

**AGENDA ITEM: 12**

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Meeting	Business Management Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date	9 January 2012
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Task and Finish Groups / Scrutiny Panels – Recommendation Tracking</b>
Report of	Scrutiny Office
Summary	This report provides the Committee with an update on the implementation of recommendations made by Overview & Scrutiny Task & Finish Group accepted by Cabinet.

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Officer Contributors	John Murphy, Overview & Scrutiny Officer
Status (public or exempt)	Public
Wards affected	All
Enclosures	Appendix A – Task & Finish Group Recommendations
For decision by	Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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## **1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.1 That the Committee consider and comment on the progress made in implementing Task & Finish Group/ Scrutiny panel recommendations accepted by Cabinet, as set out in Appendix A.**

## **2. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Panels and Task and Finish Groups must ensure that the work of Scrutiny is reflective of the Council's priorities.**
- 2.2 The three priority outcomes set out in the 2011-13 Corporate Plan are: –**
- **Better services with less money**
  - **Sharing opportunities, sharing responsibilities**
  - **A successful London suburb**

## **3. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS**

- 3.1 Cabinet, 10 October 2010, Decision 5 (Report of the Business Management Overview & Scrutiny Sub-Committee: Task and Finish Group: Service Options for Remodelling Older People's Housing with Support)
- 3.2 Cabinet, 10 October 2010, Decision 8 (Report of the Business Management Overview & Scrutiny Sub-Committee: Task and Finish Group: Council's Response to Cold Weather)
- 3.3 Cabinet, 1 January 2011, Decision 6 (Report of the Housing Allocations Overview and Scrutiny Panel: Majority and Minority Reports)
- 3.4 Safer Communities Partnership Board, 7 March 2011, Item 2 (Report of the Domestic Violence Task and Finish Group)

## **4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

- 4.1 Failure to monitor the progress made in implementing recommendations made by Task & Finish Groups and Overview & Scrutiny Panels which have been accepted by Cabinet carries a reputational risk to the authority through a failure to demonstrate the outcomes from Overview and Scrutiny work.

## **5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

- 5.1 Pursuant to the Equality Act 2010 ("the Act"), the council has a legislative duty to have 'due regard' to eliminating unlawful discrimination, advancing equality and fostering good relations in the contexts of age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy, and maternity, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

5.2 In addition to the Terms of Reference of the Committee, and in so far as relating to matters within its remit, the responsibility of the Committee is to perform the Overview and Scrutiny role in relation to:

- The Council's leadership role with respect to diversity and inclusiveness; and
- The fulfilment of the Council's duties as employer including recruitment and retention, personnel, pensions and payroll services, staff development, equalities and health and safety.

## **6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

6.1 Task and Finish Group reviews have the scope to consider value for money issues which identify how well the Council is managing and using its resources to deliver value for money and better and more sustainable outcomes for local people.

6.2 Where there are financial implications linked to recommendations, these are worked through using existing budgets within Services.

## **7. LEGAL ISSUES**

7.1 Under Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's executive arrangements are required to include provision for appointment of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee with specified powers, including the power to make recommendations in respect of council functions. In respect of the exercise of the Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee's powers to coordinate and monitor the work of overview and scrutiny task and finish groups / scrutiny panels, it is good practice to monitor the progress and impact of recommendations made.

## **8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS**

8.1 The scope of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees is contained within Part 2, Article 6 of the Council's Constitution.

8.2 The Terms of Reference of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees are set out in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules (Part 4 of the Constitution).

8.3 Item 8 of Business Management Overview & Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference states that its role is:

"To coordinate and monitor the work of scrutiny panels and task and finish groups, including considering reports and recommendations and referring to the relevant decision-making body."

## 9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

9.1 In May 2009, the council adopted a 'task and finish' group approach to some of their overview and scrutiny work. Council agreed that task and finish groups would be time-limited to ensure that recommendations were made to the relevant decision-making body in a timely manner. On the whole, task and finish groups have completed their work over a three-month period. However, this timescale is flexible where circumstances mean that a review should be run over a shorter or extended period.

