



SUMMONS TO ATTEND COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 16 September 2019 at 6.00 pm

Conference Hall - Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way,
Wembley, HA9 0FJ

To the Mayor and Councillors of the London Borough of Brent and to each and every one of them.

I hereby summon you to attend the MEETING OF THE COUNCIL of this Borough.

CAROLYN DOWNS
Chief Executive

Dated: 6 September 2019

For further information contact: Thomas Cattermole, Head of Executive and Member Services Tel: 020 8937 5446; Email: thomas.cattermole@brent.gov.uk

For electronic copies of minutes, reports and agendas, and to be alerted when the minutes of this meeting have been published visit:
democracy.brent.gov.uk

The press and public are welcome to attend this meeting

Please note this meeting will be filmed for live broadcast on the Council's website. By entering the meeting room you will be deemed to have consented to the possibility of being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting.

Notes for Members - Declarations of Interest:

If a Member is aware they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest* in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent and must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If a Member is aware they have a Personal Interest** in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent.

If the Personal Interest is also a Prejudicial Interest (i.e. it affects a financial position or relates to determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission, or registration) then (unless an exception at 14(2) of the Members Code applies), after disclosing the interest to the meeting the Member must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item, except that they may first make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to the matter, provided that the public are allowed to attend the meeting for those purposes.

***Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:**

- (a) **Employment, etc.** - Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit gain.
- (b) **Sponsorship** - Any payment or other financial benefit in respect expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of election; including from a trade union.
- (c) **Contracts** - Any current contract for goods, services or works, between the Councillors or their partner (or a body in which one has a beneficial interest) and the council.
- (d) **Land** - Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.
- (e) **Licences** - Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.
- (f) **Corporate tenancies** - Any tenancy between the council and a body in which the Councillor or their partner have a beneficial interest.
- (g) **Securities** - Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

****Personal Interests:**

The business relates to or affects:

- (a) Anybody of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management, and:
 - To which you are appointed by the council;
 - which exercises functions of a public nature;
 - which is directed is to charitable purposes;
 - whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy (including a political party or trade union).
- (b) The interests of a person from whom you have received gifts or hospitality of at least £50 as a member in the municipal year;

or

A decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting, to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the electoral ward affected by the decision, the well-being or financial position of:

- You yourself;
- a member of your family or your friend or any person with whom you have a close association or any person or body who employs or has appointed any of these or in whom they have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000, or any firm in which they are a partner, or any company of which they are a director
- any body of a type described in (a) above

Agenda

1 Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence from Members of the Council.

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

1 - 30

To confirm as a correct record, the attached minutes of the previous meeting of the Council held on Monday 8 July 2019.

3 Declarations of Interest

Members are invited to declare at this stage of the meeting, the nature and existence of any relevant disclosable pecuniary or personal interests in the items on this agenda and to specify the item(s) to which they relate.

4 Mayor's Announcements (including any petitions received)

To receive any announcements from the Mayor.

5 Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies and Appointment of Chairs/Vice Chairs (if any)

To agree any appointments to Committees, Joint Committees, Forums, Panels and Outside Bodies (if any); and the appointments of Chairs/Vice Chairs (if any) in accordance with Standing Order 30(g).

6 Deputations (if any)

To hear any deputations requested by members of the public in accordance with Standing Order 32.

7 Questions from Members of the Public

To receive questions submitted from members of the public to Cabinet Members, in accordance with Standing Order 33.

Members are asked to note that no questions from the public have been submitted for consideration at this meeting of the Council.

8 Petitions (if any)

For Members to refer to petitions received and debate any petition with more than 200 signatures, where such a request has been submitted in

accordance with the Council's petition rules and Standing Order 66.

9 Annual Report from the Leader

To receive an annual report on the work of the Council from the Leader of the Council, in accordance with Standing Order 38.

Members are asked to note that the Leader of the Council will have up to 5 minutes to present his annual report with a period of 20 minutes then provided for debate.

10 Reports from the Leader and Cabinet 31 - 56

To receive the report from the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members in accordance with Standing Order 31 setting out any key or significant issues arising from any matter within the responsibility of Cabinet.

11 Questions from the Opposition and other Non-Cabinet Members 57 - 62

For questions to be put to members of the Cabinet by opposition and non-Cabinet Members in accordance with Standing Order 35.

Details of the three questions submitted in advance have been attached along with the written responses provided.

Members are asked to note that this session will also include an opportunity (within the time available) for other non-Cabinet members to ask questions of Cabinet.

12 Report from Chairs of Scrutiny Committees

To receive reports from the Chairs of the Council's Scrutiny Committees in accordance with Standing Order 36. The reports have been attached as follows:

12.1 Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee 63 – 70

12.2 Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee 71 - 82

Members are asked to note that this session will include an opportunity (within the time available) for non-Cabinet members to ask questions of relevant Scrutiny Chair's in relation to the remits of their Committees.

13 Report from the Vice-Chair of the Audit and Standards Advisory Committee 83 - 86

To receive a report from the Vice-Chair of the Audit & Standards Advisory

Committee in accordance with Standing Order 37.

14 Non Cabinet Members' Debate

To enable non Cabinet Members to debate an issue of relevance to Brent for which notice has been provided in accordance with Standing Order 34 and to receive reports from Cabinet members, where required, on issues previously raised.

15 2018/19 Treasury Management Outturn Report

87 - 100

The report updates members on Treasury Management activity and confirms that the Council has complied with its Prudential Indicators for 2018/19.

Members are asked to note that this report was received and noted by the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee on 10 July 2019 and is due to be considered by Cabinet on 9 September 2019. It has been forwarded to Council in compliance with CIPFAs Code of Practice on Treasury Management.

Ward Affected: All Wards

Contact Officer: Minesh Patel, Director of Finance

Tel: 020 8937 4043

minesh.patel@brent.gov.uk

16 Motions

To debate the motions submitted in accordance with Standing Order 41.

Members are asked to note that the motions submitted will be circulated as a supplementary paper in advance of the meeting, in accordance with Standing Order 41(c).

17 Urgent Business

At the discretion of the Mayor to consider any urgent business, in accordance with Standing Order 30 (s).



Please remember to switch your mobile phone to silent during the meeting.

- The meeting room is accessible by lift and seats will be provided for members of the public.

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LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

**Minutes of the ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
held on Monday 8 July 2019 at 6.00 pm**

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor Ernest Ezeajughi

The Deputy Mayor
Councillor Lia Colacicco

COUNCILLORS:

Aden	Afzal
Agha	Ahmed
Allie	M Butt
S Butt	Chan
Chappell	Chohan
S Choudhary	A Choudry
Colwill	Conneely
Crane	Daly
Dar	Denselow
Dixon	Ethapemi
Farah	Gbajumo
Gill	Hassan
Hector	Hirani
Hylton	Johnson
Kabir	Kansagra
Kelcher	Kennelly
Knight	Lo
Long	Mahmood
Marquis	Mashari
Maurice	McLeish
McLennan	Miller
J Mitchell Murray	W Mitchell Murray
Nerva	M Patel
RS Patel	Patterson
Pavey	Perrin
Sangani	Shahzad
Ketan Sheth	Krupa Sheth
Southwood	Stephens
Tatler	Thakkar

1. **Apologies for Absence**

The Mayor advised that direct apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Donnelly-Jackson and Naheerathan.

2. **Mayor's Statement - Order of Business**

Before consideration of the formal agenda, the Mayor informed members of a change to the order of business set out on the original summons. As there were two items relating to the Council's scrutiny function he advised that in accordance with Standing Order 30, he was intending to amend the order so both items could be considered at the same stage.

In addition, the Mayor announced that the Conservative Group had, prior to the meeting, withdrawn their proposed amendment to Motion 16.1 – "Standing up to racism, discrimination and prejudice in Brent", which members indicated they would be happy to confirm.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** that:

(1) The business to be considered at the meeting be re-arranged in the following order:

- Agenda Item 11 – Overview & Scrutiny Annual Report 2018-19
- Agenda Item 12 –Update reports from the Chair of each Scrutiny Committee

(2) The remaining items of business follow in the same order as listed on the agenda

3. **Statement from Lead Member for Community Safety & Engagement**

The Mayor then moved on to advise that he had agreed to allow Councillor Miller (Lead Member for Community Safety & Engagement) to make a short urgent statement to Council at this stage in proceedings, regarding fatalities that had occurred within the borough over the weekend.

Councillor Miller thanked the Mayor and asked Members to join him in condemning the acts of violence that had taken place in Brent over the weekend. Taking the opportunity to convey the Council's sympathy to the families and communities involved, Councillor Miller also felt it was important to recognise that communities across Brent were stronger than the violence experienced and condemned its perpetrators. He pointed out that whilst incidents of serious crime and knife crime, in particular, had significantly dropped across the borough there was a need to unite and maintain the focus on police resources and community support given the significant drop in central funding being made available.

Councillor Miller concluded by again offering condolences and pledged the Council's support to those affected by the recent crimes.

4. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on Wednesday 1 May 2019 be approved as a correct record.

5. Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared by Members at the meeting.

6. Mayor's Announcements (including any petitions received)

The Mayor made the following announcements

(i) Recent fatalities in Brent

The Mayor opened his announcements by echoing the sentiments expressed by the Lead Member for Community Safety and Engagement regarding the fatalities in Brent over the weekend. He had been devastated to learn of the events, one of which was in his ward and the other very close to where he lived. He offered his thoughts, prayers and sympathy in support of the victims and their loved ones.

(ii) Death of former Mayor Les Ford & Joyce Bacchus

The Mayor advised that it was with great sadness he had to announce the deaths of two former Councillors and Mayors - Joyce Bacchus MBE and Les Ford.

He recognised that many councillors would have known Joyce, who was well loved and respected by colleagues, residents and council staff alike.

As a mark of respect, the Mayor asked those present to stand in order to observe a minute's silence in respect of both Joyce and Les and also to remember the young lives recently lost within the Borough.

A minute's silence was observed

As a number of Members had indicated they wished to formally pay tribute to Joyce Bacchus MBE, the Mayor then invited contributions from other councillors.

Councillor M Butt opened the tributes by highlighting how he and his family had known Joyce since 2005. He remembered with fondness her attention to the small details in life, which had made her so well liked and respected by all she knew and the communities she represented. Councillor Butt said it had been an honour to have been able to work with Joyce and hoped that her commitment and dedication to the people of Brent was something which all Members would aspire to.

The following members also spoke in tribute:

- Councillor Colwill also spoke about how privileged he had been to know Joyce whom he highlighted had been an intelligent, highly respected and dedicated advocate for the residents she had represented. He recalled her resilience, especially after a car accident she had been involved in.
- Councillor Long advised she also had many memories of serving with Joyce and particularly recalled her willingness to support other members.

Highlighting the respect Joyce commanded from residents, particularly in her ward, she pointed out that she would be missed and remembered with affection.

- Councillor Hector also took the opportunity to highlight Joyce's attention to detail and commenting on the tributes paid at her funeral felt she would have been touched by the fondness with which she had been remembered and how much she would be missed by all those who had known and served with her.
- Councillor Kansagra concluded the tributes by highlighting how he had got to know Joyce whilst serving with her as a Magistrate in Brent. He also remarked on her integrity, fairness and lack of bias and pointed out how much she would be missed by all who had known her.

The Mayor thanked everyone for their kind and touching tributes.

(iii) London Finals of Young Enterprise – HSBC Bank

The Mayor congratulated Kingsbury High School for their achievement in reaching the finals of London's Young Enterprise awards, which had been supported by HSBC bank. Whilst not winning, he highlighted how well they had done to get to the finals and asked Members to join him in congratulating them with a round of applause.

(iv) Teachers Award – Barham Primary School

The Mayor advised he was also pleased to announce that Tina Murray, a trainee Head teacher and SENDCO at Barham Park School, had won a Silver Pearson National Teaching Award in The Award for Excellence in Special Needs Education. He remarked that this was a fantastic achievement for the school community and wished Tina well, as she now moved on to be considered for a Gold Teaching Award.

(v) Windrush Event – Thank you for support

The Mayor advised that he had been delighted to see so many councillors, officers and past Mayors join the Council for its Windrush celebration on Saturday 22 June. As the Council's first event on National Windrush Day he felt it represented a fitting tribute to the Windrush Generation and their contribution and legacy. The Mayor took the opportunity to thank staff on the organising committee for ensuring the event was a success along with all councillors involved in its organisation, with special mention to Councillors Hylton, Johnson, McLennan, McLeish, Muhammed Butt and Mitchell Murray.

(vi) Civic Service – 23 July 2019

The Mayor invited Members to his Civic Service, which he advised would be taking place on Tuesday 23 July 2019 at the Civic Centre. The service was being held to celebrate his civic year and also the work to support and promote his two chosen charities; the Jason Roberts Foundation and the Sickle Cell Society. Any members wishing to attend were asked to contact the Mayor's Office.

(vii) LGBTQ+ pride month

The Mayor took the opportunity to remind Members about the recent 50-year anniversary (28 June 1969) of the Stonewall Uprising, which had started a series of events that had kicked off the modern Pride movement. This year's London Pride had celebrated the Jubilee anniversary, remembering fifty years of activism, protests and victories which he pointed out had helped to shape today's Pride movement. Recognising that Pride in London was all about the people, he was pleased that it had been possible to celebrate 50 years since the birth of the modern LGBTQ+ rights movement.

(viii) Eid al-Fitr (end of Ramadan)

The Mayor advised that he had recently been delighted to host the Big Iftar at the Islamic Cultural Centre in Monks Park and thanked all those who attended the event with him.

(ix) Jack Petchey award

The Mayor asked Members to join him in congratulating Princilla Agyemang from St Gregory's Science College, on winning the Jack Petchey Award as part of the Speak Out Challenge. Over 20,000 pupils aged 14 to 15 from state schools in London and Essex had taken part in the competition and he was pleased to be able to recognise Princilla's wonderful achievement, with all members joining him in a round of applause.

(x) Armed Forces Day

It was with honour that the Mayor announced he had been able to mark Armed Forces Day at the end of June, which had provided an opportunity for the Council to show its support for the men and women making up the Armed Forces community including not only currently serving troops but also service families, veterans and cadets.

(xi) Co-operative Day

The Mayor advised how pleased he had been to be able to join colleagues at the Civic Centre in order to raise the co-operative flag in celebration of International Co-operative Day. This was an annual celebration of the co-operative movement, observed on the first Saturday in July with the Mayor thanking Councillor Long for organising the event.

(xii) Neasden Festival

Following on from the co-operative flag raising celebration, the Mayor advised that he had also been delighted to join the local community for the fourth Neasden Festival at the Neasden Shopping Centre. The Mayor advised that he had very much enjoyed attending the event.

(xiii) Petitions

The Mayor ended his announcements, by drawing members' attention to the list of current petitions along with action being taken to deal with them, which had been tabled at the meeting, in accordance with Standing Orders.

7. Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies and Appointment of Chairs/Vice Chairs (if any)

The Mayor referred Members to the supplementary pack circulated in advance of the meeting, which contained a list of changes to appointments on Council Committees, Sub Committees and other bodies.

