

Council Meeting
11 September 2007

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER
Agenda item 13.1

6. Amendments to Items on the Agenda

(i) *Motion 8.1: in the name of Councillor Mike Freer*

(a) An amendment in the name of Councillor Andreas Tambourides

“Insert the following after the First Paragraph:

"Council further deplores the appalling desecration of Churches and Religious sites seen in the occupied areas since the Turkish invasion in 1974 as chronicled by Doros Partasides in his exhibition 'The Loss of Religious Heritage' and urges the British Government to apply pressure on Turkey for their restoration to their original condition."

So that it reads:

“Council is dismayed that the island of Cyprus continues to be divided since the Turkish invasion and illegal occupation in 1974 and that Greek families remain unable to return to their homes in the north of the island.

Council further deplores the appalling desecration of Churches and Religious sites seen in the occupied areas since the Turkish invasion in 1974 as chronicled by Doros Partasides in his exhibition 'The Loss of Religious Heritage' and urges the British Government to apply pressure on Turkey for their restoration to their original condition.

Council believes an equitable solution must be found that would re-unify the island and allow Greek Cypriot refugees to move back into the property seized from them in 1974.

However, Council deplores the inaction by the Labour Government in securing such a settlement, and the increasingly apparent anti-Greek bias demonstrated for example by former PM Tony Blair's intervention in the Annan 5 referendum.

Council believes this bias has sadly been compounded by the appointment of a Special Envoy to the island. While the long-overdue establishment of such a post is to be commended, the choice of appointee is not.

Council notes that Joan Ryan MP has shown increasing partiality on Cypriot affairs, including calling for direct flights to occupied "northern" Cyprus.

Council understands that the wisdom of this appointment has already been questioned by a Senior Foreign & Commonwealth Official.

The holder of such a vital role must show impartiality and neutrality, Council believes, traits that Ms. Ryan has recently proved not to show.

Council accordingly requests the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister, asking him to urgently reconsider Ms Ryan's appointment to the post of Special Envoy to Cyprus in view of her recently publicised Turkish Cypriot connections.””

Councillor Andreas Tambourides has requested under Standing Order 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) An amendment in the name of Councillor Monroe Palmer

"Council believes that Cyprus can succeed as an independent state only with reconciliation and respect for the fundamental rights of both the Greek and the Turkish communities. Council believes that the government of the United Kingdom, the European Union and the United Nations should seek a solution that balances the interests of the two communities within a democratic federal state with a single international identity, its independence being guaranteed by the United Nations. Further, that a future settlement of property rights must recognise the legitimate claims of the Greek Cypriot population who were evicted in 1974 - an issue of particular concern to the citizens of the Municipality of Morphou with whom the London Borough of Barnet is twinned."

Delete the third paragraph."

(ii) ***Motion 8.2: in the name of Councillor Helena Hart***

An Amendment in the name of Councillor Andrew McNeil

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the council meeting.

"Delete all after "Council..." and insert:

"...welcomes the Government's introduction of the Healthcare Commission and its inspection regime that has identified an urgent need to improve infection control procedures at Barnet & Chase Farm Hospitals.

Council believes it is imperative that action to improve hygiene and standards of care at both hospitals continues.

Council notes that the Chief Executive of Barnet & Chase Farm Hospital Trust is due to attend the Supporting the Vulnerable in our Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting in 7 days time to update Members on the situation.

Council notes that members of the Scrutiny Committee will have the opportunity to scrutinise, robustly and in detail, the action taken by the Trust to remedy failings raised in the Healthcare Commission's Improvement Notice.

Council believes that Barnet residents rightly expect good local health care and pledges to continue to assist the Trust in whatever way possible in order to resolve these issues, protect the public, and ensure the excellent service patients deserve."

Substantive motion to read:

"Council welcomes the Government's introduction of the Healthcare Commission and its inspection regime that has identified an urgent need to improve infection control procedures at Barnet & Chase Farm Hospitals.

Council believes it is imperative that action to improve hygiene and standards of care at both hospitals continues.

Council notes that the Chief Executive of Barnet & Chase Farm Hospital Trust is due to attend the Supporting the Vulnerable in our Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting in 7 days time to update Members on the situation.

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Council believes that Barnet residents rightly expect good local health care and pledges to continue to assist the Trust in whatever way possible in order to resolve these issues, protect the public, and ensure the excellent service patients deserve."

(iii) *Motion 8.3: in the name of Councillor Charlie O-Macauley*

An Amendment in the name of Councillor Fiona Bulmer

"Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the council meeting.

"Delete all after "Council" and insert:

...is proud of its Youth Service, which has been achieving highly and has seen an increase in investment from a diverse range of sources, including an extra £983,000 in external funding secured so far this year.

Council recalls that in 2006 the range of enjoyable and challenging services on offer to young people, including sports, arts, health projects, residential and adventurous activities was widened.

Council notes that 5,000 local children benefited from the council's £200,000 investment in additional holiday activities this summer. Council also notes that the recently published directory, 'Things to do in Barnet' lists more than 500 activities for young people across the Borough.

Council believes the best activities for young people are those that have input from users of the service, therefore Council is pleased the service has developed a Barnet Youth Bank that allows young decision makers to allocate money and resources.

Council welcomes the results of Best Value Indicators that consistently show our Youth Service is providing value for money to our residents. Council notes that in 2005/6 it exceeded its target of young people gaining recorded outcomes.

Council believes that these broad, diverse range of activities are preferable to the often outdated and outmoded youth centres of the past.