9.2 Since May 2009, a total of eleven task and finish groups and scrutiny panels have concluded their work on the following topics:-

- Enterprise in the Borough (3<sup>rd</sup> February 2010)
- School Places Planning (3<sup>rd</sup> February 2010)
- Advice Provision in the Borough (22<sup>nd</sup> February 2010)
- Homelessness and Young People (12<sup>th</sup> April 2010)
- Road Resurfacing (12<sup>th</sup> April 2010)
- Recycling and Waste Minimisation (6<sup>th</sup> September 2010)
- Remodelling Older People's Housing with Support (20<sup>th</sup> October 2010)
- Council's Response to Cold Weather (20<sup>th</sup> October 2010)
- Housing Allocations Overview and Scrutiny Panel (10<sup>th</sup> January 2011)
- Domestic Violence (7<sup>th</sup> March 2011)
- Fostering Recruitment (14<sup>th</sup> September 2011)

Dates that these groups reported their findings to Cabinet are detailed in brackets.

9.3 Further task and finish groups have recently completed their work or are ongoing on the following topics:-

- Early Intervention and Prevention Services (Children's Services)
- Contract Monitoring and Community Benefit
- Carbon Footprint
- Secondary School Places Overview and Scrutiny Panel

9.4 In order for the Committee to have an effective oversight of the work of task and finish groups, it is important for council services (or external bodies) to evidence the extent to which recommendations accepted by the Cabinet (or external agency) have been implemented. To this end, the Scrutiny Office requested that services provide an update on the implementation of accepted recommendations at six-monthly intervals (from the date of reporting to Cabinet or external agency).

9.5 The Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee received reports at their meetings on the following dates:

- 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2010
- 16<sup>th</sup> December 2010,

- 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2011
- 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2011
- 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011; and
- 16<sup>th</sup> November 2011

(Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee replaced the sub-committee March 2011) which provided the 6, 12 and 18 month updates on progress made in implementing task and finish group recommendations from the following task and finish groups/scrutiny panels:

- Remodelling Older Peoples Housing with Support;
- Council's Response to Cold Weather;
- Housing Allocations Overview and Scrutiny Panel;
- Recycling and Waste Minimisation;
- Road Resurfacing;
- Recycling and Waste Minimisation;
- School Places Planning; and
- Advice Provision in the Borough
- Homelessness and Young People; and
- Road Resurfacing

9.6 Updates are now due in relation to the following task and finish groups and overview and scrutiny panels:

- Remodelling Older People's Housing with Support
- Council's Response to Cold Weather
- Housing Allocations Overview and Scrutiny Panel
- Domestic Violence

9.7 An update from services in relation to the scrutiny panels/task and finish groups (referred to at 9.6 above) is set out at **Appendix A**. The Committee are requested to comment on information provided in the update report.

## 10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 None.

Legal: SS

Finance: MC

## Remodelling Older Peoples Housing with Support Task and Finish Group – Cabinet, 20 October 2010

Recommendation to Cabinet (accepted)	Status	Information	Contact Officers
<p>That any proposal to remodel the service ensure that due regard be given to equalities implications, and that a record of this is kept.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><u>Cabinet resolution:</u>                      “That the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group be approved as submitted.”</p> <p><u>Update June 2011:</u>                      The recommendations of TFG were contained in the 14 February 2011 Cabinet report in paragraphs 9.6 to 9.8.</p> <p>A full Equalities Impact Assessment was carried out on the proposals put to Cabinet on 14 February 2011 and is contained in Appendix 4 of the Cabinet report.</p> <p>Equality and Legal duties of the Council are contained in paragraphs 5 and 7 respectively of the Cabinet report.</p> <p>Link to Cabinet report 14 February 2011:  <a href="http://committeepapers.barnet.gov.uk/democracy/meetings/meetingdetail.asp?meetingid=6151">http://committeepapers.barnet.gov.uk/democracy/meetings/meetingdetail.asp?meetingid=6151</a></p> <p><u>Update January 2012</u>                      This recommendation was fully implemented within the 14 February 2011 Cabinet report.</p>	<p>Mithu Ghosh,                      Sheltered Housing Project Manager,                      Strategic Commissioning Team, Adult Social Services</p>

