



Haringey Council

Report for:	Environment & Housing Scrutiny Panel 26 th September 2013	Item Number:	14
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Title:	Work programme – development and monitoring
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Report Authorised by:	Cllr Stuart McNamara Chair, Environment & Housing Scrutiny Panel
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Lead Officer:	Martin Bradford, Scrutiny Officer, Strategy & Business Intelligence Martin.bradford@haringey.gov.uk
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Ward(s) affected: All	Report for Key/Non Key Decisions:
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1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 This is a report to support discussions by the Environment & Housing Scrutiny Panel in updating and monitoring its 2013/14 work programme.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1 Not applicable.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The panel are requested to:
- 1) To note the work programme report.
 - 2) Consider upcoming Cabinet decisions relevant to this panel and raise any questions as it sees fit.
 - 3) To agree any updates and confirm the future work programme for the remainder of 2013/14.

4. Other options considered

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5. Background information

- 5.1 The work programme is a fixed item on the agenda of each Environment and Housing Scrutiny Panel meeting to enable members to develop a forward plan of work and to monitor agreed actions.

- 5.2 This report has been produced to support discussions by the Environment & Housing Scrutiny Panel in updating and monitoring its 2013/14 work programme. This being the first meeting of the panel, an overview of the work programme formulation to date has also been included.

Environment & Housing Scrutiny Panel work programme development

- 5.3 Members, residents, community groups and officers from both the Council and its partners were consulted as part of the scrutiny work programme development process. As a result, some indicative priorities were obtained (Appendix A) as well as specific suggestions for in depth review (Appendix B).
- 5.4 Following further discussions with senior officers and relevant Cabinet members, the Environment & Housing Scrutiny Panel agreed a number of projects for its work programme for 2013/14 which were subsequently endorsed by Overview & Scrutiny Committee on June 17th 2013. These are summarised below.

Title	Detail
Integrated enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ An audit of enforceable functions of both the Council and its partners;▪ Establish criteria for enforceable actions (for example, public safety, costs, public interest);▪ Identify how protocols, partnership working, data sharing and information sharing among enforcement services.
Community engagement with planning and licensing process	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Provide an assessment of the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which is a statutory requirement;▪ Provide comparative assessments of other SCIs from other authorities that may guide and inform policy and practice locally▪ Will contribute to the overall Development Management Improvement Programme
Performance of Registered Social Landlords	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Progress report on the implementation of recommendations from a previous scrutiny review (February 2012)▪ Performance of RSLs in respect of repairs and void turnarounds▪ RSLs communication with tenants regarding impact of welfare changes

Cabinet Member Question and Answer sessions

- 5.5 Under agreed scrutiny protocols, Cabinet Members will be invited to attend relevant scrutiny panels twice each year to discuss issues within their portfolio area. The format of Cabinet Q and A is not prescribed and can be varied according to local agreement between the Chair and Cabinet member. There is an assumption however, that questions will not be submitted (or answers provided) in advance of panel meetings.
- 5.6 Cabinet Members whose portfolio area that is covered by the Environment and Housing Scrutiny Panel are:
- Cabinet Member for the Environment
 - Cabinet Member for Housing.

- 5.7 Appropriate Cabinet Members have been invited to attend the Environment & Housing Scrutiny Panel and will be scheduled in to the forward plan (as detailed in Appendix C).

Budget Scrutiny

- 5.8 The budget is scrutinised by each Scrutiny Review Panel in their respective areas and subsequent reports produced from their deliberations go to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for approval. The areas of the budget which are not covered by the scrutiny panels shall also be considered by the main Overview & Scrutiny Committee. As per protocol, the Vice Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee shall be responsible for the co-ordination of the Budget Scrutiny process.
- 5.9 To allow the OSC to scrutinise the budget in advance of it formally being set and convey those recommendations to the Cabinet, the following timescale is suggested:

26th June 2013	Government Spending Review
26th September 2013	Financial Planning (Budget) Monitoring: Cabinet 10 th September 2013 Budget monitoring of areas under the Environment and Housing Scrutiny Panel will take place at the next meeting
December 2013	Draft Medium Term Financial Plan released
2nd December 2013	EHSP to scrutinise MTFP and any budget saving identified in its area of responsibility. Cabinet Members / Snr. officers attend to respond to panel questions
Dec 2013- Jan 2014	Formulation of reports with recommendations by Scrutiny Officers
23rd January 2014	Final Budget Scrutiny Report approved by OSC
11th February	OSC recommendations from the Budget Scrutiny process, ratified by the OSC, referred to Cabinet. As part of the budget setting process, the Cabinet will clearly set out its response to the recommendations/ proposals made by the OSC in relation to the budget.
26th February	Budget setting at Full Council

Performance Monitoring

- 5.10 A Corporate Performance report is presented to Cabinet in July and it is expected that this will also be considered by relevant panels at the next available meeting in September.

Standing items

- 5.11 There are also a number of standing items for the agenda of scrutiny panels which will feature on all agendas:

- Feedback from area chairs: opportunity for Chairs of Area Committee to relay issues of concern to the panel
- Work programming - monitoring and development.

Cabinet Forward Plan

5.12 In considering its future work plan, the Environment and Housing Scrutiny Panel may wish to consider or note the Forward Plan (future decisions taken by the Cabinet). Items or decisions to be taken by Cabinet which may be of relevance to the panel are given below.

Cabinet Date	Item - decision	
15/10/13	Quarter 1 Performance Report.	The report will provide an overview of the Councils performance for Q1 (2013/14)
	Management arrangements for the Housing Service.	Adjustments to the management of Community Housing Services and Homes for Haringey and to the service and functional responsibilities of the two organisations.
	Consultation for Parking in the North Tottenham Area.	A report from the consultation undertaken in 4 wards. The report will summarise community responses and make recommendations.
	Revised house extensions in South Tottenham, - Supplementary Planning Document.	A revised Supplementary Planning Guide to set out and clarify principles for house extensions (particularly in relation to roof extensions and quality of build).
	Declaration of Article for 4 Direction for small houses in multiple occupation in all east Haringey wards.	A report of a consultation on the consultation and to seek Cabinet agreement to make Article for 4 Direction effective from 30 th November 2013 in the following wards: Seven Sisters, Tottenham Green, Tottenham Hale, West Green, Bruce Grove, White Hart Lane, Northumberland Park, Woodside, Bounds Green.
	Disposal of Western Road Depot, N22	Disposal of land and building to North London Waste Authority for use as Reuse and Recycling Centre.
	Winter Service Plan 2013/14 review	To approve proposed amendments to the Winter Service Plan for 2013/14.
	Appropriation of former site managers houses,	To seek Cabinet approval for appropriation of former site managers houses (Boyton Road N8, Glendish Road N17, Gladstone Avenue N22 to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and land in the HRA to Children and Young Persons.
	20 m.p.h. report	To feedback to members on the responses received in relation to the public consultation on the introduction of a 20 m.p.h. speed limit in the borough.
	Major Works Contractor Framework	The appointment of four contractors to deliver capital works programme through Major Works Framework.

12/11/13	Parking Loyalty Scheme	To seek approval for proposals to support the development of commercial town centres through discounted parking arrangements.
	Housing Investment and Estate Renewal Strategy	Report seeks Cabinet approval on the Housing Investment and Estate Renewal Strategy and to consult on taking forward estate renewal and council new build.

6. Comments of the Chief Financial Officer and Financial Implications

- 6.1 The costs of preparing this report have been met from within existing budgets. It is expected that undertaking Scrutiny reviews will largely involve contributions from existing staff and thus can be contained within current budgets, if additional expenditure is required to undertake reviews then appropriate authority should be received before spend takes place.

7. Head of Legal Services and Legal Implications

- 7.1 The Head of Legal Services has been consulted on this report.
- 7.2 Scrutiny panels are non-decision making bodies and the work programme and any subsequent reports and recommendations that each panel produces must be approved by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee. Such reports can then be referred to Cabinet or Council under agreed protocols.
- 7.3 There are no other legal implications arising from this report.

8. Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments

- 8.1 Overview and scrutiny has a strong community engagement role and aims to regularly involve local stakeholders, including residents, in its work. It seeks to do this through:
- Helping to articulate the views of members of the local community and their representatives on issues of local concern
 - Bringing local concerns to the attention of decision makers and incorporate them into policies and strategies
 - Identifying and engaging with hard to reach groups
 - Helping to develop consensus by seeking to reconcile differing views and developing a shared view of the way forward
 - Generating evidence to help identify the kind of services wanted by local people
 - Promoting openness and transparency; all meetings are held in public and documents are available to local people.
- 8.2 A number of engagement processes will be used to support the work of the Environment & Housing Scrutiny Panel and members will seek to include representation from a broad representation of local stakeholders. It is expected that any equalities issues identified during this process, will be highlighted and addressed in the conclusions and recommendations of individual reports produced by the panel.

9. Head of Procurement Comments

9.1 Not applicable.

10. Policy Implications

10.1 Recommendations for any policy developments arising from the work of the Environment and Housing Scrutiny Panel are agreed by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee before submission to Cabinet for approval.

11. Use of Appendices

11.1 The following appendices are included:

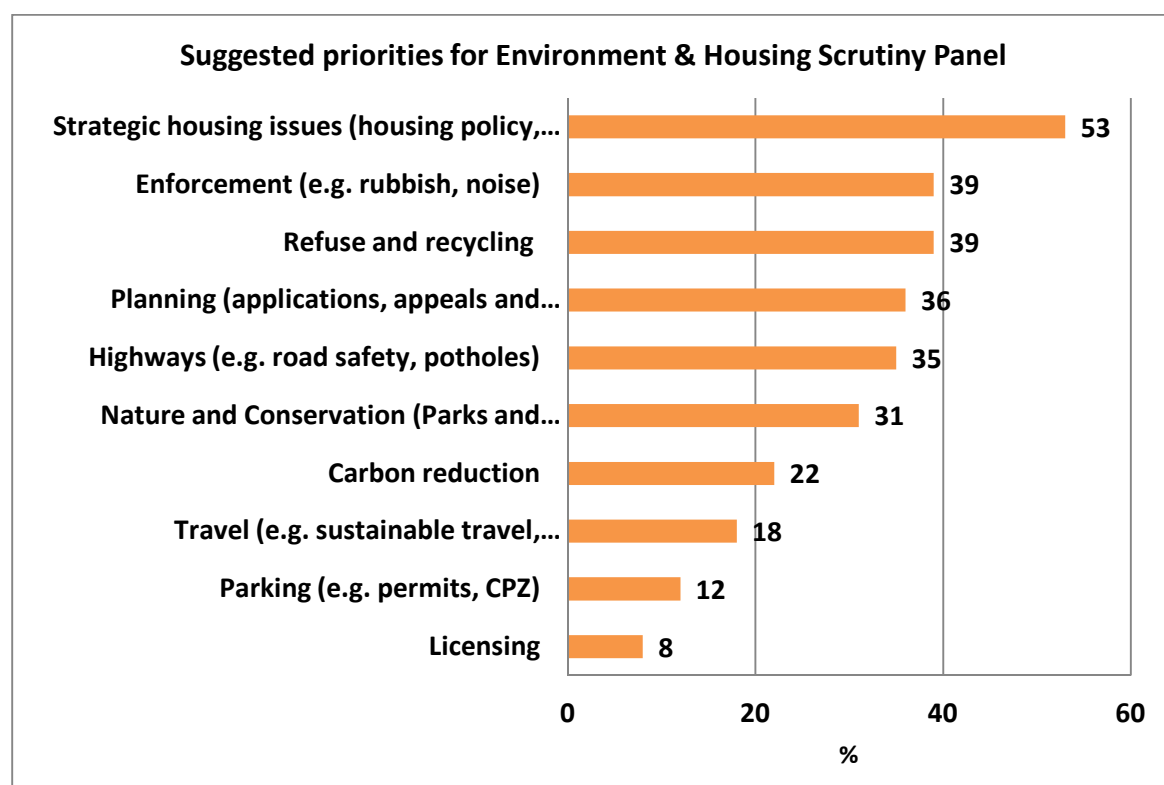
Appendix A – Suggested Priorities for Environment & Housing Scrutiny Panel

Appendix B – Suggestions for EHSP scrutiny panel

Appendix C – The draft forward plan for the Environment and Housing Scrutiny Panel.

12. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Appendix A – Suggested priorities for the Environmental and Housing Scrutiny Panel from the on-line survey



Appendix B – Suggestions for Environment & Housing Scrutiny Panel – by area

HOUSING		
Source	Full detail	Summary
A member of a community group or voluntary group (details provided)	Housing & homelessness as it affects every other area of residents' lives	Homelessness
A member of a community group or voluntary group	Increase in access to good quality affordable local housing for young adults with a local connection.	Housing Supply
A local resident (details provided)	Personally speaking, as a Reed Road resident, it would be useful if you look into your gardening services on estates. overall they are good and seem to have improved recently but the approach can be heavy handed, with an emphasis on 'clearing away' greenery, eg mature trees cut down with inadequate consultation, mature jasmine cleared out of flat garden when tenants changed, ivy disguising a concrete wall being removed, etc etc. These not only lead to a significant loss of habitat but reduce the attractiveness and sense of well being in an area. New tree planting that has taken place is welcome, but would have appreciated more consultation on species. To note that upper floor flats are just as affected by the state of a garden as ground floor flats.	Estate management (green environment)
A member of a residents association	Make empty Council building faster available, for them be in need. Not covered for over 3Mths. (e.g.38 Gospatrick Road). Is imported for the living around this houses, let the area down!	Empty housing
A local resident and both a member of a local community group and residents association.	Another is repairs with regards to housing, tenanted or leasehold, is appalling where there s lack of oversight, lack of photographic evidence of the job being done, lack of procedure to get quotes and involve the tenants or leaseholders before the work is done, high cost invoiced, complete lack of accountability. Please, please, please ensure a works clerk signs off and surveyor oversees works to residential dwellings. Repairs workmen should be accountable and be paid a salary, and a bonus AFTER satisfactory work is done and evidenced via photographic evidence (where appropriate) that can be put on a memory stick, disc or flickr website, and given to a supervisor. Repairs cost to the Council as well as to leaseholders is horrendous, along with works that aren't done but invoiced for, bad workmanship, lack of any consultation with residents, and high invoicing. This includes all	Housing repairs service

	property repairs, electrical and drains external and I would hazard a guess, internal tenants' dwellings. V expensive way to run this, but someone is benefitting, not sure who. Further the repairs have around 36% management charge included in the charge given out by HfH! Another issue is void properties, residential or commercial, I m sure you are onto this, but can someone obtain a list of where they are and tackle refurbishing them to provide much needed housing, and cut down the temp accommodation bill.	
A member of a community group or voluntary group	What bothers me a lot is the negligence of private landlords. As long as the rent is being paid, they are happy. As a neighbour of a road full of private tenants I am not happy. The gardens are turning into sycamore forests covered in bindweed and ivy. The encroaching trees block light and will eventually do damage to foundations. The front gardens are very often concreted over to avoid maintenance, thereby adding to excess water run-off in wet periods.	Private rented sector (management)
A local resident and a member of a community group and residents association (details provided)	Private landlords charging high rents; because of housing benefit cuts families are being re-housed into smaller units and landlords of purpose built family homes are maintaining their high rents by dividing these properties into flats or bedsits. This is bad for communities and social cohesion.	Private rented sector (subdivision of properties)
A representative of a local public service	links between housing and health. It's a big agenda nationally and we don't appear to be doing anything locally.	Links between housing and health.
A local resident	The prioritisation process used in the allocation of housing resources. My concern being that long-time Haringey residents should be given priority over people moving into the borough	Allocations policy
A local resident	I would like empty or derelict houses to be looked at in the borough to see if they can be refurbished for social housing	Empty housing
A representative of a local public service	Empty Homes in Haringey - how many are there and what is being put in place to reduce this. ASB	Empty housing
Local Councillor (details provided)	HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS RAISING RENTS IN BREACH OF THEIR LEGAL AGREEMENT WITH THE HOMES AND COMMUNITIES AGENCY WHICH PROVIDED FUNDING TO ENSURE THAT THESE RENT INCREASES COULD BE AVOIDED.	Housing Associations (rents)
LICENSING & PLANNING		
A local resident (details	a) Licensing b) the function seeks not to engage residents sufficiently (e.g. poor consultation, old fashioned mechanisms like notices in windows) c)	Licensing (community engagement)