Council is disappointed that it is still not clear where the Government's stated extra investment in youth facilities will go and if Barnet will receive any additional funding. However, Council will continue to build on its record of attracting external funding for the service.

Accordingly Council calls on Cabinet to continue the improvement in scope and range of activities for the young people of Barnet by continuing to harness extra investment from a range of sources."

(iv) *Motion 8.4: in the name of Councillor Anne Hutton*
An Amendment in the name of Councillor Fiona Bulmer

"Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the council meeting.

"Amend the Motion so that it reads:

Council believes that the early years are crucial to a child's development and their future prospects and welcomes the diverse range of childcare offered by voluntary and private sector in Barnet which proves popular with parents.

Council however regrets that the Government's own scheme, the London Childcare Affordability Programme (CAP), has proved much less popular with local parents, with no take-ups of this scheme in the Borough despite the full co-operation of LBB and 30 day care places being offered.

Council notes there are 7 other local authorities in London with a nil take-up of full day care places and 8 others with a nil return for flexible places.

Council believes the Government must urgently re-assess this programme and offer a framework that meets local needs.

Accordingly, Council calls on Cabinet to press the Government to review and amend the scheme into a format likely to prove more popular with Barnet's parents."

(v) *Motion 8.5: in the name of Councillor Colin Rogers*
An Amendment in the name of Councillor Matthew Offord

"Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the council meeting.

"Amend the Motion so that it reads:

Council is proud of its record in encouraging the use of more sustainable modes of travel such as cycling, and believes that increasing cycling rates can help combat obesity and protect the environment by reducing congestion.

Council welcomes LBB's work (with an investment of £48,000 this year) in promoting safer cycling in the Borough's schools, including one to one route training for secondary school children from home. Cycling is also, Council notes, an integral part of the Council's Sustainable School Travel and Transport Strategy.

Council further welcomes the investment being made by the Borough in improving the cycle network across the Borough, to a total of £555,000 by 2010.

Council also believes that the resurfacing and road repairs across the Borough make for improved cycling on our roads, as this decreases the number of potholes and obstructions that cyclists must circumnavigate.

Council accordingly calls on Cabinet to continue its work to improve cycling training, cycle routes, and the investment in road repairs across the Borough, all of which encourage and promote cycling as a sustainable, pleasurable and healthy form of transport."

(vi) *Item 9.1: Administration Policy Item*

(a) An Amendment in the name Councillor Susette Palmer

"After the words "Accordingly, Cabinet is requested to:" and after point three to add a **point four**:

"That the Cabinet Member for the Environment reports back to the Council progress against the Opposition Policy Item "Supporting Solar Systems" - approved by Council on 19th December 2006 with the following recommendations

That the Cabinet considers an amendment to the Corporate Plan to include an additional service objective under the key priority Clean, Green & Safe of "encouraging the community to take positive steps to improve the energy efficiency of their homes – including through the installation of the new generation of solar energy systems." Further, that the Cabinet considers an amendment to the Corporate Plan to change key priority A Successful Suburb (service outcome 35) to insert the words "energy efficient" between the words "high quality" and "sustainable".

2. That the Cabinet considers investigating the feasibility of community-run local cooperatives and/or a single Barnet-wide co-operative for the production of solar energy, and, if feasible, establishing of a pilot project

3. Depending upon the outcome of (2), the Cabinet considers promoting the establishment of local cooperatives and/or a single Barnet-wide cooperative through Barnet First and the Barnet Council website

4. Depending upon the outcome of (2), the Cabinet considers the desirability, practicality and legality of contributing some of its roof space to the cooperative for the installation of its equipment."

(b) An Amendment in the name of Councillor Jim Tierney

"Delete all after "Barnet's..." and insert:

"...environmental achievements to date have been extensive and have included:

- Kerbside re-cycling collections introduced in 2001, to be extended in 2008
- Solar Panels and wind turbines on some schools
- A Carbon Trust Audit on Barnet's Energy usage
- Opting for green energy at Council sites where possible
- Energy efficiency measures at Council properties
- Solar powered parking machines
- A groundbreaking SPD designed to ensure sustainability in new developments

However, in order to tackle Climate Change, we believe that further action should be taken to

identify and reduce the authority's Carbon Footprint, and that a specific environmental policy is

worked up to tackle it.

In addition, in its leadership role as a place-shaper, we believe the authority should continue to promote and encourage sustainable practices in the wider community, particularly in helping local residents make their homes and lifestyles more energy and resource efficient.

Accordingly, Cabinet is requested to:

- 1) Identify scope and analysis to determine the Council's carbon footprint, either through in-house work or by joining the Carbon Trust's Local Authority management programme.
- 2) Investigate whether potentially unavoidable carbon emissions can be effectively "offset" by investing in external projects to cut and control CO2.
- 3) Focus on new areas of the authority that could be supplied by "green" energy.
- 4) Develop an overall strategy for environmentally sustainable housing, including existing housing, to help reduce carbon emissions
- 5) Encourage local residents to access energy efficiency grants, discounts and programmes, like London's Green Homes Programme that offers cut price cavity wall insulation
- 6) Further develop its own offer to assist Barnet residents in improving the energy efficiency of their own homes
- 7) Place more emphasis on and bid for more resources to promote and encourage more sustainable modes of transportation as a practical alternative to the motor-car
- 8) Devise and promote a campaign to encourage household and business water efficiency
- 9) Devise and promote a campaign giving residents information on the use of plastic packaging in stores and supermarkets so that they can make an informed choice about where they shop and what they buy"

Substantive motion to read:

"Barnet's environmental achievements to date have been extensive and have included:

- Kerbside re-cycling collections introduced in 2001, to be extended in 2008**
- Solar Panels and wind turbines on some schools**
- A Carbon Trust Audit on Barnet's Energy usage**
- Opting for green energy at Council sites where possible**
- Energy efficiency measures at Council properties**
- Solar powered parking machines**
- A groundbreaking SPD designed to ensure sustainability in new developments**

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2) Investigate whether potentially unavoidable carbon emissions can be effectively "offset" by investing in external projects to cut and control CO2.

