

Council, Tuesday 11 April 2006

Opposition Policy Item to be moved by Councillor Alan Schneiderman

Respect for Barnet Campaign

Council recognises that the number one priority of Barnet residents is tackling anti-social behaviour.

Council notes Nottingham City Council's Respect for Nottingham campaign that has successfully begun to tackle begging, prostitution, street drug dealing, environmental cleanliness and anti-social behaviour.

Council believes that lessons can be learned from the Respect for Nottingham campaign and the respect initiatives of other local authorities, in particular that the Council just working harder does not by itself tackle perceptions or impact on the full range of respect issues residents are concerned about.

Council believes the London Borough of Barnet would benefit from its own *Respect for Barnet Campaign* to tackle anti-social behaviour and promote respect within local neighbourhoods.

Council notes that the *Respect for Barnet* campaign will include:

- tackling anti-social behaviour through joint tasking with the police and Barnet Homes, plus enforcement through ASBOs, fixed penalty notice and tenancy agreements,
- dealing with youth disorder and young people becoming the victims of crime by involving young people in the design and management of youth facilities,
- changing perceptions of the environment which are strongly influenced by graffiti and fly-posting by both enforcement and removal. Whilst recognising that although the borough should be clean all year round, the Council could launch a *Big Spring Clean 2007* next year to focus efforts to tackle fly-tipping, abandoned cars, overgrown and unruly gardens, and graffiti,
- joint work between the police, Council and community to combat drug dealing, and make the link between drug dealing and other criminal activity,
- addressing binge drinking and late night nuisance through Alcohol Free Zones, consulting residents on a licensing saturation policy, and a 24/7 noise nuisance service, and
- bringing back into use empty properties associated with anti-social behaviour.

Council agrees that the *Respect for Barnet Campaign* needs to use powers made available by the Government to the full, involve and engage the community and partners, provide better quality services, and offer communication on progress to residents.

Council agrees that the *Respect for Barnet Campaign* needs to set out measurable targets for achievement and undertake regular survey work of residents to assess the impact and whether perceptions are changing.

Council notes that the capacity for a successful *Respect for Barnet* Campaign has recently been increased thanks to:

- the Mayor of London's additional 13 Safer Neighbourhood Police Teams introduced to Barnet from 3 April, which will mean 39 extra police officers and at least 52 extra Police Community Support Officers patrolling the borough's streets, and
- the Government's award to Barnet of £744,312 over the next two years from the Youth Opportunity Fund and Youth Capital Fund for youth services.

Council asks Cabinet to liaise with the police and other community leaders to bring forward proposals for the *Respect for Barnet* Campaign to tackle anti-social behaviour, provide youth facilities and promote respect as part of a holistic programme.

Council also asks the Chief Executive to invite Nottingham City Council to present a seminar on the Respect for Nottingham campaign open to all ward councillors, senior officers and the local police.