

**Overview and Scrutiny Committee 5 July 2010**  
**Q 'N' A: The Leader's briefing on the Cabinet's priorities for 2010/11**



No		Page/ Point	Question/Observation	Answer (Where applicable)
		<b>HOUSING</b>		
1	<b>Cllr Wilson</b>	Page 2-3  Housing: empty homes,	<p>As a first step to dealing with empty homes wouldn't it make sense to deal with all the Council-owned homes that are shamefully left empty and derelict across the Borough? In Stroud Green ward there are two empty Council houses that have been taken over by squatters (on Nelson Road and Stapleton Hall Road). The one on Nelson Road was left empty for almost a year. Both are large homes on desirable roads which could be turned into the large family houses we are so desperately short of in Hornsey.</p> <p>How many other Council houses are being left empty and derelict across the Borough?</p> <p>Will the Leader take action to end this terrible waste of Council resources?</p>	<p>The Council and Homes for Haringey are committed to repairing and re-letting empty council homes as quickly as possible. However, some properties – such as those in Nelson Road and Stapleton Hall Road – will take longer to bring back into use because they need major structural works that require a competitive tender. Work on the properties in Nelson Road and Stapleton Hall Road is expected to be completed in July 2010 and November 2010 respectively.</p> <p>Empty homes are sometimes targeted by squatters and, when this occurs, legal action is required to recover possession. As with the property in Nelson Road, this can lead to lengthy delays in carrying out repairs.</p> <p>To minimise the risk of squatting, Homes for Haringey makes vacant properties secure as soon as possible and, where appropriate, it will install security panels to the property's windows and doors.</p> <p>As at 24 June 2010, Homes for Haringey and the Council were in the process of repairing and re-letting a total of 223 empty council homes. Of these, 145 were undergoing repairs and 78 were being re-let. Void rent loss from council homes currently stands at 1.47%, compared to a target of 1.50% which compares well with other organisations.</p>

				<p>Last year, the Council and Homes for Haringey jointly commissioned a full, end to end review of the voids process with a view to transforming the process. Improvements have included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A multi disciplinary Special Needs Team to assess applications for supported housing</li> <li>▪ A New Tenant Liaison Team in Homes for Haringey to help streamline the process for new council tenants.</li> <li>▪ Additional staffing provided for Homes for Haringey’s voids team by transferring them from general repairs.</li> <li>▪ Re-tender of the voids sub contractors to improve performance and value for money.</li> <li>▪ Revised penalty and incentive scheme for tenants vacating properties was launched in December 2009</li> </ul>
2	<b><u>Councillor Newton</u></b>	p.3 Housing: bullet 6, Support home-owners to install energy saving measures	Please expand on types of energy savings measures likely to be offered, or contributed to, and what eligibility criteria for home owners - area/income based etc? (Also p.10 Finance and Sustainability: bullet 6)	<p>The government’s Warm Front scheme (which is promoted in Haringey by the Council and its partners) offers households up to £3,500 towards the cost of heating repairs, new heating controls, new energy efficient boilers and new central heating systems. Until recently, the Council has provided small ‘top up’ funding to enable vulnerable households to meet shortfalls in the cost of energy efficiency measures.</p> <p>Residents who are aged 70 or over, or are in receipt of a means tested benefit (such as Income Support) or a disability-related benefit (such as Disability Living Allowance) are deemed ‘vulnerable’ and receive all of the measures for free. Those who do not fall within any of these categories will be required to meet the full cost from their own resources.</p> <p>The area based RE:NEW scheme offers a number of measures including home energy checks and tailored advice on reducing energy user Panels, low energy light bulbs and real time energy monitors.</p>

				<p>The planned Community Energy Saving Programme (CESP) for Northumberland Park will focus on installing solid wall insulation, heating systems, new boilers, loft and cavity wall insulation for all properties in the chosen area.</p> <p>Warm Front is only available to vulnerable homeowners, whereas CESP and RE:NEW are cross-tenure schemes available to everyone in the chosen area.</p>
3	<b><u>Cllr Winskill</u></b>	<b>Housing</b>	<p>Is there any indication that access to funds for “prudential borrowing” to build stock will continue to be encouraged by the government?</p>	<p>I am not aware of any formal encouragement by the government in respect of using prudential borrowing to build council homes. However, the prudential capital system was one of the flexibilities introduced in the Local Government Act 2003 and is still ongoing.</p> <p>Given the national debt position, it is possible that the government will be reviewing the system of supported and unsupported borrowing in the near future.</p>
4	<b><u>Cllr Bull</u></b>	2	<p>Can the Leader update the Committee on the situation with the Decent Homes programme and whether the new Government is committed to providing the remaining resources so that we can complete the much needed work?</p>	<p>In 2008, the Council was awarded £198.5m to undertake decent homes work to its housing stock of 21,000 homes. The programme is now in its third year and, to date, 4000 properties have been made decent with high resident satisfaction. Between 2008 and the end of 2009/10, the proportion of the Council’s housing stock that met the decent homes increased from 58% to 72.5%.</p> <p>Funding for Haringey’s decent homes programme is confirmed, by the government, on an annual basis. During Years 1 and 2, expenditure on decent homes was £29m and £38.77m. For 2010/11, the funding is £30m.</p> <p>To date, the Council has received no indication from the government that Haringey will not continue to receive the funding it requires to deliver the works planned for the remaining two years of its decent homes programme.</p>

