

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Actions Log 2023-24

Date of Meeting	Action	Responsible office	Due date/ completed	Response
07.11.2023	In response to a query on Community Trigger initiative and the impact of the activity to promote the use of the Community Trigger, officers agreed to provide data on new figures on the impact of the promotion of the Community Trigger initiative.	Assistant Director, Counter Fraud, Community Safety & Protection	Completed	Data is provided each quarter via SCPB and internal staff briefing for the trigger is as per the attached Briefing note – majority of front-line staff who come into contact with ASB complainants are using the Community Trigger (now referred to as the ASB Case Review) signature block Request related to a specific issue and a response was provided directly to Cllr Khalick
07.11.2023	In response to a query on the progress of Ward Walks and issues that had been identified, the Cabinet Member also confirmed that a report on this was due at the next SCBP meeting and would be shared with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.	Assistant Director, Counter Fraud, Community Safety & Protection	Completed	Update on Barnet Community Safety Hubs and Community Safety Ward Walks Agenda for Safer Communities Partnership Board on Friday 24th November, 2023, 10.00 am (moderngov.co.uk) - Item 10. ASSURANCE COMMUNITY SAFETY 6 MONTHLY UPDATE (pages 18-21)
07.11.2023	In response to a question on the Prevent funding, officers confirmed that from 1 April 2024 Barnet would be deprioritised and would not receive Prevent funding from MOPAC. As the impact of the funding gap was being explored, especially considering the global situation, Barnet had asked MOPAC to revisit their decision. Officers were requested to provide feedback on the funding discussions with MOPAC and following that discussion details of how the Prevent work would be delivered going forward.	Executive Director of Assurance	Ongoing	<p>Home office Funding for Prevent work in Barnet will be withdrawn from April 2024. This is due to the redesign of the UK prevent program which will operate a regional model, which replaces the current local model. Updates regarding future funding applications will be given once they have been determined.</p> <p>The continued funding of the prevent and Hate crime coordinators post is being considered in the MTFS assessments. Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales (2023) Prevent duty guidance for specified authorities in England and Wales.</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/64f8498efdc5d10014fce6d1/14.258_HO_Prevent_Duty_Guidance_v5c.pdf</p>
07.11.2023	Officers were requested to circulate details of the various “Work together for safer streets, community and public spaces” initiatives and to share the dates for upcoming Serious Incident Response Meetings.	Assistant Director, Counter Fraud, Community Safety & Protection	Completed	<p>Examples of schemes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Safety Hubs – where residents can report community related concerns such as ASB and fly tipping. • Ask for ANI - The Ask for ANI codeword scheme enables victims of domestic abuse to discreetly ask for immediate help in participating pharmacies and Jobcentres. It was launched in 2021 by the Home Office and is now managed by Hestia’s UK Says No More campaign.

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask for Angela - Sometimes you can find yourself in a situation that isn't safe or that makes you feel uncomfortable. In premises that operate Ask for Angela, you can discreetly ask for help from a member of staff if this happens. <p>The council recognises the importance of residents feeling safe in their home and their community in Our Plan for Barnet. A network of safe spaces for women, girls, and individuals that identify as female will help tackle a key issue of concern to our residents and create a space for women to seek temporary refuge if they require assistance or support when out in our public places during the evening and nighttime . The council will work with local licensed premises and shops to act as a safe space, the name of the network will be further explored. A safe space is a place where women can seek temporary refuge if they are feeling vulnerable or require support in completing their onward journey during the evening and nighttime hours. Staff in safe spaces will not be required to provide specialist intervention but will signpost individuals and contact emergency services if required. We recommend training and written guidance for safe spaces is led by our violence against women and girl's colleagues for a pilot network. Women will also be able to access a safe space if they need a place to wait for a taxi or require assistance with charging their phone or access to a phone, to assist them with completing their onward journey safely. CST officers contribute by way of high vis patrols (reassurance and enforcement) and PSPO and other ASB and Enviro Crime enforcement activities inc Pop up hubs.</p> <p>For Serious Incident Response Meetings – these are in response to incidents.</p>
07.11.2023	Officers were requested to provide an explanation as to the disparity of figures, in relation to the CCTV data in Golders Green and Childs Hill.	Action: Assistant Director, Counter Fraud, Community Safety & Protection	Ongoing	. The current CCTV upgrade includes replacing all old and defective CCTV cameras (of which there were some in Golders Green and Childs Hill). We currently have 116 out of 127 camera sites that are fully functional. The remaining 11 are undergoing electrical installation repairs and will be coming online as these repairs are completed. There is a continuous program of

