Council Meeting 17 April 2007

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER Agenda item 14.1

2. Comments on the Work of Cabinet – Agenda Item 15

Further Comments in the names of

(i)Councillor Robert Rams:

"To comment on the work of Cabinet with respect to Equalities and Diversity"

(ii)Councillor Maureen Braun

"Comment on the Work of the Cabinet Member for the Environment and Transport, specifically on the work being done to enhance our town centres."

(iii)Councillor Ross Houston

"To comment on the Cabinet member's verbal commitment [at the Council meeting on 27th June, 2006] to address the issue of restoring cross-party representation on the Barnet Community & Police Consultative Group."

(iv) Councillor Monroe Palmer

"To comment on the way the Passover/Easter Skip Service has been run this year"

3. Reports exempted from the call-in process because they are urgent: I refer to Item 1 of my report.

The following additional Cabinet Member Delegated Powers decision has been exempted from liability to call-in:

The Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport authorised tender acceptance for the bridgeworks element of the Aerodrome Road Bridge replacement project and instructed officers to explore funding sources for the highways element, reporting back to the Cabinet Resources Committee on extension of the contract to cover that element.

They exempted these decisions from call-in because of the critically-tight procurement timescale.

The Chairman of the Cabinet Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed that the decision proposed was reasonable in all the circumstances, and was urgent and therefore consented to the exemption from call-in.

4. Amendments to Item on the Agenda

(i) Motion 9.2: in the name of Councillor Melvin Cohen

An amendment in the name of Councillor Jim Tierney

"Delete all after "Council " and add:

(Council) notes, welcomes and supports the aims of both the Sustainable Communities bill and the Local Government & Public Health bill in their intention to devolve power to local communities.

Council notes that both bills are still in process in Parliament and are therefore subject to amendment and refinement.

Council also notes, welcomes and supports the aims of the draft SPD which gives guidance on sustainability for new build in Barnet.

Council believes that more must be done, both at a national and local level to promote participation & sustainability.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Call on Cabinet to bring forward measures that address and promote sustainability in all existing buildings and facilities in Barnet, in addition to new build
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in support of the Community Call to Action and neighbourhood management agenda detailed within the Local Government Bill , and inform her of our local "Democratic Champions" project
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the leading MPs sponsoring the Sustainable Communities bill asking them to ensure
- 1. that the outcome of the bill will not mean additional unwieldy bureaucracy and costs to local council tax payers;
- 2. and that disadvantaged communities will not be further disenfranchised as a result of the so-called "localism" of the bill
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to Barnet's three local MPs informing them of this resolution and asking them to support the points raised within it.

So that the motion reads:

Council notes, welcomes and supports the aims of both the Sustainable Communities bill and the Local Government & Public Health bill in their intention to devolve power to local communities.

Council notes that both bills are still in process in Parliament and are therefore subject to amendment and refinement.

Council also notes, welcomes and supports the aims of the draft SPD which gives guidance on sustainability for new build in Barnet.

Council believes that more must be done, both at a national and local level to promote participation & sustainability.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Call on Cabinet to bring forward measures that address and promote sustainability in all existing buildings and facilities in Barnet, in addition to new build
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- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the leading MPs sponsoring the Sustainable Communities bill asking them to ensure
- 1. that the outcome of the bill will not mean additional unwieldy bureaucracy and costs to local council tax payers;
- 2. and that disadvantaged communities will not be further disenfranchised as a result of the so-called "localism" of the bill
- · Ask the Chief Executive to write to Barnet's three local MPs informing them of this resolution and asking them to support the points raised within it.""

Councillor Tierney has requested, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 31.5 that if the item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting it be voted upon at the council meeting

(ii) Motion 9.3: In the name of Councillor Helena Hart

(i)An amendment in the name of Councillor Monroe Palmer:

"In penultimate para alter to read

"...inviting her to discuss problems in the local NHS with the <u>Leaders of the three political Groups of this Council</u> as asolution.""

(ii) an amendment in the name of Councillor Linda McFadyen

"Delete all after "...have committed themselves to our National Health Service ..." and add:

Council notes the Labour Government's year on year investment in the NHS in stark contrast to the decades of under funding by successive Tory governments from 1979 – 1997.

Council understands the need to work in partnership with health agencies to support and deliver strong and progressive health services for local people in Barnet.

Council therefore requests that Barnet's Supporting the Vulnerable in our Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee scrutiny follows the example of the cross party Enfield Health Scrutiny and commissions a report to look at the proposed health service changes at Barnet, Chase Farm and North Middlesex, and the implemented changes at the Royal Free, and how they impact on the provision of health service improvements to the residents of Barnet.

This should be an independent report that includes the evaluation of primary care provision for Barnet residents, how social services works with health in the provision of seamless care and how other council services contribute to the public health agenda.