5	<b><u>Cllr Bull</u></b>	2	<p>While I welcome the additional powers given to Local Authorities, the CPO process is still very protracted. With this in mind, has any discussions been had at London Councils to lobby the new Housing Minister (Grant Shapps – Welwyn Hatfield) to seek a quicker and less protracted system?</p>	<p>I agree that local authorities should be lobbying the Housing Minister to make the necessary legislative changes to make it quicker and easier for them to compulsorily purchase empty properties and that, where the Secretary of State approves the CPO, it is able to recover all of the associated costs from the property owner through an adjustment in the purchase price. At present, it is the local authority – and not the negligent owner – who is incurring such costs.</p> <p>Although the Council’s use of its compulsory purchase powers is dependent upon the availability of funding and the permission of the Secretary of State, Haringey has worked proactively with other councils in the North London Sub Region to streamline the process.</p> <p>Since September 2007, the Cabinet has approved the compulsory purchase of 21 empty properties. However, the threat of compulsory purchase will often prompt the property owner to carry out any repairs and either dispose of the property or bring it back into use.</p> <p>Of the 21 properties approved for a CPO, it has proved necessary to apply to the Secretary of State for permission to compulsorily purchase only 5 properties.</p>
6	<b><u>Cllr Bull</u></b>	2	<p>Re: ‘seek new, affordable homes in all parts of the borough’, has any further discussion been had around the Council building new homes or is the general consensus that this would be impossible in the current economic climate?</p>	<p>The Council is concerned that the Coalition’s recent Budget and Policy Statements on Housing in general will constrain opportunities for development of sufficient affordable homes. However the Council will continue to work in the following 2 ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Local Development Framework – “Sites Plan”, which is currently out to public consultation, sets out some 30 sites which over the next 15 years the Council feels could be developed and support new homes. All housing development proposals of 10 units and above would be required to deliver</li> </ol>

				<p>50% affordable subject to viability. Both private and public sites are in this draft list</p> <p>2. In addition Project Teams are looking at opportunities for house development on Council owned land – and particularly as part of estate renewal schemes – along with schemes that convert private sector units into affordable homes. This work will be dependent on the success of the Council's Homes and Community Agency Business Investment Bid in September 2010.</p>
7	<u>Cllr Ejiolor</u>	2	<p>When the Council undertook a thorough review of the management agreement, did this also involve a cursory look at the budget set to run the Homes for Haringey company in 2009-10? When you saw the budget set by Homes for Haringey for 2009-10, what was your considered impression of it?</p>	<p>The Management Fee was not reviewed when the Management Agreement contract was reviewed. The Council reviews the Management Fee as part of the budget process. Although I am satisfied that Homes for Haringey has sufficient resources to provide the Council's tenants and leaseholders with an excellent standard of service, I expect it to continue with efforts to achieve efficiencies and improved value for money to match those that the Council is planning to achieve.</p>
<b>NEIGHBOURHOODS</b>				
8	<u>Cllr Newton</u>	p.4 Neighbourhoods: bullet 6, Houses in multiple occupation	<p>I understand a pilot has been done to look at housing in multiple occupation to clamp down on unlicensed Homes of Multiple Occupation - how and when is this likely to be rolled out across the borough?</p>	<p>The two pilots which I think you are referring to are within Myddleton Road, Haringay &amp; St Ann's Wards. However these pilots were looking at properties which had been converted without the necessary planning permission and or Building Control Approval. Residents had associated these properties with an increase in unacceptable social and environmental behaviour which was impacting on the local community. The project was not associated with the House in Multiple Occupation but with complaints regarding the way the occupants within these properties conducted themselves.</p> <p>As a result of these projects a number of new actions have been embedded around partnership working across council services e.g. A review of certificates of lawfulness, the identification of problematical properties which can only be dealt with through multi</p>

				disciplinary action. These techniques have proven to work when using targeted, joint, enforcement action between services such as Planning Enforcement, Street Enforcement, Neighbourhood wardens and managers, Housing Improvement and Antisocial behaviour teams. Any problematic properties including unlicensed HMO or poorly managed HMO were dealt with as part of the targeted action but were not targeted as an isolated project alone.
9	<b><u>Cllr Newton</u></b>	p.4 Neighbourhoods: bullet 7, Greater control for Area Assemblies	How are Area Assemblies going to be given greater control over local decisions? Will there be devolution of central Council budgets to Area Assembly areas?	A review of the Neighbourhood Management Service is currently taking place and will include Area Assemblies. Proposals are being considered and will be aligned with the forthcoming Governance Review. It is expected that decisions will be made in early autumn.
10	<b><u>Cllr Newton</u></b>	p.4 Neighbourhoods: General - Environment	What is the Council doing to improve air quality in the borough?	<p>In 2001 Haringey Council declared the whole borough as an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). As a result the Council has a legal obligation for Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) under the Environment Act (1995) and for the delivery of an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) that will deliver improvements to national targets for air quality.</p> <p>Some of the actions in the existing AQAP include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lobbying for the London wide Low Emission Zone scheme and ensuring we have a LEZ compliant council fleet.</li> <li>▪ The provision of electric vehicle recharging points across the borough, to date there are 12 electric charging points/bays at 5 car parks across the borough.</li> <li>▪ Support of car free developments through the planning process, to date there are 27 car clubs at 14 on street locations across Haringey</li> <li>▪ Introducing 'Walkit' a journey planner to reduce car use.</li> <li>▪ Ensuring every school in Haringey has a school Travel Plan.</li> <li>▪ Minimising dust from demolition and construction through the use of planning conditions</li> <li>▪ Introducing a Smoke Control Order for the whole borough to</li> </ul>

