

Meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Barnet

TO BE HELD ON

TUESDAY, 26 JANUARY 2010 AT 7.00PM

VENUE

HENDON TOWN HALL, THE BURROUGHS, HENDON, NW4 4BG

A G E N D A



CORPORATE GOVERNANCE DIRECTORATE

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Agenda and Timetable
Tuesday 26 January 2010

Item	Subject	Timing/Details	Page Nos.
Part 1	Statutory formalities / Announcements (15 minutes)	7.00pm – 7.15pm	
1.1	Prayer – the Mayor’s Chaplain	Reverend Smith	-
1.2	Apologies for absence	To receive members’ apologies for absence	-
1.3	Minutes of last meeting held on 15 December 2009	To sign as a true record	1 - 47
1.4	Official Announcements		
1.5	Declarations of interest	To receive members’ declarations of interest	-
1.6	Any business remaining from last meeting		-
Part 2	Question Time (30 minutes or until 7.45pm, whichever is the longer)	7.15pm – 7.45pm	
2.1	Questions to the Leader and Cabinet		To be circulated separately
Part 3	Members’ Motions (60 minutes) Motions in the order in which notice has been given	7.45pm – 8.45pm	
3.1	Councillor Claire Farrier - Getting us through the winter weather		48
3.2	Councillor Jeremy Davies – Severe Weather		49
3.3	Councillor Helena Hart – Hospice Funding		50
3.4	Councillor Darrel Yawitch – Labour’s new Charity Tax		To Follow
	Break	8.45pm – 9.00pm	
Part 4	Policy Development (60 minutes)	9.00pm – 10.00pm	
4.1	Administration Policy Item (30 minutes) The Future Shape of Recycling		51

Item	Subject	Timing/Details	Page Nos.
4.2	Opposition Policy Item (30 minutes) Enforcement in Barnet		52
Part 5	Statutory Council Business (40 minutes)	10.00pm – 10:40pm	
5.1	Report from Cabinet		
5.2	Reports from other Committees		
5.2.1	Report of the Standards Committee – Registration and Declaration of Interests by Members		To Follow
5.2.2	Report of the Policy and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee		To Follow
	Reports of Officers		
5.3	Acting Democratic Services Manager		
5.3.1	Resignation of Councillor Christopher Harris		53
5.3.2	Political Balance		To Follow
5.4	Report of the Monitoring Officer		
Part 6	Accountability (20 minutes)	10.40pm – 11.00pm	
6.1	Comments on the work of the Cabinet (10 minutes)		
6.2	Questions to representatives on outside bodies (10 minutes)		

Aysen Giritli, Acting Democratic Services Manager
Building 4, North London Business Park, Oakleigh Road South, N11 1NP

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Minutes

OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET held at Hendon Town Hall, NW4 4BG on Tuesday, 15 December 2009.

PRESENT:

*The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Brian Coleman, AM FRSA)

*The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Hugh Rayner)

Councillors:

* Fiona Bulmer	*Andrew Harper	*Wendy Prentice
*Maureen Braun	Christopher Harris BA BSc	*Sachin Rajput BA (Hons)
*Terry Burton	MPhil	PgD Law
*Anita Campbell	*Helena Hart	Robert Rams
Wayne Casey BA (Hons)	*John Hart BA MA	*Barry Rawlings
MIIA	*Lynne Hillan	*Colin Rogers
Danish Chopra	*Ross Houston	*Lisa Rutter
*Dean Cohen BSc (Hons)	*Anne Hutton	*Brian Salinger
*Jack Cohen	*Julie Johnson	Kate Salinger BEd (Hons)
*Melvin Cohen LLB	*Duncan Macdonald	*Gill Sargeant
*Geof Cooke	*John Marshall	*Joan Scannell
*Alison Cornelius	*Linda McFadyen	*Alan Schneiderman
*Richard Cornelius	*Kath McGuirk	*Agnes Slocombe SRN RM
*Jeremy Davies BA (Hons),	*Andrew McNeil	*Ansuya Sodha MBA (Middx)
CPFA	*Alison Moore	Cert Ed, DipM (CIM), AMBA
*Tom Davey	*Jazmin Naghar	*Andreas Tambourides
*Mukesh Depala	*Matthew Offord	*Joanna Tambourides
*Claire Farrier	*Charlie O-Macauley	*Daniel Thomas BA (Hons)
*Anthony Finn BSc (Econ)	*Monroe Palmer OBE, BA,	*Jim Tierney
FCA	FCA	*Daniel Webb
*Mike Freer	*Susette Palmer MA	Marina Yannakoudakis BSc
*Brian Gordon, LL.B	*Bridget Perry	(Hons) MA, MEP
* Eva Greenspan		*Darrel Yawitch
		*Zakia Zubairi

*denotes Member present

102. PRAYER (Agenda Item 1.1):

The Mayor's Chaplin offered prayer.

103. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1.2):

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Danish Chopra, Wayne Casey, Kate Salinger and Marina Yannakoudakis.

104. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3 NOVEMBER (Agenda Item 1.3)

RESOLVED –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 November be approved as a correct record.

105. OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS (Agenda Item 1.4)

The Worshipful Mayor expressed his sympathies on behalf of the Council to Councillor Alison Cornelius on the death of her mother, Councillor Brian Gordon on the death of his father-in-law and Councillor Maureen Braun on the death of her husband Rene. On behalf of Councillor Braun, he thanked Members and officers of the Council for the kind letters and cards that she had received.

The Worshipful Mayor announced that Barnet Council had signed up to the SaBRE Charter and by doing so declared its support for current and future Armed forces Reservists amongst its employees. He welcomed to the Chamber three officers of the council who are currently Reservists, Angela Richardson, Gary Davies and Martin Field.

The Worshipful Mayor welcomed Mark Richards, the Regional Campaign Director, who presented the Council with a certificate from SaBRE officially recognising it as a supportive employer of its Armed Forces Reservists. He further thanked the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Hugh Rayner for the work he does representing Barnet on the Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for Greater London.

106. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS (Agenda Item 1.5)

Member:	Subject:	Interest Declared:
Councillor Jeremy Davies	Agenda Item 3.3 – Motion in the name of Councillor Helena Hart North London NHS Service	Personal and prejudicial interest as Councillor Jeremy Davies works for NHS London. Councillor Davies left the Chamber and took no part in the discussion or voting on this item.
Councillor Helen Hart	Agenda Item 3.6 – Motion in the name of Councillor Ross Houston Waiting for a home in Barnet	Personal and non-prejudicial as Councillor Hart is a Council appointed Director on the Barnet Homes Management Board. Councillor Hart participated in the discussion and voting on this item.
Councillor Monroe Palmer	Agenda Item 3.6 – Motion in the name of Councillor Ross Houston Waiting for a home in Barnet	Personal and non-prejudicial as Councillor Palmer is a Council appointed Director on the Barnet Homes Management Board.

		Councillor Palmer participated in the discussion and voting on this item.
Councillor Ross Houston	Agenda Item 3.6 – Motion in the name of Councillor Ross Houston Waiting for a home in Barnet	Personal and non-prejudicial as Councillor Houston is a Council appointed Director on the Barnet Homes Management Board. Councillor Houston participated in the discussion and voting on this item.

107. BUSINESS REMAINING FROM LAST MEETING (Item 1.6)

There was none.

108. QUESTION TIME FOR MEMBERS (Agenda Item 2.1)

Questions were put to the Leader and Members of the Cabinet. These questions, together with the answers provided and the text of any supplementary questions and answers are set out in Appendix 1 to these minutes.

109. VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The Mayor exercised his powers under Council Procedure Rule 10.2.1 to move Item 5.3.1 to this point in the Agenda.

110. RESIGNATION OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (Agenda Item 5.3.1)

Councillor Mike Freer formally stepped down as Leader of the Council. His letter of resignation was circulated to all the Members of the Council.

111. ELECTION OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (Agenda Item 5.31)

The Worshipful Mayor called for nominations for election of the Leader of the Council. Councillor Freer moved that Councillor Lynne Hillan be elected Leader of the Council. This was seconded by Councillor Andreas Tambourides. No further nominations were received.

Upon the motion being put to the vote, the motion was declared carried.

RESOLVED – That Councillor Lynne Hillan be duly elected as Leader of the Council of the London Borough of Barnet.

112. VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

Councillor Joan Scannell, duly seconded, moved under Council Procedure Rule, Section 1, paragraph 10.2.2, that the order of business relating to Agenda Item 3 be varied so that Motions 3.1, 3.3 and 3.6 be heard first.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was declared carried.

RESOLVED – That the order of business be varied to allow Motions 3.1, 3.3 and 3.6 to be debated and voted upon in advance of votes being taken on the other Motions on the Agenda.

113. MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR ANDREW HARPER (Agenda Item 3.1)

Motion 3.1 in the name of Councillor Andrew Harper was moved. An amendment in the name of Councillor Kath McGuirk was moved. Debate ensued. Upon being put to the vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor McGuirk was declared lost.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was declared carried.

RESOLVED - Council notes that the government has reopened the 2010/11 funding settlement for national bus concessions and proposes to cut the £58 million payment towards the cost of the Freedom Pass by half. The funding saved would then be spent outside the capital.

Council further notes that this is an alteration to the third year of a three-year agreement, and consequently London Boroughs have already set their budgets. Local authorities face an unexpected choice of cutting the Freedom Pass or using their already stretched budgets to meet the shortfall.

Council believes that to reopen an agreed financial settlement at this late hour is a disingenuous act by the Department of Transport and threatens the ability of older and disabled Londoners to use public transport.

Council believes the government's commitment to London is questionable given the capital is the only city to see a funding reduction and follows the rises in London's business rates to pay for reductions elsewhere in the country.

Therefore Council requests that the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport:

- Works with London Councils to fight the shifting of funding away from London**
- Commits to keeping the Freedom Pass for the Borough of Barnet's residents**
- Responds to the government's consultation on the changes by demanding that funding remains in place.**

114. MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR HELENA HART (Agenda Item 3.3)

Motion 3.3 in the name of Councillor Helena Hart was moved. An amendment in the name of Councillor Barry Rawlings was moved. Debate ensued. Upon being put to the vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor Rawlings was declared lost.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was declared carried.

RESOLVED - Council notes the ongoing discussions between the Royal Free NHS Hospital Trust and the Whittington Hospital regarding the possibility of becoming a single organisation. This is as part of the wider review of health services in the North Central London sector currently being undertaken by the NHS.

Council believes it is essential that both hospital trusts consult and work with the affected Local Authorities, especially Barnet, before merger talks progress any further. Modernisation of NHS services and planning for the forthcoming difficult funding climate may well be necessary but any further downgrading of the Royal Free would leave a significant gap in health provision for Barnet residents.

Council further notes that Healthcare for London has decided not to place either a Major Trauma Centre at the Royal Free or a Hyper Acute Stroke Unit at either the Royal Free or Barnet Hospital despite the support for these hospitals from the thousands of Barnet residents who replied to the Consultation. This decision will result in far longer ambulance journeys for Barnet residents who will now have to

be taken into central London - and beyond - and at a time when speed and effectiveness of treatment are imperative for successful recovery.

Council firmly believes, therefore, that the removal of any Accident & Emergency services whatsoever from either the Royal Free or Barnet Hospital is completely unacceptable as to do so would represent a quite unacceptable risk to the future health and wellbeing of the residents of the London Borough of Barnet.

Council therefore requests the Chief Executive to:

1) Request an urgent meeting with the management of the Royal Free and Whittington Hospitals before any merger talks progress further and

2) Write to the Chief Executive of NHS North Central London Sector seeking confirmation that no Accident & Emergency services will be removed from either the Royal Free or Barnet Hospital.

3) Write to the Chief Executive of Healthcare for London to request that they look again at the provision of Major Trauma and Hyper Acute Stroke Services for the residents of Barnet in the light of these latest proposals .

115. MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR ROSS HOUSTON AS AMENDED BY COUNCILLOR RICHARD CORNELIUS (Agenda Item 3.6)

Motion 3.5 in the name of Ross Houston was moved. Amendments in the name of Councillors Richard Cornelius and Gill Sargeant were moved. Debate ensued. Upon being put to the vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor Gill Sargeant was declared lost.

Upon being put to the vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor Richard Cornelius was declared carried.

Upon being put to the vote, the substantive motion as amended was declared carried.

RESOLVED - Council urges Cabinet to reform the housing waiting list system in order to reflect housing need rather than aspiration.

Council notes that Barnet is one of the most popular boroughs to live in London.

Council does not believe that housing need is at crisis level and notes that Barnet is planning to build more homes than any other area of London, except the Thames Gateway.

116. MOTION IN THE NAME OF THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR BRIAN COLEMAN) (Agenda Items 3.2)

Motion 3.2 in the name of the Mayor, Councillor Brian Coleman, was moved.

Upon being put to the vote, the Motion was declared carried.

RESOLVED - Council notes that on 15 January 2010, Mr Archibald (Archie) Smith, former Councillor of the London Borough of Barnet, will celebrate his 100th birthday.