It was **RESOLVED**:

- (1)** that the following appointments be approved:
 - (a)** Councillor S.Choudhary be appointed to replace Councillor Long as a substitute member on the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee and Audit & Standards Committee.
 - (b)** Councillor Perrin be appointed to replace Councillor Stephens as a substitute member on the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee and Audit & Standards Committee.
 - (c)** Councillor Colacicco be appointed to fill a vacancy as substitute member on the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee and Audit & Standards Committee.
 - (d)** Councillor S.Choudhary be appointed to fill a vacancy as substitute member on the Community & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.
 - (e)** Councillor S.Choudhary and Councillor Stephens be appointed to fill the two vacancies as full members on the Resources & Public Realm Scrutiny Committee.
 - (f)** Councillor S.Butt to be replaced by a vacancy as a full member on the Resources & Public Realm Scrutiny Committee.
 - (g)** Councillor S.Butt be appointed to replace Councillor Stephens as substitute member on the Resources & Public Realm Scrutiny Committee.
 - (h)** Councillor Daly be appointed to replace Councillor W.Mitchell Murray as chair of Brent Connects – Wembley with Councillor Patterson to replace Councillor Daly as vice-chair.
 - (i)** Councillor Krupa Sheth to be appointed as the main Council representative on the London Councils Transport and Environment Committee with Councillor Tatler to replace her as deputy member and Councillors Agha, Hirani and Miller to be appointed as additional deputy members.
- (2)** to note the following changes notified by the Leader of the Council in relation to Cabinet and Executive Joint Committee appointments:
 - (a)** Cabinet portfolio remits amended as follows:

- Regeneration, Highways & Planning amended to Regeneration, Property and Planning
 - Community Safety amended to Community Safety & Engagement
- (b) Councillor Tatler appointed to replace Councillor Muhammed Butt as full member on the West London Economic Prosperity Board with Councillor M.Butt appointed as substitute member.
- (c) Councillors McLennan and Agha (Deputy) replaced by Councillor Miller as full member on the London Councils Grants Committee and Councillor Hirani as deputy member.
- (d) Councillor Tatler appointed as additional full member on the London Housing Consortium.
- (3) In addition to the changes in (1) above, to note that the following membership changes were being recommended to General Purposes Committee for approval:
- (a) Councillor Abdirazak to be replaced by a vacancy as full member on the Brent Pension Fund Sub Committee.
- (4) To note the correction to the Council's representation on Lee Valley Regional Park Authority with Councillor Hirani having been appointed to serve a four-year term of office expiring in May 2021.

8. Deputations (if any)

The Mayor informed Members that no requests for any deputations had been received for this meeting.

9. Questions from Members of the Public & Brent Youth Parliament

The Mayor informed Members that no questions had been received from members of the public or Brent Youth Parliament for consideration at the meeting.

10. Petitions (if any)

The Mayor confirmed that no requests for debates on any petitions under the Council's petition rules and Standing Order 66 had been received.

11. Reports from the Leader and Cabinet

The Mayor began by reminding Members that under the changes agreed to the Constitution in February 2019 a total of three minutes had now been set aside for Council to receive and consider the update report from the Leader and Cabinet.

The Mayor explained that the changes had been designed to provide time for the Leader and any other Lead Members to speak in order to highlight any key or significant issues from within their portfolio with a written update from each of the Lead Members having already been circulated with the Summons. Once any

further specific updates had been provided, he advised that the meeting would then move straight on to deal with questions from opposition and other non-cabinet members, which would include the opportunity to ask questions of relevant Lead Members.

The Mayor then invited the Leader to present the update report.

Reiterating the explanation provided, Councillor M.Butt (Leader of the Council) felt it was important to highlight that the change in procedure had been designed to enable members to focus their time on the opportunities available to question and hold Cabinet Members to account.

In terms of updates, the Leader reported that he and other Members had recently attended the LGA Annual Conference. One of the main issues highlighted at the event had been the ongoing financial challenges being experienced not just in Brent but within Local Authorities across the country as a result of the reduction in Central Government finance. Concerns had also been raised in relation to the uncertainty around the outcome of the Government's Fair Funding Review and Autumn Statement, given the need for stability and continuity in order for local authorities to be able to continue planning for the provision of key services that local people depended on. He felt this remained one of biggest challenges faced by local authorities and their partners.

Lead Members were thanked for their individual updates provided within the report, with the opportunity also taken to highlight the collaborative work being undertaken with a range of strategic partners in relation to ownership and delivery of the Borough Plan and opportunities to engage in the London Borough of Culture being co-ordinated through Partners for Brent.

At this stage, the Mayor advised that the time available for this item had expired and it was therefore **RESOLVED** to formally note the updates provided by the Leader and Cabinet prior to moving on to councillor questions.

12. **Questions from the Opposition and other Non-Cabinet Members**

Before moving on to consider the questions submitted by non-Cabinet members, the Mayor reminded Members that a total of 30 minutes had been set aside for this item, which would begin with consideration of the written questions submitted in advance of the meeting along with any supplementary questions. Once these had been dealt with, the remaining time available would then be opened up for any other non-Cabinet members to question Lead Members (without the need for advance notice) on matters relating to their portfolio.

The Mayor advised that four written questions had been submitted in advance for response by the relevant Lead Member. The written responses supplied had been circulated with the Council agenda. The following supplementary questions were then received:

- 12.1 Councillor Kennelly thanked Councillor Agha (Lead Member for Schools, Employment and Skills) for his response in relation to the Department for Education (DfE) guidance on the teaching of Relationship Education. Before moving on to his supplementary question he took the opportunity, following

on from the Mayor's Announcements, to also pay tribute to Pride and the LGBTQ+ community and to express his support for the Armed Forces community in recognition of Armed Forces Day. In terms of a supplementary question, whilst recognising that the Lead Member had acknowledged the challenges faced in addressing the myths surrounding the DfE guidance, Councillor Kennelly asked what further assurance could be provided in terms of the support being made available for schools in order to address any concerns or difficulties experienced.

In response, Councillor Agha advised that the Council was using a number of different strategies and methods such as the Brent School Partnership, the Schools Forum and the Annual School Governors Conference to disseminate advice and guidance and provide support to schools and their governors to assist them in complying with the statutory guidance. He felt it was important to remember, however, that the way in which the curriculum was taught would be a matter for individual schools and their Governing Bodies. Whilst expected to consult with parents prior to its introduction, schools and their Governing Bodies would have the ability to amend their final approach, if felt necessary, in order to support pupils and families at the school. He therefore reminded members of the importance of Governing Bodies and encouraged any members not already involved to consider becoming school governors in order to be able to individually offer their help and support.

- 12.2 Councillor Hassan confirmed that she had no supplementary question for Councillor Krupa Sheth in relation to the response provided on the scale of carbon reductions relating to the roll-out of the borough wide LED street lighting programme.
- 12.3 Having thanked Councillor McLennan (Deputy Leader) for her response in relation to council tax arrears, Councillor S.Butt asked the Deputy Leader if further details could be provided about the measures being taken to support residents struggling with payments and charges, including progress with the Anti-Poverty policy and Council Tax Protocol developed in consultation with Citizens Advice (which he commended the Council for having in place since 2017). He felt this was particularly relevant given the fact that queries relating to council tax arrears were one of the most common member enquiries.

Councillor McLennan advised that she was delighted to respond by highlighting that Brent had been the first Council to adopt such a Protocol. This had been designed to ensure that the Council could work with those identified as in genuine financial hardship to help them in dealing with and managing their arrears. As a result, Councillor McLennan was pleased to note that despite the diverse nature of the borough and challenges given the levels of deprivation in some areas, Brent had been able to achieve one of the highest levels of Council Tax collection working in conjunction with its residents. In overall terms she advised members that whilst the Council would look to deal robustly with wilful non payers, the Protocol would ensure that those willing to pay but experiencing financial difficulties were dealt with sensitively and fairly and supported in managing their arrears and was proud that Brent had once again led the way in adopting the Protocol.

- 12.4 Having noted the written response provided to his question, Councillor Maurice did not feel this had addressed the issue raised and therefore asked Councillor Tatler (Lead Member for Regeneration, Property and Planning) whether she would be willing to consider reducing the rate of £120 per day charged to traders seeking to use space at the Civic Centre in order to demonstrate her support for small business within the borough.

In response, Councillor Tatler felt it was important to recognise that traders making use of the space within the Civic Centre were not trading there on a full time basis, meaning they would not be subject to the full cost outlined within the question. In terms of support for small businesses she was proud to be able to highlight many examples of the type of assistance being provided, which included the development of enterprise space across the Borough for small and medium sized enterprises; the introduction of policies around affordable workspaces alongside the investment in Town Centres and Town Centre Managers. As a result, she was also pleased to highlight that Brent had been shortlisted by the Association of Town Centre Managers for partnership working and had been shortlisted by the Federation of Small Businesses for its overall support of small businesses, which she felt made it difficult to criticise the Council's overall record in this respect.

The Mayor thanked Members for their supplementary questions and Lead Members for the responses provided and then advised that the remainder of time available would be used for an open question time session to the Leader and Cabinet. The following issues were raised and responses provided:

- (i) Taking the opportunity to highlight his support for the introduction of the Streets for School initiative currently in operation at two schools within the borough, Councillor Johnson sought further details on any plans being developed for its wider roll-out and the criteria that would be applied to determine the areas for any extension.

In response, Councillor Tatler (as Lead Member for Regeneration, Property and Planning) recognised the success of the Streets for School initiative which, having been introduced on a London wide basis by The Mayor for London and Transport for London (TfL), had now been rolled out at Wykeham and Harlesden Primary Schools. The schools in Brent had been selected on the basis of safety and air quality issues in those areas with the initiative having made a huge difference to the health and wellbeing of the children. Given its success, the Council was keen to continue supporting the initiative and were in the process of identifying other schools that may benefit by joining the programme. These would be prioritised according to air quality, safety records and the distance children would have to travel as well as the feasibility and costs of installing the necessary cameras. Councillor Tatler advised that she would be happy to work with ward councillors on identifying priority areas and also in seeking to generate the necessary funding to support expansion of the scheme, given the associated benefits.

- (ii) Councillor Kelcher, highlighting concerns regarding the management and scheduling of road works at the junction of Furness Road and Harrow Road in Kensal Green and communication undertaken with local residents, felt

there was a need to ensure lessons were learned in terms of the planning and management of similar schemes in the future. He therefore asked the Lead Member if she would be willing to consider how the process, communication and scheduling of combined works with utilities companies could be improved in future in order to address and mitigate the issues identified.

In response Councillor Tatler (Lead Member for Regeneration, Property & Planning) acknowledged the concerns raised and communication issues experienced, recognising the need for local residents to be able to report concerns and faults as easily as possible. In terms of the specific location highlighted, she felt there was a need to recognise the unusual complexity of the works undertaken. In normal circumstances a Notice of Works would be issued to partner organisations three months in advance of the work commencing with consultation taking place in order to defer other non-emergency works in the area and minimise disruption as far as possible. Recognising the concerns raised, however, Councillor Tatler advised that she would be willing to review the lessons learned and, if necessary, produce further guidance in order to improve the process and minimise disruption for residents arising from these types of works in future.

- (iii) Councillor Nerva sought further details regarding action the Council could take in highlighting concerns about performance and repeated service disruption and also in seeking secure an upgrade and improvements to operation of the Euston to Watford Junction train line with Transport for London (TfL) and Network Rail, recognising the number of local residents using the service.

In response, Councillor Krupa Sheth (Lead Member for Environment) advised Members that she would be willing to raise the issue with TfL and Network Rail in order to seek an update.

- (iv) Councillor Long sought further details on the progress made since the Council had announced in May 2017 that it would be seeking to adopt and sign up to the British Sign Language Charter.

In response, Councillor M.Butt (Leader of the Council) advised that a programme of training had been provided for staff to assist them in supporting residents who were deaf or suffering with hearing difficulties. The Council had also met with Brent and Harrow Deaf Association in order to continue ensuring that the necessary guidance and support was available with the aim, he pointed out, of ensuring that all communities within the borough, regardless of disability, were able to continue accessing services as easily as possible.

- (v) Councillor Kennelly, took the opportunity to highlight concerns raised by parents, staff and local residents regarding the proposals currently being consulted on to undertake a phased closure of Roe Green Roe Green Strathcona School. Commenting on the strength of feeling in the local area he asked for an assurance regarding the continued involvement of local ward councillors and residents in discussions as the formal consultation process regarding the future of the site was progressed.

In response, Councillor Agha (as Lead Member for Education, Employment and Skills) felt it important to recognise that local councillors had been involved in all stages of the consultation process to date. In terms of formal consultation on the proposals, he advised that this process had opened on 26 June and would run until 24 July with comments and views welcomed from all parties, including local ward councillors. He assured members that no final decision had yet been taken and that both he and officers would be willing to continue meeting with local ward councillors as required.

- (vi) Councillor S.Choudhary sought further details on the teaching of relationship education in schools, particularly given concerns around parents seeking to withdraw their children from relationship and sex education as a result of cultural and religious beliefs. He asked the Lead Member for his views on what more could be done to inform and educate parents on the new guidance in order to dispel the myths identified relating to its introduction and impact.

In response, Councillor Agha (Lead Member for Education, Employment and Skills) advised that it was important to recognise that the Council could not issue any direction in this matter and that it would be up to individual schools and their Governing Bodies to decide how they would teach the curriculum and implement the guidance from the Department of Education. He pointed out that the introduction of the new guidance would need to be undertaken in consultation with parents, taking account of the religious background of all pupils as part of the planning process, with the Council offering support and guidance, as required, in order to ensure schools were complying with the necessary requirements.

- (vii) Councillor Dar, highlighting the removal of litter bins across the borough, sought further details on any plans being developed to mitigate the impact around schools including the possible use of bin liners, as an alternative.

In response, Councillor Krupa Sheth (Lead Member for Environment) advised that she would be willing to liaise with the neighbourhood teams and Councillor Agha (as Lead Member for Education, Employment & Skills) in order to review any impact and how this could best be addressed.

- (viii) Councillor Kennelly took the opportunity to seek an update on activity being undertaken by the Council in order to support those within the Armed Forces looking to gain access back into employment, with reference to the Armed Forces Covenant and local businesses.

In response, Councillor Agha (Lead Member for Education, Employment & Skills) highlighted the work being undertaken by the Council with partners across Brent in order to promote employment and apprenticeship opportunities as part of this process. Councillor Miller (as Lead Member for Community Safety and Engagement) also advised that he had met with the British Legion in order to review compliance with the Armed Forces Covenant and look at what further measures the Council could take to support veterans in the Borough. Both Lead Members advised they would be happy to continue working with Councillor Kennelly in order to consider

any further suggestions or proposals as to how the support available could be enhanced.

- (ix) Following on from the question raised by Councillor S.Choudhary in relation to implementation of the new guidance relating to teaching of relationship education within schools, Councillor Thakkar felt it was important to return to the issue in order to explore how it was intended to respond to parents who felt that the teaching of relationship education should be a parental responsibility rather than undertaken through the school.

In response, Councillor Agha (Lead Member for Education, Employment & Skills) reiterated that it would be up to individual schools and their Governing Bodies to decide how they would teach the curriculum and implement the guidance from the Department of Education having consulted with parents. Whilst the Council would support schools in this process, parents would need to be encouraged to feed views into their Governing Bodies who would be expected to take these into account when planning for the introduction of the new curriculum. The role of local councillors as school governors and also the parent governor representatives was therefore highlighted as key in this respect. In addition, Councillor McLennan (as Deputy Leader) reminded Members that the Equalities Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty would also apply in this respect requiring the fostering of good relations and inclusivity for all.

At this stage in proceedings the Mayor advised that the time available for the open question session had now expired and ended by thanking all Members for their contributions.

13. Overview & Scrutiny Annual Report 2018-2019

The Mayor advised that, following the change agreed to the order of the agenda, the meeting would now move on to deal with the Overview & Scrutiny Committee Annual Report for 2018-19.

