorities. How will outcomes be measured?
50	33	Southwark judgement	250k	Can details of the impact be supplied and an explanation of what the judgement entailed.
51	33	Spending on Legal services	800k	Can the committee have a breakdown of what the service is getting for this investment and how does this related to the number of new cases?
52	33	Restructuring of Child Protection Service	650k	Please supply an analysis of how this level of investment was arrived at. What additional staff resources (posts) will it purchase?

New Revenue Efficiency Savings Proposals

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
53	34	Decommissioning the Community development team	86k	The committee requests more information on the proposal and on the increase in workload to other posts, is it sustainable?
54	34	Restructuring Leaving Care Asylum Teams	160k	The committee requests greater detail on the impact to performance and on other services.
55	34	Additional income from PDC room lettings	24k	How will this target be generated? Is it optimistic?
56	34	Integration of Connexions Service	50k	How specifically will this be achieved; how many posts will be lost?
57	34	Review of Payroll Support and CRB posts	9k	How will this saving be achieved?

Dedicated Schools Grant

New revenue Savings Proposals

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
58	66	Stroud Green Ext Day provision	74k	What is the impact of this saving on the school?
59	66	14 – 19 development	40k	The committee requests more detail on this proposal.

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Portfolio specific requests for Committee on 16th December 2009

1. Leisure, Culture and Lifelong Learning Portfolio

Pre Agreed Revenue Efficiency savings

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
60	56	Review of staffing in parks ground maintenance	100k	More detail of proposal requested, including posts that will be affected and the impact on the Council's parks.
61	56	Parks sponsorship	50k	More detail on proposal requested and whether it needs revision due to economic downturn?

Pre Agreed Revenue Efficiency Savings

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
62	56	Community Programmes staff restructure	40k	What impact will this have on vulnerable groups?
63	56	Reconfiguration of Muswell Hill Library	100k	Has a date been given for the redevelopment to start and does it depend on the Capital budget bid?

New Revenue Investment Proposals

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
64	57	Sports and Leisure investment programme	76k	Has there been any match funding on this item?

New Revenue Efficiency savings Proposals

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
65	58	Review staffing structure post transfer of building repairs and maintenance	25k	More detail of this proposal requested
66	58	Deletion of museum attendant post	30k	Is this at Bruce Castle? Will there be any impact on service.

Capital Budget bids

Investments

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
67	71 item19	Allotments infrastructure programme	150k	More detail on this bid requested. How will this be allocated and how much will be spent on the allotment

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				site?
68	71 item21	Muswell Hill library	500k	When will disabled access be provided and when will works be completed?

2. Adult Social Care and Wellbeing Portfolio

Pre Agreed Revenue Efficiency Savings

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
69	27	Reduce OPS residential Care...	150k	How will the extra home care be covered and paid for
70	27	Commissioning Savings from new Strategic Commissioning...	150k	More information required on the impact on care packages
71	27	Home Care	167k	Is this achievable? How can savings be made when there is current year overspend in ACC?

New Revenue Investment Proposals

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
72	28	LD Transition Growth	614k	More information required on number of clients and make up of figures

New Revenue Savings Proposals

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
73	29	No recourse to public funds	100k	More detail required; had there been a cut to the service provided?

3. Housing Services Portfolio

Pre Agreed Revenue Investments

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
74	48	Reducing temporary staff	180k	The committee requests more detail on how this will be achieved. It appears that the service may be retaining temporary staff while deleting permanent posts; what is the explanation for this?
75	48	Savings from additional staff to assist the service achieve 2* STAR rating	221k	The committee requests more detail on this item. Why are the savings not being achieved in 2010/11 and why are they not now achievable until 2012/13?

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New Revenue Investment Proposals

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
76	49	Private Sector Leasing Renewals	694k	More detail requested on this proposal
77	49	Rent deposit Scheme	769	The committee wishes to have more detail on this proposal and to challenge the figure. Will grant funding fill the gap? Has the benefit take-up campaign had any impact?

New Revenue Efficiency Savings Proposals

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
78	50	Staff Savings in Housing Lettings and Finance	100k	The committee requests greater detail in the explanation for deleting these 3 posts and the likely impact on services.

Homes for Haringey

79	General	Why is there no growth bid in respect of the known fire precaution measures required in blocks of flats?		
80	General	Will there be a shortfall in rent subsidy and if so, how will it be addressed?		
81	General	What is the predicted level of housing rent increase for tenants next year?		

4. Environment and Conservation Portfolio

Pre Agreed Revenue Investments

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
82	43	Olympic Fund	60k	What was the original investment; what amount is now being spent and on what?

Pre Agreed Revenue Efficiency Savings

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
83	44	Integrated waste management and transport contract	1,165k	More background information requested. Is this significant saving still on target to be achieved as planned in 2011/12?
84	44	Increase CPZs	80k	More detail on these items requested and why it is necessary to increase parking fees in the recessionary financial climate?
85	44	Increase to parking fees	68k	More detail on these items requested and why it is necessary to increase parking fees in the recessionary financial climate?

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86	44	Increase in parking permit charges	23k	More detail on these items requested and why it is necessary to increase parking fees in the recessionary financial climate?
87	44	Review of parking staffing levels	240k	Will there be any impact on income as a result on this proposed saving?
88	44	Additional income from parking plan	150k	More detail on these items requested and why it is necessary to increase parking fees in the recessionary financial climate?

New Revenue Efficiency Savings Proposals

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
89	45	Review staffing levels at car park	80k	More detail requested. How will the deletion of a cleaner post generate saving identified?
90	45	Savings from sustainable transport	40k	More detail on how this is to be achieved is requested. What services are threatened?
91	45	Reductions to director budget for HR and Legal advice	25k	What impact will legal and HR advice saving have on the costs to other departments and as HR costs are below the line, how is this a saving to the Council?
92	45	Reduction in budget for publicity and projects in the Better Haringey team	57k	What other campaigns will be affected by the reduction and what funding will remain?

Capital Budget bids

Investments

Request No	Report Page No.	Area / Service	Efficiency or investment £	Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments
93	70 item 8	Planned road and pavement resurfacing	1,800k	In what areas of the borough will this take place?
94	70 item 9	Street lighting programme	1,000k	In what areas of the borough will this take place?
95	70 item 11	Improvement to Summerland Gardens car park	70k	What improvement is proposed and is Marks and Spencer making any contribution to the cost?

OSCO07.

NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

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OSCO08.	FUTURE MEETINGS The next Overview & Scrutiny Committee meetings to consider the Budget will be held on Monday 7 th December and Wednesday 16 th December 2009.
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COUNCILLOR GIDEON BULL

Chair

The meeting ended at

Councillor

Chair

Date