Council pays tribute to Mr Smith's distinguished service in local government as Hampstead Borough Councillor between 1956 and 1959, and as a Barnet Councillor for the Edgware ward from 1968 until his retirement in 1994.

Council wishes Mr Smith many congratulations and a very happy birthday.

117. MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR ANDREAS TAMBOURIDES AS AMENDED BY COUNCILLOR JEREMY DAVIES (Agenda Item 3.4)

Motion 3.4 in the name of Councillor Andreas Tambourides was moved. Amendments in the name of Councillors Jeremy Davies and Jim Tierney were moved. Councillor Tambourides accepted Councillor Davies' amendment. Upon being put to the vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor Jim Tierney was declared lost. Upon being put to the vote, the substantive motion as amended was declared carried.

RESOLVED - Council notes that the Planning and Development Scrutiny Committee recommended in 2004/5 that Development Forums be created in order for planning applicants to productively engage with residents, which was consequently adopted by the Planning Department.

Council believes that developers who are preparing to submit major schemes for planning must engage openly and transparently with residents and other interested parties who would be affected by a development. This engagement should go further than existing exhibitions to full consultation and debate. A development forum in advance of the recent Planning & Environment Meeting held to consider the Brent Cross/ Cricklewood Planning Application would have been very useful indeed in airing all the concerns of local residents in advance of the actual decision-taking meeting.

Therefore Council requests that the Cabinet Member for Planning and Environmental Protection:

- **Ensure that the Planning Department encourages those making major planning applications to use the Development Forums; commencing with the Inglis Consortium proposals for the Mill Hill East Development Area**
- **Consider asking the government, after the election, that Development Forums become a compulsory requirement under more locally focussed planning laws.**

118. MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR BARRY RAWLINGS AS AMENDED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEW OFFORD (Agenda Item 3.5)

Motion 3.5 in the name of Councillor Barry Rawlings was moved. Amendments in the name of Councillors Julie Johnson and Matthew Offord were moved. Upon being put to the vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor Julie Johnson was declared lost. Upon being put to the vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor Matthew Offord was declared carried. Upon being put to the vote, the substantive motion as amended was declared carried.

RESOLVED - Council notes that every year about 10,000 women and a further 10,000 children in Barnet are affected by domestic violence, as well as a large number of men. Nationally one in four women and one in six men are subjected to domestic violence at some point in their lives, but 89% of those people experiencing four or more incidents are women.

Council welcomes the higher profile of this crime, and the increase since 2003 in the national conviction rate from 25% to 72.5%.

Council also recognises and welcomes the excellent work of the voluntary sector organisations in Barnet, and supports the national drive to tackle domestic violence.

Council supports the Mayor of London's aim to ultimately eradicate violence against, and trafficking of women.

Council asks that the Policy and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider creating a Task and Finish Group to examine what additional steps can be taken in fighting domestic violence by the council and also by the council working with its partners.

119. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING.

In accordance with the Agenda, the Mayor adjourned the meeting. The meeting reconvened at 9.00pm.

120. OPPOSITION POLICY ITEM: 10:10 CAMPAIGN AS AMENDED BY COUNCILLOR ANDREW HARPER (Agenda Item 4.2)

Councillor Alison Moore proposed the item and moved that it be adopted. Amendments in the name of Councillors Kath McGuirk and Andrew Harper were moved. Upon being put to the vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor Kath McGuirk was declared lost. Upon being put to the vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor Andrew Harper was declared carried.

Upon being put to the vote, the substantive Policy Item as amended was declared carried.

RESOLVED- Council recognises that the authority is striving to play its part in addressing the causes and impacts of climate change and specifically in meeting the National Indicator targets that have been set for us.

Council urges all residents of Barnet, including Members, to reduce their carbon footprint, for instance, in the manner suggested by the current 10:10 Campaign.

121. REPORT OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE – REVIEW OF THE GAMBLING STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES (Agenda Item 5.2.1)

Councillor Andreas Tambourides moved reception and adoption of the report.

REPORT OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE

7 DECEMBER 2009

COMMITTEE:

***Councillor Andreas Tambourides (Chairman)**

***Councillor Kate Salinger (Vice-Chairman)**

Councillors

*** Claire Farrier
Kath McGuirk
* Wendy Prentice
* Joanna Tambourides**

*** John Hart
* Susette Palmer
* Agnes Slocombe**

REVIEW OF THE GAMBLING STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES (Report of the Director of Environment & Operations – Agenda Item 5):

The Committee considered the attached report of the Director of Environment & Operations. It was noted that the list of consultees, which was not supplied with the report, would also be circulated to all Members. A correction was made at the meeting to paragraph 9.6 of the Director's covering report, which should refer to paragraph 10.9.1 of the draft statement of principles.

For the reasons given in the report the Committee

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

1. That the proposed Gambling Statement of Principles be approved and adopted as policy so it can be published on or before 14 January 2010 in accordance with the Gambling Act 2005
2. That the resolution not to license casinos be reaffirmed and adopted as policy.

RESOLVED – That the Report of the Licensing Committee dated the 7 December 2009, be approved and adopted.

122. APPOINTMENTS TO CABINET (Report and Further Supplemental Report of the Acting Democratic Services Manager – Agenda Item 5.3.2)

RESOLVED –

(1) That the following Members be appointed to serve on the Cabinet:

- 1) Councillor Lynne Hillan
- 2) Councillor Andrew Harper
- 3) Councillor Melvin Cohen
- 4) Councillor Richard Cornelius
- 5) Councillor Sachin Rajput
- 6) Councillor Helena Hart
- 7) Councillor Daniel Webb
- 8) Councillor Robert Ram
- 9) Councillor Daniel Thomas
- 10) Councillor Matthew Offord

(2) That Councillor Andrew Harper be elected Deputy Leader of the Council.

123. LEADER'S SCHEME OF DELEGATION (Report and Further Supplemental Report of the Acting Democratic Services Manager – Agenda Item 5.3.3)

In accordance with the Constitution, the Leader of the Council presented a written record (attached to these minutes – Appendix 2) of the delegations made by her to Cabinet Members and Cabinet Committees joint arrangements for the discharge of Executive functions.

124. ASSISTANT CABINET MEMBERS (Report and Further Supplemental Report of the Acting Democratic Services Manager Agenda Item 5.3.4)

Councillor Mike Freer had previously advised the Acting Democratic Services Manager that:

- Councillor Maureen Braun has relinquished her role as Assistant Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services.
- Councillor Tom Davey relinquished his role as Assistant Cabinet Member for Health

Further to noting the changes referred to above, Council is asked to note that:

- Councillor Darrel Yawitch is appointed Assistant Cabinet Member for Resources.
- Councillor Daniel Webb is no longer an Assistant Cabinet Member

RESOLVED – The appointment of Councillor Daniel Yawitch as an Assistant Cabinet Member and the relinquishment by Councillor Maureen Braun and Councillor Tom Davey of their roles as Assistant Cabinet Members were noted.

125. CHANGES TO COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES (Report and Further Supplemental Report of the Acting Democratic Services Manager - Agenda Item 5.3.6 and 5.3.9)

Councillor Joan Scannell moved the nominations in her name.

RESOLVED – The following changes to the Outside Bodies were approved.

Fostering Approvals Panel

Reference 1062:

- Councillor Mike Freer be appointed as a Council representatives on the Fostering Approvals Panel.

London Councils – Children, Young People and Families Forum

Reference ALGCYPF1:

- Councillor Andrew Harper to replace Councillor Fiona Bulmer as a Council representative on the London Councils – Children, Young People and Families Forum.

London Councils – Grants Committee

Reference 0109a:

- Councillor Daniel Webb to replace Councillor Mike Freer as a Council representative on the London Councils – Grants Committee.

London Councils – Greater London Employment Forum

Reference 0001:

- Councillor Andrew Harper to replace Councillor Mike Freer as a Council representative on the London Councils – Greater London Employment Forum.

London Councils – Health and Adult Services Forum

Reference 0207:

- Councillor Helena Hart to replace Councillor Richard Cornelius as a Council representative on the London Councils – Health and Adult Services Forum.

Reference 0207a:

- Councillor Sachin Rajput to replace Councillor Helena Hart as a Council representative on the London Councils – Health and Adult Services Forum.

London Councils - S101 Leaders Committee

Reference 0198:

- Councillor Lynne Hillan to replace Councillor Mike Freer as a Council representative on the London Councils - S101 Leaders Committee.

Reference 0198b:

- Councillor Andrew Harper to replace Councillor Lynne Hillan as a Council representative on the London Councils - S101 Leaders Committee.

London Councils – Transport and Environment Committee

Reference 0227:

- Councillor Daniel Thomas to replace Councillor Andrew Harper as a Council representative on the London Councils – Transport and Environment Committee.

London Youth Games Limited

Reference 0124:

- Councillor Andrew Harper to replace Councillor Fiona Bulmer as a Council representative on London Youth Games Limited.

North London Waste Authority

Reference 0133:

- Councillor Daniel Thomas to replace Councillor Andrew Harper as a Council representative on the North London Waste Authority.

Reference 134:

- Councillor Lynne Hillan to replace Councillor Mike Freer as a Council representative on the North London Waste Authority.

Stonegrove and Spur Road Partnership Board

Reference SSRPB1

- Councillor Richard Cornelius to replace Councillor Anthony Finn as a Council representative on the Stonegrove and Spur Road Partnership Board.

Reference SSRPB2

- Colin Cross to replace Dave Stephens as a Council representative on the Stonegrove and Spur Road Partnership Board.

126. CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP (Supplemental Report of the Acting Democratic Services Manager – Agenda Item 5.3.8)

Councillor Joan Scannell moved the nominations in her name.

RESOLVED – The following changes to the Committee Membership were approved.

Planning and Environment Committee:

- Councillor John Marshall to replace Councillor Sachin Rajput as a substitute Member of the Committee

Budget and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- Councillor Eva Greenspan to replace Councillor Darrel Yawitch as a Member of the Committee.
- Councillor John Marshall to replace Councillor Daniel Webb as a Member of the Committee.
- Councillor Brian Salinger to replace Councillor Eva Greenspan as a substitute Member of the Committee.

Policy and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- Councillor Hugh Rayner to replace Councillor Daniel Webb as Chairman of the Committee.
- Councillor Fiona Bulmer to replace Councillor Darrel Yawitch as a Member of the Committee.

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- Councillor Joanna Tambourides to replace Councillor Sachin Rajput as Chairman of the Committee.

Licensing Committee

- Councillor Lisa Rutter to replace Councillor Joanna Tambourides as a Member of the Committee.

Corporate Joint Negotiation and Consultation Committee.

- Councillor Daniel Webb to replace Councillor Fiona Bulmer as a Member of the Committee.

Audit Committee

- Councillor Darrel Yawitch to replace Councillor Daniel Webb as a Member of the Committee.

- (2) **RECOMMEND - That the Policy and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee be asked to confirm the following changes and that the Acting Democratic Services Manager be instructed to arrange a meeting of that Committee prior the next meeting of the Sub Committees.**

Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee

- Councillor Fiona Bulmer to replace Councillor Darrel Yawitch as a Member of the Sub-Committee.

Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee:

- Councillor Fiona Bulmer to replace Councillor John Marshall as Chairman of the Sub-Committee.

- (3) **RECOMMEND** - The Planning and Environment Committee be asked to confirm the following changes at its next meeting:

Chipping Barnet Area Planning Sub-Committee:

- Councillor Bridget Perry to replace Councillor Sachin Rajput as Vice-Chairman of the Sub-Committee.
- Councillor Sachin Rajput to remain a Member of the Sub-Committee

Chipping Barnet Area Environment Sub-Committee:

- Councillor Mukesh Depala to replace Councillor Joanna Tambourides as Chairman of the Sub-Committee.

127. **AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION (Report of the Acting Democratic Services Manager – Agenda Item 5.3.5)**

RESOLVED –

1. That Paragraph 12.01 (b) of Article 12 of the Council's Constitution be amended to reflect the Council's new Corporate Management Structure as detailed in Appendix 1.
2. That the Acting Democratic Services Manager be instructed to make the appropriate amendments to the Council's Constitution; details of the revisions made by the Head of Paid Service to Part 7 having already been made in accordance with Constitutional requirements.

128. **STATUTORY PROPER OFFICER: DEMOCRATIC FUNCTION AND OTHER MATTERS (Report of the Director of Corporate Governance – Agenda Item 5.4).**

RESOLVED –

That Aysen Giritli, Acting Democratic Services Manager, be confirmed as statutory proper officer for:

- All Democratic Services Manager functions in the constitution.
- Members' declaration of acceptance of office.
- Members' notice of resignation.
- Giving notice of casual vacancies.
- Convening Council to fill Mayoral casual vacancy.
- Signing summonses for council meetings and receiving notices as to Members' addresses for summonses.
- Receiving notification of political groups for the calculation of political balance.
- Returning Officer for election of parent governor representatives to Committee
- Deposit of documents.
- Certification and authentication of documents, byelaws and copy minutes and signing of other relevant formal notices and documents.

