

# Meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Barnet

TO BE HELD ON

Tuesday, 7 November, 2006 at 7.00pm

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## A G E N D A

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## Council Meeting

**7 November, 2006  
Agenda and Timetable**

Item	Subject	Time for Debate	Page Nos.
	<b><u>Part 1 - Statutory formalities/ Announcements (15 minutes)</u></b>	7.00pm – 7.15pm	
1.	Prayer		
2.	Apologies for absence		
3.	Minutes of last meeting held on 12 September 2006		1-50
4.	Official announcements		
5.	Declarations of interest		
6.	Any business remaining from last meeting		
	<b><u>Part 2 – Question Time (30 minutes or until 7.45pm, whichever is the longer)</u></b>	7.15pm – 7.45pm	
7.	Questions to the Leader and Cabinet		To be circulated separately
	<b><u>Part 3 — Members' Motions (60 minutes)</u></b>	7.45pm – 8.45pm	
8.	Motions in the order in which notice has been given.		
8.1	<b>From Councillor Mike Freer</b>		
	<p>Council is extremely concerned at Government proposals to give the Mayor of London greater powers over both planning and housing.</p> <p>Council notes that The Mayor of London instigated, via the Secretary of State, the move that ensured LBB altered its UDP, raising the threshold for affordable housing and stipulating a 50% level for new developments.</p>		

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	<p>Council further notes that the current Mayor of London, Ken Livingstone, has made no secret of his “love” for tall buildings or dense housing developments.</p> <p>Council believes granting the Mayor any new powers over planning and housing could further threaten Barnet’s pleasant suburban landscape, as he/she would be able to ride roughshod over local communities, local Councillors and local planning policies.</p> <p>Council further believes this could effectively nullify the Borough’s “Three Strand” Planning Policy, one that seeks to protect the suburbs while allowing for growth. The Mayor of London would not be bound in any way by this document, and could ignore all guidance therein.</p> <p>Council agrees it is of the utmost importance that these proposals are strongly opposed, otherwise Barnet’s Planning Committees would have little or no say over major developments in the Borough.</p> <p>Council therefore instructs the Chief Executive to: (a) make representations about Council’s concerns and opposition to the Government’s proposal to grant further powers to the Mayor in the formal consultation process; and (b) write to the local MPs and GLA member to ask them to raise these concerns in Parliament and at the London Assembly.</p>		

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	<p>Council also calls on Barnet's representatives on the ALG to work with the other London Boroughs, through that said body, in lobbying against these proposals</p> <p>Councillor Freer has requested, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule, Part 4, Section 1, 31.5, that if the item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting it be voted upon at the council meeting.</p>		
8.2	<b>From Councillor Helena Hart</b>		
	<p>Council welcomes and supports the All Party Statement, issued on 29th September 2006, on the Barnet, Enfield &amp; Haringey NHS Clinical Strategy.</p> <p>Council notes that this Statement came out of the recognition that none of the 10 scenarios originally put forward by the Barnet, Enfield &amp; Haringey NHS Clinical Strategy represented any improvement in service for Barnet patients. Council further notes that these scenarios importantly took no account of Barnet's projected growth in population, especially in the West of the Borough furthest from Chase Farm and the health needs of our present and future generations.</p> <p>Council believes that the four scenarios subsequently chosen for further work and consultation are equally unacceptable representing as they do an actual diminution of health services for the people of Barnet.</p> <p>Council therefore applauds and reiterates the 11th Scenario put forward by us.</p>		

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	<p>However, Council remains gravely concerned regarding the future provision of in-patient maternity and obstetric services and the fact that any transfer of such services from Chase Farm to Barnet Hospital will put intolerable strain on an already overstretched service.</p> <p>Council notes that with in-patient facilities currently being available at 6 sites across Barnet, Enfield, Haringey, Camden and Islington, Barnet still does not appear to have adequate provision for its current population - let alone the Borough's projected increase of which a large proportion is in the 15-44 age range. Council believes this equates to a real need for additional maternity, obstetric, neo natal and paediatric services. Council implores that this Borough must not have a repetition of the case where, having developed unexpected complications during a natural birth, a mother was turned away from the nearest hospital with in-patient provision because it was full before finally being accepted by Chase Farm.</p> <p>Council therefore requests the Chief Executive to write to the Chief Executives of both Barnet PCT and all the various Trusts involved in the provision of in-patient maternity and obstetric services to inform them of our concerns. Council further requests that they ensure that systems are in place not only to provide safe and timely back up in these cases but that the Ambulance service is always in possession of the most up to date information and thereby able to immediately transport the mother to the nearest hospital with space available.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>V</b></p>		