3) Focus on new areas of the authority that could be supplied by "green" energy.

4) Develop an overall strategy for environmentally sustainable housing, including existing housing, to help reduce carbon emissions

5) Encourage local residents to access energy efficiency grants, discounts and programmes, like London's Green Homes Programme that offers cut price cavity wall insulation

6) Further develop it's own offer to assist Barnet residents in improving the energy efficiency of their own homes

7) Place more emphasis on and bid for more resources to promote and encourage more sustainable modes of transportation as a practical alternative to the motor-car

8) Devise and promote a campaign to encourage household and business water efficiency

9) Devise and promote a campaign giving residents information on the use of plastic packaging in stores and supermarkets so that they can make an informed choice about where they shop and what they buy”

**(vii) Item 12.1: Report of the Special Committee (Constituion Review) 31 July 2007
Review of the Governance Arrangements for the London Borough of Barnet Pension Fund**

Amendment in name of Councillor Jack Cohen

“delete all the words in recommendation 3 and insert:

" allocate a special responsibility allowance to the Chairman of the Pension fund Committee, to be paid for by the pension fund .”

For the sake of clarity, Councillor Jack Cohen is also adding the words “to include the Chairman” after the work “Committee” in recommendation 9(a).

7. Changes in Committee Memberships

The Conservative Group has indicated that they wish to make the following changes.

RECOMMEND – That the following change in Committee Memberships be approved:

- **Councillor Eva Greenspan to replace Councillor Andreas Tambourides as Chairman of the Planning and Environment Committee.**
- **Councillor Andreas Tambourides to replace Eva Greenspan as a Member of the Licensing Committee.**
- **Councillor Andreas Tambourides to replace Councillor Eva Greenspan as Chairman of the Licensing Committee.**

8. Report of the Special Committee (Constitution Review) – Proposed Pension Fund Committee

The Special Committee recommends, in its report of 31 July, that a Special Responsibility Allowance be attached to the Chairmanship of the proposed new Pension Fund Committee, subject to consideration of the views of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

The Panel have now been consulted on this proposal, by email and all three members have confirmed their agreement.

RECOMMEND – That Council note that the Independent Review Panel support the proposal that the Chairman of the Pensions Fund Committee receives a Special Responsibility Allowance at scale 4.

9. Comments on the Work of Cabinet – Agenda Item 14

Further Comments in the names of

(i) Councillor Susette Palmer

“Comment on the apparent inability of Barnet's policy departments to provide A4 summaries of the policy documents, committee and cabinet papers we are expected to read.”

(ii) Councillor Joan Scannell

“Comment on the work of the Cabinet Member for Community Engagement and Community Safety, specifically on the installation of CCTV.”

(iii) Councillor Jeremy Davies

“Comment on the work of the cabinet in respect of public order and other issues in the vicinity of Salcombe Gardens Mill Hill NW7.”

(iv) Councillor Julie Johnson

“Comment on the scrutiny improvement programme and thank Graham Smith for his efforts and energy in engaging members.”

(v) Councillor Andrew McNeil

“Comment on dilapidations in Cherry Tree Wood.”

(vi) Councillor Barry Rawlings

“Comment on outstanding questions regarding domestic violence.”

(vii) Councillor Wendy Prentice.

“Comment on the Cabinet Member for Investment in Learning, specifically on the Library Strategy.”

10. Alteration to the Members' Licensing Code of Good Practice

As a consequence of the introduction of a new Members' Code of Conduct which was approved by Council on 26 June 2007, it has been necessary to review the Members' Licensing Code of Good Practice, in particular to clarify the procedure for Members wishing to attend hearings in which they have a prejudicial interest. The revised Code is attached at Appendix C.

RECOMMEND - That the revised Members' Licensing Code of Good Practice attached at Appendix C to this report be approved and the Democratic Services Manager be instructed to make the appropriate changes to the Constitution.

11. Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2007/2008

Attached at Appendix D is the report of the Democratic Services Manager

RECOMMEND – That the proposed forward plan work programmes for 2007/2008 identified by the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees, with the exception of the Cabinet Overview and Scrutiny Committee, be approved.

Janet Rawlings
Democratic Services Manager

Members Licensing Code of Practice
(September 2007)

1. This Code of Practice applies only to hearings of the Licensing Committee or Licensing Sub-Committee to consider licence applications under the Licensing Act 2003 or the Gambling Act 2005. All references to “Sub-Committee” within this Code will be construed also to refer to meetings of the Licensing Committee considering such applications.

This Code of Practice has been prepared for all Members who may attend licensing sub-committee meetings, whether as Members of a Licensing Sub-Committee, or in any other capacity, including to make representations to such a sub-committee as a Ward Member, or as an applicant, or an interested party.

This note has been drawn from good practice, the local code of conduct, Standards Board for England guidance and the LACORS (Local Authorities Co-ordinators of Regulatory Services) guidance: “The role of Elected Members in relation to Licensing Committee Hearings under the Licensing Act 2003” (February 2005).

