

Chair:
Councillor George Meehan

Deputy Chair:
Councillor Lorna Reith

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report covers matters considered by the Cabinet at our meeting on 16 October 2007. For ease of reference the Report is divided into the Cabinet portfolios.
- 1.2 We trust that this Report will be helpful to Members in their representative role and facilitate a fruitful dialogue between the Cabinet and all groups of Councillors. These reports are a welcome opportunity for the Cabinet on a regular basis to present the priorities and achievements of the Cabinet to Council colleagues for consideration and comment. The Cabinet values and encourages the input of fellow members.

ITEM FOR DECISION

Regeneration and Enterprise

2. DEVELOPMENT OF THE UPPER LEE VISION NORTH LONDON'S WATERSIDE

- 2.1 We considered a report which proposed that Enfield, Haringey and Waltham Forest Councils work together to develop and implement a vision led approach to the Upper Lee Valley – North London's Waterside, improve co-ordination of sub-regional funding and mainstream activity and to agree a structure to undertake this.
- 2.2 This vision is designed to develop a longer term view of the area over a 20-30 year time horizon but capable of being implemented incrementally as opportunities present themselves. The purpose is to
 - halt the decline in the area
 - restructure the economic, transport and housing infrastructure
 - establish a strong image for the promotion of the area
 - create a new solid platform for growth
 - create the framework within which public and private investment decisions fit
- 2.3 The vision does not duplicate any of the work currently being undertaken by Boroughs or regionally in the various planning frameworks. It instead provides a context and direction to guide and influence these statutory documents. Entitling the area North London's Waterside is part of that concept and adoption of this vision will aid place making throughout the area and provide a means to enthuse investors, partners and residents to fully participate in regenerating the area.
- 2.4 In order to deliver the vision, it is crucial that there is effective political direction involving all three Boroughs to maintain focus and consistency of approach. Analysis of past activity shows that expediency and spending funding allocation has sometimes been the enemy of longer term achievement. Addressing the decline needs the highest level political direction and co-ordination and it is therefore proposed that the Leaders of the three Councils with

the support of their respective Cabinet Members for Regeneration provide this in a Leader's Forum.

- 2.5 This Forum which should only need to meet 4 times a year will provide direction to officers and resolve all cross-Borough issues subject to the necessary approvals required by schemes of delegation. The Leader's Forum could, in time co-opt or involve other bodies and development partners as they emerge but on the basis that the participation was of the nature of a full partner committed to resolving issues at the table and contributing resources to deliver the partnership.
- 2.6 Working under the direction of the Leader's Forum the main activity of the partnership will be delivered through the two supporting boards
- Employment, Enterprise and Economy Board will be the clear 'client' committee for worklessness and business development activity in the ULV and to ensure that there are clear linkages into the education agenda at both school and further and higher educational levels
 - Place Shaping Board will have the responsibility for developing and implementing the physical and transportation elements of the Vision for the Upper Lee Valley
- 2.7 We report that we endorsed the vision for the Upper Lee Valley to guide the approach to the area and

WE RECOMMEND

1. That the Council withdraw from the Upper Lee Valley Executive Board and the local economic partnership.
2. That participation in the co-ordinating structures for the Upper Lee Vision North London's Waterside as outlined above be approved and that the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise be appointed to serve on the Leader's Forum.

ITEMS OF REPORT

Regeneration and Enterprise

3. DRAFT LAWRENCE ROAD PLANNING BRIEF (SPD) AND SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

- 3.1 Lawrence Road is a former employment area covering some 3.76 hectares, which is under increasing pressure to change. This is due mainly to the decline in the clothing industry, which has resulted in the loss of employment opportunities and left a high proportion of buildings vacant. The Road has poor environmental quality, suffers from fly-tipping, graffiti and anti-social behaviour and is clearly in need of regeneration. Following a change in planning designation, the Unitary Development Plan considered the area

suitable for mixed-use development and it was agreed that a planning brief should be prepared to guide regeneration.

- 3.2 The draft planning brief was the subject of a six-week period of statutory public consultation between 7 May and 18 June 2007 and attracted almost 250 written comments; in objection and support from 33 respondents. The main issues included:
- height,
 - density,
 - design,
 - affordable housing, and
 - the provision of public open space.
- 3.3 In addition, 95 completed questionnaire leaflets were returned. All comments were considered and taken into account, and where appropriate, the Planning Brief and Sustainability Appraisal were amended. The results of the consultation exercise, along with an amended version of the draft planning brief were reported to Planning Committee on 3 September 2007 which noted the amendments, and requested that one, non-substantive change be made to the brief, prior to recommending it for adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) by Cabinet.
- 3.4 We report that we noted the proposed amendments to the Draft Lawrence road Planning Brief and adopted the amended Brief and accompanying Sustainability Appraisal as a Supplementary Planning Document.