Recommendation to Cabinet (accepted)	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>That the sheltered housing service providers formulate a robust estate management strategy for sheltered accommodation, including a protocol for liaison between estate management and support services</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><u>Cabinet resolution:</u>            "That the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group be approved as submitted."</p> <p><u>Update June 2011:</u>            The Council encouraged existing sheltered housing providers to consider enhanced housing management functions and details of this is contained in Para 6 of the Business Case as contained in Appendix 1 of the 14 February 2011 Cabinet report.</p> <p>As at April 2011, the majority of Providers have decided to go down the route of enhanced housing management. The remaining 'support services' to be funded by the Council will be the Sheltered Plus service.</p> <p><u>Update January 2012</u>            Funding for the warden services ceased on 30 September 2011 with a contract for alarm only continuing thereafter. Following extensive liaison with the council's ASCH, Housing and Benefits services, it is envisaged that most of the sheltered housing providers have employed existing Scheme Managers in the role of Enhanced Housing Managers</p> <p>Additionally, referrals were made to the Telecare team to install necessary equipment prior to 30 September to aid tenants' level of safety once the support element stopped.</p>	<p>Mithu Ghosh,            Sheltered Housing Project Manager,            Strategic Commissioning Team, Adult Social Services</p>

Recommendation to Cabinet (accepted)	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>That a robust programme of consultation be undertaken prior to any decision regarding service options, including proactive engagement with service users.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><u>Cabinet resolution:</u>            "That the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group be approved as submitted."</p> <p><u>Update June 2011:</u>            Appendices 2 and 3 of the 14 February 2011 Cabinet report outline the results of the public consultation process and two interactive events with older residents.</p> <p><u>Update January 2012</u>            This recommendation was fully implemented within the 14 February 2011 Cabinet report.</p>	<p>Mithu Ghosh,            Sheltered Housing Project Manager,            Strategic Commissioning Team, Adult Social Services</p>



Recommendation to Cabinet (accepted)	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>That an alarm service be retained, and that the authority undertake, in conjunction with providers and service users, a review of alarms in sheltered accommodation for residents, including investigation of the installation of additional cords where required, and the possible provision of personal alarms.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><u>Cabinet Resolution:</u>            "That the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group be approved as submitted."</p> <p><u>Update June 2011:</u>            Proposals to retain the funding for alarms in sheltered schemes and proposed reviews are contained in paragraph 4 of the Business Case in Appendix 1 of the 14 February 2011 Cabinet report.</p> <p>The provision of personal alarms will be considered as part of the Menu of Charged Services.</p> <p>The investigation of the installation of additional cords where required is a matter for individual sheltered housing providers and this recommendation will be passed onto them.</p> <p><u>Update January 2012</u>            A 'Support Options' leaflet, (developed with a group of older people), was delivered to all sheltered housing residents at the beginning of October 2011. The leaflet contains information on, amongst other things:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Barnet Homes Assist Regular Check Service on the well-being of older residents on a regular basis.</li> <li>▪ Telecare equipment</li> <li>▪ Outreach Barnet Support providing short term housing related support</li> <li>▪ Good Neighbour Schemes offer befriending, home visiting, and small domestic tasks to enable clients to continue living independently.</li> <li>▪ Extra Care Housing / Sheltered Plus Housing which provide an alternative if people need more support to live at home</li> </ul> <p>Link to leaflet:  <a href="S:\Commissioning &amp; Supply Mgt\Commissioning\Projects\Housing &amp; Support\10. Housing &amp; Support Older People\Menu of Charged Services\MENU OF CHARGED SERVICES\J13712 Barnet SSFOP A5 12pp.pdf">S:\Commissioning &amp; Supply Mgt\Commissioning\Projects\Housing &amp; Support\10. Housing &amp; Support Older People\Menu of Charged Services\MENU OF CHARGED SERVICES\J13712 Barnet SSFOP A5 12pp.pdf</a></p>	<p>Mithu Ghosh,            Sheltered Housing Project Manager,            Strategic Commissioning Team, Adult Social Services</p>