Referring to the accompanying report from the Assistant Chief Executive, which contained the Annual Report, he advised members that as this related to the work undertaken by all three of the Scrutiny Committees in the last year, his intention was to seek a variation to Standing Order 42 in order to allow each Chair to speak when introducing the report. As no objections were received the variation to Standing Order 42 was agreed and the Mayor advised that he would therefore allow each Chair up to one and a half minutes in order to introduce their section of the Annual Report.

The Mayor then invited Councillors Long, Kelcher & Ketan Sheth to jointly introduce the Annual Report.

Councillor Long, began by introducing the report of the former Housing Scrutiny Committee, highlighting that whilst much had been achieved during the operation of the Committee some slippage had occurred in terms of the delivery of recommendations agreed following various reviews undertaken. Specific reference was made to delivery of the Brent Housing Asset Management Strategy on which additional scrutiny had been recommended. Councillor Long advised that it had

been an enjoyable experience serving on scrutiny and, highlighting a need to ensure a continued focus on housing, advised that this would be something she continued to monitor moving forward.

Councillor Kelcher then introduced the report relating to work undertaken by the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee highlighting what he regarded as the following five key achievements:

- the ability to be able to set the agenda citing as examples the recommendations made as a result of the review of the draft budget proposals in relation to library hours and a tourist tax along with proposals (as a separate review) to increase recycling in flats;
- the increasing levels of engagement with the local media;
- the range of external visits undertaken by the Committee during the year in order to better understand issues and raise awareness;
- the increasing levels of engagement with the public as a means of raising awareness around scrutiny; and finally
- development of the external focus of scrutiny including, as an example, a review undertaken with the Football Association in relation to the economic impact of Wembley Stadium; work in relation to Air Quality and a visit to the House of Commons which had been reported in the Brent Magazine.

Councillor Ketan Sheth then concluded the introduction by highlighting what he felt had been the important principles underpinning the work undertaken by the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee as outlined within the Annual Report. These had included:

- the aim of the Committee to identify and commence work on significant issues at an early stage, with the example provided of the meeting held in order to review plans being developed for delivery of the London Borough of Culture;
- seeking to engage and involve as wide a range of stakeholders as possible, with the example provided of the work undertaken with Brent's Clinical Commissioning Group, Director of Public Health, Lead Member and other professionals from a wide number of national and local organisations and charities around tackling Diabetes; and
- encouraging the Committee to get out and about as part of their reviews with the example provided of a visit to Bessborough Family Hub in Pimlico.

Councillor Ketan Sheth concluded by thanking all those who had contributed to work of the Committee and its achievements over the last year, including the co-opted members and other observers who regularly attended.

As no other members indicated they wanted to speak on the report the Mayor moved straight on to put the recommendation to the vote by a show of hands and it was unanimously **CARRIED**.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** to note the Annual Scrutiny Report 2018-19.

Before moving on the Mayor took this opportunity to formally thank Councillor Long and all other members involved for the work undertaken by the former Housing Scrutiny Committee.

14. **Report from Chairs of Scrutiny Committees**

Before being presented with the updates from each Scrutiny Chair, the Mayor reminded Members that as part of the changes agreed to the Constitution in February 2019 the time set aside for this item was now 12 minutes, with each Chair having up to three minutes in which to highlight any significant issues arising from the work of their Committees. Once these updates had been provided, the remaining time available would then be opened up for any other non-Cabinet members to question (without the need for advance notice) the Scrutiny Chairs on matters relating to the work of their Committees.

The following updates were provided by each of the Scrutiny Chairs:

14.1 Community & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Ketan Sheth introduced the update report from his Committee, highlighting the following issues:

- The current focus on the significant changes impacting on local health services, with the Committee due to review a proposal from Brent Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to alter the present opening hours for the Urgent Care Centre based at Central Middlesex Hospital. When the A&E units at Central Middlesex and Hammersmith Hospitals had been closed, as part of the Shaping a Healthier future (SaHF) initiative, an assurance had been provided that the Urgent Care Centre at Central Middlesex would be available to treat residents with minor illnesses and injuries on a 24/7 basis. Brent CCG were now proposing that due to its limited use in the early hours the Unit should be closed from midnight to 8am in order to better utilise available resources. As a result, the Scrutiny Committee would be seeking assurances in relation to communication with residents regarding the proposed changes, alternative measures to be established for those requiring treatment outside of any revised opening hours; the impact on patient safety and whether it would be possible to reverse any reduction in hours to cope with additional seasonal demand and what the likely impact would be on Northwick Park A&E and Urgent Care Centre should the proposed change go ahead.
- In addition, he advised that the Committee would be closely monitoring the proposed merger of the eight separate CCGs across North West London into one single body as part of implementation of the new NHS Long Term Plan and Integrated Care System. As a member of the North West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Sheth advised that he had recently been able to question the Chief Officer of the North West London Collaboration of CCGs on the proposal and timescales involved. Whilst it was recognised that the merger was still to be agreed by NHS England, Councillor Sheth had been keen to stress the need to avoid rushing into any arrangement given the huge scale of the change proposed, which would not only impact on over 2.2 million residents but also involve significant financial, governance and accountability issues needing to be resolved. Whilst the NHS appeared keen to complete the merger process by 2020 he advised the Committee were also keen to ensure the process was not rushed and allowed sufficient time to engage with all affected partners.

The Mayor thanked Councillor Ketan Sheth for his update.

14.2 Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Kelcher was then invited to introduce the update report from his Committee highlighting the following issues raised at their most recent meeting:

- Members were advised that the Committee had agreed to establish an Air Quality Task Group, chaired by Councillor Stephens and involving representatives from a range of other organisations with expertise in this area;
- The Committee had also reviewed the Annual Report from the Safer Brent Partnership, which included a focus around the process and factors influencing the reporting of crime. As a result, the Committee had felt it would be helpful to include a wider range of indicators designed to reflect not only levels of reported crime but also public trust in the police and partnership and how they felt crime was being tackled;
- The focus on the Safer Brent Partnership Annual Report had also included a separate discussion concerning sex work and what action the Council could take to assist in minimising and designing out the issues being caused. Suggestions had included improvement to street lighting and removal of public phone boxes in problem areas;
- The Committee had also identified a need to consider the new tri-borough police borough command arrangements given concerns over reporting mechanisms and communication with ward councillors and Panels over local ward issues. In order to clarify the position, the Committee had requested that the Lead Member for Community Safety and Engagement raise the issue with the police in order to develop a clear reporting process and rights to information;
- As a final update, members were advised that the Committee had also received an interim update report on progress being made by the Knife Crime Scrutiny Task Group, who were due to conclude their final review in September 2019.

The Mayor thanked each of the Scrutiny Chairs for their updates and it was **RESOLVED** that the content of each of their reports be noted.

Following the updates provided, the Mayor advised that the remainder of time available would be open for questions from non-cabinet members to the Scrutiny Chairs. In opening this item, the Mayor reminded Members of the need to ensure that questions raised were focussed on the updates provided or work being undertaken by each Committee. The following questions were raised and responses provided:

- (i) Referring to the update from the Resources & Public Realm Scrutiny Committee in relation to the tri-borough police command arrangements Councillor Nerva asked Councillor Kelcher whether he thought it may be helpful to undertake more joint scrutiny with Barnet and Harrow in relation to issues involving the police, given they were now being managed on a cross borough basis and in order to facilitate easier communication and engagement.

Councillor Kelcher felt this would be a sensible suggestion to explore as it would not only provide a better opportunity to scrutinise issues relating to the

police on a cross borough basis but was also likely to be less resource intensive for the police. He advised he would therefore be happy to raise the suggestion with his counterparts in Barnet and Harrow in order to seek their views.

- (ii) Councillor Dar took the opportunity to seek Councillor Ketan Sheth's view on the prospect of Brent CCG being encouraged to oppose the proposed closure by Barnet CCG of a GP practice on the border of Cricklewood, which would have a direct impact on Brent residents.

Councillor Ketan Sheth advised that he would unfortunately not be able to respond directly on the specific proposal as this related to a matter of policy for Barnet CCG. He did, however, reassure Councillor Dar that the Committee had been monitoring a range of health related matters, which had included a meeting dedicated to examining the roll-out of GP hubs and on which he would welcome further engagement from members.

At this stage in proceedings the Mayor advised that the remaining time available for questions to the Scrutiny Chairs had expired. As there were a number of Members who indicated they still wanted to speak it was **RESOLVED** that the time available to complete the question and answer session be extended by an additional 5 minutes.

- (iii) Councillor Choudry continued by seeking further details on the approach being developed in relation to scrutiny of the 2019/20 – 2020/21 budget proposals including the possibility of seeking examples of best practice from other boroughs.

In response, Councillor Kelcher advised that he was always willing to speak with colleagues in other boroughs in order to identify and consider best practice. Recognising the important compliance role of the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee in the process, he highlighted how the approach being adopted by scrutiny was more focussed on the nature of the proposals being developed and their implementation from a policy perspective. He felt this approach worked well and would be important to maintain as a framework moving forward and in considering any other examples of best practice.

- (iv) Returning to the issue of the reduction in hours being proposed for the Urgent Care Centre at Central Middlesex Hospital, Councillor Gill highlighted a recent visit he had made which appeared to contradict the view that the facility was being under-utilised during the early hours. He therefore sought details as to how the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee were proposing to scrutinise the proposals and explore in more detail the reasons for the change.

Cllr Ketan Sheth advised Councillor Gill that the Committee had undertaken a recent visit to the Urgent Care Centre in order to review the situation during which time usage had been low. He reminded Councillor Gill, however, that the Committee would be fully considering the proposal at their meeting on 9 July and invited any members with an interest to attend in order to express

their concerns and directly question representatives from the CCG on the basis for their decision.

- (v) Referring to work previously undertaken by the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee, Councillor S.Choudhary expressed concern that World Health Organisation targets in relation to MMR child immunisation were continuing not to be met and sought detail on what further action it was felt could be taken in order to follow up the scrutiny review on this issue.

In response, Councillor Ketan Sheth highlighted that this issue had been subject to a robust and challenging scrutiny review, which had led to a number of recommendations being made. He assured Councillor Choudhary that the Committee were continuing to closely monitor progress on the implementation of these recommendations but no provision was currently available within the scrutiny work programme for any further specific review at this stage.

- (vi) Returning to the issue of air quality, Councillor Kansagra sought details on whether any response had been provided on plans to replace the Council's fleet of diesel vehicles and whether the fleet would be subject to the same surcharges as introduced for diesel vehicles within CPZs

Councillor Kelcher advised that as this issue involved a matter of policy he would need to direct the question towards the relevant Lead Member rather than respond on behalf of scrutiny.

- (vii) Following the updates on the work being undertaken by both Scrutiny Committees and discussion at a recent Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Gbajumo sought further details and views on the potential introduction of a scrutiny recommendation and data request tracker.

By way of further background, Councillor Kelcher provided a brief outline of the proposal considered by his Committee which he advised he had discussed further with scrutiny officers. As a result, he was pleased to be able to advise that officers had been working to design and implement a simple tracker system which would be piloted from the September meeting of his committee onwards.

At this stage, the Mayor advised that the additional time allocated for questions had now expired and he would therefore be moving on the next item with all members thanked for their contributions.

15. Report from the Vice-Chair of the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee

The Mayor invited Councillor Choudry (as Vice-Chair of the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee) to introduce his report updating members on the work of the Committee.

In terms of issues highlighted, Councillor Choudry drew members attention to the important work undertaken by the Committee in reviewing and approving the Council's Statement of Accounts, following their preparation and review by the

Council's External Auditors. He was pleased to be able to report that no significant issues had been identified or were anticipated in terms of the final approval process. He was also pleased to have been able to welcome the Council's newly appointed External Auditors (Grant Thornton) whilst also taking the opportunity to commend the work being undertaken by the Council's Internal Audit function.

Focussing specifically on the Internal Audit remit in relation to compliance and control, he highlighted the range of work being undertaken in monitoring and follow-up on internal audit recommendations, particularly where risks or control issues had been identified. He also highlighted the important role played by the Committee in developing and monitoring delivery of the Internal Audit work programme which, given its significance, he was keen to encourage as many members to engage with as possible.

Finally, Councillor Choudry also took the opportunity to draw members' attention to the Corporate Risk Register and Annual Governance Statement, which had both recently been subject to review and approval by the Committee. He was keen to ensure that members were aware of the importance of both documents given their significance to the Councils overall control and governance arrangements.

The Mayor thanked Councillor Choudry for his update and it was **RESOLVED** that the content of the report be noted.

16. Non Cabinet Members' Debate

The Mayor reported that no item had been submitted for debate at this meeting and therefore move on to the next item on the agenda.

17. Fire Safety & Housing in the London Borough of Brent

Councillor Eleanor Southwood (Lead Member for Housing and Welfare Reform) introduced a report from Assistant Chief Executive, outlining the Fire Safety arrangements for housing in Brent.

Introducing the report, she highlighted that keeping residents safe in their homes remained one of the Council's top priorities, with the report having been prepared to provide an update on fire safety activities being undertaken or led by the Council in response to the Grenfell Tower tragedy. Members were advised that the report included actions being taken by the Council in relation of its own housing stock, which included intrusive fire safety checks to highlight areas of risk and the development of a programme of works designed to address fire safety issues including improvements to fire doors, installation of sprinkler systems in high rise blocks and the introduction of a zero tolerance approach towards litter and rubbish in communal areas.

In addition, Councillor Southwood highlighted the close work being undertaken by the Council with Housing Associations and took the opportunity to particularly thank the residents of Merle and Dan Courts for their patience during the disruption recently experienced as residents of Catalyst Housing Association. The report had also focussed on action being taken in relation to landlords in the Private Rented Housing Sector, which was being driven and regulated through the mandatory,

additional and selective private sector and Houses in Multiple Occupation landlord licensing schemes. Councillor Southwood felt these schemes remained the best way to regulate safety and ensure compliance, with all members and local residents encouraged to participate in the consultation on extension of the scheme currently being undertaken. Given the range of activity identified, Councillor Southwood advised she had no hesitation in commending the report and recommendations to Council.

The Mayor then opened up the debate for other members to speak on the report.

Councillor Johnson welcomed the report and thanked Councillor Southwood for the update provided. Whilst recognising the importance of the work being undertaken he felt there was also a need to outline the extent of the costs involved and to challenge the level of funding being provided by Central Government to support local authorities in undertaking this work.

Recognising the role undertaken by Housing Scrutiny Committee in monitoring and reviewing the Council's response towards fire safety, Councillor Long felt it was also important to consider the control of parking on housing estates, given the problems identified in relation to blockages and access for emergency vehicles.

As no further members had indicated they wished to speak Councillor Southwood, in exercising her right of reply, responded to the issues raised during the debate by highlighting that the Council's Cabinet had agreed to invest £10m in terms of capital funding to support the programme of housing fire safety works. Whilst funding had been sought from Central Government as a means of recouping these costs this had been unsuccessful. She pointed out that whilst the Government had subsequently made it easier for Housing Associations and Private Sector landlords to claim back funding for associated fire safety works no such support had, to date, been provided for local authorities. In terms of parking on housing estates, Councillor Southwood advised that this had been recognised as an issue with the difficulty remaining enforcement in areas where there was no controlled parking arrangement in place. Whilst consideration of the schemes available remained under review one option also being considered involved the enforcement of pavement parking on estates, which it was felt would assist in addressing the problem.

The Mayor then put the recommendations to the vote by a show of hands and they were unanimously **CARRIED**.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** to note the report and accompanying appendix setting out the fire safety arrangements for housing in the borough.