Children and Young People

4. ADMISSION TO SCHOOLS – APPROVAL TO CONSULT

- 4.1 Section 89 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, as amended by the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and associated Regulations require admission authorities to consult annually on their admission arrangements for the following academic year. Haringey Education Services gives advice to Governing Bodies who are the admission authorities for other maintained primary and secondary schools in Haringey (i.e. St Thomas More Catholic School, The John Loughborough School, Fortismere School and Greig City Academy). Consultation for all admission authorities should be completed by 1 March 2008, and determined by 15 April 2008. The new arrangements will then come into effect from the September 2009 intake.
- 4.2 We considered a report which included admission arrangements to nursery classes in Haringey community primaries and St Aidan's Voluntary Controlled primary school, as well as admission arrangements to Sixth Forms in Haringey community secondary schools and the Sixth Form Centre. It did not include the admission arrangements for Fortismere School following the Governing Body's decision to change its status to foundation which means that the Governing Body has become the admission authority. The report had been brought forward from December in order for the Authority to consult with Governing Bodies of community and voluntary controlled schools before full consultation in January 2008, in accordance with current Regulations.

- 4.3 We report that we approved the proposed admission arrangements for consultation for all community primary and secondary schools and St. Aidan's Voluntary Controlled Primary School. We also approved the proposed admission arrangements for consultation for sixth form provision in Alexandra Park School, the Highgate/Hornsey Consortium and the Sixth Form Centre as well as the proposed consultation for Qualifying Schemes for the co-ordination of arrangements for admission to reception classes in all maintained primary and secondary schools in Haringey. In so doing we noted that at secondary level, this entailed the Council's continued participation in the Pan-London Scheme.

Environment and Conservation

5. HARINGEY GREENEST BOROUGH STRATEGY

- 5.1 Action to tackle climate change, green the Borough and improve the sustainability of Council services and functions are key drivers behind the Greenest Borough Strategy. This is set against a national context of increased political and public concern that action must be taken to protect the environment and address global climate change at a local level. We considered a report which advised us that a draft vision statement had been devised to frame the proposed priorities and actions:

"We will work together to secure a clean, safe and environmentally sustainable future for everyone living, working, visiting or studying in Haringey."

- 5.2 The strategy comprises six key priorities for action over a ten year time horizon. This is underpinned by throughout with two cross cutting themes; 'tackling climate change', and 'raising awareness, involvement and participation'. The key priorities are summarised below.

Priority one: Improving the urban environment

We will create well designed, attractive, clean and safe streets, public spaces and gateways to Haringey that celebrate a dynamic and diverse borough where there is a real sense of belonging and pride among local people.

Priority two: Protecting the natural environment

We will protect Haringey's natural environment by working with local people to ensure that we preserve, improve, and increase green spaces and their use through improved maintenance, accessibility and sustainable practices.

Priority three: Managing environmental resources efficiently

The earth's resources are finite, but we are using and polluting them as if they were not. We will work with everyone in the borough to take forward action to change behaviour and choices on a number of fronts: reducing waste; increasing reuse and recycling waste; conserving water and energy use; and minimising air and water pollution.

Priority four: Leading by example – managing the Council sustainably

Haringey Council is committed to improving the quality of life for everyone in the borough and must lead by example and act as a role model, to our residents and to our business community. We will adopt best practice environmental management standards and procurement principles in our own operations.

Priority five: Sustainable design and construction

We will encourage developers and home owners to adopt the highest possible standards and innovative solutions to sustainable design and construction, whilst driving forward our own best practice projects through current investments in schools and social housing.

Priority six: Promoting sustainable travel

We will ease congestion and reduce carbon emissions and pollutants in Haringey. Our aim is to reduce car based journeys and encourage workers, residents and businesses to switch to cycling, walking, public transport and other low carbon alternatives.

The attached draft strategy contains further detail identifying what progress has been made so far in each of these priority areas and scopes further potential actions for the future. It also starts to identify the targets and measurements that will be used to track progress and monitor success. A detailed action plan will also be developed, setting out key targets and milestones, following further consultation.