				<p>control the use of fuel and appliances used and prevent burning likely to create smoke.</p> <p>Our AQAP is under review and will be updated by December 2010 to reflect Haringey's Second Transport Local Implementation Plan.</p>
11	<b><u>Cllr Alexander</u></b>	P3 Neighbourhoods	Can the leader guarantee the continuation of the £50,000 budget for the Making the Difference budget for each Area Assembly?	<p>In addition to the response at question 9 – no decisions or proposals have yet been made regarding the Making the Difference budgets.</p> <p>Given the reductions all local authorities will have to achieve next year due to reductions in funding from the new coalition government, we will need to wait until after the autumn Spending Review before we know what funds are available.</p>
12	<b><u>Cllr Alexander</u></b>	Neighbourhoods	To ensure that the Council is getting good value for money, how will the Council tighten its monitoring of its cleaning contractor, Enterprise, making sure they are fulfilling their contractual obligations? The amount of litter on some of the Haringay Ladder roads would suggest that things are slipping on a regular basis!	<p>Officers from the Contract Monitoring Team, which is based within the Environmental Resource Service, are responsible for undertaking cleanliness inspections. These inspections are random, and both proactive and reactive. The proactive inspections are carried out at times and/or on days when sweeping or litter picking is due to take place and are designed to ensure that the scheduled service has been carried out and that the required standards have been achieved. The reactive inspections are carried out where complaints or our own observations suggest that there has been a failure to carry out scheduled cleansing activities or that contractual standards have not been met.</p> <p>The outcomes from all of these different types of inspections are recorded and reported through the Integrated Waste Management and Transport Contract officer-level monthly Liaison Meetings and Member-level monthly Partnership Board meetings. Failure to deliver the required standards of work or failure to meet contractual targets can result in contractual Default or Remedy Notices with potential financial penalties attached. These measures are intended to ensure that Haringey Enterprise fulfil their contractual obligations.</p>

13	<b><u>Cllr Winskill</u></b>	<b>Neighbourhoods</b>	<i>"Give Area Assemblies greater control over local decisions"</i> Please elaborate on this – which decisions and how will control be exercised and to what extent?	Please see response to question 9.
14	<b><u>Cllr Winskill</u></b>		What work is being done to launch recycling collections from shops and other commercial and business premises?	<p>The council does not currently provide any commercial waste or recycling services, and businesses in the borough therefore need to hold a valid contract with a fully licensed provider to have their waste and recycling collected. Businesses need to pay for their waste and recycling to be collected, although the income that waste firms can derive from the sale of the recyclable materials may mean that such services are often cheaper than refuse collections.</p> <p>When businesses contact the council to enquire about options for recycling, they are encouraged to check with their current waste provider as to whether such collections could be available through their existing contract.</p> <p>In the event that their current contractor cannot offer recycling collections, the Environmental Resources Team can provide a list of companies that offer such services in North London. The list is available to download from the Advice for Businesses page from the How To Be Green section of the Haringey website.</p>
15	<b><u>Cllr Winskill</u></b>		There are 14 car club locations in the borough- are there any barriers to substantially accelerating the installation of more?	The Council recently undertook statutory consultation for proposals to expand the number of car club vehicles in the borough. As a result an additional 40 car club vehicles at 33 new locations will be delivered during July and August 2010. This will provide access to a total of 75 car club vehicles at 55 locations across Haringey.
16	<b><u>Cllr Ejiogor</u></b>	3	What are our plans for improving bus services within, and into the borough?	We hold quarterly meetings with TfL and the bus operators to discuss and address particular issues in relation to bus services. We provide input into proposed bus service changes both in response to multi route area reviews and for individual bus services. As part of the North London Transport Forum sub regional