Recommendation to Cabinet (accepted)	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>That any remodelling of support ensures that the subsequent service is arranged on as local a level as possible.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><u>Cabinet Resolution:</u>            "That the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group be approved as submitted."</p> <p><u>Update June 2011:</u>            Most sheltered housing providers have opted to retain an on-site staff presence and where possible the same member of staff as now.</p> <p><u>Update January 2012</u>            Most of the Providers have employed existing Scheme Managers in the role of Enhanced Housing Managers</p> <p>Two Sheltered Plus Housing schemes were set up at the beginning of October 2011 and a third site is due to open after remodelling next year. Enhanced housing management is provided by a Scheme Manager during working hours and an emergency night time through Home and Community Support services to the most vulnerable residents in the schemes.</p>	<p>Mithu Ghosh,            Sheltered Housing Project Manager,            Strategic Commissioning Team, Adult Social Services</p>

**Council's Response to Cold Weather Task and Finish Group – Cabinet, 20 October 2010**

Recommendation	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>That the draft Winter Service Policy and Operation Plan 2010/11 be recommended for adoption by the Council for the winter season (commencing 1st November 2010, subject to:</p> <p>*Environment &amp; Operations having regard to individual requests made by Task and Finish Groups Members for amendments to the Priority Network (subject to resource constraints);</p> <p>*An amendment to the Priority 2 Footway classification to include footways in close proximity to out-of-centre railway and underground stations; and</p> <p>*Inclusion in Section 3.8 of the Policy and Operation Plan of the criteria for assessing and approving requests for additional grit bins.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><u>Cabinet response to recommendation:</u> "That the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group be approved"</p> <p><u>Update June 2011:</u> Fully implemented in 2010/11. All recommended changes to the 2010/11 Plan have been adopted.</p> <p>Note the Winter Service Policy and Operation Plan is reviewed every year will need to be reviewed to prepare the 2011/12 Plan.</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u> The Winter Service Policy and Operation Plan for the winter season 2011/12 has been prepared and is currently in the process of obtaining Council approval via a Cabinet Member DPR (Chris Chrysostomou 17/11/11)</p>	<p>Chris Chrysostomou, Chief Engineer (Infrastructure), Environment &amp; Operations</p> <p>Paul Bragg, Highways Manager (Network Management), Environment &amp; Operations</p>

Recommendation	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>The Group have identified that the Winter Service is fit for purpose and recommend that the existing budget should be maintained at its current level to ensure that the Council can respond appropriately to periods of cold weather and snowfall.</p>	<p><b>Red</b></p>	<p><u>Cabinet response to recommendation:</u> "That the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group be approved"</p> <p><u>Update June 2011:</u> Partially implemented. The budget for 2010/11 was reduced from £702K the previous year (2009/10) to £599K. However, this budget was sufficient to meet the cost of providing the service.</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u> The Winter Service budget for 2011/12 has been reduced to £335,300. This budget is likely to be overspent, particularly if the forthcoming winter is of similar severity as the last two winters. (Chris Chrysostomou 17/11/11)</p>	<p>Chris Chrysostomou, Chief Engineer (Infrastructure), Environment &amp; Operations</p> <p>Paul Bragg, Highways Manager (Network Management), Environment &amp; Operations</p>