- 5.3 The draft strategy which accompanied the report contained further detail identifying what progress had been made so far in each of these priority areas and scoped further potential actions for the future. It also started to identify the targets and measurements that would be used to track progress and monitor success. We noted that a detailed action plan would also be developed, setting out key targets and milestones, following further consultation.
- 5.4 We also noted that while the proposed Strategy set out a vision and way forward to deliver the Council's aspiration for Haringey to become one of the greenest boroughs in London, the Council already had a number of existing policies in place which could contribute to this aspiration. These projects were currently funded from a mix of approved Council and external resources including Council investment in parks and open spaces and recycling. External funding included Transport for London and SSCF. A sustainable investment fund had also been created (£0.5 million) to fund relevant projects, which was intended to operate on a rolling basis with savings generated by projects being re-invested into the fund to finance further projects.
- 5.5 However, some of the measures needed to achieve the longer term climate change agenda were likely to have significant cost implications over and above existing budget provisions and these would need to be fully assessed, as and when new projects were being developed, and reported for approval prior to implementation. The Strategy would also be aligned with the Council's financial and business planning framework, so that any emerging actions could be considered as part of these processes. Identifying and maximising external funding for greening the Borough must be a priority.
- 5.6 Wherever possible a joined up approach should be developed within the Council and with our external partners in progressing any agreed actions so that resources were most effectively utilised. The target setting framework would need to bear in mind the potential costs and availability of resources and need to link into existing opportunities to further the aims of greening the Borough through existing or new major investment programmes such

as Building Schools for the Future (BSF), Growth Area Funding (GAF2/3) and, potentially, Decent Homes investment when approved.

- 5.7 We noted the context for the development of Haringey's Draft Greenest Borough Strategy and agreed the vision and scope of the key priorities for the Draft as summarised in the report. We also agreed the proposals to go out to full consultation on the Strategy and, following conclusion of the consultation, to reconsider the final Strategy together with an action plan for recommendation to the Council for adoption in the Spring of 2008.

6. CABINET RESPONSE TO THE SCRUTINY REVIEW OF IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY IN HARINGEY

- 6.1 A Scrutiny Review on Improving Road Safety in Haringey was established in January 2007 and completed in June 2007. The primary focus of the review was to look at the challenges facing the Council and its partners in the delivery of road safety solutions both in terms of engineering safety solutions and training education initiatives.
- 6.2 We considered a report which provided a response to the 17 recommendations contained in the report only one of which – the proposal to transfer funding of the school crossing patrol service to the Children and Young People's Service was not agreed. One other – that Council officers adhere to the annual timetable for bidding set by Transport for London (TfL) - was agreed in part.
- 6.3 We were advised that a mix of internal and external funding was available for road safety projects within Haringey. A specific capital investment programme has been agreed for road safety measures amounting to £200,000 per annum for the last two years and £100,000 for the current year. There was further investment in borough roads and street lighting which impacted on road safety and we noted that the Streetscene pre business plan review contained a specific road safety capital bid of £400,000 for 2008/09 which would be considered as part of the capital budget process. The main source of funding for road safety projects was from TfL and the current years allocation amounted to over £1.5 million including for local safety schemes, 20 m.p.h. zones, school travel plans, travel awareness and road safety education and training. The effective use of these resources had resulted in reductions in road accidents in recent years.
- 6.4 We endorsed the response to the Scrutiny Review and approved the proposed action plan most of the recommendations of which could be implemented within existing resources . However, two were agreed subject to funding becoming available and these could not be implemented until funding, either internally or externally was clearly identified or agreed.

Housing

7. HOMES FOR HARINGEY PERFORMANCE REPORT APRIL – AUGUST 2007

- 7.1 The Council will be aware that a key element of the Housing Strategy is the successful delivery of the decent homes standards, providing decent homes for all tenants and regenerating the Borough. In the client role it was important that these strategic aims

were met and the regular monthly and quarterly meetings were the tools by which this was measured.

- 7.2 We considered a report which covered the period from April to August 2007 and which provided an update of the progress made in relation to key targets and objectives. The report summarised the main issues which had been discussed at the quarterly monitoring meeting of 4 October 2007 and provided information on outcomes on income collection, re-lets and repairs as well as information on other local key performance indicators.
- 7.3 In receiving the report we noted that the highlight of the reporting period was that Homes for Haringey had achieved two stars in the May 2007 Audit Commission inspection which meant that they were now eligible for Decent Homes Funding. However, we also noted that Homes for Haringey were awaiting the outcome of their bid for Round 6 Decent Homes Funding from the Department for Communities and Local Government a decision on their bid was expected later in the year.