				partnership with Enfield, Waltham Forest and Barnet we have identified gaps in orbital bus services across the sub region and within Haringey. We have lobbied senior TfL management for enhancements to these services. We have asked TfL to carry out a borough or sub-regional review of the bus network and services, but they are so far only willing to consider smaller reviews.
	<b>COMMUNITY SAFETY</b>			
17	<b><u>Cllr Newton</u></b>	p.5 Community Safety: bullet 1, Zero-tolerance approach to anti-social behaviour	Given the current financial situation where is funding going to come from to enforce a zero-tolerance approach to anti-social behaviour?	<p>Haringey has always maintained a balance of prevention and early intervention to prevent enforcement action being necessary wherever this possible and appropriate. However, legal proceedings cost the Council and Homes for Haringey money and the Anti-Social Behaviour Action Team (ASBAT) has therefore always taken a measured approach resulting in a high level of enforcement success as stated. The ASBAT use other non-legal remedies such as Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC'S) to control behaviour and where this involves children, their families are referred to the ASBAT parenting programme, which again has been very successful in preventing further enforcement action being required.</p> <p>Hate crime and threats of violence will always need an immediate and swift response. Should finances become stretched, even more careful decisions will need to be made as to which cases warrant enforcement action, and safety of the residents concerned will be taken into consideration.</p>
18	<b><u>Cllr Newton</u></b>	p.5 Community Safety: bullet 6, Dog Control Areas	If parks and open spaces were to be dog control areas how is this going to be enforced?	<p>The matters that can be prescribed in a dog control order are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. failing to remove dog faeces</li> <li>b. not keeping a dog on a lead</li> <li>c. not putting, and keeping, a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer</li> <li>d. permitting a dog to enter land from which dogs are excluded</li> <li>e. taking more than a specified number of dogs onto land</li> </ol>

				<p>Penalties can include prosecution or fixed penalty notice.</p> <p>Enforcement can be by any appropriately employed officer authorised in writing under the Act. Currently enforcement of fouling under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 is undertaken by Street Enforcement Officers. If a Control Order for fouling were implemented, enforcement of fouling would continue as now.</p> <p>In relation to all other matters that could be prescribed under a Control Order, it is likely that enforcement activity where necessary would be led by the Street Enforcement Service and Dog Warden working with colleagues in Parkforce and Police. This activity would largely be in response to complaint and community intelligence from friends of parks and park users.</p>
19	<b><u>Cllr Winskill</u></b>	<b>Community Safety and Cohesion</b>	What work is the ASBO team doing to deal with issues of irresponsible owners and their dangerous dogs on Housing Estates and other residential areas?	<p>The ASBAT has taken swift action to deal with dangerous dogs on estates, leading to injunctions against the tenants banning them from keeping a pet and the dogs being removed. The ASBAT has worked alongside the Metropolitan Police Service's Status Dogs Unit to have banned breeds removed from tenant's homes.</p> <p>The ASBAT can use ASBO's against private home owners if dogs are dangerous, leading to having the animal removed, if this is considered appropriate.</p> <p>The Police ASB Team has secured prohibitions with appropriate and necessary restrictions regarding dangerous dogs offences. This Police team are particularly focusing on gang-related crimes and if there is a gang member that possesses a dog which is being used in an anti-social or criminal manner, then the Police will apply for strict prohibitions, if they have sufficient evidence.</p>
	<b>PLANNING/REGENERATION</b>			
20	<b><u>Cllr Newton</u></b>	p.6 Planning and Regeneration:	How is the Council going to make sure that local shopping centres keep their	Haringey's town centres today are very distinctive – and this has been delivered by

		bullet 5, Local Shopping Centres/Keeping town centres vibrant and viable	individual identity including limiting betting shops, preponderance of too many shops of one type, or chains squeezing out independent enterprises?	<p>a) planning policy and development management that maintains a balance between shops, food and drink establishments, office uses and entertainment/cultural uses – and through</p> <p>b) Planning and Regeneration and Neighbourhood Services work on projects like: the “Green Lanes Food Festival”; town centre web sites, sensible parking projects and business security projects. All developed with town centre local traders and community groups.</p> <p>There has been some loss of independent shops mainly making way for valued food multiples.</p> <p>There also has been some loss and some increasing concern over increases in betting shops and takeaways. On both of these issues the Council is consulting on its Development Management Policies document.</p> <p>I would welcome comments and ideas for the type and level of control members and communities would want. In addition the Planning Service have been asked to develop policies that could support a reasonable balance of uses in all our types of town centres and this will come forward as part of the final consultation on the Development Management Policies Document at the end of the year.</p>
21	<b><u>Cllr Newton</u></b>	p.7 Planning and Regeneration: Major development sites	In the current economic climate please can you update on progress on remodelling Tottenham Gyratory to two-way working?	<p>The £37m scheme to change the Gyratory to two-way traffic flow with a new bus station at Tottenham Hale and improvements for pedestrians and cyclists is being led by Transport for London and is at the detailed design stage.</p> <p>Advance utility works are due to start this Autumn with the main construction work to start in Sept. 2012 after the Olympics. The scheme is facing a funding gap with a £1.505m reduction in central government’s Growth Fund allocation for 2010/11 and confirmation of other central government funding is awaited following last week’s</p>