18. **Motions**

Before moving on to consider the motions listed on the summons, the Mayor reminded members of the changes agreed last year to the way in which the debate on motions would be undertaken. He advised that a total of 30 minutes would be set aside for the consideration of all three motions submitted for debate, based on an initial allocation of 10 minutes per motion. Should the time taken to consider the first motion be less than 10 minutes he advised that the remaining time available would be split between the remaining motions on a rolling basis.

18.1 Motion from the Labour Group - Standing up to racism, discrimination and prejudice in Brent (adopting the definition of Islamophobia as set out by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on British Muslims)

Prior to inviting Councillor Shahzad to move the first motion, the Mayor reminded Members that given the subject matter to be considered, the Council had a statutory duty to have “due regard” to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons who shared a protected characteristic and persons who did not. This was known as the public sector equality duty with the protected characteristics relevant to the motion including race and religion or belief. At the same time, he pointed out that Members would, however, be free to express their own political opinions during the debate.

The Mayor then invited Councillor Shahzad to move the motion submitted on behalf of the Labour Group.

Councillor Shahzad advised he was honoured to move the motion to oppose Islamophobia which, he felt, reinforced the message that the London Borough of Brent was a truly diverse, multi-cultural and multi-religious society and a borough that cared about and respected all its residents. He felt this aspect of the borough’s culture had also been reflected in the motion previously adopted to oppose anti-Semitism and was concerned to see any form of intolerance taking place in Brent, whether against Muslims or people of other faiths. Highlighting what he felt was the worrying advance of the far right, he pointed out how this was causing fear and concern within the Muslim community who wanted to be able to live a peaceful and productive life and convey the universal message of peace and friendship to all. The motion, he felt, highlighted the need for action to be taken in order to prevent the targeting of hate on people and communities based on their faith whilst also encouraging people to stand together in order to demonstrate that racism and hatred towards Muslims or any other faith would no longer be tolerated.

In commending the motion to Members, Councillor Shahzad believed its adoption would strengthen community relations and deliver the message that Brent was united in standing up for everyone regardless of their faith.

The Mayor then invited other Members to speak on the motion, with the following contributions received.

Councillor Dar, speaking in support of the motion, highlighted what he felt to be the alarming increase in Islamophobia within the UK and across the world as evidenced by the recent mass shootings in New Zealand. He felt these served as a terrible reminder of the growing threat and need for action to be taken. In highlighting a need to ensure that whole communities were not held collectively responsible for the acts of single extremist groups, he hoped that the motion would receive the support of all members and provide a positive approach to securing a more tolerant society.

Councillor Mahmood, highlighting the work he had undertaken as Mayor in representing all communities across the borough, took the opportunity in supporting the motion to thank the all-party parliamentary group for their appropriate and timely

hard work in defining Islamophobia. Highlighting the diverse nature of Brent, he felt there was a need to ensure that all communities felt safe, secure and were treated equally. Taken alongside previous Council motions passed in relation to anti-Semitism, LGBTQ+ and minority rights, he felt the motion, which he hoped all boroughs would eventually adopt, would further enhance the measures being taken to tackle racism and hatred and provide the Muslim community with the confidence that their rights were equally protected.

At this stage in proceedings the Mayor advised that the time allocated for the debate on the motion had expired. As there were a number of Members who indicated they still wanted to speak it was **RESOLVED** that the time available to complete the debate be extended by an additional 5 minutes.

Councillor Nerva, expressing solidarity with members of the Muslim community and other councillors, felt it was important to highlight the many positives of living in Brent including its diversity and way in which racism against all minority groups was fought against and not tolerated. He hoped that all councillors would support the motion as a demonstration of how seriously these values were upheld.

Councillor Dixon then spoke and also commended the all-party parliamentary group for the work they had undertaken in seeking to define and ensure the motion on Islamophobia was adopted. The outcome of the work undertaken would, she felt, have a similar impact to that of the Stephen Lawrence Enquiry given the wide and extensive scope of the definition provided.

Councillor Hassan also spoke in support of the motion, highlighting as a specific concern gender Islamophobia and its effect on women. In view of the increase in Islamophobic attacks and the increase in the activity of the far right she advised that alongside the adoption of the motion, she would like to see the Council strengthening its work with the Police to highlight and tackle what she pointed out was often an under reported crime.

As a final contribution to the debate, Councillor Kansagra also spoke in support of the motion which he felt set out a number of principles that he hoped many people would already have in their nature to support and accept. In supporting adoption of the motion, he also highlighted the need for education as a means of addressing intolerance and hatred.

At this stage the Mayor advised that the additional time allocated for the debate on the motion had now expired and therefore invited Councillor Shahzad to exercise his right of reply.

In summing up, Councillor Shahzad thanked Members for their contributions and their support in bringing forward the motion for debate. He spoke of the rise in Islamophobic attacks, particularly on women, across the world and felt it was therefore appropriate to commend the motion as a means of demonstrating unity.

The Mayor then put the motion (as set out below) to a vote, by show of hands, which was declared unanimously **CARRIED**:

“This Council notes:

Brent Council adopted the definition of antisemitism in September 2017, including its examples, set out by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, and now, seeks to adopt the definition of Islamophobia, including its examples, as set out by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on British Muslims.

The charity Tell Mama reported that in the week after 50 innocent, Muslim worshippers were massacred in the Christchurch New Zealand terror attack, Islamophobic incidents increased by almost 600 per cent back in Britain.

This Council believes:

That words have consequences within political discourse.

We unequivocally condemn all forms of pernicious racism, Islamophobia, antisemitism, homophobia, transphobia, ageism, pregnancy and maternity discrimination, ableism and sexism and reaffirm our commitment to fighting against them.

This Council resolves:

To adopt the APPG on British Muslims – Working Definition of Islamophobia as follows:

“Islamophobia is rooted in racism and is a type of racism that targets expressions of Muslimness or perceived Muslimness.”

Contemporary examples of Islamophobia in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in encounters between religions and non-religions in the public sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to:

- Calling for, aiding, instigating or justifying the killing or harming of Muslims in the name of a racist/ fascist ideology, or an extremist view of religion.
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Muslims as such, or of Muslims as a collective group, such as, especially but not exclusively, conspiracies about Muslim entryism in politics, government or other societal institutions; the myth of Muslim identity having a unique propensity for terrorism, and claims of a demographic ‘threat’ posed by Muslims or of a ‘Muslim takeover’.
- Accusing Muslims as a group of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Muslim person or group of Muslim individuals, or even for acts committed by non-Muslims.
- Accusing Muslims as a group, or Muslim majority states, of inventing or exaggerating Islamophobia, ethnic cleansing or genocide perpetrated against Muslims.
- Accusing Muslim citizens of being more loyal to the ‘Ummah’ (transnational Muslim community) or to their countries of origin, or to the alleged priorities of Muslims worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.

- Applying double standards by requiring of Muslims behaviours that are not expected or demanded of any other groups in society, e.g. loyalty tests.
- Using the symbols and images associated with classic Islamophobia (e.g. the Prophet Muhammed being a paedophile, claims of Muslims spreading Islam by the sword or subjugating minority groups under their rule) to characterize Muslims as being 'sex groomers', inherently violent or incapable of living harmoniously in plural societies.
- Holding Muslims collectively responsible for the actions of any Muslim majority state, whether secular or constitutionally Islamic."

18.2 Motion by the Conservative Group - Surcharge on Diesel Vehicle Owners

The Mayor then invited Councillor Maurice to move the motion on behalf of the Conservative Group who began by highlighting what he felt to be the unfair nature of the recent surcharge imposed on resident parking permits for diesel cars, particularly as it included vehicles classified as Euro 6 and Ultra Low Emission Zone compliant. In commenting on the stated aims of the proposal he felt it would actually do very little to improve air quality across the borough, given the significant levels of pollution caused by larger vehicles such as heavy good vehicles (including the Council's fleet of vehicles) and buses, which he pointed out were all exempt from the surcharge. Councillor Maurice also felt it was important to recognise that many diesel vehicles had been purchased at a time when there were very few alternatives available and also raised concerns at the lawfulness of the potential use of any surplus funds generated as a result of the surcharge and its compliance with the current policies of the Mayor for London. On this basis he commended the motion to Council.

The Mayor then invited other Members to speak on the motion, with the following contributions received.

Councillor Kelcher, speaking against the motion, queried its focus in terms of expressing concern about the action being taken to address levels of pollution across the borough. Whilst the motion recognised the concern in relation to air quality across the borough he pointed out it was actually seeking to reject one of the key measures available to tackle the problem. Given that Brent included four out of the ten most polluted roads in London, with cars responsible for almost half of all harmful emissions, he supported looking at how it would be possible to incentivise local people to buy and use cleaner and greener cars, with Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ) one of the few levers available for local authorities to achieve this. Having also highlighted the Green Party's objection to a recent consultation on a CPZ in Dollis Hill, he urged those members who were serious about tackling air quality to reject the motion.

Councillor Krupa Sheth advised that she would also be opposing the motion on behalf of the Labour Group. Highlighting the next motion due to be considered relating to the declaration of an ecological and climate emergency, she felt it was ironic that the Council were now debating a motion on whether diesel vehicles, one of the biggest contributors to pollution, should be exempt from the efforts to improve

air quality within the Borough. Referring to recent research she outlined the recognised impact of emissions from diesel engines on air quality and reminded Councillor Maurice that, following consultation on the policy, she had held also held an all member briefing to explain the background at which he had not been present and assured members that the decision to introduce the surcharge had not been taken lightly and had involved a range of options being considered (including exemptions for certain types of vehicles). Given the impact on air quality, however, it had been felt that the measures approved were vital in order to ensure the health of future generations.

As no further members had indicated they wished to speak and having ruled out a point of order raised by Councillor Colwill in relation to wider environmental concerns, the Mayor then invited Councillor Maurice to exercise his right of reply.

In summing up, Councillor Maurice declared that he owned a diesel vehicle which he had purchased as Euro 6 compliant. He felt it was important to recognise that the motion was not seeking a total exemption for all diesel vehicles and advised he would have no objection to a surcharge being applied to older more polluting vehicles. He did, however, feel strongly that those vehicles which were compliant should be exempt from the surcharge and in commending the motion to members, also felt there was a need for the Council to consider the implications in relation to its own current fleet of diesel vehicles.

The Mayor then put the motion (as set out below) to a vote, by show of hands, which was declared **LOST**:

“This Council notes, with grave concern, the surcharges that are being imposed on all diesel vehicle owners who have or are applying for a Residents Parking Permit in a CPZ. (Controlled Parking Zone) in the London Borough of Brent.

This Council appreciates that there are high levels of pollution in Brent and London as a whole, but that the way this has been implemented is draconian and very unfair. These charges will have little if any impact on reducing the levels of pollution within the borough and that it appears to be nothing more than a means of raising revenue.

This Council therefore calls on Cabinet to cancel the policy and requests that a new policy is formulated in which all diesel cars, taxi's and vans that meet the Euro 6 standards be exempt from any surcharges. It also proposes that surcharges be applied to older Petrol vehicles that do not meet the Euro 4 standard.

These proposals will bring Brent in line with the policies set by The Mayor of London & TFL.”

18.3 Motion from the Labour Group – Declaring a Climate and Ecological Emergency

The Mayor invited Councillor Mashari to move the final motion submitted on behalf of the Labour Group which she advised was seeking the Council's immediate approval to the declaration of a Climate and Ecological Emergency. The motion had been based on a warning from the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change regarding the dangers and need to ensure that the ongoing rise in global

temperature was kept below 1.5 degrees in order to avoid a climate catastrophe. Highlighting the current impact of climate change in relation to the planet, as well as more locally in Brent, she was concerned at the lack of positive action by the Government and support for policies identified as harmful to the environment such as fracking. Given the severe social, economic and environmental implications associated with climate change, Councillor Mashari felt there was a need for immediate and radical action as set out in the motion. In commending the motion to members she ended by highlighting the need for collective strategic action in order not only to empower people but also to future proof the local economy and protect local habitats.

The Mayor then invited other Members to speak on the motion, with the following contributions received.

Councillor Gill, speaking in support of the motion, felt it was important for members to recognise the scale of the emergency needing to be addressed referring, as an example, to the recent record breaking temperatures across Europe and number of the major world economies included within the list of top five global polluters. Given that global climate change often impacted hardest on the poor and vulnerable he felt it was important for the Council to act now and do all it could before the situation spiralled any further out of control.

Council Kennelly also advised that he fully supported the motion in seeking to declare a climate emergency and within this context took the opportunity to challenge the proposals for a third runway at London Heathrow.

Councillor Maurice, replying on behalf of the Conservative Group, also felt there was an important need to recognise the environmental, social and economic impact created by the global rise in population which was an issue he regarded as key in also addressing the concerns highlighted.

Councillor Choudhury also spoke in support of the motion highlighting the contributing effects of global warming in terms of natural disasters such as flooding and the severe weather recently experienced across Pakistan and India.

As a further contribution, Councillor Tatler reminded members that as community leaders it was up to them all to encourage their communities to make the necessary behavioural changes that would help to address the current issues. In this respect she advised she was pleased to see students and young people leading the way and being at the forefront of climate change protests and action and advised she would also be supporting the motion.

Councillor Krupa Sheth, as Lead Member within whose remit climate change was now included, advised she also fully supported the motion and was looking forward to working with residents, members and officers, along with the Mayor for London, in order to tackle the challenge head on. In terms of Brent, she highlighted the extent of the work already undertaken through initiatives such as the reduction in carbon emissions, introduction of wildflower meadows and bee corridors and role they had played in terms of increasing biodiversity. Recognising that everyone had their part to play in tackling the emergency she advised that she would also be keen to seek funding from central government in order to support and move forward with the Council's various initiatives.

As the remaining time available for the debate on motions had expired, the Mayor then invited Councillor Mashari to conclude by exercising her right of reply.

In summing up Councillor Mashari thanked Members for their contributions and support and advised she was looking forward to working with Councillor Krupa Sheth and other members in order to progress the various initiatives and development of the strategy outlined within the motion. She ended by highlighting how pleased she also was to see the Labour Party leading on the issue at both a local and national level.

The Mayor then put the motion (as set out below) to a vote, by show of hands, which was declared unanimously **CARRIED**:

“This Council notes:

Humankind is at an unprecedented point in its history; faced with a stark choice between continuing to live beyond its means, or using all necessary measures to avert catastrophe.

So profound are the changes that man has wreaked upon the world that we live in an age known as the Anthropocene, the age of man. And how is humankind’s stewardship of the planet faring?

Our seas are warming, acidifying and choking with plastic.

Our insects, a vital part of our eco-system, are disappearing, whilst globally wild animals are hunted, killed and driven to starvation in unprecedented numbers.

Extreme weather events are occurring more frequently, causing destruction and misery when they strike, whether it be storm or sea-surge, flood or fire.

And the whole world is heating up. Global temperatures have already increased by 1°C from pre-industrial levels. The UN’s panel of climate change experts (the IPCC), state is it essential that the rise in temperatures is kept below 1.5°C, as if we fail in this endeavour and the temperature rises by 2°C, the possibility of a ‘snowball effect’, of problems feeding into and worsening other problems, becomes too risky to even countenance. We have only one planet to sustain us, and no country will be immune from the fallout if our systems fail.

In Brent, the consequences of inaction to address this climate emergency will include:

- Increased risk of flooding and damage to buildings, infrastructure and the local economy.
- Health problems, particularly for children, older people and those with pre-existing conditions.
- Higher living costs including energy, food, travel and insurance costs.
- Increases in social injustice and inequality.