Resources

8. CABINET RESPONSE TO SCRUTINY REVIEW OF IT SERVICES PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 We considered a report which had been produced in response to the recommendations arising from the Scrutiny Review of IT Services project management, presented to us in a report to our meeting on 18 September 2007. The responses proposed were restricted to actions to be taken in relation to current and future projects managed by IT Services, although we noted some of the actions required the input and support of other departments and functions within the Council.
- 8.2 The recommendations made in the original Scrutiny Review and in the suggested responses to them, would affect all major Council projects involving IT, which in turn were key to delivering the Council's overall strategy and department-specific strategies. Applying the proposed project management improvements to strategic projects might add to their duration and cost by some small percentage, but the benefits of reduction in risk and improvement in quality were expected to outweigh this cost.
- 8.3 As noted above, some of the measures proposed in the Action Plan were expected to add to project costs, but the percentage increase was expected to be low and might not apply to all projects. There might also be additional central costs, including for bodies to provide additional reviews of governance and management, but these costs could not be quantified at this stage and further consideration would be given to whether these costs, once known, were justified by the benefits before any action was taken.
- 8.4 We report that we considered the initiatives set out in the Action Plan to be appropriate measures for addressing the recommendations made in the Scrutiny Review given the practical circumstances within the Council now and in the foreseeable future. However, these initiatives would be reviewed and revised in light of experience of their effectiveness at a suitable point in the future.

Leader

9. PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHT REPORT – END AUGUST 2007

- 9.1 We received the Programme Highlight report for all the Council's corporately significant projects. The information in the report was taken from detailed project highlight reports for each project that had been agreed by the respective Project Boards. Due to the reporting cycle, there was a time lag in the information presented and this report showed projects' status at 31 August 2007 and we received a verbal update on the progress of a number of the projects since that date.
- 9.2 We noted that from October the Programme Highlight report would reflect the planned new corporate programme structure with its three programmes of work, 'Achieving Excellence', 'Regeneration' and 'Better Haringey' and that in preparation for this restructure the 'Well-being' and 'People' Stream Boards had been disbanded. The governance arrangements for the projects within these streams would be reviewed for future reports while the projects within the 'Children and Young People's' Stream would be integrated into the 'Regeneration' programme. The 'Value for Money' Stream Board would continue for the foreseeable future.

10. THE COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE – AUGUST 2007

- 10.1 We considered the regular finance and performance report which monitored the Council's position in relation to a number of indicators that would be used to assess the Council in the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA). Performance against these measures would determine Haringey's rating in 2008. The report also gave an indication of the level and quality of services delivered on the ground and sought our approval to a number of virements.
- 10.2 We noted that good progress was being made across all the priorities with 85% of indicators achieving green or amber status as at August 2007. We continued to make good progress on promoting independence (93.3% or 14 indicators green or amber), making Haringey one of London's greenest boroughs (85.7% or 6 indicators green or amber) and delivering excellent services 89% or 48 indicators green or amber). In summary the balanced scorecard showed that for service delivery 82% of indicators were on target or close to the end of year target as at August 2007. For 12 of the 15 (80%) customer focus measures, performance targets were being met or close to being met. For financial health 29 of the 30 traffic lighted measures achieved green or amber status, meaning for 96.7% of traffic lighted indicators performance levels were achieving target or being maintained at an acceptable level. Our organisational development /capacity indicators showed that for 6 of the 8 (75%) measures, performance was meeting or close to expectation. In addition 84% of indicators had maintained or improved performance since the end of last year.
- 10.3 In terms of financial performance, overall revenue budget monitoring, based on the August position, showed a forecast net overspend of £0.9 million. This was made up of a number of budget pressures that largely related to Asylum and adult social care. These were partly offset by a projected under spend on the Housing general fund and an

earmarked reserve for asylum. The aggregate revenue projected position in 2007/08 is as shown in the following table.

