



Meeting: PERFORMANCE & FINANCE SELECT COMMITTEE

Date: Tuesday, 21st March 2006

Time: 7.30 pm

**Venue: Committee Room 4, 2nd Floor, Brent Town Hall,
Forty Lane, Wembley, HA9 9HD**

AGENDA

Membership:

Members

**NERVA (C)
RANDS (VC)**

**CRANE
R MOHER
HB PATEL
LORBER
J MOHER**

1st Alternates

**McGovern
Fiegel**

**Joseph
Farrell
Duffin
Chavda
Freeson**

2nd Alternates

R Colwill

**R Blackman
Shah**

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**PLEASE BRING THESE PAPERS WITH YOU TO THE MEETING
THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS MEETING**

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www.brent.gov.uk/commins.nsf



Introductions, if appropriate.

Apologies for absence and clarification of alternate members

1. **Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests (if any)**

Members are invited to declare at this stage of the meeting, any relevant financial or other interest in the items on this agenda.

2. **Deputations (if any)**

p.1 3. **Minutes of the Last Meeting on 18th January 2006**

The minutes are attached.

4. **Matters Arising**

5. **Joint Audit Plan**

This report will follow separately.

p.11 6. **Revenue and Benefits Performance**

This report before the Select Committee outlines performance in relation to Council Tax and Business Rates collection and a summary of performance in relation to the Housing Benefit service. Performance is shown as at 28th February 2006.

Margaret Read (Head of Local Taxation and Benefits) will be present at the meeting to respond to Members' questions.

p.25 7. **Performance Monitoring - LPSA 4 (Robberies) - Update
Crime Prevention Work with schools and young people across the Borough**

This report provides an update on the information that was previously presented to the Select Committee in November 2005, concerning a review of robbery offences in the Borough. Members indicated that they had concerns about youth on youth crime and realised that cross-cutting initiatives were necessary to develop youth crime prevention work. Consequently, this report focuses on the nature and implications of youth crime prevention work implemented with schools and young people.

p. 33 8. **Third Party Insurance Claims**

This report provide the Select Committee with information related to claims from third parties resulting from trips and falls on uneven pavements as requested by this Committee. The Council has a statutory obligation to keep the pavements and roads in a good state of repair and any damage or injury flowing from a failure



to maintain them will result in a claim against the Highway Authority (Brent Council). There are defences available to the Authorities; some relating to the behaviour of the claimant, others relate to the maintenance of the highway and the inspection system employed by the Council.

Together with the charts and observations on the claims statistics (Appendix 1 to this report) the report shows that both the number of claims and the associated costs have been cumulatively decreasing year on year since 2001.

p.41 9. **Risk Management Update**

This report before the Select Committee outlines progress made in the implementation of the proprietary risk management software purchased by the council, senior officer and member training and sets out the next steps required to further embed risk management across the council. The report is provided in response to a request from this Committee for an update at this meeting. Significant progress continues to be made in furthering best practice risk management across the council. The Risk Management Strategy has been adopted by the council; proprietary software has been purchased and implemented; a software user group has been established and training has been provided to senior officers, members, end users and management teams.

10. **CPA – Corporate Assessment / HR - Update**

Phil Newby (Director, Policy and Regeneration Unit) will provide a verbal update at the meeting.

11. **Comparison report**

This report will follow separately.

12. **Vital Signs – Quarter 3**

The Vital Signs - Quarter 3 (October – December 2005) performance digest provides quarterly information on key performance indicators across the Council and is attached for information. This information will be considered by the Executive at its meeting on 13th March 2006.

The Vital Signs digest has only been circulated to Members of the Select Committee. Limited copies of the document are available upon request from Democratic Services. This document can also be accessed via the internet.

p.55 13. **Performance Task Group Final Report**

The final report of the Performance Management Task Group is before the Select Committee for consideration. Members are asked to endorse the Task Group's recommendations.



p.73 14. **Annual Work Programme 2005-06**

The Select Committee's annual work programme (2005-06) is presented for information and highlights any areas of outstanding work which may be carried over to the 2006/07 municipal year.

15. **Items Requested onto the Scrutiny Agenda (if any)**

There have been none.

16. **Recommendations from the Executive for items to be considered by the Performance and Finance Select Committee (if any)**

There have been none.

17. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be scheduled after the local elections in May 2006.

18. **Any Other Urgent Business**

Notice of items to be raised under this heading must be given in writing to the Democratic Services Manager or his representative before the meeting in accordance with Standing Order No 64.



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- The meeting room is accessible by lift and seats will be provided for members of the public.
- Toilets are available on the 1st and 2nd floors.
- Catering facilities can be found on the 1st floor near the Assembly Hall and also on the 2nd floor near the Council Chamber.
- A public telephone is located in the foyer on the ground floor, opposite the Porters' Lodge.