Recommendation	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>Environment &amp; Operations be requested to undertake a pilot scheme during the 2010/11 winter season to enable the concept of a 'community keeper' (with responsibility for the equitable distribution of grit stocks amongst neighbouring residents) to be explored, with the following areas to be explored initially:</p> <p>*Golders Green – Cllr Dean Cohen to identify two roads and provide residents contact details            *Chipping Barnet – Cllr Stephen Sowerby to identify two roads and provide residents contact details            *Local Schools – Children's Services to provide contact details of two participating schools</p> <p>Following the first period of significant snow or ice, an assessment be undertaken by the Cabinet Member and relevant Director of the success (or otherwise) of the scheme. Subject to the scheme being successfully delivered in the initial areas, the 'community keeper' concept should be rolled-out across the borough, subject to resources being available to facilitate this.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><u>Cabinet response to recommendation:</u> "That the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group be approved"</p> <p><u>Update June 2011:</u>            Fully implemented in 2010/11. We have assessed the success of the pilot scheme and the attachment (Appendix B) provides details. As per the Directorate's Service Plan, we have agreed to extend this scheme to a further two schools and a further two roads in the next 2011/12 winter season.</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u>            The pilot scheme will be continued this year. The Corporate Communications Group will be leading on this pilot scheme for this year and their aim is to extend the scheme to cover up to 20 roads and a similar number of schools. (Chris Chrysostomou 17/11/11)</p>	<p>Chris Chrysostomou,            Chief Engineer (Infrastructure),            Environment &amp; Operations</p> <p>Paul Bragg,            Highways Manager (Network Management),            Environment &amp; Operations</p>

### Housing Allocations Overview & Scrutiny Panel – Cabinet, 10 January 2011

Recommendation	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>The Panel support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* the closure of the housing register and replacement with a database of 'live' cases;</li> <li>* replacing the points system with a banding system; and</li> <li>* the creation of a local lettings policy which recognises a positive community contribution (volunteering, working, in training or previously served in the armed forces).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><u>Cabinet response to recommendations:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the recommendations of the majority report of the Housing Allocations Overview and Scrutiny Panel be approved.</li> <li>2. That the recommendations in the minority report be not approved.</li> <li>3. That Cabinet's thanks be extended to the Panel for their work on this review.</li> </ol> <p><u>Update June 2011:</u> All of these have been implemented from April 2011</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u> As stated previously, these have all been implemented</p>	<p>Paul Shipway, Strategy &amp; Performance Manager Planning, Housing and Regeneration</p>

Recommendation	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>The Panel recommends that residents on the current housing register should be informed that the register had been closed by:</p> <p>* Writing to all those on the register; and</p> <p>* Introducing an online self assessment tool to allow housing applicants to identify which band they would be placed in, to enable them to determine whether they are eligible for housing.</p>	<b>Green</b>	<p><u>Cabinet response to recommendations:</u> As above</p> <p><u>Update June 2011:</u> An online assessment tool has been added to the Council's website.</p> <p>Letters have not been sent to all those households that were on the Housing Register. Instead, a number of actions were taken to ensure that the closure of the register and the introduction of the new allocations scheme were widely publicised, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An article in the March 2011 edition of Barnet First;</li> <li>• Article in Barnet Homes' March 2011 edition of "At Home";</li> <li>• Notices in the local press as part of Choice Based Lettings adverts throughout February, March and April 2011;</li> <li>• Direct contact by the Housing Service with existing cases identified as likely to have high priority under the new scheme;</li> <li>• Barnet Homes wrote to all council tenants registered for a transfer; and</li> <li>• Information placed on the Council's and Barnet Homes' websites and the Home Connections website</li> </ul> <p><u>Update 2012:</u> No further action required</p>	<p>Paul Shipway, Strategy &amp; Performance Manager Planning, Housing and Regeneration</p>