129. **COMMENTS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE CABINET (Agenda Item 6.1)**

Comment: Councillor Julie Johnson

Sturgess Park in West Hendon has a children's play area devoid of play equipment apart from one dilapidated slide. This has been the situation for over a year. Barnet Council's parks tell me this is because they had to replace three times in one year swing seats due to damage caused by youths with dogs. I have contacted our local Police and have been advised that levels of vandalism for the last 18 months have been non-existent. The only dog incident recorded was the owner smoking the wrong kind of cigarette. Can we please have the play equipment replaced? Residents should not have to wait until 2011 when Sturgess Park will be leased out to an outside body.

Response: Councillor Daniel Thomas

Thank you Mr Mayor. I was appointed three minutes ago and would appreciate if I could refer this to my predecessor, as you did say you would be flexible, but if not, then I can meet with the Councillor and we can discuss it further.

130. QUESTION TO REPRESENTATIVE ON OUTSIDE BODIES (Agenda Item 6.2)

There were none.

The meeting finished at 9.40pm

**Council Questions to Cabinet Members
15 December 2009
Questions and Responses**

Question 1

Councillor Duncan Macdonald

Can you confirm the Council's current policy regarding the division of powers between the Council and the police to enforce by-laws such as dog fouling and littering? Is the Council planning to allow the police to enforce any of these by-laws?

Answer by Councillor Matthew Offord

Officers within the Council's Community Protection Group currently enforce provisions within the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (sections 87 and 88) that deal with littering and the power to deal with dog fouling within the Dogs Fouling of Land Act 1996.

The Community Protection Group is currently reviewing all of the powers available to regulate the street scene which update the above powers and include others which have not yet been formally adopted by the Council.

Supplementary Question 1

Councillor Duncan Macdonald

Thank you Mr Mayor. Thank you Councillor Offord for his answer. Can he confirm the number of people in the Community Protection Group that are actually available on the street scene and policing these powers?

Answer by Councillor Matthew Offord

Mr Mayor, there are a total of 54 members in the Council's CPG but it is not as simple as Councillor Macdonald states in the question. Many of these positions are static and includes people who work in the CCTV section, people who work on the Drug and Alcohol action team and also the Intelligence Information and Technical support staff. As such it would be inappropriate for those people to be on the street day-in and day-out. As with the rest of the CPG team, they can go out when appropriate in order to carry out their duties in the Borough.

Question 2

Councillor Brian Salinger

In the light of the motion passed at the Council meeting on 3 December, will the Cabinet Member please tell Members which schools in the Borough do NOT have some form of school uniform?

Answer by Councillor Fiona Bulmer

The following do not have any form of uniform:

Special Schools

Mapledown
Oakleigh

Pupil Referral Units

Northgate
Pavilion
Discovery Bay

Nursery Schools

St Margaret's Nursery
Brookhill Nursery

Hampden Way
Moss Hall Nursery

Schools

Moss Hall Infants

Supplementary Question 2

Councillor Brian Salinger

Thank you Mr Mayor. Can I thank Councillor Bulmer for her answer. Would she agree with me that school uniform is not appropriate for either of our two special schools, nor indeed for the three units listed as pupil referral units, or for the four nursery schools which are non-statutory. Indeed my recollection is certainly of schools that I have been involved with, children in nursery classes are not expected to wear school uniforms. So that leaves just Moss Hall Infants School to be tackled which I hope she will agree will be done. But, can I warn her that some 20 years ago, when I was Chairman of Moss Hall Infants School, I tried to get them into uniform but could not get it through the Governors. Will she continue to try?

Answer by Councillor Fiona Bulmer

I'm happy to agree with Councillor Salinger, and I'm sure my successor will pursue the matter with Moss Hall Infants.

Question 3

Councillor Andrew McNeil

Would the Cabinet Member explain why at the Finchley and Golders Green Area Environment Sub-Committee – 30 November 2009, no Conservative Member, apart from the Chairman, was present, and only one Member gave an apology?

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

It is for the Councillors concerned to explain their absence; Councillor McNeil can ask them directly if he wishes. I am happy to explain my absence: I was caught in extremely heavy traffic due to the closure of the Blackwall Tunnel that evening. I advised the Committee Chairman and Democratic Services at 18:38 that evening via email.

Question 4

Councillor Duncan Macdonald

Can you advise as to what steps are being taken in the light of several recent incidents to ensure that the Tudor Park Golf clubhouse is not let to people who allow alcohol fuelled anti social behaviour and noise nuisance to neighbours?

Answer by Councillor Lynne Hillan

Council Officers are to seek a meeting with the Club to warn the Club that such behaviour must cease. The club will also be written to with a formal warning to comply with the terms of the lease.

Supplementary Question 4

Councillor Duncan Macdonald

Thank you Councillor Hillan for your answer. Can she confirm that there has been any further action taken in terms of restricting the alcohol licences for this venue when these occasions happen?

Answer by Councillor Lynne Hillan

Mr Mayor, I'm afraid that this is a matter for licensing, however I can confirm that there is a meeting on 17 December so hopefully I can update you shortly.

Question 5**Councillor Brian Salinger**

Acknowledging that it is the Council's policy of supporting independent living, will the Cabinet Member advise Members of the criteria used to assess whether or not an individual, be it someone with a medical condition or conditions or physical handicaps or learning difficulties or a combination of factors, is a person capable of living independently or whether they should be supported to live in a residential institution where a higher level of care is available to support the individual?

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

It is possible almost all individuals can be assisted to some further independence. That independence may be very slight but it helps maintain and improve dignity. There are of course those who do need to be supported through higher care in an institution. The criteria used to decide this would depend on the condition of that individual as assessed by the various professionals involved as well as the individual's (and family's) wishes.

Supplementary Question 5**Councillor Brian Salinger**

Thank you Mr Mayor. My question asks what the criteria were and the answer says the criteria used to decide this would depend on the condition of that individual as assessed by the various professionals. What I really want to know is what is the criteria against which those professionals make that judgement?

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

Mr Mayor, all I can say is that the criteria will depend on the case in question.

Question 6**Councillor Agnes Slocombe**

I understand that the contract to deliver Barnet First to every household in Barnet. Would the Cabinet Member confirm that this includes the council estates?

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

Yes, Council estates are included. If Councillor Slocombe knows of any households that haven't received copies she is welcome to let me know and I will rectify the situation.

Supplementary Question 6**Councillor Agnes Slocombe**

Mr Mayor, I thank the Cabinet Member for their reply. But, there are more residents that do not receive a copy of Barnet First on the Claremont Estate. I will write to you as suggested.

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

That was a comment, Mr Mayor, not a question.

Question 7**Councillor Duncan Macdonald**

Can you confirm that the Future Shape proposals will not lead to any changes in the frequency of rubbish collection or to the size of the bins being collected?

Answer by Councillor Mike Freer, Leader of the Council

Refuse collection is a fundamental service provided by the Council. This Conservative Council has no plans to force residents to change the size of their wheelie bin. The Administration is firmly committed to a weekly collection system.

Question 8**Councillor Brian Salinger**

Officers have advised me and other Members of the Council that a major review of the housing allocations system and choice based lettings is taking place. Will the Cabinet Member tell the Council who will be consulted before any changes are made and will he confirm that there are no plans to return to the days when Council Officers told residents where they were going to live rather than allowing them to choose?

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

A staff led review has been underway of the housing service which focuses on the customer experience. There are no plans to return to a system where housing applicants are told where they have to live. Any proposals will be consulted upon widely as is required by law.

Supplementary Question 8**Councillor Brian Salinger**

Thank you Mr Mayor. Would the Lead Member agree with me that this is actually the sort of review that should be the subject of a task and finish scrutiny committee before any recommendation is made to the Cabinet?

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

I'm not sure about that Mr Mayor. I think that will be something to be considered at a later date when proposals have been formalised and when we know exactly what we suggest doing.

Question 9**Councillor Colin Rogers**

Can the Cabinet Member say why it is taking up to two weeks after receipt for Barnet to publish notification of planning applications, and what is being done to improve this?

Answer by Councillor Melvin Cohen

I take it the question relates to the publication of the weekly lists which contain all applications validated (**not received**) on the electronic system during the **previous** week.

Applications normally take 2 to 3 days to validate and be placed on the system. Therefore all applications on a weekly list will always be at least 2 to 3 days old from the Registration date and a number can occasionally be older if taken longer to validate, which can often be the case with more complicated submissions.

All customers and users can in any event use the online Weekly List Search (<http://planningcases.barnet.gov.uk/planning-cases/acolnetcgi.exe>) to view, by weekly list date **all** applications received or applications received by **ward**.

The online weekly list starts to appear as soon as any application has the next weekly list date assigned to it. It will continue to grow until the end of the week prior to the weekly list date, e.g. for weekly list dated say, the 30/11/2009, this will grow until no further applications are added during the week before.

Importantly, it should be noted that neighbour consultation letters are usually sent out on the same date that an application has been recorded on the system as validated. Therefore, neighbour consultation periods are not in any way compromised by the way the weekly list is generated.

The planning department is continuously seeking to improve its processes and systems and in particular the time taken to validate applications. It has consistently reduced this over the last two years and has recently targeted a maximum 2 day turnaround period for all applications.

The department is also leading on a pilot project, partly funded by the DCLG in relation to the more effective use of electronic communication and media such as 'email alerts'. This may enable for instance customers being notified, if they so wish of any application validated in a particular street or area on the same day.

Supplementary Question 9**Councillor Colin Rogers**

Thank you Mr Mayor. Thank you for your response Councillor Cohen. Since my last question two years ago the main turnaround for publicising planning applications has gone from 14 days to 10 or 11. When will the targeted 2 day turnaround mentioned in your response be achieved?

Answer by Councillor Melvin Cohen

Mr Mayor, as soon as possible.

Question 10**Councillor Duncan Macdonald**

Will the Leader agree with me that Cabinet Members should not comment in public on the individual performance of Officers?

Answer by Councillor Mike Freer, Leader of the Council

Given the challenges facing our residents as a result of this Government's mishandling of the Economy and public sector reform (a party HIS party has propped up locally) – is this the most pressing question he can summon up?

Supplementary Question 10**Councillor Duncan Macdonald**

Councillor Freer, you failed to answer the question. Please can you answer the question yes or no?

Answer by Councillor Mike Freer, Leader of the Council

If you ask a serious question you'll get a serious answer.

Question 11**Councillor Daniel Webb**

Can the Cabinet Member please tell me how much the Council is paying to subsidise free swimming for 16 years and under?

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

I'm pleased to confirm the Council is not subsidising free under-16 swimming from its own resources. As a result of a successful bid to the Department for Culture Media and Sport we received £205,570 to fund the scheme for a year.

This covers the estimated cost for running the scheme and contributes to the administration costs. This is being run on our behalf as part of the GLL contract. It is planned that any residual grant funding will be invested towards local swimming initiatives.

Question 12**Councillor Ross Houston**

We are now nearing the end of the year, has the Council agreed final affordable housing targets with the Mayor of London yet, and if not, when does he think this will happen?

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

No, the Borough has indicated to the GLA that it would be prepared to agree to an affordable housing delivery target in line with the LAA target of 2267 affordable units by 2010/11, subject to receipt of significant HCA Kick Start funding.

Given the continuing uncertainty on the availability of external funding to support delivery, the Council will not be in a position able to formally agree our affordable housing target until the funding is agreed.

Supplementary Question 12**Councillor Ross Houston**

Thank you Mr Mayor. If Boroughs, such as Lambeth, can deliver a 40% affordable housing target for developments with no subsidy, why can't we deliver this and stop making excuses?

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

Because our building of affordable housing depends on market conditions, it depends on funding from the Government and when we have no clarity about them, we cannot be sure how many we can be built.

Question 13**Councillor Duncan Macdonald**

Can you advise the current cost to the Council of the messenger service and what steps are being taken to reduce the number of journeys made by the messengers by for example email only delivery of documents?

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

The internal courier/messenger service makes daily deliveries to Council buildings. Deliveries include internal correspondence, leaflets and stationery. Deliveries are also made to Members home addresses, every Tuesday and Friday and on Mondays before Council meetings. The cost of the service is approx £56,000 which includes salaries, vehicle hire, maintenance and fuel. Costs are recharged back to relevant service areas at the end of the financial year. The reduction in the number of Council buildings which are now used as offices and the greatly increased use of e-mail has significantly reduced the volume of internal correspondence carried by the couriers.

External couriers are used for longer distance deliveries or that are extremely urgent. The expenditure on external couriers in the period 1/11/08 to 1/11/09 was £ 6,699.

For financial year 2008/09, the cost and recharge to Democratic Services for home deliveries of hard copies of agendas and minutes to Members was £26,600.

A reduction in the number of printed copies of agendas and minutes would bring savings in printing costs. Fewer deliveries would also bring savings. Both outcomes would also be beneficial on environmental grounds. As all agendas, reports and minutes are available online, steps are being taken to ensure that hard copies of these documents are only distributed to those who have specific need to receive them through attendance at meetings or for scrutiny purposes.

Question 14**Councillor Dean Cohen**

Approximately, how much does it cost to print and provide Members with advance hard copies of committee papers?