- Financial and emotional consequences for residents with families around the world adversely affected by the impact of a changing climate

The rise of international movements of non-violent civil disobedience such as the Student School Strikes and Extinction Rebellion shows the degree to which ordinary citizens are concerned about our future, and we all have a role to play. Cities and city regions such as Brent must be in the vanguard of the low carbon transition, as cities consume over two-thirds of the world's energy and are responsible for as much as 70% of man-made greenhouse gas emissions.

This Council further notes:

- Brent Council's Civic Centre is recognised as the greenest public building in the UK – constructed using methods which produced 26% less carbon emissions across the supply chain.
- In the first initiative of its kind in London, the council is sowing 22 urban meadows to create a seven-mile long “bee corridor” of wildflowers to boost the number of pollinating insects and increase the biodiversity of the borough.
- Brent Council has committed to a wholesale ban of fracking in Brent since 2013.
- Research shows, greenhouse gas emissions have reduced in Brent by 26% over the last decade.
- By 2021 carbon emissions from the Council are on track to decline by 60% from 2010/11 levels.
- The Shadow Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy recently announced that the Labour Party will launch a Green New Deal, with the goal of decarbonising the UK's economy and creating new jobs in the renewable energy sector in the most deprived areas of the country.

This Council believes that:

That a changing climate will have severe and enduring social, economic and environmental implications, and that tackling climate change is an issue of inequality as the greatest impact will be on the most vulnerable and those least able to protect themselves.

Thus this Council resolves:

- To join our Labour Mayor Sadiq Khan in declaring a Global climate emergency. This is essential to protect our only planet, not only for us, but for all the life on it and, hopefully, all the generations of life to come.
- Do all reasonable in the Council's gift to aim for carbon neutrality for 2030 and work with government to achieve the national 2050 target.

- Develop a Carbon Offset Fund and strategy, to enshrine the principle that developments, could and should fund projects that reduce carbon emissions elsewhere in the borough.
- At every opportunity, redirect our investments into renewable energy projects and carbon free or carbon neutral technologies.
- To continue delivering reductions in greenhouse gas emissions via the development of district energy networks and support for renewable alternatives
- Request that the appropriate scrutiny committee review the actions taken to reduce carbon emissions in Brent and the Council at the end of the municipal year.
- To empower a Lead Member to take responsibility for tackling climate change in Brent and charges that person with the responsibility to produce a report on this subject within 6 months, one that emphasises and promotes the importance of local biodiversity.
- Make representations to national government to urge them to provide the power and resources to the Mayor of London and local authorities to hasten the pace of carbon reduction and to immediately end the £10.5 billion of hidden subsidies with which central government supports the Fossil Fuel industry in this country.

Explore the viability of there being an annual Green summit for interested parties, where issues can be discussed, good practice shared and ideas promoted.”


19. **Urgent Business**

The Mayor advised Members there were no urgent items of business for consideration. Before closing the meeting, he took the opportunity to wish all Members a restful break over the summer prior to the next Full Council meeting on 16 September 2019.

The meeting was declared closed at 8:25pm.

COUNCILLOR ERNEST EZEAJUGHI
Mayor

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 Brent	Full Council 16 September 2019
	Report from the Leader of the Council
Update report from the Leader and Cabinet	

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	N/A
Open or Part/Fully Exempt: (If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)	Open
No. of Appendices:	Appendix 1 – Update reports
Background Papers:	N/A
Contact Officer(s): (Name, Title, Contact Details)	N/A

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the work being undertaken by the Leader and Cabinet, in accordance with Standing Order 31.

2.0 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 Council is asked to note this report.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 Council has agreed a series of revisions to the Constitution which changed a number of Standing Orders relating to the way that Full Council operated. Included as part of these, were changes to the way in which the update report from the Leader and other Cabinet Members would be considered.
- 3.2 The Leader and Cabinet Members are now required to present a written report to Council setting out any key or significant issues arising from their remits and that of the Cabinet. Up to 3 minutes is then provided at the Council meeting for the Leader, or any other Cabinet Member(s) identified to present the report highlighting any issues felt to be of significance.

3.3 Set out in Appendix One are the written updates provided.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 As the report is for information purposes there are no direct financial implications.

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 As the report is for information purposes there are no direct legal implications.

6.0 Equality Implications

6.1 As the report is for information purposes there are no direct equality implications.

APPENDIX 1 – UPDATES FROM LEADER AND CABINET

1. Leaders Introduction – Councillor Muhammed Butt

- 1.1 It has only been two short months since our last meeting of full Council, but in the current political climate, months feel closer to years. While Westminster still oscillates between a state of musical chairs, Parliamentary psychodrama and Groundhog Day; Labour in Brent is anything but inert, as the accompanying reports will set out.
- 1.2 Now more than ever, with a democratic deficit at the heart of government, I believe the words in our manifesto ring true: “we believe there has never been a more important time, to get involved, be engaged, or commit to protecting the best possible standard of essential public services. We are the party of that standard, and we are the party of that commitment”.

2. Deputy Leader – Councillor Margaret McLennan

2.1 Finance

- 2.1.1 You will all be aware that the Chancellor announced the Spending Review on Wednesday 4th September that will determine Council budgets for the next year. Myself and the Finance team are still quantifying the overall impact to Brent and will update Council in due course.
- 2.1.2 Nonetheless, we have embarked on the next phase of our budget setting process for 21/23 that will continue to be set for two years. Each department is set for a confirm and challenge meeting to discuss their, as yet provisional, spending cut total. Further details to be revealed post Wednesday, pending the Chancellors budget.

2.2 Joint ICT Partnership

- 2.2.1 A new Managing Director is about to be appointed for the ICT Shared Service. As you will be aware, Brent hosts the networks for Lewisham, Southwark, LGA and Air France and has other Authorities keen to have our post Oracle developed systems once fully embedded within the authority.

2.3 Events and Conferences

- 2.3.1 Last year was a successful year for The Drum, seeing solid demand which helped to produce £575,000 in revenue from sales to external. Bookings overall increased with 2,358 events taking place (671 of these were external) and ranged from small meetings to large-scale exhibitions and weddings. The Events team have been tasked with increasing this during 2019/20 and have developed a Marketing Strategy to maximise the potential to generate income over future years.

2.4 Customer Services

- 2.4.1 A revised Complex needs and assisted digital offer pilot began on 26 June and is still ongoing in the Customer Service Centre (CSC) and Harlesden and Kilburn Community Hubs. The pilot is showing that most residents can use self-service but levels of confidence vary greatly. Older residents and those with disabilities are most likely to need more intensive support to use self-service and this is being trialled.
- 2.4.2 Work is also in progress to coordinate the management of more complex cases who are being supported by a Community Hub but are also interacting with staff in the Civic Centre (typically housing and benefits).

2.5 Community Hubs

- 2.5.1 The purpose of the Community Hub model is twofold: making it easier for people, who might otherwise struggle, to get the help they need when they need

it & to create a safe and welcoming space making local expertise available in conjunction with other service providers.

- 2.5.2 The concept evolved from community consultations where residents asked for easier access to local services in one place. Harlesden and Kilburn Hubs: After successfully completing the Harlesden pilot and launching the Kilburn Hub, we are ready to expand across the borough.
- 2.5.3 All hubs have locations in the Brent Connect areas. The next stage is to open new hubs in Willesden, Ealing Road and Kingsbury libraries. They will provide the flexibility that has proven so effective, on people's doorsteps, ready and waiting to help, support, and advise in a way that leads to real and lasting change.

3. Public Health, Culture and Leisure – Councillor Krupesh Hirani

3.1 London Borough of Culture

- 3.1.1 Successful applicants for Round 1 the London Borough of Culture Fund have been announced. The first 14 projects to receive funding, comprising three individuals and 11 organisations, are:

BOLDER NOT OLDER

A programme of free dance classes for adults aged 65+, taking place in Brent's care homes, sheltered accommodation and community centres, organised by DanceWest.

BRENT UK UNSIGNED FESTIVAL

A series of performances by unsigned artists, each describing the story of how their community came to be established in Brent. Organised by SABA.

CULTURE CLICK

This project will engage and document the local community through a new photography series led by Skylight Brent, the local homelessness charity run by Crisis UK.

THE HARLESDEN & WILLESDEN PHOTOGRAPHY ARCHIVE

A comprehensive, unseen archive of photographs, curated by Roy Mehta, documenting everyday life in Brent in the late 1980s, which will be recovered and displayed in an exhibition at Willesden Green Library.

THE HOUSE OF LIFE

The House of Life is inviting artists to respond to the extraordinary history of the 21-acre Willesden Jewish Cemetery and create new experiences for people from all backgrounds to enjoy.

LEAP INTERGENERATIONAL ART

A series of community outreach projects which will see primary schools, day-care centres and artists work together to produce a creative project, from exhibitions and recordings to live performance.

A LIFETIME'S WORK

A photography project by Jude Wacks documenting local businesses around Brent, celebrating the history, entrepreneurship and community contribution of family firms across the borough.

MAPPING BRENT

A Kiln Theatre community outreach project, working with young people from every corner of the borough, giving young people a platform to tell their stories, showcase their talents, and participate in the transformative power of theatre.

MASS STEEL ORCHESTRA & GREY PANTHERS OF PAN

A series of intergenerational steel pan workshops and performances run by Phoenix Rising, taking place in public spaces around Brent and inspired by the borough's rich musical heritage.

MEMORY BANK

A series of short screenings of vintage, amateur films presented in a pop-up analogue screening space in the borough.

OTHER CINEMAS

A curated programme of screenings and events, delivered by Other Cinemas, showcasing BAME filmmakers, as well as films that speak to the experiences of Brent's diverse communities.

LGBT+ EAST FILM FESTIVAL

A programme of films celebrating queer stories from east and south east Asia, curated by The Culture Laboratory, aiming to raise awareness of the Asian LGBTQ+ community and highlight Brent's cultural diversity.

SLAM FOR BRENT

A programme of slam poetry and spoken word workshops for young people, led by The Poetry Society and professional slam poets, culminating in a public performance.

20:20 YOUTH RADIO

A new two fortnightly radio programme run by Bang Media that aims to provide skills training to the young people of Harlesden, whilst also providing a forum for cultural issues to be discussed.

3.1.2 Artists, creatives, community groups and cultural organisations based or working in Brent are invited to apply for funding. The 2020 Culture Fund will support cultural activities of all shapes and sizes and across all art forms. The deadline for applications for Round Two is 16 September 2019. A third and final round will launch on 16 January 2020 with a deadline of 16 March 2020.

3.1.3 Round Two of the Culture Fund is open. This summer's quarterly open meeting was held in Harlesden and was very well attended. The application deadline is 16th September 2019 – the application link is: <https://www.lboc2020.com/2020culturefund>

3.2 London Sport data

3.2.1 We are working with London Sport on new Londonwide data they have looking at motivations from Londoners to be more health aware. The work will lead to more targeted interventions to people depending on their profile and motivations.

3.3 Preston Community Library Planning

- 3.3.1 The August meeting of the Planning committee approved proposals for the new Preston library building which will include 12 new i4B Housing units with 100% of them at London Affordable Rent. There was opposition to the scheme but once the new facilities are there with the library being more secured for the future we are hopeful that it will serve residents in the local area better and at the same time will provide much needed housing support for those who do need it most.

3.4 **Cambridge University Research on physical barriers to physical activity and exercise**

- 3.4.1 Those on the childhood obesity taskgroup will have already had a preview of the research but we have new Brent based research from a Cambridge student on the physical barriers to activity from Brent school children. We are taking recommendations forward with the relevant teams and departments within the Local Authority. The good news is that there are existing opportunities that we can work with to start addressing some of the barriers including heavier promotion of play streets and making sure that pavement improvements we make within existing funding commitments in Brent are weighed towards school routes.

3.5 **London Cricket Trust**

- 3.5.1 The London Cricket Trusts are interested in improved the local cricket offer in London and beyond to improve grassroots take up of the sport. After English success in the Cricket World Cup, there has been an increased take up of Cricket both formally and informally nationally. We are looking at where within our parks and in partnership with local cricket clubs we can invest in pitches.

3.6 **Public Health Campaigns on Ealing Road**

- 3.6.1 We have had street stall based public health awareness campaigns on tobacco and diabetes on Ealing Road where there is a particularly high incidence of these issues. On the more recent day we had the Silver Star van providing free diabetes checks for residents which proved very popular.

3.7 **FA Art Programme**

- 3.7.1 The FA have been in discussions with us to launch an art programme with schools which will see children in Brent through our schools take part in an art competition with winners and their families seeing their work displayed at the Stadium and a visit for their family.

3.8 **Reading Challenge**

- 3.8.1 We successfully completed the Reading Challenge for adults in partnership with the Reading Agency which saw new reading learners who have newly moved to Brent take up reading with ESOL support. The scheme for the summer holidays for children was also launched successfully despite a protest on launch

day outside Wembley library from an anti-LGBT group because we had the launch with a reading performance from a pantomime dame.

3.9 Public Murals

- 3.9.1 We have approved murals in Willesden and Church End – all of which are now up and we have received positive feedback on all of them. The projects were led by the Town Centre Managers in both areas.

3.10 School Sports Venues

- 3.10.1 We have worked with a couple of community groups recently to connect them with sports facilities that are in schools. Some of our schools have good quality pitches and facilities and we want to ensure that they are known and accessible to community groups. They do usually charge but most are much cheaper than commercial venues.

3.11 Public Health Ministerial Visit

- 3.11.1 Public Health Minister Seema Kennedy MP came to Mitchelbrook Primary School to learn more about our Supervised tooth brushing scheme in Harlesden which we are looking to roll out wider in Brent to improve oral health outcomes in Brent. The scheme launched last year is already making a difference in Harlesden.

3.12 Cultural Events

- 3.12.1 I attended multiple cultural events across the Borough including the Swaminarayan Mela, Anniversary celebrations at Willesden Temple and at Kingsbury Temple, Flag raising ceremonies for Jamaica, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan, the Mandata Community Gujarati programme, networking event for community engagement officers from various Brent organisations at the Yellow, Pride of Brent Youth Awards, Brent Punjabi Association lunch, Mayor of Brent Civic Service, and the Track Academy's outdoor running challenge event.

4. Environment – Councillor Krupa Sheth

4.1 Bee Corridor

- 4.1.1 As part of our plan to create bio diversity in the borough, we sowed wildflower seeds in 22 of our meadows across Brent Parks to create a bee corridor. I have been visiting our parks across the summer and they are buzzing with colour and insects from different butterflies to bees. We have received a lot of positive feedback and are now seeing what we can do with our roundabouts and grass verges. Plans are underway to develop the meadow cutting schedule from September onwards. The team will be looking to schedule the cuts so that we benefit from allowing the wildflowers to self-seed and therefore increase the potential amount of colour and new wildflowers for the coming year.

4.2 Drinking Fountains in Parks

- 4.2.1 The GLA have confirmed that a public water fountain will be installed outside Willesden Green Tube station. We remain in negotiations for one to be placed in Gladstone Park.

4.3 Recycling

- 4.3.1 Brent has been selected as one of four boroughs to participate in a 'Contamination Hit Squad trial' being managed by Recycle for London and Keep Britain Tidy. The project will focus on how residents are informed about contamination in the recycling bins and seek to remove the responsibility for hanging contamination tags on bins from collection crews and place it on team of officers from KBT instead. The aim of the trial is to identify whether a separate team looking at contamination issues, makes things easier for collection crews and also results in better quality recycling from residents. The trial is due to start in Brent from November. The other boroughs are Haringey, Lewisham and Greenwich.
- 4.3.2 Brent was also successful in its application to receive funding to participate in a TRIFOCAAL food waste reduction project being run by London Waste and Recycling Board. The project will see food waste reduction workshops being provided to Brent residents later this year. Project planning is now underway with LWARB.