The definitions of ‘personal’ and ‘prejudicial’ interests in the context of the Licensing Act are the same as for all other areas of the Council’s work, and are provided at paragraphs 8 and 10 of the Members’ Code of Conduct contained within the Constitution. The Standards Board has stated “Regulatory matters such as planning and licensing are particularly sensitive...you should adopt a particularly cautious approach” [Lobby groups, dual hatted members and the Code of Conduct, Standards Board for England September 2004].

2. The following general advice is provided specifically in the context of licensing hearings:-
 - a) where an application relates to a premises very close to where a Member, (or their close associate) lives so that s/he is affected more than the majority of inhabitants of the Ward the interest is likely to be personal and potentially prejudicial.
 - b) where the member is a frequent visitor to the premises in a personal capacity there is potentially a personal and a prejudicial interest.
 - c) where the member belongs to a lobby or campaign group which may be directly impacted by the outcome of the hearing, the interest is personal and potentially prejudicial.

3. Members of the Licensing Committee:

- a) who have a personal and prejudicial interest in an application should not sit on the sub-committee considering that application and cannot sit in the public gallery but must withdraw from the committee room

completely unless they are attending in a specific other capacity as in (4) below.

- b) who have a personal interest which is not prejudicial are advised that whilst the Standards Board has advised they could sit on the sub-committee that the LACORS guidance advises they should not sit. Whilst the decision is that for the individual Member, the advice given here is that it would reduce the risk of legal challenge to a decision if the Member were to decline to sit on the sub-committee at that hearing.
- c) are advised not to sit on a Licensing Sub-Committee when that sub-committee is considering an application in the Member's Ward, to avoid accusations of pre-determination, reduce the risk of legal challenge and to enable Ward Members to represent their constituents at committee hearings.

4. Members wishing to make representations:

- a) who are personally affected by an application (and thus have a personal and prejudicial interest) may make written representation to the sub-committee and may attend the meeting to make representations, answer questions and give evidence, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, but must withdraw from the committee room immediately afterwards.
- b) who are personally affected by an application (and thus have a personal and prejudicial interest) may appoint a representative to represent them if they prefer.
- c) who have a personal and prejudicial interest may attend the meeting to make representations, answer questions and give evidence on any other party's behalf, including in their capacity as a Ward Councillor representing their constituents, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, but must withdraw from the committee room completely immediately afterwards.
- d) who have a personal interest that is NOT prejudicial, are advised that they can appear on behalf of another party, including in their capacity as a Ward Councillor representing their constituents. They may remain in the room for the entire hearing.
- e) Where Ward Members are representing a constituent it will be advisable, to reduce the risk of legal challenge, for the Member to:
 - be able to identify the person(s) whom they represent in the form of e.g. Mr X of Smith Street or Mrs Z of Jones Lane
 - have a written record of their constituent's concerns. This may be in the form of an email or letter from the constituent, or the Member's note of a telephone conversation or personal meeting. Should the sub-committee hearing result in an appeal it may be

necessary for the Member to substantiate the representations they have made, and documentary evidence will be of great assistance.

5. Lobbying

Members are frequently approached by applicants and objectors who wish either to 'lobby' Members or to ask advice. The LACORS guidance reaffirms the legitimacy of lobbying but gives certain guidelines:

- If a sub-committee member is approached by any means by persons writing to lobby them regarding a licence application to be heard by that sub-committee then the Member is strongly advised to explain they cannot discuss the matter, and to refer the person to their Ward Member and/or Licensing Officer. It is also recommended that Members make and keep notes of these instances in case the matter proceeds to an appeal.
- Members of the sub-committee cannot represent an applicant or other interested party. If they wish to do so they must excuse themselves from the sub-committee.

6. Guidance on Site Visits

The LACORS guidance is that 'site visits by Licensing Sub-Committee Members are generally unnecessary and can put the Members and the Licensing Authority at risk of accusations of bias'.

Site visits are only likely to be appropriate:

- where the application to be considered by the sub-committee is factually complicated; or
- where a hearing is expected to last a full day or more; and
- where a site visit would materially reduce the time required by the sub-committee to clarify factual matters such as details of premises layout.

Thus assisting the sub-committee in making a more informed decision in a shorter time.

There are restrictions on the organisation and attendance at site visits, which would be organised by Licensing Officers. These include that:

- Licensing Officers would accompany the sub-committee members
- Legal Officers and Democratic Services Officers would not be present
- All Sub-Committee Members would visit at the same time
- All other parties (e.g. objectors) would be invited to attend at the same time
- The applicant would be requested to consent to allowing objectors to attend, if permission was not granted the visit could not proceed
- No refreshments or the like should be provided (although the use of lavatories by the visitors should be permitted)

- There should be no discussion as to the application, save as was strictly necessary to clarify factual queries eg re. layouts.

A report of the visit would be prepared by the Licensing Officer and would form part of the full report presented to the sub-committee.

Overview and Scrutiny Committees – 2006/2007 and Programme of Work for 2007/2008

The Constitution of the Council states that Overview and Scrutiny Committees/Sub-Committees will be responsible for setting their own forward work programme and in doing so should take into account wishes of Members on that committee who are not members of the political group or groups forming the administration. It is a requirement of the Constitution that these work programmes be submitted to the Council for approval.

2006/07

The 2006/07 programme was approved by the Council on 12 September 2006.