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

Based on black and white copies, the approximate cost to print agendas is £33,000 per annum.

The approximate cost to print minutes is £3,500.

The cost of delivery to Members (twice a week) is £26,600.

Therefore the approximate cost to print and provide Members with advance hard copies of committee papers (and minutes) is approximately £63,000.

This does not include the colour copies which are produced on an ad-hoc basis.

Supplementary Question 14**Councillor Dean Cohen**

Thank you Mr Mayor. Can the Cabinet Member advise if the Council is looking at trying to minimise those costs?

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

I am grateful, Mr Mayor, for both Councillor Macdonald's and Councillor Cohen's question. It does highlight how much the courier costs, and I do believe that we can make efficiencies with Members, in particular, choosing to receive their documents by e-mail.

Some Members, including myself have already opted not to have the courier come to their homes, and we have our Council business and papers e-mailed to us, we pick up hard copies for meetings and post from the Group Rooms. I would encourage all Members to opt for courier-less delivery of documents.

Question 15

Councillor Ansuya Sodha

On 3 November, in response to a parking ticket appeal query I was told by the Director of Environment that the resident's appeal had been rejected and the parking ticket would need to be paid. On 4 November, I emailed the resident to advise them of the Director's response that their appeal had been rejected. The resident then received a letter dated 4 November, but emailed out to the resident on 5 November, saying the parking ticket had been cancelled. I have asked for an explanation of this course of events, but still have not received a reply – would the Cabinet Member advise how this PCN came to be cancelled? (I am happy to email him the correspondence).

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

The advice given by the Director was correct, however the member of staff dealing with the case made an error of judgement in cancelling the PCN before being given the outcome of the decision. The member of staff had been fully trained in the necessary processes and appropriate action has been taken to prevent a recurrence of this mistake.

Question 16

Councillor Duncan Macdonald

Can you advise as to why the recordings of Council meetings currently made are not available as podcasts on Barnet's website? Also how long are recordings kept?

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

Council Procedure Rules 30.11 and 43.4 cover the recording at a Council meeting of Questions and Comments on the work of the Cabinet. These are the only parts of the meeting that are recorded so that the Democratic Services Manager can send a transcript to the relevant Members for correction of grammar and punctuation prior to publication. The Council Procedure Rules do not authorise the use of the recordings for anything else. I have requested confirmation of how long the recordings are kept for and will update Councillor Macdonald.

Supplementary Question 16

Councillor Duncan Macdonald

Thank you Mr Mayor. Can we look at changing the rules so we can do this?

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

Councillors can propose to change these rules, so any Member here is welcome to raise a motion at Council to do so.

Question 17

Councillor John Marshall

Could the Leader advise how many older residents have benefited from his Computers for the Elderly Scheme?

Answer by Councillor Mike Freer, Leader of the Council

The recycling scheme has now been running for 16 months. To date, 252 local residents aged 55+ have been awarded a second-hand computer (104 in 2008 and 148 in 2009). There are currently 25 applications awaiting consideration.

Question 18

Councillor Anne Hutton

When will the Administration appoint someone to the Fostering Panel? There has been a vacancy for several months – and there is an issue around safeguarding.

Answer by Councillor Fiona Bulmer

A nomination to fill the vacancy has been put forward.

Supplementary Question 18**Councillor Anne Hutton**

Thank you Mr Mayor. In view of the fact that this is a safeguarding issue, can the Cabinet Member tell me why it took so long to fill this post? It is nearly a year in fact.

Answer by Councillor Fiona Bulmer

As Councillor Hutton knows, a large amount of Members on the Conservative side work for a living, and therefore daytime meetings are a challenge. But, I'm sure Councillor Hutton will be delighted to learn that Councillor Freer will be joining her on the Fostering Panel.

Question 19**Councillor Monroe Palmer**

Could the Cabinet Member dealing with Adult Social Services inform Council **what action he**, as distinct from officers, took about the dismal Performance Indicators for:

- (a) Percentage of carers receiving needs assessment or review, which showed a disturbing 21% variance from the target Barnet set itself;
- (b) Percentage of adults with learning difficulties in paid employment, which showed a disturbing 16% variance from the target Barnet set itself; and
- (c) Percentage of adults social care assessments completed within 28 days, which showed a 7% variance from the target Barnet set itself.

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

I sought re-assurance from officers

- (a) This target is achievable for the full year;
- (b) The Council is struggling to meet this target in the current economic climate and it may well be that the target itself was over ambitious; and
- (c) The Council is achieving a higher level of assessments than last year and has coped with an increasing work load from safeguarding referrals, NHS Barnet for Continuing Care Assessments and extra work with Asylum Seekers.

Supplementary Question 19**Councillor Monroe Palmer**

Thank you Mr Mayor. Councillor Cornelius, like Gaul, your answer is in 3 parts so is my supplementary:

- A) other than the Officers view, how do you know the target of needs assessments will be achieved by 31 March and who will you blame if the target is not achieved?
- B) Thank you for admitting that the target will not be met – what did you tell the DCLG when they descended on Barnet last month to investigate your performance?
- C) what difference has the new central access team, which started last month, made to increase the rate of improvement in care assessments?

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

I would like to send Councillor Palmer a detailed explanation.

Question 20**Councillor John Marshall**

Could the Leader please advise on the number of applications received to join the Council's intern scheme?

Answer by Councillor Mike Freer, Leader of the Council

Number of Applications to date is 65.

Question 21**Councillor Anne Hutton**

What plans are there for the development and or relocation of North Finchley library, and in what timescale?

Answer by Councillor Robert Rams

A planning proposal for the redevelopment of the Furnitureland site in North Finchley is expected to be submitted to the Planning department in mid-December. An earlier proposal – which did not proceed – did include proposals for a new library within the Furnitureland development, and we are awaiting the new proposal which would confirm the nature and content of the development.

Supplementary Question 21**Councillor Anne Hutton**

Thank you Mr Mayor. Is it not up to the Council to say actually that they want the library. I believe there is space available and that developers are waiting for us to say whether we want to use that space for a library?

Answer by Councillor Mike Freer, Leader of the Council

That is simply not true – the Council has said that it would like to relocate the library. I'm not sure where Councillor Hutton got that information.

Question 22**Councillor Monroe Palmer**

Could the Cabinet Member dealing with Children's Services inform Council **what action she**, as distinct from officers, took about the poor Performance Indicators for:

- (a) Percentage achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 4, which showed a massive 43% variance from the target Barnet set itself; and
- (b) Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days, which showed a 17% variance from the target Barnet set itself.

Answer by Councillor Fiona Bulmer

As with all performance indicators, I discussed these with the Director of Children's Services at my regular meetings.

With regard to the target for narrowing the achievement gap, I was advised that the trend in Barnet is very encouraging and the latest figures show Barnet pupils record results 16% above the national average. In a high performing authority the 21% target is very challenging. I was assured that detailed work is continuing in particular schools to improve attainment further.

With regard to the target for initial assessments, I have been paying close attention to this issue for some time. In 2008, I requested an audit of Initial Assessments and an action plan was developed from that audit. However, in line with other authorities, the number of initial assessments needed has increased dramatically (by 40% since 2007). I have made it clear to Officers that, in the light of these pressures, the priority must be the delivery of a safe service and that this should never be compromised by chasing targets. I have also noted that the DCSF is now consulting on extending this target to 10 days in recognition of the widespread view from professionals that 7 days is not long enough to carry out an effective assessment.

Supplementary Question 22**Councillor Monroe Palmer**

Mr Mayor, to the Cabinet Member thank you for your detailed answer unlike the last one from your colleague. I accept the answer to section (b) but in regard to (a) is the achievement gap really wider in reality than admitted – as these averages hide the results of our less well achieving schools?

Answer by Councillor Fiona Bulmer

Absolutely not, our schools generally do very well for those children who start out from a lower achievement level and that is one of the triumphs of Barnet's schools that they serve both high achieving children and those that have some disadvantages in their lives, and we should be proud of that.

Question 23**Councillor Tom Davey**

Can the Cabinet Member please tell me what is being done to improve customer service?

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

There are two performance measurements for customer service in Barnet: one for waiting times at corporate receptions and one for demand met by telephone. We are exceeding the waiting time target and my response to question 28 outlines what is being done in our contact centres to improve customer service.

In our efforts to improve external and internal customer service throughout the Council, we held a Customer Month during September. The following activities raised the profile of customer service:

- A meeting of managers from across the council at the beginning of the month to highlight customer service performance across the council and identify areas for improvement.
- A selection of customers were invited to meet with managers from across the Council. This stimulated discussion around developing a new relationship with our customers and the importance of basic customer services.
- Well attended lunchtime talks from customer service professionals, including Andy Rubin from Pentland, Bob Winnington from the Institute of Customer Service (ICS) and Norman Black from Brent Cross.
- Two well attended Customer Services Market Days (NLBP and Barnet House) hosted by customer service staff and key Partners, highlighting the importance of partnership working to improve customer services for the citizens of Barnet (those attended were Job Centre Plus, PCT, Barnet Homes, Police, ICS, 2e2, Logica, Safer Communities, Homeseekers, Pensions Service, Housing Benefits, among others). This helped promote much of the good work done currently and share best practice.
- Short customer service masterclasses in basic customer service skills such as resolving issues and complaints, secrets to good customer service success, and communicating with customers.
- ICS round table discussion hosted by Corporate Customer Services to promote and share best practice with other councils.
- Back to the floor programme for managers across the council with over 10 Directors actively taking part and spending time “on the floor” within other customer facing service areas.

ICS

We have been corporate members of the Institute of Customer Service for just over a year and are actively taking part in their Professional Award scheme. This scheme gives us the opportunity to offer staff a chance to gain a nationally recognised accreditation for their Customer Service skills.

Evidence from other participating authorities suggests that the ICS Awards programme has been key in motivating their staff, giving them confidence and improving customer service levels.

29 members of staff, supported by 15 coaches, across different service areas are currently working through their award with some of these now beginning to take their final assessments.

A communications programme for the next intake of practitioners will start in the New Year with the aim of recruiting a further 20-30 staff.

General Customer Service Training

As part of our commitment to improve customer service skills we also offer an in-house customer service training programme, covering areas such as Call Handling, Customer Service Awareness and Equalities and Complaint Handling. Since we began offering this training in 2007, over 200 members of staff have attended. I encourage all services to enrol their staff on the training that is available.

Question 24

Councillor Andrew McNeil

Can the Cabinet Member explain the effective steps he has taken to address the genuine concerns of residents living in Summerlee Avenue N2 and other streets south of Fortis Green to whom he pledged the removal of the 6 day all day parking restrictions – residents who expressed these concerns eloquently at the recent Finchley and Golders Green Residents' Forum?

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

Following the review of the East Finchley CPZ and the advisory letter to residents regarding the outcome of the review and proposed actions, the Council received a significant number of valuable responses expressing concern with our conclusions. Depending on the origin of the correspondence, the concerns were varied but the Council were keen to ensure that its conclusions and intentions were designed in good faith to meet the demands of the area and the needs of the community.

Therefore, further investigation in to the sentiments of the submissions took place, which included The Leader and myself meeting with representatives of a cross section of the East Finchley community which, when considered in context of the further work carried out by Council officers subsequently resulted in a decision being made not to proceed with any changes to the way that the East Finchley CPZ currently operates.

Although the CPZ review itself did not highlight a particular concern with the current hours of operation of the CPZ in and around Summerlee Avenue, it did subsequently receive comment, including a petition requesting that the hours of operation of this part of the CPZ be reduced to operate only between the hours of 2 and 3pm on Mondays to Fridays, which were the original hours of operation when the scheme was first introduced and were subsequently increased to their current operational hours of Monday to Saturday 10 am to 6.30pm.

The operational times were increased due to the increased parking pressure anticipated by the Council as a result of the Garden Suburb Institute relocating to East Finchley and the Council felt at the time that there were significant reasons to proceed with an increase in the operational times on an experimental basis. By its nature the experimental scheme allowed the changes to be introduced rapidly but whilst the experiment continued comment could be made to the Council by those actually experiencing the effects of the increased hours – the experimental period effectively being a consultation period as well. It should be stressed that this was not a pilot scheme, but a scheme designed to mitigate against the increased parking pressure in the area whilst allowing community comment to inform subsequent decisions on whether to make the changes permanent.

In due course having considered all comments received the decision was subsequently taken to make the scheme permanent. The current scheme is valid, although it is recognised that some residents would like to revert to the original lesser restrictions.

This has been conveyed to members of the community who attended the two recent Finchley and Golders Green Forums who were also advised that a further letter would be sent out to all properties within the CPZ advising of the decision now taken not to proceed with any changes.

However, again as emphasised at the Forums, should significant support for further investigation into reducing the hours of operation of the CPZ still remain and that this support for investigation is favoured by a significant number of the population then the Council would of course be prepared to consider this option including further consultation and engagement with the community. This would not be likely to take place though until well into the next financial year.