Recommendation	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>The Panel recommends that Housing Officers should give due regard to children's existing school when offering properties to housing applicants under assisted choice.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><u>Cabinet response to recommendations:</u> As above</p> <p><u>Update June 2011</u> Officers do take account of the potential impact on school children who are at key stages in their education, along with the availability of properties, when considering the reasonableness of offers of accommodation.</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u> No further action required</p>	<p>Paul Shipway, Strategy &amp; Performance Manager Planning, Housing and Regeneration</p>
Recommendation	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>The Panel recommends that an evaluation of the new housing allocation policy be undertaken at six months with a further review after two years with the findings reported to the appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><u>Cabinet response to recommendations:</u> As above</p> <p><u>Update June 2011:</u> The policy will be evaluated after it has been in operation for six months (i.e. from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011) and reported to the appropriate overview and scrutiny committee and Cabinet. Preparations for carrying out the evaluation are in hand.</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u> An evaluation has been undertaken, but will not be reported to Cabinet until April 2012 so that national changes in the Localism Act can be taken into account.</p>	<p>Paul Shipway, Strategy &amp; Performance Manager Planning, Housing and Regeneration</p>



Recommendation	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>The Panel recommends that all future housing applicants regardless of their eligibility should be offered housing advice.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><u>Cabinet response to recommendations:</u> As above</p> <p><u>Update June 2011:</u> This is an integral part of the Housing Allocations Scheme (paragraph 3.7 refers).</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u> No further action required</p>	<p>Paul Shipway, Strategy &amp; Performance Manager Planning, Housing and Regeneration</p>
Recommendation	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>The Panel recommends that the volunteering element of the community contribution should be clearly defined to remove any subjectivity.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><u>Cabinet response to recommendations:</u> As above</p> <p><u>Update June 2011</u> The volunteering element of community contribution has been clearly defined with input from CommUNITY Barnet, who also provided training to Housing Officers. The operation of this element of the scheme will be reviewed as part of the six month evaluation.</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u> The review of this element of the scheme found that the definition in use was appropriate. CommUnity Barnet provided training to housing officers and have offered to provide further support to officers in the future should this be required.</p>	<p>Paul Shipway, Strategy &amp; Performance Manager Planning, Housing and Regeneration</p>

Recommendation	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>The Panel stress the importance of effective management of the housing stock to ensure that:</p> <p>* All properties are offered in a reasonable condition; and</p> <p>*Turn around times for re-housing applicants is reduced to be in line with best practice</p>	<b>Green</b>	<p><u>Cabinet response to recommendations:</u> As above</p> <p><u>Update June 2011</u> Barnet Homes have a voids standard setting out the condition that the properties need to be in before they are offered to housing applicants. They will be holding focus groups with residents to review this during July 2011.</p> <p>Barnet Homes have been implementing a plan to improve voids performance and targets have been agreed for 2011/12 that will bring performance much closer to the best in London, and we will continue to work with the Arms Length Management Organisation to improve this further.</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u></p> <p>Void turnaround times have reduced, and are reported regularly to Performance and Budget OSC. Further improvements are expected following an Option Appraisal of the future of the Housing Service which is to be reported to CRC in January 2012</p>	<p>Paul Shipway, Strategy &amp; Performance Manager Planning, Housing and Regeneration</p>

Recommendation	Status	Information	Contact Officer
<p>The Panel recommends that the verification process should be streamlined, including visiting eligible applicants in their current circumstances.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>	<p><u>Cabinet response to recommendations:</u> As above</p> <p><u>Update June 2011</u> The verification process has been streamlined as part of the holistic assessment that is carried out for eligible applicants, this includes home visits in many cases.</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u> No further action required</p>	<p>Paul Shipway, Strategy &amp; Performance Manager Planning, Housing and Regeneration</p>