4.4 Wildlife Photography Competition

- 4.4.1 The link for our Wildlife Photography Competition for 2019 is below and the closing date is 27th October.

<https://www.brent.gov.uk/services-for-residents/sport-leisure-and-parks/parks/biodiversity/wildlife-photo-competition/>

4.5 Clean up Action Days

- 4.5.1 The roll out of the borough wide community skip / community clean-up programme launched on the back of a successful pilot in the Queensbury area is currently underway with 3 held so far. I attended one on Temple Road in Mapesbury on 10th August, which was a major success with over 20 residents turning out for a litter pick and the skip filling up in around 22 minutes. Lessons are being learned with Neighbourhood Managers also seeking to improve the experience on each and every event going forward.

4.6 Climate Change

- 4.6.1 In July I took on additional responsibilities as Lead Member for the Council's response to the Climate & Ecological Emergency. We have committed as a Council to doing all in our gift to becoming carbon neutral as a borough by 2030. This is not something the Council can achieve alone, but we are best placed to provide leadership on this issue, working together with the whole community in Brent. We have therefore agreed to hold a Brent Climate Assembly, convening a demographically representative group of over 50 residents who will consider the environmental science and the current and planned, national, regional and local initiatives, before putting forward ideas for how the Council and the community can work together towards achieving the carbon neutral goal.

4.7 Car Free Day

- 4.7.1 We signed the Car Free Day and pledge and will be hosting an event in Ealing Road on Sunday 22nd September.

4.8 Project 2023

- 4.8.1 A number of environmental service contracts have been deliberately aligned to end in 2023 and the Council has initiated a strategic project seeking to achieve a better integration of these services, to improve how Brent's public realm "looks and feels" to residents, businesses and visitors. "Project 2023" was launched at an officer and member away day in May 2019.
- 4.8.2 The away day helped us to frame the priorities and outcomes we are seeking to achieve from the project. Our vision is to ensure that our environmental services continue to meet the needs of residents, businesses, visitors and the environment, that local people and businesses benefit economically from the services we provide, and that they provide best value for the Council in the context of our overall finances.
- 4.8.3 Officers have now initiated detailed reviews of these services and contracts, to explore how they can be improved in line with our priorities, seeking out best practice and innovation from the UK and abroad. Once these reviews are complete, later this autumn we will begin exploring in detail a range of potential delivery models for these services, from retendering them to bringing them in house.

4.9 Injection Patching Programme for Potholes

- 4.9.1 Our contractors, Velocitypatch are continuing to carry out road defect repairs and now have three machines working in the borough. They are going around the borough, visiting every ward fixing potholes. In the w/c 5/8/19, 1256 repairs were completed. Highways Contracts Officers are working with the contractor to arrange traffic management for “hard to reach” defects, in roads where there are enough defects to make it worthwhile doing so. We have just heard that Brent and Velocitypatch have been shortlisted in the Highway Awards.

4.10 LED Street Lights

- 4.10.1 Following a successful pilot last autumn in Fryent, Queensbury and Welsh Harp wards, we have now adjusted street lighting outputs in residential streets borough-wide. This will provide another £100k of energy and carbon savings, on top of the £850k already achieved. No negative feedback has been received from any borough residents.
- 4.10.2 FM Conway are performing well with street lighting maintenance, attending faults within the set KPI's. Our central management system for the LED Lights is working well and is detecting faults itself which has reduced reported complaints from councillors and residents.
- 4.10.3 We have been shortlisted for a national Public Service Excellence award for our Lighting energy efficiency achievements.
- 4.10.4 Following the request of pupils from Newman Catholic School at Full Council last year to install lighting in Roundwood Park Annexe, we invited them to the council for a meeting and had a consultation in the local area. The lighting has now been approved and works will commence in the next few weeks.

4.11 Parking

- 4.11.1 Our A Team are attending our hotspot requests. A special enforcement operation has taken place in Harlesden town centre during July and August, with a permanent presence of Civil Enforcement Officers in Harlesden High Street, Tavistock Road, Park Parade and Craven Park. 153 PCNs were issued in the first week, with many other vehicles moved on. The public response on social media has been very positive. We have also been carrying out successful operations to catch out fraudulent Blue Badge users.
- 4.11.2 Data on parking permit sales shows that 500 less high-carbon parking permits were purchased last year compared to the year before. So, one in six owners of high carbon vehicles had switched to greener vehicles in the space of only one year.
- 4.11.3 Three of the traffic enforcement cameras installed last year have led to major improvements in driver compliance.

- At the Ealing Road/High Road Wembley junction, contraventions fell from 144 PCNs in October 2018 to an average of only 13 PCNs per month
- At the Ealing Road/Chaplin Road junction, contraventions fell from 121 PCNs in November 2018 to an average of only 18 PCNs per month
- At the Mount Pleasant/Sunleigh Road junction, contraventions fell from 410 PCNs in October 2018 to an average of 180 PCNs per month

4.12 **Trees**

- 4.12.1 Defra is making £10m available over 2019-20 and 2020-21 to support planting of street trees in towns and cities through a new Urban Tree Challenge Fund. The GLA will submit a London-wide bid to the fund for a London Street Trees project, working in partnership with boroughs and the London Tree Officers Assoc. This is the first opportunity which has arisen for street tree planting in 5 years – all other bidding rounds have been for parks, housing estates and green spaces. Match funding will be required from Brent which will be done through CIL. The planning team have been working on CIL bids for additional trees to be planted in the borough.
- 4.12.2 Our contractors, Gristwood &Toms are performing well, they had a great response to the recent strong winds where they attended emergencies for trees that were blown over and the clear up went very well.

5. Regeneration, Property and Planning – Councillor Shama Tatler

5.1 Town Centres

5.1.1 Willesden Green has been nominated for the ‘Rising Star’ award for the Great British High Street – the only high street in London to be shortlisted. Credit to work that the Town Centre managers, town team and businesses are doing there.

5.1.2 If you can spare a few moments to participate in voting and encourage a friend or three, please use the following link:

<https://thegreatbritishhighstreet.co.uk/high-street-of-the-year-awards/rising-star-willesden>

5.2 Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL)

5.2.1 Successful applicants will be informed over the next couple of weeks. This will make a total of £8.3M allocated from receipts to date of £16M. The next round will be in December and we look forward to supporting more community infrastructure projects.

5.3 South Kilburn Ballot

5.3.1 As part of manifesto commitments and in line with GLA requirements, there will be a resident’s ballot on the South Kilburn Estate. Over three weeks from the 20th September to 14th October residents will have the opportunity to vote on whether they support continuing the regeneration of the estate. The work on the estate is half way through and on completion will have 2400 new homes, new open spaces and parks, a new medical centre, new nursery and community facilities.

5.3.2 We have spent the summer speaking to residents and will continue to do so through a series of drop ins and meetings as well as door knocking.

5.3.3 The Electoral Reform Services will be conducting the ballot and results will be published on the 21st October.

6. Schools, Employment and Skills – Councillor Amer Agha

6.1 Schools:

- 6.1.1 This was another good year for School exam results in Brent. All of Brent's 15 secondary schools have shared their provisional 2019 results with the Council, confirming the close partnership Brent continues to have with its schools.

2019 Provisional GCSE Results

- 6.1.2 The provisional results show that the Brent averages for all measures have increased compared to 2018 and that Brent is above the 2018 national averages for all of the measures.
- 6.1.3 Attainment 8 measures the attainment of students across eight qualifications including mathematics and English, and three further qualifications. The provisional Brent average Attainment 8 score is above last year's national average. In effect the average grade for Brent students in their eight main GCSE subjects is 5, which is a strong GCSE pass.
- 6.1.4 The provisional proportion of Brent students passing both English and mathematics is 70.7 per cent which is well above last year's national average. The pass rate in English continues to be very strong across Brent schools, increasing to 81.3 per cent and the pass rate in mathematics improved further to 74.8 per cent.
- 6.1.5 This is the third year that students have taken the reformed, more challenging GCSE qualifications in English and mathematics, the second year in an additional 20 subjects and the first in a further 25 subjects. In 2020, all of the examinations will be reformed GCSEs.

2019 Provisional A Level and Vocational Results

- 6.1.6 Brent's overall A Level pass rate (grades A* - E) rose to 97.9 per cent - above the national average, which fell this year.
- 6.1.7 More than a quarter (27.3 per cent) of Brent's results are in the higher A* or A grades and the proportion of A* - C grades was also above the national average.
- 6.1.8 The A Level results are the first awarded following significant reform to 20 subject qualifications in 2017, the second set of results for 11 subjects reformed in 2016 and the third set of results for 13 subjects reformed in 2015. The reforms will conclude in 2020 when the final group of 13 subjects reformed in 2018 will be examined for the first time
- 6.1.9 The overall pass rate for Brent students studying vocational qualifications at Level 3 also improved from the 2018 results, to 98.7 per cent.

6.2 **Cabinet report School Organisation Arrangements of Roe Green Infant School**

6.2.1 Cabinet on 9 September will be considering a report regarding the School Organisation Arrangements of Roe Green Infant School. The Cabinet report has been published alongside other Cabinet report papers which can be found online.

6.2.2 This report provides Cabinet with a summary of the formal consultation undertaken between 26 June 2019 and 24 July 2019 on a change in the age range of Roe Green Infant School and the closure of primary provision on the Roe Green Strathcona site from September 2020. The report recommends that Cabinet agrees the proposals to:

- Change the age range of Roe Green Infant School from 3-11 to 3
- Reduce the school's Published Admission Number (PAN) from 150 to 120 for September 2020
- Implement a phased closure of the provision on the Roe Green Infant School Strathcona site so that no new admissions are made into any Reception cohort from September 2020 and the site is closed at the end of July 2022.

6.3 **Employment & Skills**

6.3.1 The Bright Futures programme launched in July with an Employer Roundtable, with presentations of good practice from employers who have led the way in supporting ex-offenders back into work, which in turn has a great impact on reducing re-offending.

6.3.2 The Forward Trust who are delivering the Bright Futures programme in Brent are also leading a campaign called '**More Than My Past**', which the council will be supporting through a social media campaign.

6.3.3 **Brent Start** enrolments are open for the new academic year, with a wide range of subjects on offer, including our growing digital skills offer available to 500 residents this year.

6.3.4 **The Brent Works and The Living Room** employment teams have supported 79 apprenticeship and job outcomes in the first quarter of this year, with over a dozen apprenticeships currently being recruited to including a chef, lifeguard, plumber, commercial, and sales apprenticeship to name a few.

6.3.5 The Living Room has also supported the launch of the South Kilburn Community Hub and will be available across the hubs as they progress.

6.3.6 Brent Works are working with Wembley Park and the London Designer Outlet to recruit for Store Supervisor and Bar & Waiter apprenticeships, seeking to improve the skills and retention of their staff. This will be supplemented by a

new skills academy managed by the LDO, to train existing staff to support their progression in work, and ultimately their pay.

7. Community Safety & Engagement – Councillor Tom Miller

7.1 Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Parks and Open Spaces

7.1.1 We have finalised a proposal to Cabinet around the PSPO for Parks and Open Spaces. We carried out a comprehensive public consultation and legal process for this, which has resulted in several changes, for example:

- The replacement of a general prohibition in ‘open spaces’ (including cemeteries) of dogs being off the lead with a model that requires enforcement officers to only apply this to dogs who are behaving in a nuisance manner
- The removal of proposals to give PSPO power to officers to take down tents in parks and fine offenders. We are taking a softer approach so as to avoid criminalising homelessness. Instead we are working across portfolios to put a ‘support first’ outreach approach in place, though officers can technically still treat empty tents as littering should this fail.
- Removal of proposals to ban animal feeding. This is frustrating, but firstly we could not provide enough evidence to pass recognised legal hurdles, and secondly there may be some added complications around duck feeding etc.

7.1.2 Proposals remain to tackle behaviours like excessive or anti-social drinking, outdoor defecation, etc.

7.2 Neighbourhood Patrol

7.2.1 The Council has now introduced its neighbourhood patrol. This team is focussed on the space between those currently occupied by street enforcement officers under Cllr Sheth, and the Partnership Tasking Team of Police officers which sits under me. They will target areas of persistent anti-social behaviour and work closely with both Police and council colleagues to issue fines and stamp out littering and ASB.

7.3 Statement of Licensing Policy

7.3.1 The Council is finally moving to consult on a new statement of licensing policy for alcohol in particular. Together the proposals add up to a transformative package for a radically improved quality of life in Brent, seeking to use licensing as a tool for social improvement and progress. It suggests measures which will spark controversy but hopefully win public support, including:

- Cumulative impact powers for colleagues on the licensing committee for deciding when an area just has too many problem off licenses to keep saying yes.
- Voluntary ban on high strength alcohol.

- Minimum alcohol pricing provisions for off licensed premises if they are being reviewed for related matters. In our consultation we will propose a minimum of +75p per item.
- Positive measures to encourage applications that contribute to a borough of culture and a vibrant dusk til dawn economy, via contributions to art, music etc.
- Measures to encourage diversity of provision of alcohol, in particular to encourage micro-brewing, off license sales of small run wines and spirits and craft beer etc
- Measures to publish landlord commitments to safety partnerships, in line with Brent Labour's 2018 manifesto commitment.

8. Children's Safeguarding, Early Help and Social Care – Councillor Mili Patel

8.1 Partnership work to reduce risk of serious youth violence

- 8.1.1 In July, Brent Council held 'Working together to Build Safer Brent for Young People' event. The purpose of the event provided an opportunity for key stakeholders to come together to identify what is currently being done to protect young people at risk, explore any gaps and decide and shape where the focus should be for professional and the key community representatives working with young people, who are invested in ending Serious Youth Violence in Brent. The event proved a success and provided an opportunity for various stakeholders to interact with other services within the field, in order to improve lives of young people in our borough.

8.2 Family Hubs

- 8.2.1 Consultation on the proposed changes to develop the existing 17 Children's Centre into 8 integrated Family Hubs took place between 2 July to 6 August. Responses and comments from the consultation are being collated and I will be reviewing them. You can read the consultation overview here:

https://consultation.brent.gov.uk/family-hubs/childrens-centre-redevelopments/?_ga=2.88298648.2017010626.1567091711-1569009833.1567091711

- 8.2.2 During the consultation, as well as, a series of workshops for specific service users – a week of taster sessions took place in which programmes ran from Monday to Friday giving families an opportunity to see what the new hub model will offer. A public meeting was held in the Civic Centre for residents and stakeholders. I have requested an extra public meeting and another taster session in the Autumn, as soon as a date is agreed we will share this through the regular channels.

8.3 Relationships education

- 8.3.1 I know there has been much discussion about age-appropriate relationships education in primary schools, and the deeply disturbing actions of protestors in Birmingham.
- 8.3.2 I thought it important to state my position that these kind of age-appropriate classes are essential so that our children can learn about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up.
- 8.3.3 I also see body ownership as a safeguarding issue. If our kids are taught – intentionally or not - that LGBT relationships are something unusual, or secretive, or something that must be hidden from them until age 11, I believe this would create an atmosphere potential harmful to young people's mental health. Between the ages of 5 and 11 some young people will already be starting to battle against homophobic bullying and thoughts about their own

sexuality. Only being open about these issues can equip people with the tools to combat homophobic bullies and learn to be themselves.