Substantive motion to read:

Council notes the Department of Health's formal "Consultation on Core Principles for Everyone Providing Care to NHS Patients"

The 10 Core Principles are:-

- The NHS will provide a universal and comprehensive service with equal access for all, free at the point of use, based on clinical need, not ability to pay.
- · We will help keep people healthy and work to reduce health inequalities.
- · We will work continuously to improve quality and safety.
- · We will strive for the most effective and sustainable use of resources.
- · We will treat every patient with dignity and respect.
- · We will shape our services around the needs and preferences of individual patients, their families and their carers.
- We are committed to equality and non-discrimination.
- We will support and value our staff.
- · We will work in partnership with others to ensure a seamless service for patients.

• We will respect the confidentiality of individual patients and provide open access to information about services, treatment and performance.

Council wishes to affirm its unwavering support for each and every one of these principles which as always are based on the NHS providing a universal and comprehensive service with equal access for all, free at the point of use, based on clinical need not ability to pay.

Council also wishes to confirm its appreciation and support for the hard work and professionalism of all those doctors, nurses and midwives who have committed themselves to our National Health Service.

Council notes the Labour Government's year on year investment in the NHS in stark contrast to the decades of under funding by successive Tory governments from 1979 – 1997.

Council understands the need to work in partnership with health agencies to support and deliver strong and progressive health services for local people in Barnet.

Council therefore requests that Barnet's Supporting the Vulnerable in our Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee scrutiny follows the example of the cross party Enfield Health Scrutiny and commissions a report to look at the proposed health service changes at Barnet, Chase Farm and North Middlesex, and the implemented changes at the Royal Free, and how they impact on the provision of health service improvements to the residents of Barnet.

This should be an independent report that includes the evaluation of primary care provision for Barnet residents, how social services works with health in the provision of seamless care and how other council services contribute to the public health agenda.""

Councillor McFadyen has requested, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 31.5 that if the item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting it be voted upon at the council meeting.

(iii) Item 10.2: Opposition Policy Item

An amendment in the name of Councillor Brian Coleman

"Amend the Policy Item so that it reads:

"Council notes the fledgling project on Democratic Champions and its intention to respond to those aims.

Council believes that increased public participation requires public confidence in consultation.

Council notes that one of the stated aims of the Council's consultation strategy is "to ensure Barnet's residents and civil society has the fullest possible opportunity to become involved."

Council therefore welcomes moves to increase public participation through initiatives such as "The Leader Listens".

Council believes this success is reflected in the 2006/7 Residents' Attitude Survey, with 71% of respondents saying that the Council keeps them informed (compared to 49% in 2002) and 72% stating that the Council does a "Good

Job", both above the London Average. Barnet is the only Outer London Council to have recorded an increase in Customer Satisfaction in recent years.

Council therefore calls on Cabinet to ensure the success of these initiatives is maintained and enhanced to further improve the level of engagement between this Council and its residents.""

(iv) Agenda Item 13.1: Report of the Special Committee (Constitution Review) 28 March 2007

An amendment in the name of Councillor Jack Cohen:

"Recommendation (1) (iii) add "except that part which refers to membership of the Planning and Environment Committee. And that this part shall read, 1 Councillor from each Ward with 21 Substitutes, excluding Cabinet Members. And that any consequential changes to the Constitution arising out of this be amended accordingly."

But that in the event that there is no change to recommendation (1) (iii), Council agrees that provision be made in the Constitution so that when a planning application is considered by the Planning and Environment Committee but no Member for the relevant Ward is a member of the Committee, any Member of the ward in question will have the right to speak at the Committee.

Recommendation (1) (iv) add "that provision be made that members may raise a point of Order relating to a factual error"

Recommendation (1) (vi) be deleted and subsequent recommendations be renumbered

Recommendation (1) (viii) add "except that part relating to the rule relating to written questions i.e. that the existing rule relating to written questions be not changed"

Recommendation (2) delete all and renumber subsequent Recommendations

Recommendation (3) add " with one from each political party" after the word "three"

Add new recommendations as follows and number appropriately

That changes to Council Procedure rules Section 1 paragraph 17 A be reconsidered by the Special Committee (constitution review)

That the rules relating to public participation be amended to provide that (1) Petitions, and submissions from Resident Associations objecting to Planning Applications will trigger a referral to the relevant planning committee. (2) That where a member of the public has given notice of intention to speak on planning application under consideration by a planning committee, but either does not exercise that right or does not attend the applicant will still have the opportunity to speak. "

5. Agenda item 8: Questions to the Leader and Cabinet.

The Leader has made the following clarifications to his answer to Question 35:

The answer provided by the Leader in Q35 should read 503 posts deleted. The number of staff who have left because of redundancy is 404.

In the last line on page 11 there is a missing figure to this

" Which on a net spend on approx. **£2billion** over the same period equates to 0.27% of expenditure ""

Janet Rawlings Democratic Services Manager