				budget. We are discussing the position with our funding partners - Transport for London, London Development Agency and the Homes and Communities Agency. Cabinet will consider a report on the Gyrary after those funding announcements are made.
22	<b><u>Cllr Alexander</u></b>	P5 Planning & Regeneration	Glad to see that the council is committed to using all its powers to tackle rogue landlords and illegal conversions – this has not always been the case which has led to a high level of residents being frustrated! Please confirm that all existing powers available to local councils will be used to crack down on this problem?	<p>Planning Enforcement Team is using all available planning powers to tackle this problem and that, as a result of improvements made to the service in recent years, the management of cases is now much more effective at delivering timely intervention.</p> <p>Unfortunately, there are deficiencies in the legislation and guidance: unauthorised development is not an offence, and statutory planning policy guidance prevents use of powers unless there is a breach that “is causing serious harm to public amenity”. Haringey Council has lobbied for stronger planning enforcement powers where there is wilful disregard, and for a revision of sentencing guidelines to ensure that the courts award sanctions that reflect the profits that can be made by rogue landlords.</p> <p>Having said that, I am pleased to confirm that an Officer Working Group has been identifying and tackling rogue landlords whose action or inaction is causing persistent problems to a wide range of teams and services, including the Police, Fire Service or Borders Agency.</p> <p>Co-ordinated by the Council’s Housing Improvement Team (Private Sector), the Group is seeking to target investigations, share evidence and intelligence, and use the full range of enforcement powers available to achieve key enforcement objectives against such rogue landlords.</p>
23	<b><u>Cllr Alexander</u></b>	Planning & Regeneration	With reference to the sum of £180k allocated to the Haringey Olympics Programme – please confirm that this	11 community and sports projects to the value of half the £180k are currently being delivered across the borough. All are delivering to target and within budget and are monitored on a quarterly basis to

			sum is still viable in view of the current financial climate and the cuts that all local authorities are facing.	ensure that they are providing value for money. A final decision about allocating the remaining funds will be made in the light of Council wide budget management processes.
24	<b><u>Cllr Winskill</u></b>	<b>Planning and regeneration</b>	Has any work been done to establish the effect that the national changes to house building targets will have on housing supply in Haringey?	<p>The Council stands by its commitment to its housing target and aims for affordable housing. However, it should be noted that the new coalition government has put in place a range of early policy and funding changes that are and will make it harder for homes to be built and for agreed housing targets to be met. These changes have only been made in the last few weeks – to practically universal professional criticism.</p> <p>The situation is being assessed by professional groupings and by London Councils. Over the next period – up to and including when the spending review is agreed in the autumn – will be the time for Haringey to understand the full implications of these early policy changes and consider the implications.</p>
25	<b><u>Cllr Winskill</u></b>		Please tell me how many full time vacancies there are in Haringey and how many people there are registered looking for work. If possible, please break down by postcode (N6, N8, N22, N15, N17 etc)	<p>At May 2010, there were 9,721 Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimants in Haringey. A breakdown of these claimants by ward is below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alexandra - 219</li> <li>• Bounds Green - 470</li> <li>• Bruce Grove - 709</li> <li>• Crouch End - 252</li> <li>• Fortis Green - 259</li> <li>• Haringay - 579</li> <li>• Highgate - 227</li> <li>• Hornsey - 538</li> <li>• Muswell Hill - 196</li> <li>• Noel Park - 633</li> <li>• Northumberland Park – 949</li> <li>• Seven Sisters - 563</li> <li>• St Ann's - 567</li> </ul>

- Stroud Green - 389
- Tottenham Green - 720
- Tottenham Hale - 700
- West Green - 611
- White Hart Lane - 581
- Woodside - 572

At May 2010, Jobcentre Plus (JCP) was notified of 731 full-time-vacancies in Haringey. A breakdown of these vacancies by ward is below:

- Alexandra - 4
- Bounds Green - 39
- Bruce Grove - 44
- Crouch End - 19
- Fortis Green - 8
- Haringay - 16
- Highgate - 18
- Hornsey - 13
- Muswell Hill - 11
- Noel Park - 193
- Northumberland Park – 94
- Seven Sisters - 11
- St Ann's - 39
- Stroud Green - 12
- Tottenham Green - 36
- Tottenham Hale - 129
- West Green - 29
- White Hart Lane - 5
- Woodside – 11

It should be noted that the JCP vacancies data will not be a true reflection of available employment opportunities because the vacancies only relate to those that JCP are notified and will

				potentially miss a significant number of available vacancies that businesses choose not to notify JCP of. Vacancies in Haringey will not be the only employment opportunities that Haringey residents have access to. This is evidenced by the fact that two-thirds of working Haringey residents work outside of the borough.
26	<b><u>Cllr Winskill</u></b>		<p>Is the Lead member aware of NHS Haringey's vision for polyclinics in Haringey: there are now proposed to be three polyclinics (reduced from an initial promise of five)?</p> <p>There will not be one directly serving the Central Collaborative area – its 62 150 residents will have to use one of the other three, including the one proposed for North east Haringey.</p> <p>Have there been any discussions with Planning about siting this polyclinic adjacent to the Spurs Stadium. If so, why is the facility not part of the revised (second) THFC Planning application?</p>	<p>The Council is aware of the PCT/NHS plans. The Planning Service's assessment of spatial health needs are the NHS figures show that the number of GPs in Haringey is adequate for current needs.</p> <p>However there is geographical mismatch with a GP deficit in the south east, and the PCT/NHS has identified pressing health issues in the east /north east Tottenham area.</p> <p>The Planning Service believes there should be a 5 cluster provision by the PCT/NHS (Hornsey; St Ann's, Central, Tottenham North and Tottenham South) – and this is what is in the Council's Core Strategy – New Plan for Haringey 2011/26 - on which we are asking the PCT, Mental Health Trust and NHS London to comment.</p> <p>The Planning Service continues to work with the PCT and THFC on the possibility of locating a health cluster either on the Spurs scheme or in the Northumberland Ward area.</p>
27	<b><u>Cllr Ejiolor</u></b>	5	What are the key aspects of our "support our high streets" strategy?	Please see answer to question number 20.
	<b>ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES</b>			
28	<b><u>Cllr Newton</u></b>	p.8 Adult and Community Services: General	In the current economic climate how is the Council going to ensure we do not lose any of our green flags for parks and	The Council has maintained and completed an improvement programme, culminating in 16 Green Flag applications for 2010 (results due in July), and funded through a combination of internal