Supplementary Question 24

Councillor Andrew McNeil

Thank you Mr Mayor. I am grateful to the Cabinet Member for his reply which is imbued with the thoroughness which is expected throughout our corner of the Borough. However, I would like to know what lessons do you feel you have learnt from this sorry episode, and whether he now regrets ignoring for so long the Labour opposition's call over several years for a proper review of the hastily imposed six day all day CPZ in the Summerlee area?

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

Thank you Mr Mayor. I don't agree that this has been a sorry episode, however, I am aware of the concerns that some residents have in that part of the CPZ in East Finchley. I have indicated that the Council is open to further representations on those matters. However, I also, got a distinct sense from people that they did not want any further consultations at this time, and I have already pointed out that in order to make any further changes to that part of the CPZ there would need to be a further statutory consultation.

Question 25

Councillor Monroe Palmer

Could the Cabinet Member dealing with Housing Services inform Council **what action he**, as distinct from officers, took about the dismal Performance Indicator for:

Number of affordable homes delivered, which showed that of our unambitious target of 390 homes we achieved a miserable number of 161 homes.

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

I sought an explanation.

The Council has not achieved the target because plans have been hindered by the continuing property market recession and uncertainties regarding funding.

Supplementary Question 25

Councillor Monroe Palmer

Thank you Mr Mayor. Councillor Cornelius, I note that you sought an explanation, do you not believe that it is the job of a Cabinet Member to lead and propose solutions and not just to accept excuses; and can you tell me what efforts are you making to include more affordable homes within ongoing developments?

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

Mr Mayor, I am working hard to produce a coherent plan to produce affordable housing and I believe I am doing better than the previous Administration did.

Question 26

Councillor Brian Gordon

According to a recent Council Report, GLA projections predict that numbers of primary school aged children in this Borough could rise by 24% by 2019, which means nearly 6,000 more children. What provision is being made by the Council by way of long-term strategy to deal with this need?

Answer by Councillor Fiona Bulmer

Preparations are underway to increase the number of school places for September 2010 and discussions are being held with Head teachers of schools in areas of predicted high pressure.

The project to rebuild and expand Colindale school is progressing and for the longer term, sites have already been identified within the regeneration growth areas for expansion and new provision. We now need to identify existing schools that can be expanded on a more permanent basis and develop a long term funding strategy for the significant capital investment that will be required. Unfortunately, the Government continues to fail to recognise Barnet's needs and awarded the council a grant of only £1m towards meeting new demand when officers estimate that we will need at least £30 m to meet local pressures.

Supplementary Question 26

Councillor Brian Gordon

Can the Cabinet Member tell us whether she would agree that the fact there is going to be so many more children in the Borough, would increase the need to encourage private schools, because the more private schools there are then more money in the public sector for those people who don't send their children to private schools. In particular, can I request that perhaps the Council could be more forthcoming and even more helpful than it has been, when there are private schools such as faith schools that are looking for premises / buildings for their schools, not for subsidy in any other way except sites to help those private schools and faith schools, in particular, to find sites so that they can educate their children.

Answer by Councillor Fiona Bulmer

Certainly, the Children's Service always tries to be helpful in responding to proposal for new schools, within the regulations, and I am sure they will continue to do so.

Question 27

Councillor Alan Schneiderman

How does the 'Three Strands' approach help to prevent inappropriate town centre developments?

Answer by Councillor Melvin Cohen

The Three Strands Approach sets out the strategic vision for planning and development in the Borough. It underpins the existing policy approach and will also be embedded within the emerging Local development Framework, the new local plan from the Core Strategy through to detailed development management policies.

The Three Strands Approach places considerable emphasis on the importance of the Borough's town centres and the need to ensure they continue to perform well as economic and social focal points. In particular, it seeks to promote opportunities for attracting new investment into these key locations and build upon the individual strengths and characteristics of Barnet's many centres. Delivering high quality mixed use and sustainable development is critical to the approach and through the robust application of current planning policy and the preparation of new local policies the Council is in a strong position to prevent inappropriate change now and in the future.

Supplementary Question 27

Councillor Alan Schneiderman

Thank you Mr Mayor. When will we actually get a town centre strategy for North Finchley that allows the punitive effect of multiple applications in a small area to be taken into account?

Answer by Councillor Melvin Cohen

As soon as reasonably practicable.

Question 28

Councillor Monroe Palmer

Could the Cabinet Member dealing with Corporate Services inform Council **what action she**, as distinct from officers, took about the poor Performance Indicators for:

Percentage of telephone calls answered within 20 seconds (5 rings) by our call centre, which showed that of our target of 85% Barnet managed a miserable 46.5%. In case the Cabinet Member is unaware of the breakdown of this disturbing lack of response, that of the 85% target in Planning we only made 16%; in Parking only 21%; in Environment and Transport only 23%; in Adult Social Services only 34%; in Council Tax only 45%; in Registrars only 43 %; in Housing Advice only 52%.

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

My actions, distinct from Officers, included three visits to the contact centre to meet staff and managers, listen to calls and observe staff dealing with enquiries. My visits have highlighted to staff that their work and performance is important to me and fellow members. Since my appointment to Cabinet, I have met managers responsible for customer services at least monthly and the contact centre is always discussed. As a result of my meetings with officers, officers know that members expect performance to improve.

I am aware of the issues facing the contact centre and have highlighted these below. I have fully supported and encouraged measures to improve performance including visits to councils that perform well in this area – these visits have helped us establish a way forward which is also highlighted below. I believe that despite recent performance figures progress is being made which will see improvements over the long term. In November for example, overall performance against target was 57%, a 10.5% increase on quarter two.

Other more general actions include spearheading 'Customer Month' in September (please see my response to question 23 for more details). This included a visit to the contact centre and all staff receiving a message from me reiterating the need to improve customer service.

Councillor Palmer may find it helpful if I share my understanding of the issues facing the contact centre and the way forward:

Background information

This financial year, the corporate telephone target was changed from "percentage of calls answered" to "85% of calls answered within 5 rings". This is a more ambitious target but has made it easier to benchmark our performance. For previous years, this indicator was reported only for Corporate Customer Services (i.e. Street Based Services and Planning First Contact) but has been extended this year to include all contact centres across the Council – therefore giving us a more accurate picture of customer service performance across all Council contact centres.

Issues

Other boroughs that are nearer to meeting comparable targets have their officers taking between 31 and 58 calls per day. Barnet officers take on average 115 calls per day.

Accountability, control and efficient use of resources is difficult within a devolved customer service structure.

Moving forward

Officers have visited councils who perform well in this area: Surrey, Kent, Cambridgeshire and Slough. Learning from these visits has highlighted the need to proceed with the following:

Consolidation of contact centres

- Accelerate contact centre consolidation – proposing an initial merger of current contact centres into Corporate Customer Services. This will improve control, accountability, and increase the scale of resource we have available for customer contact. Parking have physically moved to Corporate Customer Services and we can already see improvements in performance (only 1% of calls were answered within corporate target prior to move (June 2009); performance was 23% in November).
- Reduce telephone demand by enhancing our website and encouraging more online transactions.

Improved performance management

We currently only measure 2 performance indicators for customer services. We are in the process of developing more focussed customer service indicators to ensure a broader understanding of customer service performance and better demonstrate the quality of customers' experience. Consolidating customer service functions within Corporate Customer Services will make this easier to implement and manage.

We have standardised service level agreements across all contact centres so everyone is now measured against the corporate target.

Supplementary Question 28

Councillor Monroe Palmer

I compliment Councillor Thomas on being a Cabinet Member who tries to answer by explaining at length his actions are distinct than his Officers. You, unlike your colleagues, Councillor Thomas, do not just ask Officers for explanations. I congratulate you on your hands-on approach – one question – are you not worried that part of your solution to reduce telephone demand by more online transactions is resulting even now in residents not being able to get through on the phone to obtain things like residents parking permits. And, many resent the message to use the online service when many older people in our Borough do not have a computer.

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

Mr Mayor, that is a good point and I do appreciate that not all our residents want to use the internet or can use the internet. I think, in time, I like to envisage where people could walk up to one of our libraries or customer service centres and actually print off their parking permit there and avoid a phone altogether and see a human being. We are looking at a multi-channel approach and I do appreciate that not everyone wants to use the phone or the internet.

Question 29

Councillor Brian Gordon

There are still a number of roads within the Borough that have humps. In view of their general unpopularity, the damage they do to vehicles and the fact that their existence has not proven to have reduced road accidents, when can we see all these remaining humps being removed?

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

Currently, there are no proposals to remove remaining speed humps on Borough roads – it would be too expensive. The removal of speed humps is only pursued where they exist on roads which are to be resurfaced. As part of the carriageway resurfacing programme, technical assessments are undertaken to assess the effectiveness of any existing measures such as humps, including pre and post resurfacing speed surveys, accident data analysis and consultation with residents, ward members and emergency services. The Officer findings are reported to the Cabinet Member and the Area Environment Sub-Committee chairman for decision before measures are replaced or alternatives recommended.

Supplementary Question 29**Councillor Brian Gordon**

Councillor Harper I was always hoping that we were going to take an even stronger line that we have done to try and remove speed humps which is certainly one of the many reasons why many people supported us in this Administration. I would like to know when you say in your answer that the removal of speed humps is only pursued where they exist on roads which are to be resurfaced – do I take that as a general principle that when roads are resurfaced then any speed hump on that road will go because my soundings are that is what the majority of people want.

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

It is certainly true that as roads come round for resurfacing those which have humps on them have to have them taken up to allow the resurfacing. We then go through a consultation exercise with local residents and also with the ambulance service, fire brigade and so on so as to see whether those measures should be put back. To my knowledge since we have been adopting that policy no road humps have been replaced on resurfaced roads and indeed in the rest of the Borough the Council is currently not putting in any new measures of that kind.

Question 30**Councillor Alison Moore**

Will the Cabinet Member confirm that Area Environment Sub-Committees will not be scrapped?

Answer by Councillor Mike Freer, Leader of the Council

This is not in my gift, it would be a matter for the Constitutional Review Committee.

Supplementary Question 30**Councillor Alison Moore**

Thank you, given the Conservative majority on the Constitutional Review Committee and the tendency for Conservative Members on that Committee to vote on party lines – I wonder if the Leader can give me an assurance that he would not support the scrapping of the Area Environment Sub-Committees?

Answer by Councillor Mike Freer, Leader of the Council

There are no current proposals to scrap the Area Environment Sub-Committees.

Question 31**Councillor Monroe Palmer**

Could the Leader of the Council, whoever this is at this time, inform Council **what action he/she**, as distinct from officers, took about the dismal Performance Indicators presided over by his/her Cabinet Members.

Answer by Councillor Mike Freer, Leader of the Council

I appointed Councillor Thomas to focus on driving up performance and I am happy to compare the performance of this Administration to the shambles we inherited from the Labour led administration he and his wife were prominent members of.

Supplementary Question 31**Councillor Monroe Palmer**

Thank you for reminding me that everyone that Councillor Susette Palmer and I were high achieving Cabinet Members of this Council. Thank you very much. However, harping on about what did or did not happen up to 11 years ago does not answer my question. I imagine Councillor Freer that you are still blaming the flooded roads in Barnet on the lack of precautions of the Biblical times of Noah. Your answer like your answer to previous meetings on the loss of £27 million in Icelandic Banks or the £11 million over budget appears to rest on your delegation of responsibility to someone else. Do you, Councillor Freer, understand the difference between delegation and abdication and can you explain that difference to the Council?

Answer by Councillor Mike Freer, Leader of the Council

Mr Mayor, the last time I looked this wasn't an English lesson, if Councillor Palmer would like one, after the meeting, I will be happy to give him some education. But, I do not need lessons from him on performance indicators. He sat in the Cabinet in charge of regeneration when not one brick not one regeneration scheme progressed in the 8 years he supervised the regeneration programme. He propped up the Labour Administration that saw the Planning Department nearly taken over by John Prescott and how desperate it must have been for John Prescott to take over the Planning Department. He propped up the Labour Administration that saw our Education Service about to be taken control of by Whitehall so there are no lessons on performance indicators from him.

Question 32**Councillor Joan Scannell**

Now that the results have been issued of the consultation on the review of the Edgware CPZ, when are we likely to see some changes in that CPZ – hopefully to make it less restrictive than at present?

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

Statutory consultations for proposals based on the outcomes of the Edgware CPZ review commenced on 5 November and have now finished. The responses received as part of these statutory consultations are now being analysed. A report including recommendations and intentions will be ready next week, and a decision reached on the Council's agreed way forward by the end of this year. Assuming agreement is reached measures will begin to be implemented from the end of January onwards.

Supplementary Question 32**Councillor Joan Scannell**

Thank you Mr Mayor. Thank you for your reply Councillor Harper. Councillor Helena Hart, Councillor Darrel Yawitch and I have worked very hard on this review and will we therefore receive a copy of the report next week?

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

It is my understanding that the Ward Councillors will indeed receive it next week.

Question 33**Councillor Alan Schneiderman**

Will Barnet join the 10:10 project to achieve a 10% cut in the UK's carbon emissions in 2010?