## Domestic Violence Task and Finish Group – Cabinet , 7 March 2011

Recommendation to SCPB (accepted)	Status	Information	Contact Officers
<p><u>Recommendation One:</u> Consider commissioning psychological support services for child victims/witnesses of domestic violence to tackle the intergenerational cycle of violence in families” Agreed subject to resources</p>	<b>AMBER</b>	<p><u>Safer Communities Partnership Board response to recommendation:</u> Agreed subject to resources</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u> There are a number of projects in place including; Intensive family focus work, the Safer Families Project work, a youth engagement officer through Victim Support working on healthy relationships. Including work with the current DV agencies in the borough.</p>	<p>Manju Likhman – Domestic Violence Co-ordinator – Partnership, Prevention and Safeguarding Division, Children’s Service</p>
Recommendation to SCPB (Not accepted)	Status	Information	Contact Officers
<p><u>Recommendation Two:</u> Amend the title of Barnet’s Multi-Agency Domestic Violence Strategy 2010/11 – 2012/13 to Barnet’s Call to End Violence against Women and Girls Strategy 2010/11 – 2012/13 to assist in attracting Home Office funding</p>	<b>RED</b>	<p><u>Safer Communities Partnership Board response to recommendation:</u> Not agreed as the initial priority was to make progress on domestic violence rather than this wider, albeit important, agenda.</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u> To propose to review the existing April 2012 strategy for the 2013 strategy; then will re-title accordingly.</p> <p>There is a Pan London Guidance being developed by the GLA that may be issued in the new year and can be used as a tool to develop this.</p>	<p>Manju Likhman – Domestic Violence Co-ordinator – Partnership, Prevention and Safeguarding Division, Children’s Service</p>

Recommendation to SCPB (accepted)	Status	Information	Contact Officers
<p><u>Recommendation Three:</u> Develop an action plan to detail how Barnet's Multi-Agency Domestic Violence Strategy 2010/11 – 2012/13 will be delivered, detailing shared objectives, timescales, key responsibilities of partners, monitoring arrangements and information sharing protocols</p>	<b>GREEN</b>	<p><u>Safer Communities Partnership Board response to recommendation:</u> Agreed, as an action plan is already being developed utilising existing resources.</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u> The DV Strategy is being monitored by the DV Coordinator (see attached document)</p>	<p>Manju Likhman – Domestic Violence Co-ordinator – Partnership, Prevention and Safeguarding Division, Children's Service</p>
Recommendation to SCPB (accepted)	Status	Information	Contact Officers
<p><u>Recommendation Four:</u> Develop a common assessment/referral framework and information sharing protocols for statutory and voluntary sector organisations providing domestic violence support services</p>	<b>AMBER</b>	<p><u>Safer Communities Partnership Board response to recommendation:</u> Agreed – a multi-agency common assessment framework covering children and families already in place which will be adopted as appropriate</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u> The new DV Coordinator came into post 26<sup>th</sup> September 2011 and she will prioritise this piece of work for the New year. As there are currently in place the ISA for the MARAC. The ISP for the Family Focus Programme and for the CAF. These should be able to be used as a common basis for work around domestic violence support services.</p>	<p>Manju Likhman – Domestic Violence Co-ordinator – Partnership, Prevention and Safeguarding Division, Children's Service</p>