General Fund revenue	Approved Budget	Projected variation
	£m	£m
Children and Young People - Asylum	228.1	0 0.5
Adults, Culture & Community - Asylum	73.7	1.1 0.4
Corporate Resources	10.9	0.3
Urban Environment	48.3	(1.0)
Policy, Performance, Partnerships & Communications	11.6	(0.1)
People, Organisation & Development	0.1	0
Chief Executive	0.5	0
Non-service revenue	11.4	(0.3)
Total	384.6	0.9

10.4 The DSG element of the overall Children and Young People’s Service budget was projected to under spend by £0.4 million and the Network Family support budget needed to be carried forward to meet the summer term 2008 commitments. In relation to the HRA, the net revenue projection was a surplus of £0.4 million against the approved budget as agreed by Council in February 2007. This latest forecast position was reported by Homes for Haringey to their Board on 18 September 2007. The net surplus arose because rent and service charges income was projected to be above budget mainly resulting from a 53rd rent week falling into 2007/08, but this was partly offset by additional costs pressures which had emerged, such as increased bad debt provision to give a net projected surplus of £0.4m.

10.5 The aggregate capital projected position in 2007/08 was as shown in the following table.

Capital	Approved Budget	Spend to date	Projected variation
	£m	£m	£m
Children & Young People	43.9	11.5	(3.7)
Adults, Culture & Community	7.6	1.3	0
Corporate Resources	9.1	3.3	0
Urban Environment – General Fund	31.6	2.9	0
Urban Environment - HRA	19.8	5.7	(0.8)
Policy, Performance, Partnerships & Communications	0.3	0.1	0

Capital	Approved Budget	Spend to date	Projected variation
Total	112.3	24.8	(4.5)

The latest forecast position for the HRA Capital outturn was an under spend of £783,000 was as reported by Homes for Haringey to their Board. The capital programme contained a level of over programming of £1.345 million (6.8% of confirmed resources). The current projected under spend represented an under utilisation of this allowance, which would be addressed as part of the normal processes of the management of the capital programme to ensure that full or near full spend is achieved by the end of the year.

10.6 Financial regulations require proposed budget changes to be approved by Cabinet. These are shown in the table below. These changes fall into one of two categories:

- budget virements, where it is proposed that budget provision is to be transferred between one service budget and another. Explanations are provided where this is the case;
- Increases or decreases in budget, generally where notification has been received in-year of a change in the level of external funding such as grants or supplementary credit approval.

10.7 Under the Constitution, certain virements are key decisions. Key decisions are:

- for revenue, any virement which results in change in a directorate cash limit of more than £250,000; and
- for capital, any virement which results in the change of a programme area of more than £250,000.

Key decisions are highlighted by an asterisk in the table.

10.8 The following table sets out the proposed changes. There are two figures shown in each line of the table. The first amount column relates to changes in the current year's budgets and the second to changes in future years' budgets (full year). Differences between the two occur when, for example, the budget variation required relates to an immediate but not ongoing need or where the variation takes effect for a part of the current year but will be in effect for the whole of future years.

10.9 Proposed virements are set out in the following table:

Period	Service	Key	Amount current year (£'000)	Full year Amount (£'000)	Description
5	UE, ACC	Rev	70		Groundwork core funding transfer to Urban Regeneration.
5	C&YP	Rev *	1,094		Updating the budget to agree with approved 2007/08 DCSF Standards fund grant.

Period	Service	Key	Amount current year (£'000)	Full year Amount (£'000)	Description
5	UE	Cap *	1,675		Additional TFL funding mainly for A406 road (£1.157m), bus priority network and bridge works (£41k) and NLTF (£447k).
5	ACC, UE	Rev	46	46	Transfer of Arts & Culture post from Economic Regeneration to ACC.
5	UE	Cap *	769		Funding of Mortuary project additional costs from the UE revenue budget (£390k) and from capital receipts (£379k).
5	ACC	Rev	79	79	Mental Health Grant adjustment to bring budget in line with 2007/08 allocations
5	UE	Rev	95		Recycling collection from Housing Estates. The Balance of an 18 month pilot scheme.
5	ACC	Cap	132		Re-phasing into 2008/09 of retention monies in respect of the Older People's Strategy project for Osborne Grove.
5	ACC	Cap	174		Some re-phasing into 2008/09 in respect of the E. Care project.

11. ACTION TAKEN UNDER URGENCY PROCEDURES

11.1 We were informed of the following action taken by a Directors following consultation with a Cabinet Member under urgency procedures -

Assistant Chief Executive (Policy, Performance, Partnerships and Communications)

CARA Irish Housing Association Core Funding – Approval to a grant of £41,700 which was not part of their day care services and did not provide CARA with a contribution towards their strategic work in the Borough, remaining within the Corporate Voluntary Sector Team's budget.