8.4 **Family Front Door**

I've reported this before but it serves as a good reminder. It is everyone's responsibility to protect young people. If you have concerns about a child being harmed or at risk of harm you can call the Brent Family Front Door on 0208 937 4300 and hit Option 1. If you are calling outside normal office hours please call our emergency duty team on 0208 863 5250.

9. Housing and Welfare Reform – Councillor Eleanor Southwood

9.1 Consultation on extending licensing

9.1.1 The consultation has now finished. Licensing properties in the private rented sector is a really important way that we can improve standards for the third of Brent residents who rent privately. It does not solve all the issues that renters face but it gives us the tools to check basic and safety standards. Over the summer, we consulted on:

- Renewing our borough-wide additional licensing scheme, which expires in Dec 2019. This will be a Cabinet decision.
- Renewing selective licensing in Harlesden, Wembley Central and Willesden Green, which expires in Dec 2019. This is a MCLG and Secretary of State decision.
- Introducing a selective licensing scheme to cover most of the rest of the borough, which is a MHCLG and Secretary of State decision.

9.2 St Raphael's Estate

9.2.1 At the end of last year, we started a conversation with residents on the estate about its future. There is an opportunity to improve how the estate looks and feels, whilst increasing the amount of social housing in Brent. A paper approved by Cabinet last October set out two options – full redevelopment of the state or infill. An Independent Advisor was chosen by residents to support them and a Tenant and Resident Board has now been set up. Residents have also now selected architects and work is beginning to design up the two options. There will be a ballot of all eligible residents to decide on the way forward.

9.3 Council Tax Support Scheme (CTS)

9.3.1 The consultation on proposed changes to our CTS scheme is now well underway and scrutiny will be looking at this on 12 September. The consultation runs until mid October and I'd encourage everyone to give their views. I'm pleased that the amount of money we spend on the scheme will remain the same, £28.9m, reflecting the importance of this help to many of our residents. The proposed changes simplify the scheme by making it a banded scheme that fits alongside Universal Credit. The scheme is designed to give help to people who are struggling with poverty, whether they're working or not. Disabled residents, carers and war widows will continue to be supported, with the majority receiving a 100% discount. The revised scheme will come to Full Council in November before it is adopted in April 2020 and the consultation can be found on the council website.

9.3.2 Please give your views at:

<https://consultation.brent.gov.uk/community-wellbeing/ctrs/>

9.4 **Estate Cleaning**

- 9.4.1 Earlier in the year, Cabinet decided to bring the cleaning of our estates back in house. We will be welcoming colleagues from Wettons to the council later this month and work will immediately get underway, with input from tenants, to design a high quality and responsive service.

9.5 **In praise of ... council housing**

- 9.5.1 2019 marks 100 years since the Addison Act was passed, which introduced the notion of councils building social housing on a large scale. We'll be celebrating this later in the year and are working in partnership with the Chartered Institute of Housing.

10. Adult Social Care – Councillor Harbi Farah

10.1 Autumn Spending Review

10.1.1 As you are aware the Chancellor made an announcement related to the Spending Round for 2020/21, which included £1.5bn earmarked for adult social care. The social care funding will come from a combination of central government funding and an expected 2% increase in the amount councils can raise through taxes.

10.1.2 Although I welcome this funding and it will help councils to support the most vulnerable, the extra social care funding only buys us some time, it is only for one year. We still await the Green Paper for Adult Social Care, and a long term sustainable funding solution, which will ensure we can support older and disabled people to live independent and fulfilling lives.

10.1.3 Despite the ongoing funding uncertainty, Brent continues to do the very best it can for the people we support.

10.2 Delayed Transfers of Care Top Ten Performing

10.2.1 We have improved our performance on delayed transfers of care this year and are now in the top ten London Boroughs for performance ensuring more people get out of hospital and back to their home in a timely fashion.

10.3 Prince William visited Brent Mental Health Project

10.3.1 The Duke of Cambridge visited Brent on 6 September to celebrate the work being done through sport to improve people's lives, which included celebrating the football project set up for people with mental illness established by Brent's employee of the year.

10.4 Blue badge parking for hidden disabilities

10.4.1 People with hidden disabilities such as autism, dementia, Parkinson's and arthritis can apply for blue badge parking permits after the scheme's eligibility criteria in England was expanded by the Department for Transport. It also includes those who cannot walk without considerable psychological distress or risking serious harm, which will make it easier for people with conditions such as anxiety disorders or brain injuries to travel to work, socialise and access shops and services.

10.5 Health and Wellbeing (HWB) roadshow

10.5.1 I would like to draw everyone's attention couple of things relating to upcoming HWB activities.

10.5.2 We are planning pop-up events outlined below to engage local residents:

College of North West London Fresher's Fair	<u>Wednesday 11 September 11-2pm</u>
Sainsbury's Alperton	<u>Wednesday 18 September 3-5pm</u>
Kilburn Hub	<u>Thursday 19 September 11-1pm</u>

10.6 Health and Wellbeing Board agenda 7 October

10.6.1 The next scheduled meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board will be held on Monday 7 October 2019, with the agenda due to include updates on:

- Brent Children's Trust;
- Health and Care Transformation Board;
- Better Care Fund 2019/2020;
- Outcome Based Review (OBR} mental health;
- Public mental health strategy and suicide prevention plan; and
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNA) 2019.

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Questions from the Opposition and Other Non-Cabinet Members**Full Council – 16 September 2019****1. Question from Cllr Anita Thakkar to Cllr Eleanor Southwood, Lead Member for Housing:**

Of the three constituencies that form Brent, more than 5,000 households have enrolled on Universal Credit. In time, the remaining 29,740 households that remain on legacy benefits are likely to face so-called “managed migration” onto universal credit. The National Audit Office has indicated in reports that ‘it is not clear that Universal Credit will cost less to administer than the existing benefits system’.

The nationwide roll-out of universal credit has been beset with complications, with vulnerable residents facing real hardship, with widely documented delays lasting weeks, sometimes months before the first payment of Universal Credit is awarded. This can lead to cash flow crises, spiralling debt, rent arrears and ultimately eviction.

Will the Lead Member for Housing and Welfare Reform re-affirm that the Council will not evict its tenants, when they face rent arrears; owing to delays in receiving universal credit?

Response:

The roll out of universal Credit started in Brent almost a year ago. Already we have seen an increase in the number of council tenants in rent arrears. We work closely with anyone who is struggling because of the roll out of Universal Credit and would encourage any resident who is concerned to contact us as early as possible.

We’re also working with partners across the voluntary sector, as well as funding an employment support programme through our Housing Revenue Account, to help residents access opportunities.

A well-managed and humane welfare system is part of a civilised society – there for any of us if we fall on hard times and providing dignity for anyone who cannot work. Our residents deserve better than the chaos and chronic failures in the current system and I can reaffirm that we will not be evicting any of our tenants who fall into rent arrears as a result of a delay in the payment of Universal Credit.

2. Question from Cllr Parvez Ahmed to Cllr Shama Tatler, Lead Member for Regeneration, Property and Planning:

The Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy scheme (NCIL) is a key plank in fulfilling Brent Labour's manifesto pledge to create a borough of shared prosperity. It acknowledges that major developments cause significant disruption to local communities; and that where wealth is created, we should enshrine the principle that local people feel the benefit.

Will the Lead Member for Regeneration, Property & Planning clarify, since the inception of the NCIL scheme in 2017, to date how much money has been allocated to voluntary groups, residents and other stakeholders, for the purpose of community infrastructure projects?

Response:

The overall allocation to NCIL projects (excluding the most recent round, so 2017/18 R1 – 2018/19 R2) is **£4,650,376**

The breakdown is set out below:

	2017/18 R1 (£)	2017/19 R2 (£)	2018/19 R1 (£)	2018/19 R2 (£)	Total (£)
To voluntary/community groups, including churches*	404,313.78	712,431.00	517,557.00	816,266.16	2,450,567.94
To schools/academies	0	0	66,500	130,200	196,700.00
To companies (companies limited by guarantee/shares, private limited companies)	0	0	37,678.50	283,102	320,780.50
To housing associations	0	36,702.00	0	0	36,702
To not for profit organisations/CICs	0	0	12,000	0	12,000
To council-delivered projects (e.g. public realm improvements, street trees, play equipment)	326,300.00	589,878.15	360,087.00	357,360.00	1,633,625.15
Of which was bid-for by residents/community groups (as opposed to council staff)	73,000.00	327,126.00	60,000.00	172,860.00	632,986.00
Of which was bid-for by Brent councillors	7,500.00	1,250.00	0.00	0	8,750.00

*where an organisation is both a charity and a registered company, it has been listed under voluntary/community groups (e.g. sickle cell society, CAB, Global Skills Centre)

In addition to the above, approximately £3m has been allocated for projects in the 2019/20 R1 funding round, of which approximately £1.8m has been allocated to voluntary/community groups, including churches, and approximately £400k of which has been allocated to projects to be delivered by Brent Council that were bid for by Brent residents/community groups. As funding for projects of value >£100k is subject to approval at Cabinet and all awarded funds are provisional until the funding agreements for the projects are signed, these figures are provisional.

To clarify, no monies would be allocated directly to residents through NCIL. Residents and unregistered groups can apply for funds but in this case the Council or a Brent school must deliver the project.

3. Question from Cllr Elliot Chappell to Cllr Margaret McLennan, Deputy Leader of the Council:

Each year the council has the ability to ameliorate the effects of business rates by apportioning rates relief, in order to protect charities, non-profit making bodies and small businesses.

Will the Lead Member for Resources highlight the total financial value of this policy, over the last financial year?

Response:

The Council provides Non-Domestic Rates relief to small businesses and non-profit making organisations who qualify for reductions under specific criteria that are set either nationally or locally. The table below shows the amounts granted during the last financial year, 2018/19.

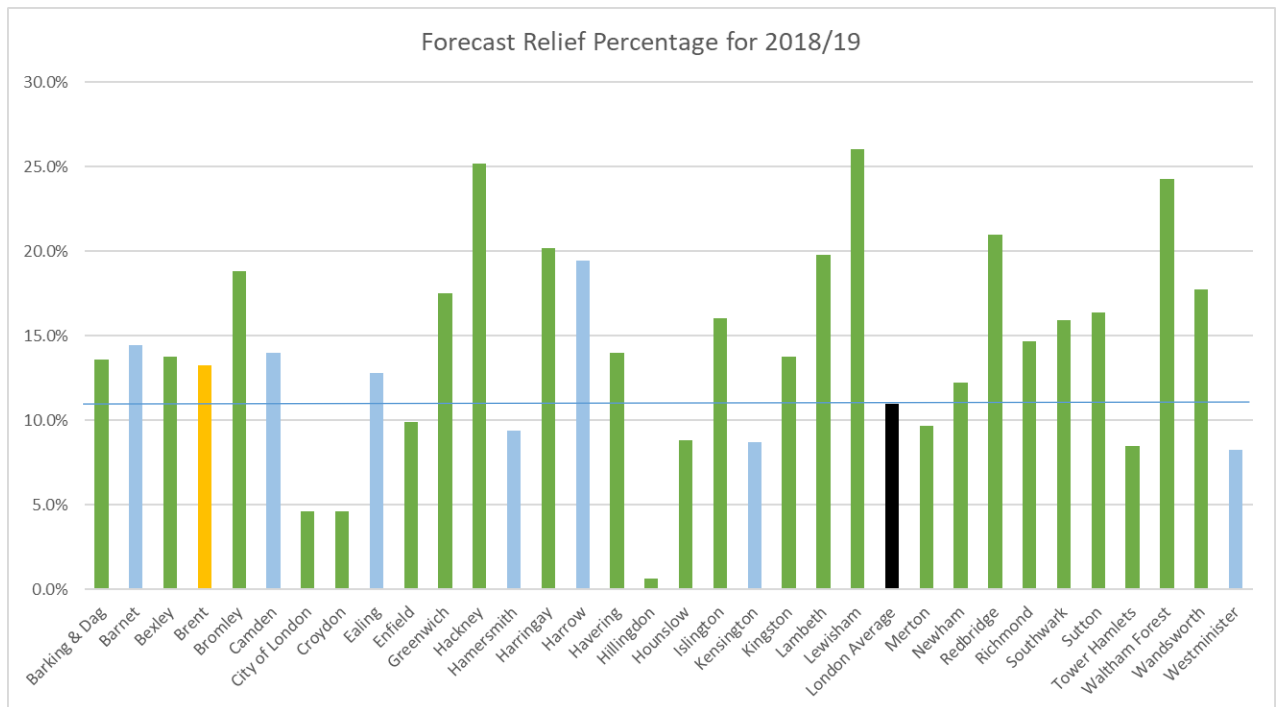
	£m
Mandatory Reliefs	
¹ Transitional Revaluation	1.43
Small Business Rate	6.30
Mandatory Charity / Community	9.32
Unoccupied Property	3.66
Total Mandatory	20.71
 Discretionary Relief	
Non-Profit Making Organisation top -up	0.45
Other Small Business Discretionary *	0.54
Hardship	0.04
Total Discretionary	1.03
Total Reliefs Granted	21.74

*Includes Pubs and retail businesses

The total relief granted represents a reduction of 15% on the overall Gross Rates Payable for the year (£148m).


At the beginning of the year the percentage rate of relief Brent forecast would be granted to local organisations was above the London average (11%) and amongst our 7 neighbouring boroughs was estimating a percentage level at the mid-point across the range from 8.3% to 19.4%.

¹ NB. Transitional Revaluation relief supports businesses affected by the 2017 revaluation increase from the previous year and will be available until 2021.



Source: NNDR1

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	Full Council 16 September 2019
	Report from the Assistant Chief Executive
Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee: Chair's Report	

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	Non-Key Decision
Open or Part/Fully Exempt:	Open
No. of Appendices:	One: Appendix 1 - Committee Work Programme
Background Papers:	None
Contact Officers:	Pascoe Sawyers, Head of Strategy and Partnerships, pascoe.sawyers@brent.gov.uk , 020 8937 1045 Michael Carr, Senior Policy and Scrutiny Officer, Strategy and Partnerships michael.carr@brent.gov.uk 020 8937 2855

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To update Council on the business of the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the business of the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee and the Committee's amended work programme for 2019-2020 be noted.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Committee's work programme sets out the issues that the Committee will consider during the municipal year. It also states the Scrutiny Task Groups which it will set up to consider in-depth reviews. The Committee's work plan is set out in

Appendix 1. A scrutiny committee work plan may change during the municipal year as new issues arise and items are added. Council will be informed of any changes through a report of the scrutiny committee chair.

- 3.2 The work plan includes issues for consideration that may require the involvement or decisions by external partner organisations. As part of its remit set out in the constitution, the Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee can scrutinise and make reports and recommendations to the authority on community safety partnership (the Safer Brent Partnership) crime and disorder issues.
- 3.4 By the time Council meets there will have been two meetings of the Committee this Municipal Year. One on 3 July 2019 and the other on 12 September 2019. At its meeting on 12 September 2019, the committee is due to consider the Brent's Statement of Licensing Policy; Brent's Council Tax Support and Local Welfare Assistance policy; the final report and recommendations of the Knife Crime Scrutiny Task Group along with an update on the Carlton and Granville Centre site (further to the consideration of a call-in earlier in 2019) and proposal to establish a Scrutiny Task Group to consider the Council budget performance and budget proposals for 2020-2021.
- 3.5 The Committee's Work Programme has been amended slightly to reflect the deferral of the Annual Complaints Report from 12 September to the next meeting on 4 December 2019, the inclusion of the Carlton and Granville Centre Site update on 12 September 2019 and clarification of the consideration of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy on 12 September.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.0 Equality Implications

- 6.1 There are no equality implications.

