## Council Meeting 15 July 2008

# SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER AGENDA ITEM 14.1

#### 7. HEAD OF AUDIT AND ETHICAL GOVERNANCE

Under previous senior management arrangements within the Council, every Head of Service was designated as a Chief Officer. Successive restructurings and reorganisations have significantly changed this with only the Chief Executive, Directors and Chief Finance Officer now being designated as the Chief Officers of the Council. The Chief Officers are listed in Article 12 of the Constitution.

However there is one continuing anomaly, in that the post of Head of Audit and Ethical Governance is still designated as a Chief Officer, notwithstanding that other more senior posts, such as those of Deputy Director, are not so designated. With the departure of the incumbent in May 2008, the opportunity has been taken to review the situation and it is proposed that this post will no longer be designated as that of Chief Officer. This is the only change proposed. The officer who is appointed to the position of head of the audit and ethical governance service will still report direct to the Director of Corporate Governance and have direct access to the Chief Executive and the Chairman of the Audit Committee, as and when required.

The External Auditors have been consulted and have no objections to the proposed change, which if now approved will facilitate the progression of the recruitment process.

#### **RECOMMEND:**

- 1. That the post of Head of Audit and Ethical Governance be no longer designated as a Chief Officer post.
- 2. That the Democratic Services Manager be instructed to make the necessary amendments to Article 12 of the Council's Constitution.

## 8. CHIEF OFFICER APPOINTMENTS PANEL – DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICE

The Liberal Democrat Group has indicated that they wish to make the following changes:

**RECOMMEND** – That the following changes in the Chief Officer Appointment Panel be approved:

• Councillor Jack Cohen be a Member on the panel with Councillor Susette Palmer as substitute

#### 9. REPRESENTATION OF THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE BODIES

At Annual Council 13 May 2008, Councillor Harris was appointed as a Substitute Member of the London Councils Grant Committee.

London Councils have now advised, in a letter dated 4 July 2008, that further to an opinion they have received from Leading Counsel, a borough must appoint a member of the Executive to the London Councils Grant Committee. This also includes deputies.

The Council, in view of the urgency, is obligated to change one of its substitutes on the London Councils Grants Committee, by replacing Councillor Christopher Harris as a nominated deputy with a Member of the Executive. Details of the previous Conditions relating to this body and current representatives are shown below:

1.	Organisation: London Councils - Grants Committee		
	Special Conditions: Councils nominate directly one voting member and up to four named deputies.		
	No. of Representatives: 1 + up to 4 deputies		
	Current Representatives		Vac Ref
1 -	Councillor Lynne Hillan	(Appointed 14/05/2008)	0109
	Period of Appointment:	14/05/2008 to 19/05/2009	Member
2 -	Councillor Michael Freer	(Appointed 14/05/2008)	0109a
	Period of Appointment:	14/05/2008 to 19/05/2009	Substitute
3 -	Councillor Richard Cornelius	(Appointed 14/05/2008)	0109b
	Period of Appointment:	14/05/2008 to 19/05/2009	Substitute
4 -	Councillor Christopher Harris	(Appointed 14/05/2008)	0109c
	Period of Appointment:	14/05/2008 to 19/05/2009	Substitute

RECOMMEND: That the Council appoint a Member of the Executive to replace Councillor Christopher Harris as a deputy for the Council's representative on the London Councils Grants Committee.

## 10. CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Conservative Group has indicated that they wish to make the following changes: RECOMMEND – That the following changes in the Committee Membership be approved:

## **Planning and Environment Committee**

 Councillor Caroline Margo to replace Councillor Daniel Webb as a member of the committee.

## Corporate Health & Safety Joint Negotiation and Consultation Committee

 Councillor Daniel Webb to replace Councillor Caroline Margo as a member of the committee.