provided)	residents often don't realise the potential implications of licenses being granted or that they can recommend restrictions to licenses which could meet the best interests of residents and license-seeker.	
A local resident (details provided)	Building Planning appears to be getting out of control - there is less rigour around planning applications and there needs to be more not less. Also control of builders is a real issue with lots of unpermitted development and breaking the regulations going on. Haringey should adopt a builder's code of practice like Westminster Council and this should be enforced.	Planning (control and regulations)
A member of a community group or voluntary group (details provided)	a) In Conservation Areas b) Planning enforcement (i.e., enforcement where planning conditions have been ignored or broken)and the publication of better guides on good design, area appraisals etc. c) many people welcome and enjoy living in Conservation Areas, but feel frustrated that the council offers so little guidance and support to local residents.	Planning enforcement and Conservation areas
PARKS, GREEN SPACE, NATURE, CONSERVATION		
A member of a community group or voluntary group	The preservation and maintenance of parks and open spaces may seem a strange priority, but when people are under pressure it is particularly important that they have spaces where they can go, meet, let the children play and relax, but such facilities tend to get neglected in difficult times and it takes years to remedy the effects, so please don't let them decay AGAIN, we have been through this before.	Parks (maintenance and well being)
A member of a community group or voluntary group (details provided)	Conservation of open spaces and prevention of land being used for 'luxury, high priced housing' where there is no real need for it. An example of this the Fortis Green Reservoir land where the present plans were opposed by over 500 letters and supported by 19, but the plans were given the 'go ahead' by the council planning committee.	Land development (community consultation)
A local resident and a member of a community group.	HAVE COMPLAINED OM SEVERAL OCCASIONS!!!! BUT AS USUAL NOTHING GETS HEARD OR DONE!!!! SOME THING NEEDS TO BE DONE ABOUT THE CHILDREN'S SWIMMING POOL IN PARK NEAR TO ST THOMAS MOOR SCHOOL - IT'S ALWAYS FULL OF RUBBISH!!!	Parks (pool maintenance)
A local resident and a member of a community group.	The graveyard next to Bruce Castle should be better maintained and policed- the grave stones have been smashed and near the lake i have caught kids burning wreathes and smoking pot.	Cemeteries (maintenance)
A member of a community group or voluntary group	Sustainable upkeep of parks and open spaces for the benefit of all	Parks (maintenance)
A local resident (details	Environment and open spaces: make sure they are preserved and are as good as possible since they are fundamental to our health and well-being.	Parks (maintenance)

provided)		
A local resident (details provided)	Areas such as Stationers Park should be looked at as, since government cuts, there has been a rise in graffiti, litter and, in particular dogs off leads and dog fouling. The latter is a particular concern to me because of health and safety issues associated with dog mess and dogs not in control. This is important to the community because this area is dense with families with young children and this park houses the entrance to Weston Park Primary School. There are new dog control orders but they mean nothing if there is no manpower to enforce them.	Parks (dog control, maintenance)
A local resident (details provided)	The funding of the Allotments Service to make good outstanding repairs. A recent 100% rent increase proposal to raise an additional £60,000 income has been frozen because of objections that the additional income would not be ring fenced for outstanding repairs/improvements to the Borough's 27 allotment sites. Site infrastructure such as security fencing, roadways and water supply is deteriorating due to a lack of investment. Poor security causes many tenants to give up plots. Allotments have a long local social history and are a vital community resource - preserving green space, benefiting the environment and encouraging the production of local and sustainable healthy food.	Allotments
WASTE & RECYCLING		
A local resident and a member of a community group.	I would like to make it clear how inconvenient it is that garbage trucks are picking up rubbish between 8-10am on roads coming off of Lordship Lane. I have had to sit in a queue of 15 cars at that time. I HAVE COMPLAINED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS!!!! BUT AS USUAL NOTHING GETS HEARD OR DONE!!!! The patch of land/park on great Cambridge road needs a walkers path going round it and more bins for dog refuse residents in the tower garden estate (opp lordship Rec) need to be encouraged to keep front gardens tidy as mattresses and other rubbish prevent this listed estate from looking its best - look at Hampstead Garden Suburb - a similar estate yet absolutely stunning!!!!	Waste & Recycling (front gardens, street access).
A local resident (details provided)	[1] a) How the Council can increase recycling from flats. b) To increase recycling in the borough. c) To lower the borough's carbon footprint	Recycling
A member of a community group or voluntary group (details provided)	Add flexible packaging to the items collected for recycling please.	Recycling
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, CARBON EMISSIONS		
A member of a community	The most important issue facing us all is global warming. We have set up the 40:20 commission to	Councils 40:20 commitment.