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

The Council has not signed up to the 10:10 project which is acknowledged to be a very bold target to cut CO2 emissions by 10% in 2010. However, the Council is committed to reducing carbon emissions from its operations, and to raising awareness of energy efficiency and carbon reductions among residents and businesses. For example, the Council is investing in energy efficiency improvement measures within its offices and other premises and has recently been working with the Energy Saving Trust on its strategy to reduce carbon emissions in the Borough.

Supplementary Question 33**Councillor Alan Schneiderman**

Thank you Mr Mayor. I thank Councillor Harper for his answer, but signing up to the 10:10 campaign is a commitment to trying to achieve 10% cut in carbon emissions in 2010. Why doesn't the Cabinet Member actually want to commit to trying?

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

I think if Councillor Schneiderman can be patient until the second half of this meeting I will be dealing with that in the speech that I'm making as part of the debate on the opposition's policy item.

Question 34**Councillor Jack Cohen**

How many planning applications including reserved matters remain outstanding (by this I mean have not yet been determined) for more than one year? Please provide details of these.

Answer by Councillor Melvin Cohen

There are 22 outstanding planning applications over a year old including applications for Reserved Matters. This excludes, however, applications to discharge/vary conditions (50), Certificates of Lawful Development (3), Advertisement Consent applications (2) and Listed Building/Conservation Area Consent applications (1).

The majority of the 22 full and outline applications are minor in nature and have involved extensive negotiations to secure satisfactory outcomes. A smaller number of applications, due in the main to their scale and complexity unfortunately are requiring more time to deal with such as Brent Cross Cricklewood.

The planning department seeks to determine all planning applications in a timely manner and this is reflected in its performance which consistently significantly exceeds the national performance indicator targets'.

Supplementary Question 34**Councillor Jack Cohen**

I thank Councillor Melvin Cohen for his reply. So there are 22 planning applications that are more than one year outstanding. Councillor Cohen, I did ask for details of those planning applications and you give me one, and that one was the Brent Cross Cricklewood development. Well, Councillor Melvin Cohen, I don't know where you were but we dealt with that about four weeks ago. Can you tell me, I'm sure these facts are at your finger tips knowing how you operate, the 21 other planning applications that are more than one year outstanding?

Answer by Councillor Melvin Cohen

I will arrange for the Member to written to.

Question 35**Councillor Darrel Yawitch**

I know you have been trying to assist in pressing for more 113 buses (now that the 186 has been re-routed) to assist with transport needs for Copthall and Hasmaneian girls' schools. What progress has been made in this respect?

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

Following the change in the 186 bus route, Officers have followed up the Hasmaneian Girls School's concerns with London Buses. London Buses have promised an urgent survey to determine the extent of the loading problems at Fiveways Corner and the reliability of bus 113 in the afternoon, with a similar survey being undertaken at the morning travel to school times.

The Council hopes to hear from London Buses very soon.

Question 36**Councillor Alan Schneiderman**

When will meetings of the Local Strategic Partnership finally be held in public rather than in secret?

Answer by Councillor Mike Freer, Leader of the Council

The meetings of the LSP Executive remain private meetings and there are no plans to change this.

Supplementary Question 36**Councillor Alan Schneiderman**

Thank you Mr Mayor. What has Councillor Freer got to hide?

Answer by Councillor Mike Freer, Leader of the Council

Absolutely nothing. If Councillor Schneiderman actually turned up for some of his Officer briefings, in the past year he actually had half a dozen meetings with Chief Officers, he could actually ask the questions himself. If he actually did the work that he is paid an SRA for he would actually have the information he is seeking.

Question 37

Councillor Brian Coleman

Could the Cabinet Member update Council on when the tenants of 1 Friern Park might be able to move to their new facilities in Friary House?

Answer by Councillor Lynne Hillan

Tenders have gone out to 5 building contractors, and are due for return in mid January. Negotiation will take place with the contractors on receipt of their tenders for the work, concerning the contract period, and a comprehensive project plan will then be constructed. The revised estimated move date is August 2010.

Supplementary Question 37

Councillor Brian Coleman

I am grateful to Councillor Hillan for the answer, can she say what negotiations going on with the voluntary groups to take over the, hopefully, much improved enhanced premises at Friary House?

Answer by Councillor Lynne Hillan

Negotiations are well advanced with the voluntary groups and I am hoping that building will start very shortly and that Mr Mayor you will be able to cut the ribbon.

Question 38

Councillor Alan Schneiderman

Now that officer Treasury Management Practices have been reviewed, will the Cabinet Member for Resources review the scrutiny of Treasury Management exercised by the executive in the light of comments from the previous Cabinet Member for Resources that the Cabinet Resources Committee had 'minimum technical knowledge' to do this job?

Answer by Councillor Lynne Hillan

In exercising their responsibilities the executive rely on expert advice provided by the Director of Finance, the Chief Internal Auditor, the external auditors and the Council's independent treasury management advisers. As in all other areas of Council operations, detailed technical knowledge is not required in order for the executive to discharge its role effectively.

Since enhanced compliance checks and arrangements for regular reporting to the executive were put in place in April 2009 there have been no instances of non-compliance with the Treasury Management Strategy. The effectiveness of executive oversight of treasury management is further evidenced by a recent internal audit follow up report which has confirmed that there is now full assurance that all of the necessary controls are in place to mitigate key risks.

Supplementary Question 38

Councillor Alan Schneiderman

Thank you Mr Mayor. Do I take Councillor Hillan's answer to mean that her oversight of Treasury Management is going to be as ineffective as her predecessor?

Answer by Councillor Lynne Hillan

Certainly, Treasury Management was very robust before and certainly is now and far better it would seem than RBS and the Chancellor whose credibility has been called into question because RBS according to the Daily Telegraph were rated healthy days before the bailout, but the Treasury didn't realise. I think Councillor Schneiderman is expecting both Councillor Freer and myself to be far more savvy than the Chancellor himself.

Question 39**Councillor Wendy Prentice**

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the roll out of Oyster card usage on rail journeys?

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

Oyster pay as you go will be accepted on National Rail services in London from 2 January on routes that currently accept Travelcards. This means Oyster pay as you go will be available on First Capital Connect services through the borough. (Pay as you go will be newly available between Elstree and Borehamwood and West Hampstead including Mill Hill Broadway, Hendon and Cricklewood, and between Hadley Wood and Finsbury Park including New Barnet, Oakleigh Park and New Southgate). Pay as you go cannot be used for journeys starting or finishing beyond the London zones (or beyond Watford Junction or Grays on the relevant lines), or on certain services to/from Heathrow or on Southeastern high speed services between St Pancras International and Stratford International.

The train operating companies set the fares for Oyster pay as you go on the newly included lines, based on the same zones as used for Travelcards. These will be different to the fares on the tube and rail lines already operating pay as you go. The Peak Oyster single fare will be set at, or just below, half the price of a cash Anytime Return. Off peak fares are similarly linked to the price of an off peak return.

The peak fare applies Monday to Friday 0630-0930 and 1600-1900 (except public holidays) with the fare charged based on the time you touch your card on the yellow card reader (rather than the time of the train). Off peak day return tickets will no longer be available within the zones so customers will need to use Oyster pay as you go to take advantage of these fares. The daily price cap will apply so all journeys made between 0430 and 0430 the following day will cost no more than the price of the equivalent Day Travelcard.

Nevertheless customers travelling on most days may find it cheaper or more convenient to buy a National Rail or Travelcard season ticket. Also customers using pay as you go on national rail services beyond zones covered on a travelcard season ticket will need to set up an "extension permit" on their Oyster Card to allow this before travelling.

Information about the changes including fares is already available from TfL's website <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/modalpages/2688.aspx>. Leaflets and posters about the changes will be available at National Rail stations from early December. Leaflets will be available at Tube and London Underground stations from 2 January and posters will be shown across the tube, bus and London Overground networks. Press advertising is also to take place together with emails to Travelcard and registered Oyster pay as you go customers.

Question 40**Councillor Geof Cooke**

What services does the Council provide out of hours?

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

Services have provided me with the following information:

Corporate Services provides Registrar services out of ours. They offer an urgent facility to obtain a burial document on a Sunday to enable a funeral to proceed, primarily for the Jewish and Muslim community. This facility is also available over the Christmas and New Year period. It should be noted that Saturdays is considered to be a normal working day for this service area.

The emergency planning section has put arrangements in place to ensure that the Council has officers available 24/7 to manage the Council's response to an emergency incident (as defined in the Civil Contingencies Act) affecting the Borough of Barnet where the emergency services request assistance.

The Social Care Service shares an 'out of hours' duty service with the London Borough of Harrow. This service is accessed through the Council's out of hours number and ensures that there is a social worker and a manager available at all times. In addition, Children's Social Care has a Social Work Team Manager on call who will give advice and assistance to the Harrow Team and also to our own staff who are working out of hours and to foster carers.

The Youth Offending Service will contact the court on Saturdays and Bank Holidays to ascertain whether there are any young people in court during that session. If there are then a worker will attend that session. Additionally, a Manager is on call for advice during these periods. If a young person is arrested out of hours the police will notify the Duty Social worker (as above) as necessary. If a parent is not available the duty social worker will contact the contracted Appropriate Adult service who will then attend the police station to ensure that the young person is adequately represented.

Highways provides the following services:

- Emergency standby for Highway Maintenance issues – call outs to deal with accident damage and urgent highway infrastructure issues which require protection and making safe.
- Emergency cover for street lighting and illuminated signs maintenance – call outs to accident damaged equipment etc.
- Emergency cover for Highway Drainage issues – usually when a danger of flooding is identified.
- Winter Maintenance Activity – gritting of roads as appropriate in ice and snow conditions.
- Carriageway Resurfacing – only where and when the location dictates that night working is most appropriate – when considering safety and disruption.
- CCTV control room which operates 24/7/365. It also provides the emergency out-of-hours telephone service.
- Emergency cover for tree damage to make safe.
- Streetscene emergency cover for road traffic accidents and spillages.

Planning, Housing and Regeneration provide the following:

- Environmental Health Noise Nuisance Service (Out of Hours Noise and Nuisance Service, weekends 20:00 hours Friday through to 05:00 Saturday, then 10:00 hours Saturday through to 05:00 hours Sunday morning, then 10:00 Sunday morning through to 05:00 Monday morning), plus mid week for persistent noise and nuisance problems by appointment only.
- Hendon Cemetery and Crematorium weekend burials available by appointment, usually 24 hours notice required to enable preparation of grave.
- Coroners Mortuary, staff on 24/7 on call rota.
- Environmental Health on call at all times to provide life and limb cover, in case of fatal work place accidents, serious food poisoning outbreaks etc.
- Building Control Dangerous Structures Service (Emergency Service Call Out – 24/7, 365 Days pa).
- Emergency Housing and Homelessness Advice (Every Evening after Office Hours including Emergency Housing Accommodation where exceptionally necessary).
- Barnet Homes: Out of Hours Housing and Gas Emergency Repairs Service (24/7); Vulnerable People: Lifeline Alarm System (24/7).

Supplementary Question 40**Councillor Geof Cooke**

Thank you for your comprehensive reply. When I ring the Council out-of-hours I get to listen to a very long spiel and then I am given option 1, Barnet Homes, then at the weekends they give me an extra option for the Environmental Noise Service. So, how are members of the public to access the other services mentioned in the reply concerning social services, highways, accidents, homelessness? Was the council telephone number an error and if so has that been rectified?

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

Mr Mayor, it is difficult for me to reply as my portfolio does not actually take responsibility for operations of these services, but I will get back to Councillor Cooke to talk about his response and the response residents have got to our out-of-hours telephone number.

Question 41**Councillor Kath McGuirk**

What are the 40 – 50 potential options being considered for reducing household waste and increasing recycling?

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

We are looking at a range of options to take forward over the next year to reduce household waste and increase recycling. All options are being evaluated on the basis of their impact on recycling and waste reduction targets and their cost to implement. These will be considered by Cabinet in early 2010.

These options are:

Creating the right conditions to enable householders to reduce their waste

- Ranging from the inclusion of tetra paks into existing kerbside recycling collections, through to rolling out the kitchen caddy scheme to those already with a green bin to make recycling food waste easier.

Redesigning waste collection services to encourage further waste reduction and recycling

- Ranging from working in partnership with a Barnet Homes project enabling furniture from void properties to be reused through Restore community projects to trial something similar with the neighbourhood skip service, through to working with DHL on house to house collections on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE).

A new relationship with citizens around waste reduction and recycling

- Ranging from piloting new approaches with local businesses and shoppers to reduce the amount of packaging residents take home through to improving intelligence gathering to provide a better understanding of who is and who isn't recycling to allow for more effective targeting of messages within geographical areas.

Providing enforcement and encouragement for waste prevention and recycling

- Ranging from tougher enforcement of compulsory recycling through to an environment month timed swapshop / freecycle event after Christmas.

Supplementary Question 41**Councillor Kath McGuirk**

Thank you. I thank Councillor Harper for his somewhat incomplete answer that give some way short of 40 to 50 options and doesn't include or rule out anything. Next week, backbenches meet to discuss the scope of the task and finish group on recycling and waste minimisation. Does he agree that detailed pre-decision scrutiny is the best way forward on such a matter? That he will attend meetings as he did when we reviewed the signature street cleaning service and that all options made available to this group.