Some of the key highlights of the programme are set out below:

First Class Education and Children

- Working with the Cabinet Member, a training session on the Council's Corporate Parenting Role was arranged for all Members
- Commissioned and received and were assured by a report on security in Barnet's schools
- The work and commitment of the young people serving on the Barnet Youth Board was publicly recognised for the first time.
- On-going monitoring of the Council's children's residential settings; a crucial area of work

Cleaner, Greener, Transport and Development

- Noted the detail of the Private Finance Initiative Street Lighting contract and the monitoring arrangements for the street lighting service. This significant project is designed to provide many benefits to the community and is already doing so.
- A Utilities Conference took place in November to assess progress since the previous one in 2004. The Committee have agreed to keep a watchful eye on developments and to receive a further report in six months.
- The Committee endorse the draft Supplementary Planning Document to take forward to Cabinet and request that a review of the implementation be presented to the Cleaner Greener Transport and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee at a future date.

Tackling Crime and Housing

- The Committee carried out a robust performance review of housing providers and have established a small working group to investigate and monitor housing associations' performance on an on-going basis.
- As a result of the Committee's establishment of a working group to take forward the Hate Crime Review, previously little known particular concerns

raised by the Chinese community, are being partially addressed by the Priority Intervention Team. The Committee noted that some of the issues arise as a result of under reporting of incidents, and that the Council can do much more, within their existing resources, if the matters are drawn to their attention. The Hate Crime Review work is on-going

Resources, Performance and Partnerships

One of the most important achievements, which is the work that the Committee are carrying out, in partnership with the Cabinet Member for Policy and Performance on the provision of the new Customer Access Facility at Burnt Oak Library. This is perhaps one of the highly significant Customer Access facilities that the Council have embarked on in recent years and is one where the Committee will have on – going involvement.

Supporting the Vulnerable in our Community

The Council will be aware of the emerging health agenda.

Required by stature to carry out scrutiny of the performance of the health sector, and aided by the new Cabinet Member for Health appointment, the Committee have built up excellent working relationships with partners in the health sectors, for example, the Barnet PCT, the Royal Free Hampstead NHS Trust, the Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental health Trust.

However, the Committee's work covers all aspects of supporting the vulnerable adults in the community and is currently, for example, involved in ensuring that Barnet citizens receive the best possible care, tailored to their needs, whether in residential settings or at home. This clearly is a challenging on-going exercise; and challenge which the Committee have demonstrated they intend to meet.

2007/2008 programme

Detailed in this report are the suggested work programmes for 2007/08 for the Overview and Scrutiny Committees. This does not include the Cabinet Overview and Scrutiny Committee who are responsible for scrutinising the Cabinet and other Executive Decisions as appropriate before they are implemented by means of the call-in arrangements.

The Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committees met during July 2007 to discuss and agree forward work programmes for 2007/08.; and the issues identified are appended to this item as follows:

- Resources, Performance and Partnerships Overview & Scrutiny Committee- Appendix 1
- Supporting the Vulnerable in Our Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee- Appendix 2
- Tackling Crime and Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee- Appendix 3
- Cleaner, Greener, transport and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Appendix 4

- First Class Education and Children Overview and Scrutiny Committee- Appendix 5

However, it is important to note that these programmes are reviewed throughout the year by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees. The Committees however, may need to respond to circumstances prevailing at the time. This could result in variations to the programme. For example, inclusions or deletions, or reprioritising the issues.

Each Overview & Scrutiny Committee may also review and scrutinise the Council's Corporate Plan, Sustainable Community Strategy and relevant Key Priority Plans' (KPP's) and wider performance information relevant to the committee's terms of reference and responsibilities.

RECOMMEND –

(1) That the key highlights of the 2006/07 programme be noted.

(2) That the work programmes for 2007/08 identified by the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committees, with the exception of the Cabinet Overview & Scrutiny Committee, be approved.

Appendix 1 - RESOURCES, PERFORMANCE AND PARTNERSHIP OSC – 2007/08 WORK PROGRAMME/PROGRESS SCHEDULE

Potential Items to be considered	Information	Source of report Internal (LBB) / external	Projected outcomes / Action
10 October 2007			
Understanding the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)	This report will provide the committee with an overview of the council's partnership arrangements with the LSP and how this is reflected within the council's own corporate priorities. The scope of this report will also include references to the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund Action Plan.	Internal - Policy and Partnerships Group Manager	To facilitate a better understanding of the LSP. To meet constitutional requirements in respect of partnership working.
Electoral Registration	A review of the service area, current priorities and objectives for 2007/08; how these will help deliver on priorities outlined in the KPPs. The scope of this item extends to include: Methods to improve access in order to encourage registration; to explore why registration is low in certain areas and to ways in which to encourage registration in hard to reach groups.	Internal – Deputy Director of Corporate Governance	Review
29 November 2007			
West of the Borough Customer Access Strategy Facility	The committee has considered the Customer Access Sand Delivery Plan strategy throughout 2006/07. It is anticipated that the committee will continue to monitor closely the development of	Internal – Assistant Director, Organisational Development &	To ensure the appropriate and effective development and operation of the new facility and the provision of services from it;

	and the strategy and it's implementation of the new Customer Access Facility as a key workstream with the Customer Access Strategy and Delivery Plan..	Customer Services	to monitor the reconfiguration of those services delivered.
Customer Relationship Management	This report will consider the council's approach to development and proposed implementation of Customer Relationship Management as a critical element of managing the interface with service users.	Internal – Assistant Director, Organisational Development & Customer Services	To ensure that the views of customers are fully considered.

