Councillors Councillors Bull (Chair), Winskill (Vice-Chair), Alexander, Browne, Christophides, Diakides, Eiiofor and Engert

Co-optees: Helena Kania (LINk)Yvonne Denny (Church Education Representative, Mariatte Ezeji (Co-opted Parent Governor) Adam Dauda(Parent Governor)

Councillors: Cllr Weber, Cllr Newton, Cllr Vanier, Cllr Strickland
Officers: Kevin Bartle(Assistant Director Finance), Nicola Webb(Ho Treasury Management and Pensions), Claire Kowalska(Community Safety Manager), Lyn Garner(Director of Place and Sustainability) Marc Dorfman(Assistant Director for Planning, Regeneration and Economy) Beverley Tarka(Head of service for Learning Disabilities Adults) Phil Di Leo(Head of Services to Children & Young People with Additional Needs & Disabilities)Rob Mack (Senior Policy Officer) Ayshe Simsek(Committee Clerk)

MINUTE NO.

SUBJECT/DECISION

OSCO87.	WEBCASTING
	Due to technical difficulties it was not possible to announce, with certainty, that the meeting would be web cast. Officers would endeavour to obtain a transmission after the start of the meeting and therefore members were asked to keep this in mind when asking questions and presenting issues.
OSCO88.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
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	Apologies for absence were received from Sandra Young and apologies for lateness from Cllr Ejiofor.
OSCO89.	URGENT BUSINESS
	There were no items of urgent business to consider.
OSCO90.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
	Cllr Gail Engert declared a personal interest in agenda item 10, scrutiny review on the support to workless young people aged 16-24, as a close family relative worked for the Government's Education department.
OSCO91.	DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/QUESTIONS
	There were no deputations, petitions, presentations or questions for the Committee to consider.
OSCO92.	CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS - CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES

The Committee received a brief overview of the Cabinet Member Portfolio for Communities and noted that the key priorities were: reducing crime in the Borough, reducing repeat offending, increasing public confidence & satisfaction with community services and preparation for the Olympics. This involved continuing with the cross border co -operation with Enfield Council to tackle crime, reflecting changes in delivery of services following public consultation exercises, taking forward the successful strategy on dealing with drugs and alcohol abuse, holding the Police to their commitment of 3 hours of visible policing a day and working with them on their new cluster arrangements for policing in the borough.

In response to questions and clarifications sought by the Committee the following was noted:

- In the coming days Members would notice an increase of 150 Police officers in Enfield, Haringey and Hackney that would be working closely to apprehend the perpetrators involved in the recent shooting of a young Turkish man at Turnpike Lane station. The increased number of Police officers would also aid the feeling of security in the Green Lanes area, as there were concerns from the local community about reprisal incidents. The Cabinet Member for Communities would ensure that local ward Councillors and local secondary schools were aware of the increased Police presence.
- The Kirkin report on the disturbances in Tottenham would be published in the coming days and it was anticipated that questions on the decision making processes and strategies, used to deal with the disturbances, would be answered in this report.
- Officers were in the process of analysing the results of the first two rounds of Area Forum meetings. This would include assessing the key topics that attracted people to the meetings. Early comments were that participants liked the workshop style sessions run at the September meetings to discuss the disturbances in Tottenham. Committee members had differing expectations about the numbers of people that should be attending the Area Forum meetings. Some members felt that a smaller number of people attending the meetings was not a negative response from the community. Often the people attending were representative of resident or community groups and would provide a collective view to the meeting and also give feedback from the meeting to their respective groups. Whilst other members felt that there was a need to draw a wider pool of local people to the meetings to discuss local issues.
- The Cabinet Member acknowledged that the new Localism Bill could have an impact on how the Area Forums planned to engage and work with people in the local communities .The Forums were work in progress and would strive to engage a wider range of participants at meetings.
- The Chair highlighted some discrepancies in the Cabinet Performance report for the Community Safety Manger to be aware of: the performance baseline data for anti social behaviour, LSI 1, serious acquisitive crime

reported in Appendix 2 which showed that there were 19.1 cases per 1000 residents. These areas in the report would be examined and rectified if required.

 The Vice Chair communicated the change of venue for the launch of the citizen's response to the Tottenham disturbances. This was not Bruce Grove Youth Centre but Tottenham Town Hall.