		- Green Flags	open spaces?	and external capital resources. Each site has a clear management plan based upon the existing revenue budget provision, including the delivery of a range of efficiency savings. Future budget provision will clearly be under significant pressure, the Council has outlined its commitment to providing good quality well managed parks and open space. This is exemplified by the imminent completion of works at Muswell Hill Playing Fields, a September stage 2 decision from the Heritage Lottery Fund on the Lordship Recreation Ground restoration project, delivery of phase 2 of the Playbuilder programme across 11 sites, and the initiation of masterplanning work on Down Lane Recreation Ground.
29	<b><u>Cllr Alexander</u></b>	P6 Adult & Community Services	The gap in life expectancy between the east and west of the borough is still shockingly large – despite 40 years plus running this borough Haringey Labour have failed to significantly reduce this – how is the council going to address this problem going forward?	<p>Life expectancy for Haringey residents has increased year on year for both males and females. According to figures from the London Health Observatory, life expectancy increased by 0.9 years for males and by 1.5 years for females between 1999 and 2007. Over the same period, average life expectancy across the country increased by 1.4 years for males and 0.7 years for females. The latest 5 year pooled data suggests that life expectancy for Haringey females is close to the national average but for males it is 2.2 years lower.</p> <p>Within Haringey there are considerable differences in life expectancy between those living in the east and the west of the borough. The latest analysis suggests that the gap has actually increased for females and decreased for males. For males there is a 6.9 years life expectancy difference between Fortis Green (78.2 years) and Tottenham Green (71.3 years). For females there is a 9.7 year gap between Stroud Green (86.5 years) and White Hart Lane (76.8 years)</p> <p>For males the data suggests that the gap is explained by low life expectancy in Northumberland Park and Tottenham Green wards in particular. For females, data suggests that the gap is explained by considerable higher than average life expectancy in Stroud Green and low life expectancy for females in Tottenham Hale and White</p>



				<p>Hart Lane wards. The average life expectancy gap for East and West Haringey is only 2.6 years for males and 1.7 years for females.</p> <p>The reasons for variations in life expectancy are complex and influenced by a number of factors. The wider determinants of health can have a considerable bearing on health outcomes. The Haringey Strategic Partnership (HSP) realises the complexities involved in tackling inequalities in life expectancy and the need to work in partnership across organisations to change the wider determinants of health, and at the same time encourage the population to adopt healthy lifestyles. This has resulted in a number of initiatives being developed within Haringey: including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reducing Smoking</li> <li>▪ NHS Health checks</li> <li>▪ Physical Activity Referral Scheme</li> <li>▪ Cancer Screening Project</li> <li>▪ Development of Life Expectancy and Infant Mortality Action Plans</li> </ul>
30	<b><u>Cllr Winskill</u></b>	<b>Adult and Community Services</b>	What discussions are happening with NHS Haringey on the possible amalgamation of services?	Haringey Council and NHS Haringey have discussed opportunities to strengthen joint working and integration. Meetings have involved Cabinet Members for CYPS and Adult and Community Services, the Chief Executive and senior Council officers, The future model of integration will reflect on 'integrated leadership' approach, exploring opportunities around asset management/co-location to achieve savings by reducing the levels of staff and premises used to deliver services and by creating single transaction points.
31	<b><u>Cllr Winskill</u></b>	<b>Hornsey neighbourhood health centre</b>	<b>Hornsey neighbourhood health centre</b> – what Haringey services will be available from this site?	The Haynes centre for older people with dementia and their carers, opened October 2009. It is run by the Council, a joint development with NHS Haringey and Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health NHS Trust (BEHMHT). A generous donation from the Haynes Trust, a local charity for people with dementia, enabled construction.

				<p>The centre offers comprehensive help and support currently to 16 people with dementia and their careers. It includes activity areas, a music room, treatment facilities and a sensory garden. Services include individual specialist care and support using of a range of techniques and approaches, tailored to the needs of the individual, for example reminiscence therapy, validation, life story work, music therapy, art therapy, dance, singing and exercise. Colleagues from Admiral Nurse Service, Alzheimer's Society, Age Concern, NHS Haringey and BEHMHT work with users and careers at the centre. Haynes also works jointly with the Grange Day Centre sharing facilities and innovative ideas for working with people with dementia. The land behind the Centre has been given to community groups to create a garden, orchard and wildlife meadow which is also a therapeutic retreat for centre users and their families and carers.</p> <p>In September 2010 Admiral Nurses will start running a support group for families/ carers of people with dementia at the Centre.</p>
	<b>FINANCE / SUSTAINABILITY</b>			
32	<b><u>Cllr Alexander</u></b>	P7 Finance & Sustainability	<p>Credit Unions (Sustainable Communities Strategy) – at what stage are these at and when will they be up and running? These will be particularly important in the current financial climate and as government and local authority cuts bite.</p>	<p>The contract has been signed with Islington and City Credit Union to deliver this service. The key date is the 1 August – when legislative changes come into effect to make it easier to extend Credit Union common bonds into new areas. This is when our application to the Financial Services Authority (FSA) will be submitted. The service will launch as Haringey, Islington and City Credit Union. Between August and December 2010.</p> <p>Other activities being developed now include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recruiting volunteers</li> <li>▪ Promoting payroll savings within the Council</li> <li>▪ Obtaining pledges to save with the Credit Union from residents and employees in the borough.</li> </ul>