FORWARD PLANNING – SUGGESTED LONG LIST:		<i>Potential meeting date (if known)</i>
A) Value for money, use of resources		
Council mechanisms for consultation	Briefing note	
Corporate Monitor Reports - 2 nd and 4 th Quarter Performance Indicators	Q1 and Q3 information will be circulated for comments to members for information only, outside of the normal timetable of meetings.	2 nd Q November / 4 th Q, TBC
B) Organisational development and partnership working		
Strategic services – Delivery of IT services	Area for scrutiny review	
C) Additional items of Interest		

Schedule of meetings for 2007/08*
Wednesday, 10 October 2007
Thursday, 29 November 2007
Tuesday, 22 January 2008
Tuesday, 8 April 2008
<i>(please note – further dates can be planned as needed).</i>

Appendix 2 - SUPPORTING THE VULNERABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY OSC – 2007/08 WORK PROGRAMME/PROGRESS SCHEDULE

Items to be considered	Information	Source of report Internal (LBB) / external	Projected outcomes / Action
19 September 2007			
<p>Maternity Services – provision of ante and post-natal care at Barnet & Chase Farm NHS Trust</p>	<p>An initial report was first considered by the Committee at its meeting on 18 June 2007 following a request from members after a critical Panorama documentary on maternity services at Barnet General Hospital. The scope of this second report will include an analysis of surveys conducted by the Trust and the Department of Health, consideration of patient satisfaction responses, an audit of current and future staffing provision and consideration of the Trusts action plan, as submitted to the Healthcare Commission.</p> <p>Whilst consideration of the Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts, and the Trusts current application for level 3 accreditation would be helpful, this will not be a primary issue. The review will continue to explore the reasons why some women are transferred to other sites and the reasons for this. A final part of this review will address the ways in which the Trust can</p>	<p>External – BCF NHS Trust</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the evidence of the Trust and the conclusions of it's own review following the Panorama documentary on midwifery services; • To evaluate and assess the content of patient satisfaction surveys conducted by both the Trust and the Department of Health; • To identify ways in which the Trust can improve patient services; • To identify ways in which the Trust can improve public perception of its services; • To look at staffing capacity issues and balance this against projected future need.

	develop patient confidence in its services, against the backdrop of the current BEH Clinical Strategy Review.		
General Practitioner Lists	<p>This item had previously been listed on the 2006/07 work programme. An initial report was considered by the Committee at its meeting on 18 June 2007.</p> <p>A second report has been requested in order to consider ways in which the PCT can work more closely with the Council, with a view to identifying the future provision of GP services in regeneration or new development areas.</p>	External / Internal - Barnet Primary Care Trust / Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop a protocol by which trusts are kept informed of residential property developments which might impact on the provision of GP services; • To consider how the Trusts can contribute knowledge and expertise on the provision of GP services, where there are S.106 funding agreements; • To ensure that lines of communication are firmly established between the Trust and LBB; • That the Committee is kept informed and is able to monitor how this protocol is developed and implemented.
Barnet and Chase Farm NHS Trust – Improvement Notice	Following the recent Improvement Notice to Barnet and Chase Farm NHS Trust, the committee has requested that report is prepared detailing the reasons for the notice and what is being done in response; and that Barnet PCT is invited to attend and comment on any remedial action required.	External / Internal - Barnet Primary Care Trust	To investigate the circumstances of the Improvement Notice and to evaluate the response of the Trust.

FORWARD PLANNING – LONG LIST:		<i>Potential meeting date (if known)</i>
A) Health		
Health Impact Assessment and the Boroughs Long Term Regeneration Plans		
NHS Acute Trusts and Barnet Primary Care Trust: Substantial Variations and Health Service Developments in Barnet	Standing Item The Committee has an obligation to consider consultation requests from any NHS trust where there are changes to service delivery planned such as the closure or reconfiguration of a service.	
Cabinet Referral: • Breast Screening	The Committee considered this at its meeting on 18 July and agreed to scrutinise breast screening services. All other items were to be referred back to the Cabinet Member for Public Health.	
Members Item: Fremantle Care Homes	This was a member item requested and considered at a meeting of the Committee held on 19 April 2007. This was further considered on 18 June 2007. The Committee wants to explore the quality of care provided at Fremantle run care homes in Barnet. This consideration includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An analysis of monitoring data • A series of scheduled visits to the five Fremantle care homes situated in Barnet, making provision for Barnet residents. 	The schedule of planned visits have been postponed, together with the report planned for Sept 2007.

B) Adult Social Care		
Choice and Independence – A Vision for Adult Social Services and three of the five commissioning strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Integrated Commissioning Strategy for Adult Mental Health 	In addition to considering the “Vision” document, the Committee has requested executive style summary reports on three of the commissioning strategies. The Commissioning Strategies will be considered post	Timing of reports TBC in consultation with the service.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Integrated Commissioning Strategy for Learning Disability Services • A Commissioning Strategy for Physical and Sensory Impairment Services 	<p>implementation in order to evaluate implementation and impact.</p> <p>A report on “A Commissioning Strategy for Physical and Sensory Impairment Services” will be considered Jointly with the First Class Education and Children OSC with a focus on supporting the needs of young carers, the timetable for which will be confirmed following consultation.</p>	
<p>Corporate Monitor Reports – 2nd and 4th Quarter Performance Indicators; to now also include information on the provision of intensive home care services and social services client assessment times.</p>	<p>Q2 and Q4 will be considered at committee. Q1 and Q3 information will be circulated for comments to members for information only, outside of the normal timetable of meetings.</p>	<p>Q2 to be considered in November 2007.</p>
<p>Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) report for 2007.</p>	<p>Following a referral from the Audit Committee on 28th June to consider the 2005 CSCI report, it was agreed that the committee will consider a report on the most recent inspection, the report for which was anticipated for release in October 2007.</p>	<p>November 2007 (dependant upon timely receipt).</p>