#### 11. AMENDMENTS TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

## (i) Future of Scrutiny in Barnet

## (a) Amendment in the name of Councillor Jack Cohen

Delete existing amendment and substitute

"Council agrees the recommendations of the Working Group attached at Appendix C except

That the working group recommendation 2.18 is amended to delete the word "consider" and substitute "adopt" "

## (b) Amendment in the name of Councillor Brian Salinger

Amend the recommendations of the report of the working group on Future of Scrutiny..... (Appendix C Page 51 of the Council papers) so that Recommendation 2.1 will read...... "That the existing overview and scrutiny committee structure is *to be* disbanded *from a date to be agreed*"

The words in italics are added to the recommendation.

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.

## (ii) Motion 8.3: in the name of Councillor Andrew Harper

## (c) Amendment in the name of Councillor Kath McGuirk

Delete all and replace with:

"Council notes that the administration did not meet its target for either the amount of household waste re-cycled or for minimising the amount of waste collected last year, and in addition last year's residents' attitude survey shows that the number of people who think the re-cycling service is a good service has decreased by 2%.

Council also notes that it took the administration over 5 years to get their act together to include plastic and cardboard to doorstep re-cycling collections, that this service will not be extended to flats, and that recently the variety of plastics accepted at council recycling centres has been cut.

Council further notes that unless the council does something to minimise the amount of waste collected and maximise the amount of waste re-cycled, LB Barnet could face higher land-fill charges which will inevitably push up council tax.

#### Council instructs Cabinet to:

- formally and publicly reject fortnightly waste collections and put an end to the fining regime introduced by Cllr Coleman
- bring forward proposals saying how they intend to minimise household and trade waste
- extend door-step re-cycling collections to all flats where reasonably possible
- urgently review the variety of different categories of plastic that are accepted at council re-cycling centres."

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.

#### (iii) Motion 8.4: in the name of Councillor Andreas Tambourides

## (d) Amendment in the name of Councillor Monroe Palmer

Add new Para after "Morphu Road"

In addition, at the earliest opportunity new roads of some consequence be named after our other twin towns as:

Ramat Gan Avenue

Montclair Street

Siegen Boulevard

Jinja View

La Raincy Gardens

This following on the existing tradition which already has in Barnet roads including the names Chaville and Templehof

Delete Para which begins "Furthermore"

#### (iv) Motion 8.5: in the name of Councillor Geof Cooke

#### (e) Amendment in the name of Councillor Anne Hutton

"Council believes that public transport customers should be able to use the Oyster Pay-As-You-Go Card on all national rail services in Barnet.

Council notes that currently, Oyster PAYG is not valid on Thameslink north of West Hampstead or on the Great Northern route north of Finsbury Park, both services operated by First Capital Connect.

Council believes that residents using Mill Hill Broadway, Hendon and Cricklewood stations, and New Barnet, Oakleigh Park and New Southgate stations should be able to use their Oyster PAYG card on these services.

Council also notes that agreements with national rail operators on other lines, and at other stations on the abovementioned lines have now been negotiated to allow the use of Oyster PAYG including First Great Western stations in west London.

Council recognises former Mayor Livingstone's success in delivering the first phase of this agreement, and hopes the current Mayor does not row back on rolling out this initiative as he has done on other things.

Council therefore asks the Leader to write to the Mayor of London urging him to negotiate without delay the use of Oyster PAYG on Thameslink between West Hampstead and Elstree & Borehamwood and on the Great Northern between Finsbury Park and Hadley Wood/Crews Hill."

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.

## (v) Motion 8.6: in the name of Councillor Julie Johnson

(f) Amendment in the name of Councillor Andrew McNeil

"Council believes we need more beat police on our streets to tackle crime.

Council notes that there is no formal commitment or proposal from Boris Johnson for additional beat police officers in London, including Barnet, other than on the transport network.

Council also notes that extra transport police will do little if anything to combat crimes like burglary, an identified problem in Barnet, particularly in Childs Hill and West Hendon Wards which both feature amongst the top 20 highest wards for burglary in London.

Council therefore asks the Cabinet Member for Crime and Community Safety, to write to the Mayor of London asking him to increase the number of beat police officers in London, including Barnet, in order to help tackle crimes like burglary that are a local priority."