33	<b><u>Cllr Winskill</u></b>		<p>What work is being done with partner agencies in the borough to compare the costs of bought in goods and services and to ensure that we are driving down prices and getting best value for money?</p>	<p>Sample price comparisons during contract periods are being undertaken on a regular basis by officers to ensure continued value for money. Recently completed are: Print, Social Care spot contracts and Translation and Interpretation rates.</p> <p>Currently in progress are Temporary Agency staff rates and stationery</p> <p>Additionally we are working with the Office of Government Commerce (OGC) to compare prices generally, and are in the early stages of comparing high value spend with North London Authorities.</p> <p>Print and agency staff rates appear to offer some market opportunities for efficiencies and which are being pursued.</p> <p>The Council has recently introduced a reverse auction software tool whereby lowest bid price wins. We are using this tool to good effect for example when letting transport routes during the contract period.</p>
34	<b><u>Cllr Winskill</u></b>		<p>Please give us more information of the development of food co-operatives in the borough.</p>	<p>Haringey Council is developing a Sustainable Food Strategy. This is being led by a steering group made up of representatives from the Council, Primary Care Trust, community groups, local charities and Tottenham Food Co-op. The strategy will develop support for new and existing food co-operatives with the aim of increasing the availability of low cost, healthy and sustainable food to residents.</p> <p>The strategy will be open for public consultation over the summer and launched together with an action plan in the autumn.</p>
	<b>GENERAL</b>			
35	<b><u>Cllr Bull</u></b>	GEN	<p>Given the previous concerns raised by the Committee, the minutes of Cabinet meeting 15<sup>th</sup> June and the request of the Committee for an update, can the Leader/Chief Executive give a brief</p>	<p>The Achieving Excellence programme was created in 2007 to generate £5million savings by March 2010/11 at a one off cost of £2 million (approx £650K per annum). In early 2009 the programme was renamed Haringey Forward. As at 30 June 2010 savings to the value of £2.750M have been actioned. Projects due to complete this</p>

update to the Committee on Haringey Forward and its future?

year will generate a further £2,400,000 making a total of £5.15M. These include:

Efficiency Area	Savings Identified £
VFM -Print and Design	£ 1,000,000
Support Function - Marcoms	£ 300,000
Support Function –Policy and Performance	£ 500,000
VFM – Property	£ 200 ,000
Smart Working accommodation savings	£ 400,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 2,400,000</b>

The implementation plans include the identification of the savings from these projects are all due to complete within this financial year. The delivery of savings will be part this year and part next financial year.

Once these projects have been completed the Haringey Forward programme will have completed its work and will come to natural end with any existing projects being incorporated into the councils efficiency plans which are being developed to manage the Haringey Response to the current funding position. Those staff on secondment will need to return to their substantive posts, and those non permanent staff will leave as their contracts expire. This is subject to the final determination of the resources required to deliver the projects arising from the efficiency plans due to be fully outlined shortly after the autumn comprehensive spending review.

36

**Cllr Bull**

GEN

Can the Leader briefly outline to the Committee the impact on Haringey, its services and its residents of the emergency budget?

- The budget announced £30bn of further spending cuts by 2014/15 for areas other than health and overseas aid. This represents a 25% real term cut in public spending. We do not know how that will relate to local government. The details will be set out in the spending review due on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2010. So at