Schedule of meetings for 2007/08*

Monday, 19 November 2007

Monday, 11 February 2008

Wednesday, 23 April 2008

**(please note – further dates can be planned as needed).*

Appendix 3 – TACKLING CRIME AND HOUSING OSC WORK PROGRAMME / PROGRESS SCHEDULE 2007 / 08

Items to be considered	Information	Source of report Internal (LBB) / External	Projected Outcomes / Action
18 September 2007			
Corporate Services Performance Indicators – 2007 / 08 – Quarter 1			
The Cave Review of Social Housing Regulation	To consider a report commissioned by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to be conducted by Martin Cave into a review of the regulation into Social housing.	Internal (Housing)	To examine performance management of housing associations in a national context and the regulation of residential social landlords.
Briefing report on low cost, affordable housing.	At the request of the chairman, information on the level of affordable housing, opportunities for ownership of low cost housing, insufficient provision of low rent housing and compliance with the Mayor's Plan.	Internal (Housing)	To facilitate a better understanding of the issues surrounding low cost, affordable housing.
Report on inspection of Barnet Homes	An update on the inspection of Barnet Homes being conducted by Housing Inspectors from the Audit Commission.	Internal (Housing)	To examine the issues on the recent inspection of Barnet Homes by the Audit Commission

Items to be considered	Information	Source of report Internal (LBB) / External	Projected Outcomes / Action
18 September 2007			
An update report on: 1) joint tenancy agreements and how tenants and / or family members are made aware of changes regarding succession of tenancies 2) the issues regarding the trading down of properties within the borough.	This report is being provided further to a request made by the Committee on 29 March 2007.	Barnet Homes	To be updated on the issues requested by the Committee.
22 November 2007			
Anti – Social Behaviour Strategy	A review of the policies currently in place and how it can be broadened to include domestic violence	Internal (Corporate Governance)	Review
Corporate Services Performance Indicators – Quarter 2			
Safer Neighbourhoods Review	From the decisions taken by the Committee on 27 September 2006.	Internal (Corporate Governance)	Review
Hate Crime Review	Ongoing from the 2006/07 work programme.	Internal (Corporate Governance)	Ongoing Review
Low Cost Affordable Housing for Temporary Tenancies	An update report on low cost affordable housing for temporary tenancies.	Internal (Housing)	To be updated on the issue requested by the Committee.

Items to be considered	Information	Source of report Internal (LBB) / External	Projected Outcomes / Action
21 January 2008			
Housing Priorities	An update of the Housing Strategy.	Internal (Housing)	To be updated on issues surrounding the Housing Strategy.
Overview of the work of the Community Protection Group and the need to identify the service areas which address public safety and crime	A report on the work of the Community Protection Group, the structure of the group and the lines of enquiry.	Internal (Corporate Governance)	To facilitate a better understanding of the Community Protection Group.
Housing Associations Performance Review	Ongoing from the 2006 / 07 work programme.	Internal (Housing / Corporate Governance)	Ongoing Review
17 April 2008			
Corporate Services Performance Indicators – Quarter 3			
Future Meeting of the Committee			
Implications of the Proposed New Housing Act	A report on the implications of the proposed new Housing Act following the presentation of the green paper to Parliament.	Internal (Housing)	To provide information on the implications of the proposed new Housing Act.
Homeless Strategy	A report on the homeless strategy before it is presented to		

	Cabinet.		
DRAFT KEY PRIORITY PLAN AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS)	A report from the Head of Strategic Development clarifying how shared ownership/shared equity schemes operate and options for dealing with residents affected as a result of the estate regenerations schemes.		

Appendix 4 –CLEANER GREENER TRANSPORT AND DEVELOPMENT OSC WORK PROGRAMME / PROGRESS SCHEDULE 2007/ 08

Items to be considered	Information	Source of report Internal (LBB) / External	Projected Outcomes / Action
16 October 2007			
The White Paper 'Planning for a Sustainable Future'	A summary report of the white paper on 'Planning for a Sustainable Future' and the Council's initial response to this paper to understand how the proposals contained will potentially impact upon the Council.	Internal (Planning and Environmental Protection)	To understand how the proposals contained in the white paper will potentially impact upon the Council.
Quality of Decisions at Planning Committees	A review of the quality of decisions at planning committees with special consideration given to the number of decisions taken to appeal. This review should also include information such as key factors members take into account when reaching decisions i.e. outside representation at committees, investigating initiatives to encourage members to attend appeal hearings, to allow members to take ownership of decisions and to ensure decisions are made on planning merits. This review will be undertaken with a view to identifying initiatives that can improve the quality of decisions made at planning committees and make recommendations to cabinet as appropriate, if necessary.	Internal (Planning and Environmental Protection)	Review
Corporate Services Performance Indicators – 2007/08 – Quarter 1			

Items to be considered	Information	Source of report Internal (LBB) / External	Projected Outcomes / Action
15 November 2007			
Protection of Trees in the Borough	A report on the protection given to trees in the borough especially those which are being felled on private property with a view to identifying further initiatives that can be employed to prevent this from occurring. This initial report should detail the Council's approach to the protection of trees both on private property and highways, identifying further action that can be taken.	Internal (Environment and Transport / Planning and Environmental Protection)	Review
Corporate Services Performance Indicators – 2007/08 – Quarter 2			
18 February 2008			
Premier and Non – Premier Parks	A report on how premier parks and non – premier parks are being managed and maintained with special consideration to financial, staffing and resource implications and to identify initiatives that can improve the management and maintenance of parks in the borough.	Internal (Environment and Transport)	Review
Corporate Services Performance Indicators – 2007/08 – Quarter 3			