RESOLVED that the following actions be delegated to the appropriate directorate/ officers:

- The Police were currently consulting with the community about the priorities for the Safer Neighbourhood Teams. In this process it had been communicated that Burglary did not fit the criteria for selection as an SNT priority. There was concern about this approach as burglary was regularly highlighted by residents as a key concern. The Cabinet Member agreed to check the communication regarding the choice of local SNT priorities with the Police and respond on this to members of the Committee after the meeting. (Action 92.1) Cllr Engert
- It was agreed that data on acquisitive crime (this is crime affecting personal and home property) be provided to members of the Committee on a ward by ward basis. (**Action92.2**) *Cllr Engert*
- Information was sought on the plans for lighting renewal in the borough and whether there were external funding sources available as improved street lighting could help deter crime. (Action 92.3) Cllr Engert
- The Cabinet Member for Communities agreed to take back comments to the Borough Commander on the particular good work and engagement with young people achieved by a Sergeant Hannah who had recently been moved from his post in the community to the central Police station at Tottenham. Although it was accepted that there would be movement of Police officers around different posts, this sergeant had, over the last five years, been particularly effective in the local area and built up vital trust with youngsters in his area. There was a strong feeling that his work in the ward should continue. (Action 92.4) Yvonne Denny
- Clarification was sought on the responsibility for security around the Blake Road and Alexandra Road allotments following a recent spate of breakins. There was also information sought on what could be done to secure the area around these allotments. The Cabinet Member for Communities agreed to report back in this issue. (Action 92.5) Cllr Alexander
- The Chair spoke about the difficulty of ward Councillors accessing Neighbourhood Watch meetings and therefore participating in them. This was due to the level of security around data concerning the meetings. The Head of Community Safety agreed to raise this issue at the next meeting with the Police Co-ordinator for Neighbourhood Watch.(Action 92.6) Chair

- The Cabinet Member for Communities agreed to respond back on the reductions in funding for signage (Action 92.7) Cllr Newton
- Information was sought on the number of Stop and Search's, completed by Police officers, which resulted in an outcome i.e. (prosecution, warning, and sentence). It was noted that there were statistics available on the profile of people that were stopped and searched and this information would be used to commission engagement work with young people most likely to be stopped and searched. Currently outcomes were not included in the data pool and the Committee requested that this information was included in future to provide members with confidence that Stop and Search's were being carried out with good reason.(Action 92.8) Cllr Newton
- It was further reported that residents were being asked to help compile the top three priorities for their local SNT's based on perception and not data. The rationale behind this approach was speculated by officers to be connected to the recent British Crime Survey results which showed that only 30% of crime was recorded. Therefore the presumption was that local police teams were trying to capture what was happening locally that was of concern to people. Overall it was felt prudent to shorten the gap between what is recorded as a crime and what the community feel and see as a crime. The Cabinet Member for Communities agreed to obtain guidance about how the both data and perception can be used to compile SNT priorities. (Action 92.9) Helena Kania
- The Cabinet Member for Communities had reported, in her presentation, that there would be an additional 50 Police Officers allocated to the borough and it was agreed that she would seek further clarification on their reporting lines.(Action 92.10) Cllr Diakides

OSCO93. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT

The Committee considered a presentation on the Council's responsibility for treasury management. Members were responsible for setting the rules for the borrowing and the investment of the Council's cash. This treasury management role included:

- Following CIPFA guidance,
- Setting prudential indicators (limits for borrowing and investing),
- Taking an assessment of the risks
- Having a strategy for borrowing,
- Deciding the types of investments the Council will make to keep money accessible but with a return at the same time.
- Monitoring and setting investment limits relating to surplus cash,
- Dealing with maturing debt in a cost effective way.
- Deciding on a list of counterparties that the Council will invest with (The Council will obtain external advice from treasury management advisors when compiling this list)

The Corporate Committee were responsible for formulating the Treasury Management Strategy and had decided at their meeting in January that they wanted further information on the non UK banks proposed for investment in and a wider picture on the use being made of existing counterparty institutions.

In response to the presentation the following information was provided to members of OSC:

- The national line is that Councillors need to be more informed about the treasury management activities of the Council and there are specialist advisors to provide advice and guidance when recommendations are being compiled for members to consider. The Council's advisors for the past 3 years have been Arlingclose. As, part of obtaining this role, they had been able to demonstrate previous advice provided to their clients on the need to withdraw monies from the Icelandic banks in 2008. Apart from monitoring credit reference agency ratings, there were also a number of other practical methods used to assess the credit worthiness of financial institutions. These were: Credit Default Swap Prices, Share Prices, Macro-economic indicators, Net debt as % of GDP for countries, Sovereign Support Mechanisms and Corporate Developments.
- The current policy was to make good effective use of the Council's cash balances through investment in Money Market accounts and borrowing from other local authorities as these offered a higher rate of return than savings accounts.
- As yet there were not recommendations formulated on how the Council would take forward borrowing for housing stock in the future. Although, the Council were to have £232m of HRA debt written off, in return it was anticipated that the Council and other local authorities my not get future subsidy for housing.
- Understanding on the Corporate Committee's position to withhold lending to non UK counterparty institutions was sought and comparisons between the Council's and other local authority treasury management activities. It was noted that not all local authorities had the same strategy for lending and borrowing and there were too many different examples to make a comparison. The Corporate Committee had asked officers to withhold investments in non UK banks until March so that they could consider a report on the banks and money markets accounts used in the last 12 months. This was to enable them to get a better picture of the scale of money invested on a daily scale and give the Committee more understanding about the exposure to risk. This approach by the Corporate Committee was not detrimental to the investment policy of the Council as there was sufficient flexibility allowed for by the use of Money Market accounts. Following Corporate Committee's consideration of the use of banks in March there was still the opportunity to go back to full Council, later in March, to update the strategy.
- In response to the question on the Council's ratio of borrowing to income the MRP (minimum revenue provision) was the amount of money the

Council needed to set aside each year to pay off debt and this was externally set.

RESOLVED

That the report & presentation be noted and the following actions be delegated to the appropriate directorate/ officers:

- It was agreed that the Assistant Director for Finance would check what the credit rating of the Icelandic banks had been before they had became insolvent and provide this information to the Committee.(Action 93.1)Cllr Ejiofor
- It was agreed that the Assistant Director for Finance provide all Members
 of the Council a briefing note, in plain English, containing guidance on the
 lines of responsibility for treasury management policy and, in particular,
 any personal or collective liability that Members may have for making
 decisions on counterparty financial institutions to invest money in. This
 should be distributed before the Council meeting on the 28th February.
 (Action 93.2) Chair/Cllr Browne

OSCO94. CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS - CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC INVESTMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION AND PLANNING

The Cabinet Member for Economic Investment, Social Inclusion and Planning joined the meeting and gave an overview of the key projects being worked on in his portfolio area. Key recent developments were the successful negotiations between the Council and the GLA, culminating in a £41m regeneration package for Tottenham. Also Tottenham Hotspur Football Club were now committed to staying in the borough and redeveloping their ground following negotiations with the Council and GLA. The Cabinet Member for Economic Investment, Social Inclusion and Planning was committed to ensuring that there was a consistent coherent regeneration of the Tottenham area. There would be a report to the Cabinet meeting, on the 7th February, setting out the priorities for Tottenham which included an initial indicative list of requirements for the area with information on the process to achieve them and a map of what will happen over the coming year. Following this report, the Council would launch a master planning exercise for Tottenham which will further initiate detailed consultations on the proposals for the Tottenham area with the public and partners.

The Cabinet Member for Economic Investment, Social Inclusion and Planning further spoke of the Leisure externalisation process which was at the competitive dialogue stage and development of community hubs with wrap around services.

The following information was noted in response to questions

• The Tottenham Hotspur Football Club planning application was due to be considered by the Planning Committee on the 13th February and the papers were available for public view. They contained an indication that space was allocated for health, education and a supermarket but as yet there were no details on who was proposed to be placed in these spaces. Previous section 106 funding agreements between the football club and

Council were proposed to the Planning Committee for revision. This would enable the redevelopment of the stadium and draw in £400m of investment to the area. The Committee were asked to note that, before reaching this agreement with Tottenham Hotspur Football club, the Council had commissioned specialist advice which concluded that the Club had a financial plan that had a reasonable prospect of supporting a viable and implementable development in the Northumberland Park area and with the Council's public investment had the potential to lever in further wider investment into the area.