Recommendation to SCPB (accepted)	Status	Information	Contact Officers
<p><u>Recommendation Five:</u> Develop a commissioning strategy to ensure ongoing funding for key voluntary sector domestic violence support services in the borough, with sufficient weighting given to service user satisfaction in the strategy</p>	<b>GREEN</b>	<p><u>Safer Communities Partnership Board response to recommendation:</u> Agreed by Domestic Violence Strategic Board and already in place</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u></p> <p>The Process had started a year ago and a considerable amount of work took place. The closing date now is 6<sup>th</sup> January 2012. New contracts are to be awarded for two years from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014. There has been regular engagement and a Provider event has been held. Three different LOTS will be commissioned with Barnet and Harrow; including;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Advocacy and Support Service</li> <li>2. Refuge provision</li> <li>3. Perpetrator service</li> </ol>	<p>Manju Lukhman – Domestic Violence Co-ordinator – Partnership, Prevention and Safeguarding Division, Children's Service</p>
<p><b>Recommendation to SCPB (accepted)</b></p>	<p><b>Status</b></p>	<p><b>Information</b></p>	<p><b>Contact Officers</b></p>
<p><u>Recommendation Six:</u> Consider undertaking visits to schools in collaboration with voluntary sector organisations to highlight the issue of domestic violence and increase awareness of available services</p>	<b>AMBER</b>	<p><u>Safer Communities Partnership Board response to recommendation:</u> Agreed</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u></p> <p>Victim Support Barnet has a Youth Engagement Worker that is funded through a grant provided by LBB. Her role is to provide workshops, deliver presentations in schools, to new services such as youth centres and People Referral Units.</p>	<p>Manju Lukhman – Domestic Violence Co-ordinator – Partnership, Prevention and Safeguarding Division, Children's Service</p>

Recommendation to SCPB (accepted)	Status	Information	Contact Officers
<p><u>Recommendation Seven:</u> Consider establishing Survivor Groups to enable self-help and provide a support mechanism for victims and to inform future service delivery</p>	<p><b>AMBER</b></p>	<p><u>Safer Communities Partnership Board response to recommendation:</u> Agreed (subject to resources)</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u></p> <p>Current work includes the EIPs Safer Families Project that receives referrals from Social Care and work takes place at 3 Children's centres; on Stay and Play, outreach and counselling for victims. Further work is hoping to be developed through the new commissioning process through either the refuge provision or the advocacy support services. The new DV Coordinator will also look at this piece of work in the new year.</p>	<p>Manju Lukhman – Domestic Violence Co-ordinator – Partnership, Prevention and Safeguarding Division, Children's Service</p>
Recommendation to SCPB (accepted)	Status	Information	Contact Officers
<p><u>Recommendation Eight:</u> Encourage NHS Barnet to provide an undertaking that senior and committed health representatives will regularly attend Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference, Domestic Violence Strategic Board (DVSB) and Domestic Violence Operational Group meetings</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p>	<p><u>Safer Communities Partnership Board response to recommendation:</u> Agreed (subject to resources)</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u></p> <p>There has been regular attendance at the MARAC, DVOPS Group and the DVSB by health representatives; including mental health. The DVOPS Group keeps a regular log monitoring attendance by its partners.</p>	<p>Manju Lukhman – Domestic Violence Co-ordinator – Partnership, Prevention and Safeguarding Division, Children's Service</p>

Key:

Green = fully implemented

Amber = partially implemented

Red = no progress or significant delay in implementation

Recommendation to SCPB (accepted)	Status	Information	Contact Officers
<p><u>Recommendation Nine:</u> Encourage NHS Barnet to establish a framework for providing effective guidance, training, information and referral mechanisms for front-line staff (including GPs, accident &amp; emergency and midwives) to enable early intervention for victims of domestic violence, and that a monitoring system be developed to enable the DVSB to monitor delivery of this recommendation</p>	<b>AMBER</b>	<p><u>Safer Communities Partnership Board response to recommendation:</u> Agreed (subject to resources)</p> <p><u>Update January 2012:</u></p> <p>Initial contact has been made for the DV Coordinator to attend and speak at the GP CPD Sessions, on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2012 on domestic violence. To address referral processes and how to support clients.</p> <p>There is also a training session for newly qualified GPS that the DV Coordinator has been invited to.</p> <p>All opportunities and scoping of this work will be brought back to the DVOPS Group and DVSB by Summer 2012.</p>	<p>Manju Likhman – Domestic Violence Co-ordinator – Partnership, Prevention and Safeguarding Division, Children's Service</p>