Items to be considered	Information	Source of report Internal (LBB) / External	Projected Outcomes / Action
22 April 2008			
Traffic Management in relation to persons Killed and Seriously injured (KSI)	A report on Traffic Management in relation to KSI (Killed and Seriously Injured). This report should contain an analysis by area and action taken by the Council over the past 5 years to enable the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to identify and investigate any further initiatives that can reduce the number of persons killed and seriously injured on roads within the borough.	Internal (Environment and Transport)	Review
June 2008 (Date TBC)			
Street Cleansing Services	A status report on the Street Cleansing Services initiative setting out the strength and weaknesses of the current system and its practical implications across the borough to enable the Committee to determine any future actions.	Internal (Environment and Transport)	Review
Corporate Services Performance Indicators – 2007/08 – Quarter 4			
July 2008 (Date TBC)			
Transport for London Strategy	A report on the Transport for London Strategy to investigate investment on highways in Barnet with special reference to the Henlys Corner on the North Circular Road and forward planning for the 2012 Olympics.	Internal (Environment and Transport)	Review
Future Meetings of the Committee			
Outcome of Utilities Conference	A report to review the areas for further development that had been highlighted at the Utilities conference.	Internal	

		(Environment and Transport)	
Implementation of Supplementary Planning Document on Sustainable Design and Construction	The Committee requested that a review of the implementation of the Supplementary Planning Document on Sustainable Design and Construction be presented to a future meeting of the Committee.	Internal (Planning and Environmental Protection)	

Appendix 5 – Draft First Class Education and Children OSC WORK PROGRAMME 2007/08

Items considered/to be considered	Information	Source of Report (Internal / External)	Projected Outcomes / Action
17 September 2007			
Briefing on School Admission Arrangements	A briefing report for members detailing the admission arrangements to primary and secondary schools in the borough.	Internal (Children's Service)	To inform members of the procedures in place on school admission arrangements
Future Direction of Library Services	A review into the current provision of library services in the borough and the provision of library services for the future.	Internal (Children's Service)	Review
Member visits to children's homes.	Information on the visits conducted by members to children's homes.	Internal (Children's Service)	To enable members to consider themes identified with the Every Child Matters Outcome Framework.
Registered Officer Visits to children's homes	Information on the visits conducted by registered officers to children's homes.	Internal (Children's Service)	To enable members to consider themes identified with the Every Child Matters Outcome Framework.
14 November 2007			
Update on Local Authority Appointed Governors.	This report is being provided further to the committee's decision on	Internal (Children' Service)	To be updated on the issues requested by the Committee.
Member visits to children's homes	Information on the observations of members on their visits to children' homes	Internal (Children's Service)	To enable members to consider themes identified with the Every Child Matters Outcome Framework.
Registered Officer visits to children's homes	Information on the visits conducted by registered officers to children's homes.	Internal (Children's Service)	To enable members to consider themes identified with the Every Child Matters Outcome Framework.
Child Protection and Safeguarding the Rights of the Child	Briefing on Child Protection and Safeguarding the Rights of the Child to enable the committee to consider further scrutiny action.	Internal (Children's Service)	

FORWARD PLANNING – SUGGESTED LONG LIST:

Potential meeting date (if known)

<p>Children’s centres and the extended services in and around schools (Working Group)</p>	<p>A review into the current provision of children’s centres and what current provision is provided for children relating to extended services within schools and outside of schools.</p>	
<p>Transition from childhood to adulthood covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision for young people not in education, employment or training. • What happens to care leavers. <p>Transition from children’s to adult social services for young people with learning difficulties and / or disabilities. (Working Group)</p>	<p>A review into the support and services provided to a child during the period from their childhood until adulthood.</p>	
<p>Corporate Monitor Reports - 2nd and 4th Quarter Performance Indicators</p>	<p>Q1 and Q3 information will be circulated for comments to members for information only, outside of the normal timetable of meetings.</p>	<p>2nd Q November / 4th Q, TBC</p>
<p>Information on how the borough deals with Special Educational Needs</p>	<p>Briefing Note.</p>	
<p>Update on Primary Schools Capital Investment Programme</p>	<p>Information providing an update on the Primary Schools Capital Investment Programme</p>	
<p>Member visits to children’s homes</p>	<p>Information on the observations of members on their visits to children’ homes</p>	<p>All scheduled meetings</p>
<p>Registered Officer visits to children’s homes</p>	<p>Information on the visits conducted by registered officers to children’s homes.</p>	<p>All scheduled meetings.</p>
<p>Unplanned Teenage Pregnancies</p>	<p>Briefing on unplanned teenage pregnancies to enable the committee to consider the need for further scrutiny action.</p>	
<p>Carer Support across all age groups</p>	<p>A joint meeting of the First Class Education and Children and Supporting the Vulnerable in our Community Overview and Scrutiny Committees to consider the Leader of the Council’s request for joint consideration to the need for more carer support across all age groups and to make joint recommendations, if appropriate, to Cabinet and to advise that join committee of this Committee’s views on the appointment of a task group, and other matters.</p>	

Criminal Records Bureau Checks on Governors	An update report on the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Bill	
Dedicated Ofsted Meetings	The Committee have requested a report on the different options available to the committee.	

Schedule of meetings for 2007/08*

17 September 2007

14 November 2007

13 February 2008

24 April 2008

(please note – further dates can be planned as needed).