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				monitoring crime hot spots across the borough which allows consideration to be made of increasing cameras in a particular area or location to tackle specific issues that arise.
07.11.2023	Officers to provide a list of all the venues that had signed up to “Ask for Angela” initiate and consider how the details could be shared to women and girls in Barnet.	Action: Director Early Help and Children’s Social Care Services	Completed	The List of venues is held by the Met Police. Officers have also noted “that advertising outside of existing notices inside women’s toilets in these venues as it could impact on ability of women being able to discreetly ask for help.”
07.11.2023	In response to comments from the committee the Leader noted that while the budget overspend was mainly attributed to statutory spending, officers would undertake to publish an action plan, by 30 November 2023, on what work was being done to reduce the projected overspend.	Executive Director of Strategy & Resources	Completed	Action plan incorporated in the Budget paper Item 7 Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Tuesday 21st November, 2023, 7.00 pm (modern.gov.co.uk) – Item 7. BUSINESS PLANNING AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2024-2030
07.11.2023	In response to comments from the Committee, officers undertook to ensure that future reports provided more clarity to enable proper scrutiny of the current financial position. The Leader also agreed that officers would provide a report detailing the “RE returning services income challenges”	Executive Director of Strategy & Resources	Due 23 January 2024	This will be included in the Chief Finance Officer Report – 2023/24 Q3 Financial Forecast and 2023/24 Budget Management report coming to O&S committee on 23 January 2024.
07.11.2023	On the proposed approval of an increase to the council’s Operational Boundary and Authorised Limit for External Debt to reflect the council’s current expectations around use of reserves over 2023-24 and capital expenditure requiring prudential borrowing, the Committee agreed to refer this matter to the Cabinet with a request for reassurance that Cabinet was satisfied that this proposal was prudent.	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (modern.gov.co.uk) – Item 12. REPORT OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - OUTTURN, QUARTER 1 AND MID-YEAR TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE UPDATE 2023-24
07.11.2023	The Committee also agreed to recommend to Cabinet that largest major capital programme schemes should have their business cases refreshed/reviewed considering the current economic situation.	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (modern.gov.co.uk) – Item 12. REPORT OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - OUTTURN, QUARTER 1 AND MID-YEAR TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE UPDATE 2023-24

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07.11.2023	The Committee also agreed to recommend to Cabinet that officers provide information on the Council's Borrowing strategy, so as to understand the circumstances in which the Council could borrow external funds. Action: Scrutiny Officer to Refer Item to Cabinet	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 12. REPORT OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - OUTTURN, QUARTER 1 AND MID-YEAR TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE UPDATE 2023-24
07.11.2023	Regarding the level of risk RCS018 “resettlement schemes”, officers were requested to provide update data at the next quarterly update to this the committee. The Leader also confirmed that a full report on the associated issues would be brought to a future Cabinet meeting.	Head of Performance, Programmes and Risk	Ongoing	This will be included in a report coming to a future O&S committee on the Annual Performance and risk report.
21.11.2023	Notes that any changes made in the Autumn Statement on 22 November 2023 that impact the MTFs may be incorporated into the paper presented to Cabinet on 12 December 2023.	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 10. REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON BUSINESS PLANNING 2024-2030 AND IN-YEAR BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2023/24
21.11.2023	Noting that the proposed budget relied on Community infrastructure Levy (CIL) to fund some revenue expenditure, noted that legal advice had been requested on the use of CIL as set out in the budget proposals.	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 10. REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON BUSINESS PLANNING 2024-2030 AND IN-YEAR BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2023/24
21.11.2023	The Committee, being concerned about the level of NHS debt to the Council, recommends that Cabinet carry out its best endeavours to retrieve these monies and report progress back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 10. REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON BUSINESS PLANNING 2024-2030 AND IN-YEAR BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2023/24
21.11.2023	That Cabinet considers writing to the three local Members of Parliament to ask them to lobby the Secretary of State for Health to pay outstanding debts to the Council	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 10. REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET -

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				RECOMMENDATIONS ON BUSINESS PLANNING 2024-2030 AND IN-YEAR BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2023/24
21.11.2023	The Committee, having sought clarification on the saving of £500,000 on adults with mental health needs, is concerned that Cabinet may need assurance on these savings proposals given the level of need within this area.	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 10. REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON BUSINESS PLANNING 2024-2030 AND IN-YEAR BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2023/24
21.11.2023	The Committee further noting the expenditure within the budget that assumes funding coming in from the NHS, including £1 million in Continuing Health Care and £10 million in outstanding debt, recommends that Cabinet: a. Explore the fiscal relationship with the NHS as far as is practically possible. b. Consider the reality of transfer of funds from NHS and evaluate the likelihood of this money being received and the impact should the funding not materialise, c. Look at it in the aggregate (money coming from the NHS and money going to the NHS) to decide if it is feasible.	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 10. REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON BUSINESS PLANNING 2024-2030 AND IN-YEAR BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2023/24
21.11.2023	The Committee having expressed concern about 'Adults 27', given that it is the largest saving and will require £3 million savings per year, recommend that more detail be provided about how this saving will be achieved, and request that Cabinet reconsider the saving to determine if it is achievable to save these significant sums of money within the time frame.	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 10. REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON BUSINESS PLANNING 2024-2030 AND IN-YEAR BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2023/24
21.11.2023	The Committee, noting that Barnet has one the highest hospital discharge rates in London and the associated costs, recommend that Cabinet Member for Adults & Health jointly with the Chair of the Adults & Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Sub-Committee write and call on the	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 10. REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON BUSINESS PLANNING 2024-2030 AND IN-YEAR BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2023/24

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	Government and North Central London Integrated Care Board to provide extra funding for people as they are discharged from hospital and need additional support to return home and main independence.			
21.11.2023	. That Cabinet give further consideration when savings are moved from the revenue to the capital budget to ensure this is an appropriate action to undertake (capitalisation of spending which could include borrowing)	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 10. REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON BUSINESS PLANNING 2024-2030 AND IN-YEAR BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2023/24
21.11.2023	The Committee supports the use of new technology which may enable more citizens to be more independent and thereby not need intervention so ultimately produce savings be explored.	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 10. REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON BUSINESS PLANNING 2024-2030 AND IN-YEAR BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2023/24
21.11.2023	The Committee noted that there was a new model under SSR7 (New operating model aligned to newly defined priorities in the Community Safety team) and questioned how savings would be achieved	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 10. REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON BUSINESS PLANNING 2024-2030 AND IN-YEAR BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2023/24
27.11.2023	The Committee recognises that the proposal (Brent Cross) should be considered in light of the new Subsidy Control Act 2022	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 14. REPORT OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON PLOT 1 BRENT CROSS TOWN REGENERATION
27.11.2023	The Committee recommends that Cabinet pay particular attention to the commercial structure, and in particular whether our risks are well aligned with those of commercial partners.	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 14. REPORT OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON PLOT 1 BRENT CROSS TOWN REGENERATION

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27.11.2023	The Committee recognises that officers have identified and put in place measures to manage the risks associated with the proposed investment, but also note that such an investment can never be wholly risk free; and highlight that it is important that if issues do materialise we work closely with partners to address them in a way that best protects the interests of the Council, the joint venture with Related Argent, and the delivery of Brent Cross Town.	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 14. REPORT OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON PLOT 1 BRENT CROSS TOWN REGENERATION
27.11.2023	The Committee recommends that Cabinet pays particular attention to due diligence on the financial position of Sheffield Hallam University especially in relation to any reliance on international students for the scheme to be viable and impact of any immigration changes to their financial position.	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 14. REPORT OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON PLOT 1 BRENT CROSS TOWN REGENERATION
27.11.2023	The Committee recommends that Cabinet may wish to consider whether to explore any appropriate adjustments to the proposed financial structure.	Scrutiny Officer	Completed	Referred to Cabinet on 12 Dec 2023 – response in the Printed minutes 12th-Dec-2023 19.00 Cabinet.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) – Item 14. REPORT OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO CABINET - RECOMMENDATIONS ON PLOT 1 BRENT CROSS TOWN REGENERATION