group or voluntary group	reduce carbon emissions in Haringey. The committee should review this regularly to make sure we are on target.	
A member of a community group or voluntary group (details provided)	Improving the energy efficiency of homes and businesses because this is an area where people need help to take action. It will save people money, will contribute to our progress to a low carbon future, will improve health and could create jobs. I am very concerned about our energy future.	Energy Efficiency Homes
A local resident (details provided)	2) An audit of the council's 40:20 campaign.	Councils 40:20 commitment.
A local resident	a) Adaptation to climate change risks to local well-being: the adequacy of Council policies, focusing on adaptation actions in relation to likely extreme weather impacts, and the relation between adaptation and mitigation. (Background: 1) the report by London Councils deals only with risks to council service delivery, not to the risks to wider population; 2) 20:40 initiative is a useful focus on mitigation (ie reducing emissions) but doesn't deal with 'adaptation' actions to ensure the borough remains liveable, safe and resilient to the weather impacts that are already evident let alone the more severe weather events that are increasingly likely to hit us: ie flooding and storms, drought and heat stress. Air pollution and equality: what actions are needed to give the east of the borough air quality no worse than that in the west of the borough -- in the light of the alarming health damage and reduced life expectancies associated with living in more heavily polluted air.	Councils 40:20 commitment
TRANSPORT		
A local Community group	We should like the committee to include Haringey having a 20mph speed limit on all roads. Let us know if we need to present evidence to support the request.	Transport (20mph)

Appendix C - Environment and Housing Scrutiny Panel – forward plan

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Item and lead officers</u>
26/09/13	Panel Meeting	<p><u>Cabinet Q & A</u> Cllr Bevan – Cabinet Member for Housing</p> <p><u>Budget Monitoring</u> Budget Monitoring report on service areas covered by EHSP</p> <p><u>Performance Monitoring</u> Report on service performance in areas covered by EHSP</p> <p><u>Registered Social Landlords</u> To receive an update on implementation of recommendations from housing provider review (regulation, partnership working, stock transfer)</p> <p><u>Waste and recycling</u> Update on Interim Report on Waste and Recycling from December 2012.</p> <p><u>Scoping Reports</u> Agree scoping reports for planned work</p>
Oct - Dec	Evidence gathering	<p><u>Strategic Enforcement</u> Dedicated sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council enforcement officers (x3); ▪ Partner enforcement officers; ▪ Other local authorities and specialist agencies.
12/11/13	Panel Meeting	<p><u>Community Engagement with Planning and Licensing</u> - Haringey Statement of Community Involvement (Planning Service) - Other Local Authorities Statement of Community Involvement (Scrutiny Report)</p> <p><u>Community Group Presentation</u> Groundwork</p>
2/12/13	Panel Meeting	<p><u>Budget Scrutiny</u> Consideration of proposals (savings) arising from MTFP</p>
Jan. 2014 (TBC)	Evidence gathering	<p><u>Community Engagement with Planning and Licensing</u> -Meeting with planning officers from other London boroughs (Statement of Community Involvement)</p>
28/1/14 tbc	Panel Meeting	<p><u>Cabinet Q & A</u> Cllr Strickland– Cabinet Member for Housing TBC</p>
24/02/14	Panel Meeting	<p><u>Cabinet Q & A</u> Cllr Bevan – Cabinet Member for Environment TBC</p>