- In response to a question about the how the Area Forums take forward the neighbourhood plans, which are part of the localism act, this was quite a broad issue and there were a number of different officers leading on the different areas of the localism act. The Assistant Director for Planning, Economy and Regeneration was leading on Neighbourhood plans and they were examining the Highgate cross Neighbourhood Forum.
- In terms of planning enforcement, the Committee were asked to keep in mind the severe reduction in officers working in this area of work. Although the annual monitoring report was indicating that the service was meeting its targets for planning enforcement despite this. There was an acknowledgement that there were different types of planning enforcement issues faced in each area of the borough and the AD for Planning, Economy and Regeneration would be speaking further with the Leader of the Council about further funding for planning enforcement. There were examples of enforcement action going to Regulatory Committee as timing was a key element in pursuing cases which could be checked outside of the meeting.
- In relation to making sure that unemployment is tackled alongside the regeneration in Tottenham, it was crucial to invest in infrastructure. Although transport links in the area were good there was still a need to improve the frequency of trains passing through Tottenham over ground stations to get people to work. The Cabinet Member along with colleagues in Enfield would be trying to influence train contractors, in the next contract renewal process in early 2012, to make their trains stop more frequently in Tottenham and Enfield. There was also investment due in the Tottenham Hale Gyratory, Tottenham Hale station and its bus stops.
- In relation to housing in Tottenham, feedback from local people showed that a stronger mix of housing stock together with improvements to existing housing stocks was wanted.
- The report on tackling worklessness was to be considered at the March Cabinet and would contain information about funding from the New Jobs fund being used to tackle worklessness in Tottenham. The Cabinet report took forward the recommendations from the previous Scrutiny review on the Haringey Guarantee.

- There were plans to make 639 High Road an employment skills hub which was visible and accessible to small businesses. There was also a need to take account of the emerging cultural industries in Tottenham and enable them to expand. Their presence in an area was an indicator of sustainability.
- Planning applications from Carpet Right and Aldi were expected to be considered by the Planning Committee which would bring in regeneration and jobs to the local area.
- The Cabinet Member for Economic Investment, Social Inclusion and Planning was meeting each month with the AD for Planning, Economy and Regeneration to examine the planning applications coming through and where planning powers could be used to enable applications that will bring employment, to the area, to progress to the Committee. A report to Cabinet in March would also look at procurement and the support to local businesses to maximise upon local opportunities for contracts.
- The Child Poverty strategy was in the process of being refreshed and the aim was to improve the co-ordination between the child poverty strategy and the social inclusion strategy as they were interlinked.
- A member of the Committee spoke of the need for the Council having a clear position on the regeneration of the St Ann's Hospital site. The Chair advised the Cabinet Member about the benefit of having a steering group to co-ordinate and provide a political steer to the development of this site.

RESOLVED that the following actions be delegated to the appropriate directorate/ officers:

- Following the approval of funding for Tottenham High Road Regeneration by the Mayor and the late approval of town centre funding for Green Lanes, the Cabinet Member For Economic Investment and Social Inclusion and Planning was happy to meet with the Muswell Hill Traders to explain the circumstances behind the funding approval for Green Lanes and the priority given to Tottenham High Road. He further offered to discuss with Cllr Engert the suggested use of the land behind Muswell Hill Library and its capital funding position. (Action 94.1) Cllr Engert
- The Cabinet Member Economic Investment and Social Inclusion and Planning agreed to meet with Bruce Grove Councillors to discuss in more detail how to improve the area around Bruce Grove market.(Action 94.2) Cllr Ejiofor

The Chair thanked the Cabinet Member Economic Investment and Social

Inclusion and Planning for attending the meeting. He had provided vital assurance and clarity about the regeneration work in Tottenham.

OSCO95. | SCRUTINY REVIEW UPDATE - SUPPORT TO SMALL BUSINESSES

At this point in the meeting, the Chair passed the chairmanship to the Vice chair, for consideration of this item, and briefly vacated the meeting.

The Committee considered how actions had been progressed from the Scrutiny review into the support of small business completed in 2010.

Cllr Winskill raised a number of key concerns about the timeliness, interpretation and implementation of recommendations arising from the review into support to small businesses. The Assistant Director for Planning, Regeneration and Economy contended that there had been a good response from the service to recommendations of the review and offered to go through the report and explain further on the actions being taken forward.

RESOLVED

That Cllr Winskill and the Assistant Director for Planning, Regeneration and Economy meet outside the Committee meeting to discuss further the report.(Action 95.1) Cllr Winskill

OSCO96. WORKLESSNESS

The Chair returned to the meeting and resumed chairmanship.

The Committee discussed the timing of a proposed review into support to workless young people aged 16-24. It was recommended that the Committee await the implementation of the Youth Strategy and Worklessness strategy (being considered by Cabinet in March) before undertaking a review. It was accepted by Committee members that Scrutiny had the role of scrutinising policies that were already in operation and they could better add value by examining the outcomes arising from the policies to tackle worklessness in a year's time. There was also an equal feeling that worklessness was a current high profile issue in ward areas and some Committee members did not feel comfortable deferring a review on this. Some community practices for getting local young people into jobs were shared and there was a feeling that, individually, members had a responsibility, at this time, to make a contribution to supporting young people into work.