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.

## (vi) Motion 8:7: in the name of Councillor Kath McGuirk

(g) Amendment in the name of Councillor Geof Cooke

"Council notes that there is no orbital underground or rail service in Barnet, and that train services only run north/south bound.

Council also notes that many Barnet roads are grid-locked with congestion, and that this will get progressively worse once the Borough's major regeneration projects have been completed, making bus journeys slower and more difficult to travel across the Borough.

Council therefore believes that it is time to look at developing orbital rail routes in Barnet and the north London area.

#### Council asks Cabinet to

- urge TfL to research the feasibility of an orbital railway through the borough including making maximum use of existing underused lines and use of proven light railway technology to minimise costs, as well as improving local bus links
- explore all opportunities to minimise car journeys generated by large new developments such as Cricklewood, Colindale and Mill Hill East via planning permission conditions
- work with other north London boroughs and TfL to investigate the need for orbital routes in general in a sub-region dominated by radial routes
- lobby the Mayor of London for the necessary funding for any developed schemes."

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.

## (vii) Motion 8:8: in the name of Councillor Barry Rawlings

(h) Amendment in the name of Councillor Ansuya Sodha

"Council welcomes the government's recent announcement of a new £140m fund to help local authorities in England offer free swimming to over 60's and under 16s.

Council notes that amongst other things, money from the fund could help support the provision of free lessons for adults who can't swim and the introduction of swimming co-ordinators to help maximise and sustain the uptake of swimming by new users.

Council asks Cabinet to support Greenwich Leisure in every way it can to bid for money from his fund in order to help increase the number of people in Barnet taking physical exercise through swimming.

Council asks the Chief Executive to write to the Prime Minister expressing Council's delight with the scheme and notifying him that Barnet will be at the forefront of local authorities seeking to participate."

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.

## (viii) Item 9.2: Opposition Policy Item – Vibrant Town Centres

(i) Amendment in the name of Councillor Kath McGuirk

Council believes that our varied local town centres are the lifeblood of the borough, providing retail, leisure, employment and local services to Barnet residents.

Council notes that many local residents believe that many of our town centres are dogged by antisocial behaviour, are dirty with poor pavements and generally run down.

Council believes that residents want to see smarter, safer, cleaner local town centres with more attractive shop fronts and a wider range of shops, and that many would support other ways of enhancing the vibrancy of local town centres including introducing local markets or town squares, and increasing the vitality of the local street scene by encouraging and supporting the development of café society where appropriate.

Council also believes that LBBarnet has a role to play in encouraging people to shop locally and sustainably, and in planning and protecting the development of vibrant local town centres which are in danger of dying due to the influx of out-of-town shopping centres and the expansion of Brent Cross.

Council is appalled that LBBarnet have recently introduced a prohibitive pavement tax on many local businesses, with limited consultation, for the deployment of chairs and tables outside cafes and for displays outside florists.

Council believes this will only serve to penalise these small traders who are the life-blood of our town centres and can ill-afford it, that it does nothing to encourage the vibrancy of our local town centres, and will actually harm their development.

Council asks Cabinet to:

- remove the blanket charge for a street trading license
- bring forward proposals to protect our local town centres from the development of out-of-town shopping centres
- work with local traders and residents to devise and support a strategy for the ongoing development of all of our local town centres, including dealing with antisocial behaviour and improving the level of street-cleaning

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.

#### 12. COMMENTS ON THE WORK OF CABINET – AGENDA ITEM 15

Further comments in the name of:

(i) Councillor Jeremy Davies

"To comment on the work of the Cabinet in respect of the recent resurfacing of Uphill Road NW7."

#### 13. AGENDA ITEM 8.7: MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR KATH MCGUIRK:

It should be noted that Councillor McGuirk, when submitting her Motion did request that that under Council Procedure Rule Part 4, Section 1, 31.5, if the item was not dealt with by the meeting, it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

Janet Rawlings Democratic Services Manager