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	<p>Councillor Hart has requested, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule, Part 4, Section 1, 31.5, that if the item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting it be voted upon at the council meeting.</p>		
8.3	<p><b>From Councillor Anne Hutton</b></p>		
	<p>Council regrets that the OFSTED inspection report published on 10 October 2006 has found Barnet's Youth Service to be performing overall at "minimum requirements", and is only performing at minimum requirements in the inspection categories of 'standards of achievement', 'curriculum and resources' and 'management'.</p> <p>Council regrets that Barnet invests less money in young people than any other local authority in England. Council recalls that the amount invested in youth services by Barnet has dropped every year since 2002, including the £300,000 reduction of the youth service budget in 2004, the closure of youth centres and removal of youth worker posts.</p> <p>Council regrets that the OFSTED report states of the youth service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "The service is poorly funded and funding levels have fallen over the previous three years. To accommodate budget cuts, managers have made efficiency savings."</li> <li>• "A commitment to increase funding has not been given".</li> <li>• "The number of young people benefiting from this work is low",</li> </ul>		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Few young people gain formal accreditation for their work”,</li> <li>• “There are significant gaps and the low level of funding hinders the development of more work to meet the needs of all young people.”</li> </ul> <p>Council notes that OFSTED state the Council must do more work, in particular to reach young women, Chinese young people, young people with learning difficulties and disabilities, and young gay men and lesbians.</p> <p>Council asks the Cabinet to bring forward an urgent plan of action, within the Key Priority Plan 2007/8 dealing with the Youth Service, to address the failings identified by OFSTED.</p> <p>Councillor Hutton has requested, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule, Part 4, Section 1, 31.5, that if the item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting it be voted upon at the council meeting.</p>		
8.4	<b>From Councillor Zakia Zubairi</b>		
	<p>Council believes that local community, voluntary and faith groups make a massive contribution to the life and well-being of the London Borough of Barnet. Council recognises that continuing to work in partnership with these organisations is important to build stronger communities, and in particular to work towards successful and sustainable outcomes for the Borough’s regeneration projects. The provision of, and access to, community facilities to support community, voluntary and faith groups is a priority for the Council.</p>		

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	<p>Council welcomes community use of Grahame Park Community Centre from Monday to Saturday. Council supports the request from faith groups for the community centre to be open on Sundays, and Council believes this would also benefit many local community and voluntary groups contributing towards the successful regeneration of the Grahame Park estate. Council asks the Cabinet to work in partnership with Barnet Homes to work towards Sunday opening of Grahame Park Community Centre.</p> <p>Councillor Zubairi has requested, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule, Part 4, Section 1, 31.5, that if the item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting it be voted upon at the council meeting.</p>		
8.5	<b>From Councillor Brian Gordon</b>		
	<p>Council notes the Government's proposal to introduce statutory quotas into state-aided faith schools imposing a fixed percentage of places to be made available to pupils outside the main faith of respective schools. Council considers this to be an unwarranted interference in educational freedom and parental choice, unlikely in practice to lead to more inter-religious tolerance and understanding.</p> <p>Council affirms its pride in Barnet's faith schools, noting their excellent achievements. It is equally proud of the very good standard of inter-community relations prevailing within the Borough. Council resolves that if a system of quotas is in due course introduced, to the extent that local education authorities have the freedom to</p>		



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	<p>regulate such matters independently, quotas will not be imposed on faith schools in Barnet.</p> <p>Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Education and Skills informing him of the content of this motion and urging him to take it into account in future educational deliberations.</p> <p>Councillor Gordon has requested, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule, Part 4, Section 1, 31.5, that if the item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting it be voted upon at the council meeting.</p>		
	<b>Break</b>	8.45pm – 9.00pm	
	<b>Part 4 – Policy Development (60 minutes)</b>	9.00pm – 10.00pm	
9.1	<p><b>Administration Policy Item (30 minutes)</b></p> <p>21<sup>st</sup> Century Libraries</p>		51
9.2	<p><b>Opposition Policy Item (30 minutes)</b></p> <p>Greener Homes: improving environmental sustainability in local housing</p>		52-58
	<b>Part 5 – Statutory Council Business (40 minutes)</b>	10.00pm – 10:40pm	
10.	<p>Report from Cabinet, 16 October 2006</p> <p>(i) Youth Justice Plan</p> <p>(ii) Welsh Harp Local Nature Reserve Byelaws</p>		59
11.	Reports from Overview and Scrutiny committees		

12.	Reports from Other Committees		
12.1	Licensing Committee, 18 October 2006 Gambling Act 2005		60-86
13.	Reports of Officers		
13.1	Acting Democratic Services Manager 1. Leader's Scheme of Delegation 2. Changes in Committee Memberships 3. First Class Education and Children Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Appointment of Parent Governor Representatives 4. Representation of the Council on the London Councils – Culture, Tourism and the Olympics Forum		87-88
13.2	Head of Planning and Environmental Protection  The Joint Waste Development Plan for North London and the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (Amendment) (No.2) (England) Regulations 2005		89-93
13.3	Monitoring Officer		
	<b>Part 6 Accountability (20 minutes)</b>	10.40pm – 11.00pm	
14.	Comments on the work of the Cabinet (10 minutes) –		
14.1	<b>From Councillor Barry Rawlings</b> To comment on the work of the Cabinet with regard to the closure of South Friern Library.		

14.2	<p><b>From Councillor Alan Schneiderman</b></p> <p>To comment on the work of the Cabinet with regard to the Council working in partnership with the police on council-owned accommodation for the Woodhouse, West Finchley and Coppetts wards Safer Neighbourhood Police Teams, introduced by Mayor of London Ken Livingstone.</p>		
14.3	<p><b>From Councillor Wayne Casey</b></p> <p>Comment on the work of the Cabinet in relation to public health, specifically on the Council's representative role, such as it is, in disputes between Barnet residents and the NHS.</p>		
15.	<p>Questions to representatives on outside bodies (10 minutes)</p>		None

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