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

As Councillor McGuirk knows I am always willing and ready to work with the Council scrutiny committees.

Question 42**Councillor Barry Rawlings**

Does the Cabinet Member for Health support scrapping the government's cancer treatment guarantee, and if so what impact would that have on Barnet residents?

Answer by Councillor Helena Hart

The Government guarantee on universal waiting times for cancer treatment is not worth the paper it is written on if the outcome of that treatment continues to be as far behind our European and American counterparts as it is at present. Leaving aside the post code lottery on both waiting times and treatment, patients must be better served by receiving the most effective, up to date and suitable treatment for their own particular form of this life threatening disease rather than just being another statistic in yet another tick boxing exercise on waiting times.

Barnet patients are relatively more fortunate than patients in other parts of the country in that waiting times for cancer treatment and mortality rates are on target. However, our survival rates for Breast and Colorectal Cancer are some of the worst in England. The Cancer Reform Strategy, published this month, shows Barnet coming in 9th for Breast and 7th lowest for Colorectal one year survival rates, a very worrying position for our residents.

The danger in imposing targets such those to which Cllr Rawlings refers – as with all the other Government pledges on waiting times – is that clinicians are forced to concentrate exclusively on them and not on what they are just a part of achieving – namely successful outcomes for patients.

Supplementary Question 42**Councillor Barry Rawlings**

As usual from Councillor Hart we have got a bit of a confused answer as it says there are worries about the treatment rate. Surely, you need a policy on the waiting and treatment times to ensure a better survival rate because early treatment is the key point. So I ask her again, does the Cabinet Member support a system where people are seen and treated within a certain time or not?

Answer by Councillor Helena Hart

Thank you Mr Mayor. Mr Mayor we could spend the whole evening discussing, if you would permit it, the ill effects on the Health Service of this Government's addiction to tick boxing and target setting. For years we have had performance indicators based on reporting illness as opposed to treating it, ever more bloated management and make work quangos. I say to Councillor Rawlings that it is time to tear up Labour's lists and actually do something about improving this nation's health and life chances; and most particularly improvements to those suffering from cancer.

Question 43**Councillor Ross Houston**

How many families are there currently on the housing waiting list in Barnet?

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

At 2 December 2009, there are 17,505 households on the housing waiting list. There are 10187 Households seeking family accommodation (i.e. 2 or more bedrooms) 1805 of these are seeking a transfer.

Supplementary Question 43**Councillor Ross Houston**

Thank you Mr Mayor. The number of empty properties in the Borough and the number families in temporary accommodation has hardly moved in the last four years. Whatever the Administration was doing hasn't worked why is it?

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

That is not so, and later in this evening, if the Mayor permits of course, we will discuss this much further.

Question 44**Councillor Alison Moore**

Will the Cabinet Member confirm by which date the necessary works arising from the Fire Risk Assessments of council housing blocks will be carried out?

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

It has been possible to bring the Risk assessments forward and Barnet Homes will have them all completed at the end of December. The resultant works are being prioritised and correction work has started. The rest of the works will be expedited and finished over the next 2 financial years.

Supplementary Question 44**Councillor Alison Moore**

Thank you Mr Mayor. I wonder if the Lead Member would provide me with a detailed schedule of all the works, with timescales in which they will be carried out?

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

I will do that as soon as the actual assessments are finished at the end of the year because the priorities will change because of that.

Question 45**Councillor Anne Hutton**

Given the extra pressure on children's social services due to increased referrals what extra resources are being given to that department to help meet the demand?

Answer by Councillor Fiona Bulmer

A range of additional support has been put in place including recruiting a range of new staff to create an additional Child in Need Team to work with the increase in children subject to a protection plan. Additional support with back office functions, including support with scheduling and minuting child protection conferences and support with ICS, is currently being costed.

Question 46**Councillor Gill Sargeant**

What options are there for re-housing the residents of Grahame Park who will be affected by the Phase 1b redevelopment?

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

Within Phase 1b, the number of occupied units that will need to be re-housed are as follows:

- 44 secure tenants – all but 2 are moving into Phase 1a (one wants to relocate elsewhere and one has chosen to move twice within the estate)
- 108 non-secure tenants – all non-secure Council tenants are being visited during December and January to establish their housing needs by a visiting LB Barnet housing officer. The various blocks will then be dealt with in batches as appropriate.

Residents are being given a number of options, including private rented sector, shared equity and some Choice Based Lettings.

In addition, there are 21 homeowners – who may be subject to CPO procedures, but most of whom are already in discussions with the developers, Choices for Graham Park. The intention is that they will all be acquired by agreement.

The current programme will see vacant possession of all these properties being obtained by Summer 2010, which is after the completion of Phase 1a. An independent advisor is available to help advise tenants and occupiers on their options.

Supplementary Question 46

Councillor Gill Sargeant

Thank you very much Mr Mayor. Can I thank Councillor Cornelius for his answer, I do think he is an honourable person trying to do his best in a very difficult position that this Administration has put him into. I think this is an extremely serious issue about what is happening with the re-housing needs of residents on our regeneration estates. Can I just say in detail what the question I really want to know is there are 108 non-secure tenants who we know are temporary tenants who are being visited. Can he tell me how many he thinks of the 108 non-secure temporary tenants are actually going to have social rented rather than private rented accommodation, and secondly, there are the 21 homeowners who are going to be subject to CPO procedures who are also extremely upset about what is happening to them? I wonder if he could just elaborate further on his answer.

Answer by Councillor Richard Cornelius

If I can I deal with the last matter first because I can remember it. We do hope to avoid CPOs, we hope that we can gain the properties by negotiation. I can't at this stage say where people will actually be re-housed, but of course if we have got empty flats in our own properties we will be trying to use those as much as possible.

Question 47

Councillor Alison Moore

How much did it cost to put Cherry Tree Wood forward for Green Flag status, why did the application fail, and how much additional money will it take to secure Green Flag status?

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

We spent £81,000 in Cherry Tree Wood during 2008/09. It is not possible to say exactly why the site was not successful in achieving Green Flag status as feedback is issued via written comments rather than a score sheet.

However, non achievement of Green Flag status was marginal and thought to be attributable to the substantial further investment still required to the infrastructure. This included the replacement of the footpath through the wood, the refurbishment of the pavilion – about which discussions are ongoing – and resurfacing of the tennis courts, an additional investment of some £100,000 (excluding the pavilion).

Supplementary Question 47

Councillor Alison Moore

Thank you, it does puzzle me why the Administration didn't spend that £81,000 in replacing the footpath and making other improvements that residents and the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood have been asking for. Surely, this would have been a better immediate use of resources and might even have resulted in achieving Green flag status.

Answer by Councillor Andrew Harper

Mr Mayor, that is pure speculation; it is impossible to know how much money we would have needed to spend to achieve Green Flag status. I think it was a judgement that is made on the quality of the park or green space, and the facilities available. We did what we thought was right in the circumstances.

Question 48**Councillor Geof Cooke**

What is preventing Council departments from answering the phone within 5 rings?

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

Please see my reply to question 28.

Supplementary Question 48**Councillor Geof Cooke**

What extra staffing will be put in place to cope with the extra enquiries across the Barnet public sector on the Future Shape?

Answer by Councillor Daniel Thomas

Mr Mayor, this is a typical socialist Labour left leaning response to throw extra resources, extra people, extra money at problems and hopefully it will go away. The consolidation project in the call centre is partly because basically services and departments were having a go at these call centres. If you put them all together, technology and just consolidating practices and getting people to do one job, that will improve the response rate and that has seemed to have happened. With regard to Future Shape, resources have been set aside for Future Shape for the consultation and lets see how many calls we actually do get.

<p style="text-align: center;">Council Meeting 15 December 2009</p>

FURTHER SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF THE ACTING DEMOCRATIC SERVICES
MANAGER

AGENDA ITEM 5.3

5.3.2 APPOINTMENTS TO CABINET

The Leader of the Council has given notice of her proposal for the following Members to be appointed to the Cabinet and that they will have the portfolio responsibilities set alongside their names below.

1. Leader & Resources	Lynne Hillan
2. Deputy Leader & Children's Services	Andrew Harper
3. Planning & Environmental Protection	Melvin Cohen
4. Housing and Regeneration	Richard Cornelius
5. Adults	Sachin Rajput
6. Public Health	Helena Hart
7. Policy & Performance	Daniel Webb
8. Investment in Learning	Robert Rams
9. Environment & Transport	Daniel Thomas
10. Community Engagement & Community Safety	Matthew Offord

RECOMMEND – That Council approve the membership of the Cabinet.

5.3.3 LEADER'S SCHEME OF DELEGATION RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

- 5.3.3.1 All the local authority functions that are not mentioned in the first two tables, or reserved to Council in Article 4, are executive functions. These are the responsibility of
- Individual members of the Executive (the Leader and members of the Cabinet)
 - Cabinet Committees

The Leader of the Council has given notice of her Scheme of Delegation the details of which are as follows:-

5.3.3.2 Cabinet Members

- i. Set out below is a table in the first column of which are listed the names, addresses and wards of Cabinet Members.
- ii. The second column sets out each Cabinet member's functions and the third column summarises what has been delegated.

Executive Member and Portfolio	Responsibilities	Delegation
<p>Cllr. Lynne Hillan 20 Ashurst Road North Finchley London, N12 9AX</p> <p>Brunswick Park Ward</p> <p>LEADER OF THE COUNCIL RESOURCES</p>	<p>The Leadership of the Council. Specific individual responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human resources • Equalities and diversity • Responsibility for the Oversight of the Council's duties as an employer under Health and Safety related legislation. <p>Also to be involved in and promote discussions in relation to any matters within the portfolio.</p> <p>To lead on budget and policy formulation and implementation in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • resources (including billing, collection and recovery of local taxation) • financial forward planning and budgeting • risk management • asset management • major corporate contracts • communications and marketing <p>The monitoring of the Council's budget and to instigate such interventions as necessary to ensure spending is kept within limits determined by council.</p> <p>The administration of Housing Benefits Also to be involved in and promote discussions in relation to any matters within the portfolio.</p>	<p>The Leader may discharge any function of the Executive.</p>
<p>Cllr. Andrew Harper 15 Hampstead Gardens London NW11 7EU</p> <p>Garden Suburb Ward</p> <p>DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL CHILDREN'S SERVICES</p>	<p>To lead on budget and policy formulation and implementation in relation to the Children Act 2004 and the Education and Inspection Act 2007. To enhance the Council's corporate parenting role and to champion the causes of all children in the London Borough of Barnet, optimising opportunities to reduce and remove disadvantage.</p>	<p>The general powers delegated to Cabinet Members are set out below.</p> <p>Certain functions are delegated to officers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member. These are set out in Paragraph 6 of Part 3 of the Constitution.</p>

	<p>Includes Children's Social Services and the Youth Offending Team and the advantages offered by working with other agencies to secure a seamless approach to all aspects of children's services. To drive forward the Youth Justice Plan and ensure its approval annually by full Council.</p> <p>To lead on budget and policy formulation and implementation in relation to education and schools. In particular, raising and enhancing standards, ongoing education and services to schools, Early Years Provision and the Youth Service.</p> <p>Positively to encourage integration of all schools within the London Borough of Barnet into the community to achieve the best possible opportunities for education and learning. To work with children service provider partners to improve lifelong learning outcomes.</p> <p>All schools matters (Community, Voluntary and Foundation) associated with the teaching and development of children and young persons and the optimising of opportunities to further the same (including pre-school preparation). Also to be involved in and promote discussions in relation to any matters within the portfolio.</p>	<p>The Deputy Leader may discharge any function of the Leader during periods for which the Leader has given formal notification that she will be unable to be contacted or in circumstances where the Leader cannot be contacted due to illness or other indisposition, or in cases of utmost urgency where the Leader cannot be contacted by any means.</p>
<p>Cllr. Matthew Offord 5 Burroughs Gardens Hendon NW4 4AU</p> <p>Hendon Ward</p> <p>COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY</p>	<p>To lead on budget and policy formulation and implementation in relation to community engagement and community safety.</p> <p>In particular, to build upon the Council's leadership role in improving community safety, embracing diversity and inclusiveness, removing inequality and ensuring that each person and group in the community has opportunities for involvement. To work with the many different ethnic and religious groups to maintain community cohesion.</p>	<p>The general powers delegated to Cabinet Members are set out below.</p> <p>Certain functions are delegated to officers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member. These are set out in Paragraph 6 of Part 3 of the Constitution.</p>

