

# Meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Barnet

TO BE HELD ON

Tuesday, 19 December, 2006 at 7.00pm

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## A G E N D A

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## Council Meeting

**19 December, 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 7 November 2006		1 - 44
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 Brian Salinger</b>		
	Barnet Council notes the publication by the Government Office for London and the London Development Agency of the 162 page ‘booklet’ entitled <i>Ten, (Town Centre Enhancement in North London....a design led approach to sustainable town centre intensification)</i> which sets out to demonstrate how various town centres across North London could be intensified.		

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	<p>The Council however regrets that the document contains plans for North Finchley and Friern Barnet, neither of which are in any way acceptable to the Council and which must be confined to an appropriate waste bin.</p> <p>Council makes clear that it will not contemplate plans for multi-storey building on each and every car park in North Finchley to provide an extra 600 (car free) homes, in building up to 8 storeys high as well as 10,000 sq metres of retail space and 2000 sq metres of workspace. The plan also envisages a new mews development utilising existing back gardens.</p> <p>Council does not believe that any of the plans for North Finchley would do anything to enhance the town centre or improve the lives of people who live in the area.</p> <p>Council also makes clear that the ideas for Friern Barnet which include 1500 more homes created by re-building the Friern Bridge retail park with shops with housing over, building housing on the former sewage works site, the edges of the Muswell Hill Golf course and the building of luxury homes on part of the Coppetts Wood Nature Reserve are totally unacceptable. Council notes that the sewage works site and the golf course are in Haringey, and that plans for residential use of the sewage works site were rejected by that Council some years ago.</p> <p>Council believes that none of these proposals would do anything to improve life in the Friern Barnet or South Friern areas.</p>		

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	<p>Council regrets that the public money was squandered on this ill fated research which appears to have been done with little or no reference to Councillors or officers of the Borough or to our published planning policies.</p> <p>Council instructs the Chief Executive to make the Council's displeasure with the ideas contained in the document in so far as they apply to Barnet, and the waste of money, known to Government Office for London and the London Development Agency</p>		
8.2	<b>From Councillor Linda McFadyen</b>		
	<p>Council deeply regrets that for the third year running Barnet's Adult Social Services has received just a one star grading by CSCI.</p> <p>Council further regrets that the Adult Social Services star rating has fallen since the Tory administration took control of Barnet Council in 2002.</p> <p>Despite what the ex-Cabinet member described as significant investment, the service still only manages to meet the needs of "some" of Barnet's residents, fails to meet the needs of carers, those with physical disabilities and those with HIV and AIDS and those with drug and alcohol problems.</p> <p>Furthermore the robustness of management, finance and performance data leaves much to be desired and does not support the accurate planning of provision and appropriate services.</p>		

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	<p>Council requests the new Cabinet member give her firm assurance to Council that the service will have improved sufficiently by next year to be judged at least a “good” service if she fails to lead a service which achieves “excellent” status.</p> <p>Councillor McFadyen 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 Alison Moore</b></p>		
	<p>Council welcomes the investment by the Labour Government and the Labour Mayor of London Ken Livingstone in the roll out of Safer Neighbourhoods Teams to all wards across Barnet and the proposed future expansion of those teams. This has already resulted in a 20% increase in police numbers in Barnet since 2001.</p> <p>Following the recent news that crime is falling faster in Barnet than any other London borough, Council recognises and applauds the success of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams role in reducing crime and the fear of crime across Barnet.</p> <p>Council asks the Chief Executive to write to the Borough Commander, the Safer Neighbourhood Teams and Ken Livingstone to congratulate them on the success of the scheme.</p> <p>Councillor Moore 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>		

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<b>8.4</b>	<b>From Councillor Melvin Cohen</b>		
	<p>Council is proud of Barnet's Green Belt, which extends halfway down through the middle of the Borough, and protects the Borough's pleasant, suburban landscape.</p> <p>Council is equally proud to recall that the former Hendon Borough Council was the first Council in the country to designate land as Green Belt, back in 1937.</p> <p>Council is therefore dismayed that the Barker Review into Land Use Planning, commissioned by the Labour Government, is calling for more development on the Green Belt.</p> <p>Council believes that any relaxation in Green Belt restrictions will lead to rash of housing developments across the Borough, which would decimate Barnet's environment.</p> <p>Council notes that at least some of the Barker Review's recommendations are expected to go into the Labour Government's Planning White Paper next year.</p> <p>Council calls on the Chief Executive to make representations to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, opposing any moves to permit more housing on the Green Belt in the White Paper as a result of the Barker Review.</p> <p>Councillor Cohen 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>8.5</b>	<b>From Councillor Mike Freer</b>		
	<p>Council reaffirms its support for the Olympic and Paralympic Games as a national event. Council continues to urge the Olympic Delivery Authority to ensure the benefits are spread across the London Boroughs and that Barnet receives a fair share.</p> <p>Council is, however, extremely concerned about extra costs now being associated with the Games.</p> <p>Council notes that the original estimate (for the Olympic Park construction), of £2.4 billion, has now risen by £900 million to £3.3 billion.</p> <p>Council further notes that £625 million of the original cost is already set to be met by London taxpayers, costing our residents an average of £20 a year for 25 years.</p> <p>Council understands that the total bill for the Olympics is set to soar to over £8 billion.</p> <p>Council believes that the budget is spiralling out of control. Council is extremely concerned that Barnet taxpayers may have to “bail out” the Games, after a “Memorandum of Understanding” decreed that overspends are to be met partly from the Council Tax.</p> <p>Council calls on the Chief Executive to write to both the Secretary of State for Culture and the Chancellor, requesting that urgent action be taken to bring the Olympics budget back under control, and requesting that Barnet receives a fair share of investment in facilities.</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.		
	<b>Break</b>	8.45pm – 9.00pm	
	<b>Part 4 – Policy Development (60 minutes)</b>	9.00pm – 10.00pm	
9.1	<b>Administration Policy Item (30 minutes)</b> Budget 2007/08		45
9.2	<b>Opposition Policy Item (30 minutes)</b> Supporting Solar Systems		46-48
	<b>Part 5 – Statutory Council Business (40 minutes)</b>	10.00pm – 10:40pm	
10.	Reports from Cabinet		
11.	Reports from Overview and Scrutiny committees		
12.	Reports from Other Committees		
13.	Reports of Officers		
13.1	Democratic Services Manager 1. Reports exempted from the call-in process because they are urgent. 2. Members' Allowances Scheme 2007-8		49  To follow
13.2	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	<p><b>From Councillor Wayne Casey</b></p> <p>To comment on the Council's, and the Cabinet Member's, influence over the Borough Commander's strategy for the deployment of police across Barnet.</p>		
15.	<p>Questions to representatives on outside bodies (10 minutes)</p>		None

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