				<p>present we can only make broad brush assumptions for the impact to Haringey.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Councils which propose low council tax increases will be offered extra funds to allow them to freeze the council tax for one year from April 2011. Details of how this will operate have not been given.</li><li>▪ Prudential borrowing to be monitored, this may have an impact on councils ability to borrow.</li><li>▪ A public sector pay freeze has been announced – two years from 2011/12 except for those earning £21k or less who will receive £250 pa.</li><li>▪ Regional growth fund will be created to provide capital over two years – one pot for housing, regeneration, transport – this will be allocated by formula and a bidding process</li><li>▪ There is to be a major reform of Housing benefit. Specific proposals that have been announced are changes to the local housing allowance ( caps, indexation), limiting working age entitlements to reflect family size, awards to be reduced for JSA claimants after 12 months, the pot for discretionary housing payments to be increased. It is estimated that around 220 claimants will be affected by the changes in the caps.</li><li>▪ VAT increase from 17.5% to 20% from 4/1/2011</li><li>▪ There will be a public sector pension review</li><li>▪ Changes to child benefit, pensions, Disability Living Allowances will impact on the personal circumstances of Haringey residents to varying degrees which we are not able to assess as yet</li><li>▪ There are also implications for vulnerable adults in supported accommodation. Vulnerable adults in supported living accommodation receive housing benefit which offsets the cost of their accommodation for local authorities. Any reduction in HB is likely to have a knock on impact on the Council's budget for this service.</li><li>▪ Potential move from high-cost areas in London to less expensive areas will affect the Council's ability to intervene in private sector housing market, creating as yet un-quantified demands in relation to general fund services and those services currently</li></ul>
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				provided by Supporting People and Area Based Grant.
37	<b><u>Cllr Bull</u></b>	GEN	With reference to Recommendation 2.2, can the Leader/Chief Executive expand on this point? Is there a suggestion that the Cabinet and the Council in general would welcome and benefit from the Committee doing the equivalent of parliamentary pre-legislative scrutiny?	Thank you for your suggestion. I think that it would be appropriate for these matters to be considered as part of the governance review.
38	<b><u>Cllr Bull</u></b>	GEN	With regards to the new Cabinet portfolios, can the Leader briefly outline her rationale for their composition and explain how they will meet the Council's priorities for the current term?	The Cabinet portfolios reflect my priorities for the year ahead and the manifesto on which the Labour Group was elected. There is greater emphasis on our one borough approach and also emerging policy areas such as sustainability.
39	<b><u>Cllr Bull</u></b>	4	Has an impact assessment been done following the announcement that no new bids will be accepted for the FJF ( <a href="http://campaigns.dwp.gov.uk/campaigns/futurejobsfund/index.asp">http://campaigns.dwp.gov.uk/campaigns/futurejobsfund/index.asp</a> )	Haringey Council is currently leading on Future Jobs Fund bid to create 221 across Haringey for unemployed people. The Department for Work and Pensions has confirmed that funding of up to £1.4m to create these 221 jobs will still be forthcoming. Delivery of the Council's bid will continue up to March 2011. Haringey is one of the few projects to maintain all its funding. To date, 68 people have been placed into FJF jobs and the next milestone is to have an additional 98 people in post by the end of July.
40	<b><u>Cllr Bull</u></b>	7	Can the Committee be given an update on the 'back office function/support services' review that was started sometime ago?	The Support Functions Review was undertaken to review the costs of those services supporting the delivery of frontline services pinpointing where activities are duplicated between the corporate centre and services and identify opportunities to make efficiencies.  The current reviews underway are Public Information and Communication (Marcoms) function and the Policy and Performance functions. Further reviews are being developed as part of our approach to delivering efficiency savings.

41	<b><u>Cllr Ejiiofor</u></b>	GEN	Given the significance that a clear and accurate census that clarifies how many people actually live within the borough has on central government funding for the next decade, what resources and strategies are the council utilising?	<p>The Office for National Statistics which is responsible for conducting the Census, but in 2011 they want much closer liaison arrangements with local authorities than before in order to bring local knowledge much more to the fore. We welcome the opportunity to keep ONS activities close to us and, although they will not provide any direct resource to us for the purpose, we will provide as much support as they require precisely because of the long-term implications of the results they obtain.</p> <p>ONS expects and requires that local authorities will co-operate in their task of building and accurate address database, fundamental to distribution of the Census, and much work has already been done in this field. ONS expects space to be made available for their Census Area Manager and core team which we will earmark space as they require.</p> <p>The council is in the process of setting up its own project team that will work with departmental management teams and the communications team on an action plan to encourage completion of the census returns and to help ONS push the process. Over the course of the next few months we will identify the resources that we will need to support the plan. These may include "help in kind" ranging from advertising space to CPZ passes and is particularly likely to include activities to raise awareness of the importance of completing the return with the hard to reach groups. We intend to work with the PCT on this. We intend having a close relationship with senior staff appointed to conduct the census to ensure that the best returns possible can be made – using our local knowledge.</p>
42	<b><u>Cllr Ejiiofor</u></b>	GEN	What is the Council's policy on leaving lights on in Council buildings overnight and at weekends?	The policy is that the lights are switched off. In many of the buildings sensors have been installed so that as floors become unoccupied, the lights go off automatically.
43	<b><u>Cllr Ejiiofor</u></b>	GEN	As at 1 June 2010, how many staff (in Full Time Equivalents – FTEs) did Haringey	As at May 2010, Haringey employed 4691 FTEs excluding schools based staff, of these 4383 FTEs were permanent and 307 FTEs

			employ; how many were employed on permanent contracts; How many were employed directly by the council on fixed term contracts; how many are temporary or interim staff engaged via employment agencies?	were fixed term/temporary employees. In addition there were 634 FTEs agency workers.
44	<b><u>Cllr Ejiiofor / Cllr Alexander / Cllr Bull</u></b>	GEN	How much was paid to employment agencies by the council during the year to 1 June 2010	From June 2009 May 2010, £23,450,000 was spent on agency staff through the Hays Agency Management Contract.
45	<b><u>Cllr Ejiiofor / Cllr Alexander / Cllr Bull</u></b>	GEN	What is the Council's strategy for reducing this during this financial year?	A review of agency staff is currently being undertaken. It will aim to identify reductions in spend in these areas from September 2010 with a view to achieving a £1.5m full year saving and a £0.75m in year (2010/11) saving.