	<p>All matters relating to Community Safety, CCTV, liaison with Barnet Police and anti-social behaviour, including Domestic Violence and combating graffiti, fly-tipping and fighting crime including policy development on combating fly-tipping and graffiti.</p> <p>Additionally to deal with community safety in its widest sense by being responsible for Environmental Health and trading standards and licensing, as falls within the remit of the Executive.</p> <p>Also to be involved in and promote discussions in relation to any matters within the portfolio.</p>	
<p>Cllr. Robert Rams 6 Delroy Court Franklin Close London N20 9QT</p> <p>East Barnet Ward</p> <p>INVESTMENT IN LEARNING</p>	<p>To lead on budget and policy formulation and implementation in relation to investment in educational infrastructure in schools and libraries, in particular the Primary Schools Capital Investment Programme.</p> <p>To lead on budget and policy formulation and implementation in relation to all operational aspects of the library service.</p> <p>Also to be involved in and promote discussions in relation to any matters within the portfolio.</p>	<p>The general powers delegated to Cabinet Members are set out below.</p> <p>Certain functions are delegated to officers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member. These are set out in Paragraph 6 of Part 3 of the Constitution</p>
<p>Cllr Daniel Thomas 61 Lyttelton Court Lyttelton Road Hampstead Garden Suburb N2 0ED</p> <p>Finchley Church End Ward</p> <p>ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT</p>	<p>To lead on budget and policy formulation and implementation in relation to the environment and transport. In particular, promoting the reputation of the London Borough of Barnet as a clean and green borough, with a transport infrastructure designed to meet the needs of today and the challenges of the future. This to include the development of a waste minimisation strategy.</p> <p>All matters relating to the development and management of the environment, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the street scene including pavements and all classes of roads; • parking provision • refuse and recycling • graffiti removal • waterways 	<p>The general powers delegated to Cabinet Members are set out below.</p> <p>Certain functions are delegated to Area Sub-Committees as set out in paragraph 3.10 below.</p> <p>Certain functions are delegated to officers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member. These are set out in Paragraph 6 of Part 3 of the Constitution.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • parks and open spaces • trees (includes public highways, council housing estates and in parks) • allotments • transport and transport initiatives • contract management <p>Also to be involved in and promote discussions in relation to any matters within the portfolio.</p> <p>All Matters relating to the provision of services under the Leisure Contract.</p>	
<p>Cllr Daniel Webb Flat 7, Milligan Lodge 66A Hendon Lane London, N3 1JT</p> <p>Underhill Ward</p> <p>POLICY AND PERFORMANCE</p>	<p>To lead on budget and policy formulation and implementation in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy and Performance (including Partnerships) • CAA and Best Value • Corporate Governance • Customer Service <p>In particular, the effectiveness and value in performance of council services, the development of partnerships to further the Council's Corporate Plan and the Sustainable Community Strategy, and an effective consultation structure.</p> <p>To secure the most beneficial terms for services and goods provided to the council.</p> <p>All aspects of performance and delivery of council services, and to instigate such interventions as required, including consultation with the Leader, as necessary, to secure best value.</p> <p>The distribution of all grants, except those relating to the adaptation of properties in the private sector, after consultation with appropriate portfolio holders.</p> <p>Also to be involved in and promote discussions in relation to any matters within the portfolio.</p>	<p>The general powers delegated to Cabinet Members are set out below.</p> <p>Certain functions are delegated to officers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member. These are set out in Paragraph 6 of Part 3 of the Constitution.</p> <p>In addition this Cabinet Member may approve grants to voluntary organisations, up to £20,000 per annum.</p>

<p>Cllr Richard Cornelius 7 Rowben Close Totteridge London N20 8QR</p> <p>Totteridge Ward</p> <p>HOUSING AND REGENERATION</p>	<p>To lead on budget and policy formulation and implementation in relation to housing (including housing and council tax benefit).</p> <p>In particular working with Barnet Homes, housing associations and other providers to secure the optimum provision and associated environmental, neighbourhood development and social facilities for all those members of the community not living in private accommodation, or for those who require public sector housing.</p> <p>Also to promote the better integration of privately rented properties into the boroughs framework, including the distribution of grants as necessary, for the adaptation of private property, to further care in the community.</p> <p>All matters related to public sector housing excluding the administration of Housing Benefits.</p> <p>To lead on budget and policy formulation and implementation in relation to regeneration.</p> <p>In particular, economic and strategic development, town centre regeneration, and policies and opportunities for the enhancement and enrichment of the London Borough of Barnet.</p> <p>To promote partnerships and opportunities for the economic development of the borough.</p> <p>Also to be involved in and promote discussions in relation to any matters within the portfolio.</p>	<p>The general powers delegated to Cabinet Members are set out below.</p> <p>Certain functions are delegated to officers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member. These are set out in Paragraph 6 of Part 3 of the Constitution.</p>
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<p>Cllr. Sachin Rajput Oakleigh Ward 63 Longmore Avenue New Barnet EN5 1LA</p> <p>Oakleigh Ward</p> <p>ADULTS</p>	<p>To lead on budget and policy formulation and implementation in relation to adult social care.</p> <p>In particular, promoting the best possible adult social services and seamless care in the community by working with and optimising all opportunities offered by other providers to further these aims.</p>	<p>The general powers delegated to Cabinet Members are set out below.</p> <p>Certain functions are delegated to officers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member. These are set out in Paragraph 6 of Part 3 of the Constitution.</p>
<p>Cllr Melvin Cohen 146 Broadfields Avenue Edgware HA8 8SS</p> <p>Golders Green Ward</p> <p>PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION</p>	<p>To lead on budget and policy formulation and implementation in relation to planning, development plans, building and property construction.</p> <p>To include all aspects of the development and development control service, building control and the naming and numbering of streets and properties.</p> <p>Responsibility for the Council's regulatory role of ensuring that other organisations and business in the Borough comply with their duties under health and safety related legislation.</p> <p>Also to be involved in and promote discussions in relation to any matters within the portfolio.</p>	<p>The general powers delegated to Cabinet Members are set out below.</p> <p>Certain functions are delegated to officers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member. These are set out in Paragraph 6 of Part 3 of the Constitution.</p>
<p>Cllr Helena Hart 37 Crooked Usage Finchley London N3 3EU</p> <p>Edgware Ward</p> <p>PUBLIC HEALTH</p>	<p>To lead on budget and policy formulation and implementation in relation to the emerging public health agenda (including health partnerships).</p> <p>To include optimising all opportunities offered by the health authorities; shaping the community health and hospital services; to act as the champion on access to health facilities; to consider the implications for health facilities as the borough develops.</p> <p>Also to be involved in and promote discussions in relation to any matters within the portfolio.</p>	<p>The general powers delegated to Cabinet Members are set out below.</p> <p>Certain functions are delegated to officers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member. These are set out in Paragraph 6 of Part 3 of the Constitution.</p>

Cabinet Committees

5.3.3.3 Cabinet Committees may discharge the executive functions that fall within their terms of reference, whether or not they are also delegated to officers, except for matters specifically reserved to Cabinet. The Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution may reserve certain decisions to cabinet committees.

5.3.3.4 Cabinet Committees – Membership 2009/10

Committee	Functions	Membership 2009/10
Resources	<p>Capital and revenue finance, forecasting, monitoring, borrowing and taxation.</p> <p>To consider reports on treasury management strategy and activity, including creating and maintaining a Treasury Management Policy Statement.</p> <p>Grants to voluntary organisations above £20,000.</p> <p>Monitor the trading position of appropriate council services, carry out debt analysis and look at income sources and charging policies</p> <p>To write off debt.</p> <p>To determine external or cross-boundary trading limit.</p> <p>To agree exceptions to standing orders, all decisions relating to approved lists and agreed national registers, authorise post tender negotiations and accept tenders which are not the lowest.</p> <p>To agree externalisation contracts including any proposal to appoint external cash investment managers.</p> <p>Approval of schemes not in performance management plans but not outside the Council's budget or policy framework.</p> <p>All matters relating to land and buildings owned, rented or proposed to be acquired or disposed of by the Council.</p> <p>To develop and recommend to Cabinet for adoption an e-Government strategy and associated ICT policies and strategies</p>	<p>Cllr Lynne Hillan (Chairman)</p> <p>Cllr Richard Cornelius</p> <p>Cllr Daniel Webb</p> <p>Cllr Andrew Harper</p> <p>Cllr Robert Rams</p> <p>Cllr Daniel Thomas</p>
Housing & Regeneration	<p>To monitor the delivery of the Council's housing needs, both within and outside the regeneration schemes, including delivery through Barnet Homes, Registered Social Landlords and the regeneration development partners.</p> <p>To make recommendations to Cabinet or Cabinet Resources Committee as appropriate</p>	<p>Cllr Richard Cornelius (Chairman)</p> <p>Cllr Melvin Cohen</p> <p>Cllr Andrew Harper</p> <p>Cllr Lynne Hillan</p> <p>Cllr Daniel Thomas</p>

RECOMMEND – That Council note and adopt the Leader's Scheme of Delegation.

Council, Tuesday, 26 January 2010

Motion 3.1: Councillor Claire Farrier

Getting us through the winter weather

Council wishes to place on record its thanks to all council staff, voluntary organisations and other public sector partners who were involved in trying to keep frontline council and other services operational in Barnet during the recent extreme weather.

Council also recognises the efforts of staff and residents who checked on elderly and vulnerable neighbours to ensure they were safe and well.

Council notes that there has been a surge in people attending accident and emergency units with injuries from falling on ice and snow.

Council also notes that the majority of Barnet roads and pavements are not gritted due to a lack of resources; that many areas do not have enough grit bins, and where they do the grit bins are often not full or filled with litter and rubbish.

Council recognises that extreme winter weather events are likely to become more frequent in the future, and believes that more investment in dealing with future winter weather is going to be needed.

Council therefore asks Cabinet and Scrutiny to co-operate in a review of the level of resources available and the strategy currently in place for dealing with our worsening winters, and report back to Cabinet with options to help better plan for and cope with these extreme weather events.

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.

Council, Tuesday 26 January 2010

Motion 3.2: Councillor Jeremy Davies

Severe Weather

Council recognises the efforts of its officers in responding to the recent outbreak of 'severe weather' and expresses its thanks for all their hard work. Council also notes, however, the widespread public dissatisfaction with the response of most authorities to the poor weather conditions and recommends the establishment of a 'task and finish' working group to ascertain what lessons, if any, the Council can learn. Further, Council would encourage this working group to invite and take evidence from members of the public about what worked well and where they would like to see improvements. The Council would also encourage this working group to consider the specific issue of 'gritting' in terms of the availability of equipment and material, the number and positioning of grit boxes and the decisions around which roads to grit and which to overlook (taking in the decision not to grit the vast majority of the borough's footpaths and pavements).

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.

Council, Tuesday, 26 January 2010

Motion 3.3: Councillor Helena Hart

Hospice Funding

Council notes that the Government has refused to commit to extending the funding grant to Hospices after March 2011, leaving Hospices in Barnet uncertain of their future.

Council believes that, in view of the vital work they perform, Hospices such as the North London Hospice must receive the maximum possible support from both Central Government and local Primary Care Trusts if appropriate and compassionate end of life and palliative care for Barnet's residents is to be provided.

Council believes that the funding grant to Hospices should be guaranteed beyond March 2011. Council therefore welcomes the Conservatives' commitment to extend the payment for children's hospices and the policy of introducing per-patient funding of both child and adult end of life care which would see overall funding double.

Council requests that the Chief Executive write to the Minister of State for Care Services asking that the funding grant be extended beyond March 2011 to secure the long-term future of hospices that serve the residents of Barnet.

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.

Council, Tuesday 26 January, 2010

Administration Policy Item: Councillor Daniel Thomas

The Future Shape of Recycling

Council notes that a landfill tax of £2.50 per tonne for inactive waste must be paid and strict EU targets for reducing the amount of waste going to landfill are in place.

Council believes that in recent years strong progress has been made through increased composting, including the recent decision to move leaves to allotments rather than burn them and the kerbside collection of plastic bottles, tetra paks, cardboard and kitchen waste pilot. Council notes that there is still some distance to go before household recycling rates reach the desired level.

Council believes that to reach this target it is necessary to move away from the outdated concept that it is possible for the state to tax and legislate its way to changing people's behaviour.

Council further notes that successful pilot schemes here and in the United States which rely on incentivising people to recycle more have had a radical effect on increasing the rate of recycling.

Council requests that Cabinet closely examine these pilot schemes and draw up proposals for rewarding residents who reduce their waste, and/or increase their recycling rate, by granting a rebate or other form of reward.

Council, Tuesday 26 January, 2010

Opposition Policy Item: Councillor Kathy McGuirk

Enforcement in Barnet

Council notes the concern of local people about enviro-crime, littering, dog-fouling and dog-control in our parks, open spaces and on our streets.

Council also notes the review of enforcement powers currently being undertaken by officers in the Community Protection Group, and asks Cabinet to bring forward a unified and up-to-date policy on this issue, to include full co-operation and use of our Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

<p>Council Meeting 26 January 2010</p>
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REPORT OF THE ACTING DEMOCRATIC SERVICES MANAGER
AGENDA ITEM 5.3

5.3.1 RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR CHRISTOPHER HARRIS

On 12 January 2010 Councillor Christopher Harris gave notice of his resignation from the Council. As the resignation has arisen within six months of the date of the next Municipal Elections, in accordance with Section 89 (3) of the Local Government Act 1972, a by-election will not be held to fill the vacancy.

Aysen Giritli
Acting Democratic Services Manager