The Chair felt it was unfortunate the report on worklessness had not been available for the February Cabinet meeting as considering the report may have allied some concerns of OSC members. The Cabinet Member for Economic Investment, Social inclusion, and Planning advised the Committee that the previous scrutiny review into the Haringey Work Guarantee had been a source of reference for the Cabinet report on tackling worklessness. The Chair did not

want to take forward a pre call in of the decision as this would be a call on officer resources. He suggested O&S members considering the report in a private session. The Cabinet member would need to take officer advice on making the report available to O&S members before the Cabinet meeting.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted and the Chair and Vice Chair be given discretion to seek a way forward for involving members of the Committee and other interested members in the consultation process for the Cabinet report on Worklessness due for consideration at the Cabinet meeting on the 20th March 2012. (Action 96.1) Chair

OSCO97. SCRUTINY REVIEW UPDATE - TRANSITIONS FROM CHILDREN TO ADULTS

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee received an update on the recommendations made in the Overview and Scrutiny Review of Transition from Children to Adult services. There had been a concerted effort on joint working between multi agencies, private and independent sector to make the transition for children and their families from the Children's service to the Adult's service as seamless as possible. The work of the Transition Board had been recognised by the National Transitions Programme.

Part of the service's work following the review included:

- Ensuring that the outcomes of the pathway were driven by what does a good service look like for a young person and their family?
- An annual information evening for over 14 year olds and their parents with SEN (Special Educational Needs) to aid becoming aware of the pathways available into adult services. The next Transition Fair would take place on 23 February 2012 11.00am at Tottenham Hotspur Football club and would involve 35 service providers coming along to talk to families about the services available.
- Twenty Five young adults with complex disabilities had taken part in a work experience programme with 15 young adults living outside the borough also participating in a mentoring programme.

The Overview and scrutiny were pleased with the progress of actions being taken forward since the review and noted the following information:

- In relation to working with Health on pathways for young people with mental health issues, since the review here had been significant changes in personnel, for both the Council and Health, however criteria had been compiled which would help ensure that vulnerable young adults were identified and progressed through the mental health pathway. An update on this work could be provided after the meeting.
- Web links between the Adults General Directory and Transition Zone

were in development and would be available at the end of April.

- The Head of Services to Children & Young People with Additional Needs & Disabilities offered to speak with Helena Kania after the meeting about the work of the 14plus panel and further elucidate on how heath, education and social care teams share information and have a holistic approach to the services provided to a young person.
- The funding conditions, supplied by the YPLA, for supporting specialist education placements in 2013/14 was still awaited. The local authority were working to the previous funding conditions and would continue to closely monitor this situation.
- Linking services to the young adult, including employment support services would be part of the pathway compiled for the young person progressing from Children's to Adult services.
- There were 19 referrals to the mentoring scheme of which 15 young took up a place on the scheme.
- There was interest about the provision for children / young people with long term severe disabilities that were entering adulthood. This was recognised as a growing cohort and the Committee requested information about: available future provision, the scale of services required their likely needs and number. (Action 97.1) Cllr Winskill

RESOLVED

- i. That Adult services, and Children and Young People's service be commended for their efforts in taking forward and implementing the findings of the scrutiny review.
- ii. That the report should be referred to as an example of good practice when services are providing a report back on a scrutiny review.

OSCO98. FEEDBACK FROM CHAIRS OF AREA COMMITTEES

The Committee noted that there was an Area Forum Chair's meeting on Thursday 09th February at 6.00pm.

Issues that were likely to be raised were:

- Response to the Muswell Hill Area Committee resolution on fortnightly collections.
- How the area forums function

OSCO99.	MINUTES
	RESOLVED
	That the minutes of Overview and Scrutiny held on the 12 th and 14 December be agreed as a correct record of the meeting.
OSCO100.	NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS
	None
OSCO101.	FUTURE MEETINGS
	The Chair advised Committee Members that there would be an additional Overview and Scrutiny meeting on the 20 th February starting at 5.30pm with Health partners at the Civic Centre, Committee rooms 1& 2. The current health items were: Draft Health Infrastructure Plan, GP Consortia Update, The Laurels, Whittington Health Update, and Whittington Foundation Trust Application. There was also a Scrutiny Review into Registered Housing to be considered.
OSCO102.	SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ACTIONS REQUESTED
	Noted

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Chair

The meeting ended at
Councillor
Chair
SIGNED AT MEETINGDAY
OF
CHAID