7.0 Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders

- 7.1 Non-executive members are involved in the scrutiny committee and task groups which are set up by the committee.

Report sign off:

Peter Gadsdon
Assistant Chief Executive

Resources & Public Realm Scrutiny Committee Work Plan 2019-2020

Wednesday 03 July 2019

Report	Cabinet Member/s	Strategic Director/s	External	Cabinet Forward Plan Item	Community Safety Scrutiny*
1. Air Quality (Scrutiny Task Group)	Cllr Krupa Sheth - Cabinet Member for Environment	Amar Dave - Strategic Director Regeneration & Environment	Clean Air For Brent	No	No
2. The Safer Brent Partnership (including the Annual Report)	Cllr Tom Miller – Cabinet Member for Community Safety	Carolyn Downs Chief Executive Brent Council – Chair of the Safer Brent Partnership	MET Police - Sara Leach -NW BCU Commander (responsible for all 3 Boroughs). Inspector Lynne Forster	Yes	Yes
3. Police Tri-borough BCU Reconfiguration	Cllr Tom Miller – Cabinet Member for Community Safety	Carolyn Downs Chief Executive Brent Council – Chair of the Safer Brent Partnership Amar Dave - Strategic Director Regeneration & Environment	MET Police - Sara Leach -NW BCU Commander (responsible for all 3 Boroughs). Inspector Lynne Forster	No	Yes
4. Knife Crime Scrutiny Task Group Interim Report	Cllr Tom Miller – Cabinet Member for Community Safety	Carolyn Downs Chief Executive Brent Council – Chair of the Safer Brent Partnership Amar Dave - Strategic Director Regeneration & Environment	MET Police - Sara Leach -NW BCU Commander (responsible for all 3 Boroughs). Inspector Lynne Forster	Yes	Yes

*Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006

Thursday 12 September 2019

Report	Cabinet Member/s	Strategic Director/s	External	Cabinet Forward Plan Item	Section 19 Police & Justice Act
1. Brent Statement of Licensing Policy	Cllr Tom Miller – Cabinet Member for Community Safety Cllr Shama Tatler - Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways, Planning	Amar Dave - Strategic Director Regeneration & Environment		Yes	No
2. Council Tax Support and Local Welfare Assistance	Cllr Eleanor Southwood - Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare reform	Peter Gadsdon – Strategic Director Policy and Performance		No	No
3. Knife Crime Scrutiny Task Group Final Report	Cllr Tom Miller – Cabinet Member for Community Safety	Carolyn Downs Chief Executive Brent Council – Chair of the Safer Brent Partnership Amar Dave - Strategic Director Regeneration & Environment	MET Police - Sara Leach -NW BCU Commander (responsible for all 3 Boroughs). Inspector Lynne Forster	Yes	Yes
4. Carlton and Granville Centre Site	Cllr Shama Tatler - Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways, Planning	Peter Gadsdon – Strategic Director Policy and Performance		Yes	No
5. Budget Scrutiny (Scrutiny Task Group) Membership and Terms of Reference	Cllr Margaret McLennan - Deputy Leader of the Council	Conrad Hall - Chief Finance Officer Peter Gadsdon – Strategic Director Policy and Performance		No	No

Wednesday 04 December 2019

Report	Cabinet Member/s	Strategic Director/s	External	Cabinet Forward Plan Item	Section 19 Police & Justice Act
1. Data Led Service Delivery	Cllr Muhammed Butt- Leader of the Council Cllr Tom Miller – Cabinet Member for Community Safety	Peter Gadsdon – Strategic Director Policy and Performance		No	No
2. Tourism in Brent	Cllr Shama Tatler - Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Highways, Planning	Amar Dave - Strategic Director Regeneration & Environment		No	No
4. Annual Complaints Report	Cllr Margaret McLennan - Deputy Leader of the Council	Peter Gadsdon – Strategic Director Policy and Performance		Yes	No
3. Air Quality Scrutiny Task Group Report	Chair of Task Group to present Cllr Krupa Sheth - Cabinet Member for Environment to respond	Amar Dave - Strategic Director Regeneration & Environment		Yes	No

Wednesday 29 January 2020

Report	Cabinet Member/s	Strategic Director/s	External	Cabinet Forward Plan Item	Section 19 Police & Justice Act
1. Budget Scrutiny Task Group Report	Cllr McLennan - Deputy Leader of the Council	Conrad Hall - Chief Finance Officer		Yes	No
2. Property and Capital Strategy	Cllr Margaret McLennan - Deputy Leader of the Council	Conrad Hall - Chief Finance Officer		No	No
3. Pensions Policy	Cllr Margaret McLennan - Deputy Leader of the Council	Conrad Hall - Chief Finance Officer Amar Dave - Strategic Director Regeneration & Environment		No	No
4. Violence Against Women (Task Group) Membership and Terms of Reference	Cllr Tom Miller – Cabinet Member for Community Safety	Amar Dave - Strategic Director Regeneration & Environment		No	No

Thursday 12 March 2020

Report	Cabinet Member/s	Strategic Director/s	External	Cabinet Forward Plan Item	Section 19 Police & Justice Act
1. Brent Parks	Cllr Krupa Sheth - Cabinet Member for Environment	Amar Dave - Strategic Director Regeneration & Environment		No	No
2. Brent Cycling Strategy	Cllr Krupa Sheth - Cabinet Member for Environment	Amar Dave - Strategic Director Regeneration & Environment	The London Cycling Campaign	No	No

Tuesday 21 April 2020

Report	Cabinet Member/s	Strategic Director/s	External	Cabinet Forward Plan Item	Section 19 Police & Justice Act
1. Review of The Use of Food Banks in Brent Scrutiny Recommendations	Cllr Eleanor Southwood - Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare reform	Peter Gadsdon – Strategic Director Policy and Performance			

 Brent	Full Council 16 September 2019
	Report from the Assistant Chief Executive
Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee: Chair's Report	

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	Non-Key Decision
Open or Part/Fully Exempt:	Open
No. of Appendices:	Two: Appendix 1: Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2019-20 Appendix 2: North West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Background Papers:	None
Contact Officers:	Pascoe Sawyers, Head of Strategy and Partnerships pascoe.sawyers@brent.gov.uk, 020 8937 1045 James Diamond, Scrutiny Officer, Strategy and Partnerships james.diamond@brent.gov.uk, 020 8937 1068

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To inform Council about the updated 2019/2020 work programme for the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee, the outcomes of meetings and other activities undertaken by the scrutiny committee since the last Council meeting on 8 July.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 To discuss the report, in particular the committee's work programme and North West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee work

plan.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 The scrutiny committee's work programme sets out which Key Decisions of the Cabinet, and the policy areas that the committee will review and scrutinise during the municipal year along with the task groups set up as in-depth reviews. A scrutiny committee's work plan may change during the municipal year as new issues arise and items are added. As set out in Appendix 1, there have been some changes to the scrutiny committee's work plan since Council on 8 July.
- 3.2 The work plan also set out the policy areas and decision-making of external partner organisations to be scrutinised by the committee. As part of its remit set out in the constitution, the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee can scrutinise, and make recommendations, to NHS organisations and can review the provision and operation of health services in the borough, and make recommendations. In accordance with this remit, on 9 July the scrutiny committee discussed reports presented by Brent Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) about a new strategy for Palliative and End of Life Care, which is being considered after the temporary closure of new inpatient admissions at the Pembridge Hospice run by the Central London Community Healthcare Trust. The committee also reviewed the CCG's proposals to decommission services at the Urgent Care Centre at Central Middlesex Hospital from 12midnight to 8am.
- 3.3 In addition, on 4 September the committee discussed a report presented by Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group and Brent Clinical Commissioning Group about the future of Cricklewood Walk-In Centre and the GP practice which are based at Cricklewood Health Centre in the London Borough of Barnet. This issue and concerns expressed by Brent residents about the proposals were raised at the last Council on 8 July by a non-executive member.
- 3.4 In terms of reviewing Key Decisions by the local authority's Cabinet, the committee meeting on 9 July discussed a report presented by the Lead Member for Public Health, Culture and Leisure on the Substance Misuse: Treatment, Recovery and Wellbeing Service which was recommissioned with a new contract starting on 1 April 2018. This was presented by the Cabinet member, and also included a presentation by the B3 Users' Group. The new provider Westminster Drugs Project (WDP) with Central North West London (CNWL) also attended the meeting. On 4 September the committee reviewed homecare commissioning in advance of the final decision being taken by the Cabinet.
- 3.5 The committee has also formally established a members' task group to review childhood obesity. The childhood obesity task group has completed all of its evidence sessions which were held on July 16, July 23, and September 3. A special open session has also been arranged for parents to attend on 10 September at which they will give their views about the key issues. In

addition, Cllr Sheth gave a presentation to Brent Youth Parliament (BYP) on 27 July about the work and findings so far of the task group and the discussion and responses from BYP members at the meeting have helped inform the task group's work.

- 3.6 The Council has also established the North West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Councillor Ketan Sheth is Brent Council's representative. The work plan for this joint health scrutiny committee is in Appendix 2. Council should note that the September meeting has now been moved to October. In addition, there was an additional meeting of the JHOSC on 22 July to discuss the proposals by the North West London Collaboration to create a single Clinical Commissioning Group for North West London. This meeting was attended by Mark Easton, Accountable Officer, and Dr MC Patel, Chair and Co-Clinical Director of Brent Clinical Commissioning Group. Since the joint scrutiny committee meeting in July the Collaboration of CCGs has now confirmed that the original proposal to implement commissioning reform by April 2020 has been delayed until April 2021. As a result, discussion of this item has been re-allocated on the work plan for the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee from September to later in the 2019/2020 municipal year.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.0 Equality Implications

- 6.1 There are no equality implications.

7.0 Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders

- 7.1 Non-executive members are involved in the committee and task groups.

Report sign off:

Peter Gadsdon
Assistant Chief Executive

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Appendix 1: Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2019-20

Tuesday 9 July 2019

Report	Cabinet Member/s	Strategic Director/s	External	Cabinet Forward Plan Item	School Education Item	Health/NHS Item **
1. Substance Misuse: Treatment, Recovery and Wellbeing Service	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Lead Member for Public Health, Culture and Leisure	Dr Melanie Smith, Director of Public Health		No	No	No
2. Palliative and End of Life Care	Cllr Harbi Farah, Lead Member for Adult Social Care		Brent Clinical Commissioning Group	No	No	Yes
3. Urgent Care Centre, Central Middlesex Hospital	Cllr Harbi Farah, Lead Member for Adult Social Care		Brent Clinical Commissioning Group	No	No	Yes
4. Childhood Obesity: Members' Task Group Scoping Paper	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Lead Member for Public Health, Culture and Leisure	Dr Melanie Smith, Director of Public Health		No	No	Yes

** Delegated health scrutiny under part 4 of the Local Authority Regulations 2013

Wednesday 4 September 2019

Report	Cabinet Member/s	Strategic Director/s	External	Cabinet Forward Plan Item	School Education Item	Health/NHS Item **
1.Home Care Recommissioning	Cllr Harbi Farah, Lead Member for Adult Social Care	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing		Yes	No	No
2. Proposals for Cricklewood Health Centre	Cllr Harbi Farah, Lead Member for Adult Social Care		Brent Clinical Commissioning Group/Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group	No	No	Yes

** Delegated health scrutiny under part 4 of the Local Authority Regulations 2013

Wednesday 27 November 2019

Report	Cabinet Member/s	Strategic Director/s	External	Cabinet Forward Plan Item	School Education Item	Health/NHS Item **
1. Brent Safeguarding Adults' Board Annual Report	Cllr Harbi Farah, Lead Member for Adult Social Care	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing	Independent Chair, Brent Safeguarding Adults' Board	No	No	No
2. Peer Review: Adult Safeguarding	Cllr Harbi Farah, Lead Member for Adult Social Care	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing	Independent Chair, Brent Safeguarding Adults' Board	No	No	No
3. Brent Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report	Cllr Mili Patel, Children's Safeguarding, Early Help and Social Care	Gail Tolley, Strategic Director Children and Young People	Independent Chair, Brent Local Safeguarding Children Board	No	No	No
4. Overview and Scrutiny Task Group Report: Childhood Obesity	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Lead Member for Public Health, Culture and Leisure	Dr Melanie Smith, Director of Public Health		No	No	Yes

** Delegated health scrutiny under part 4 of the Local Authority Regulations 2013

Tuesday 4 February 2020

Report	Cabinet Member/s	Strategic Director/s	External	Cabinet Forward Plan Item	School Education Item	Health/NHS Item **
1.Single Homeless Prevention Service	Cllr Eleanor Southwood, Lead Member for Housing and Welfare Reform	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing		No	No	No
2. Brent Council Housing Management Services	Cllr Eleanor Southwood, Lead Member for Housing and Welfare Reform	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing		No	No	No
3. Brent Council Housing Repairs	Cllr Eleanor Southwood, Lead Member for Housing and Welfare Reform	Phil Porter, Strategic Director Community Wellbeing		No	No	No

** Delegated health scrutiny under part 4 of the Local Authority Regulations 2013

Monday 16 March 2020

Report	Cabinet Member/s	Strategic Director/s	External	Cabinet Forward Plan Item	School Education Item	Health/NHS Item **
1. Early Intervention to Reduce Youth Crime	Cllr Mili Patel, Children's Safeguarding, Early Help and Social Care	Gail Tolley, Strategic Director Children and Young People		No	No	No
2.Contextual Safeguarding Task Group: One-Year Update	Cllr Mili Patel, Children's Safeguarding, Early Help and Social Care	Gail Tolley, Strategic Director Children and Young People		No	No	No

** Delegated health scrutiny under part 4 of the Local Authority Regulations 2013

Wednesday 22 April 2020


Report	Cabinet Member/s	Strategic Director/s	External	Cabinet Forward Plan Item	School Education Item	Health/NHS Item **
1. School Standards and Achievement Report 2018-19, including Achievement of Boys of Black Caribbean Heritage	Cllr Amer Agha, Lead Member for Schools, Employment and Skills	Gail Tolley, Strategic Director Children and Young People		No	Yes	No

** Delegated health scrutiny under part 4 of the Local Authority Regulations 2013

APPENDIX 2:**North West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Plan 2019-2020**

Date	Host Borough	Agenda Items
21 June	Hounslow	1. Case for a single CCG and borough arrangements 2. Development of NW London Integrated Care System
October date TBC	Hammersmith and Fulham	1. North West London Finance Committee, including GP at hand funding issues 2. North West London Financial recovery
10 December	Kensington and Chelsea	1. NHS Long-Term Plan submission 2. Estate Strategy for NHS London
February date TBC	Richmond	1. Patient Transport

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	Full Council 16 September 2019
	Report from the Vice Chair of the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee
Update Report from the Vice-Chair of the Audit and Standards Advisory Committee	

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	Non-key
Open or Part/Fully Exempt: <small>(If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)</small>	Open
No. of Appendices:	None
Background Papers:	None
Contact Officer(s): <small>(Name, Title, Contact Details)</small>	Debra Norman, Director of Legal, HR, Audit and Investigations Tel:020 8937 1578 Email: debra.norman@brent.gov.uk

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The Audit & Standards Advisory Committee (ASAC) and Audit & Standards Committee (ASC) have met once since the last update provided to Council on 8th July 2019. This paper is a brief update on the areas covered in those meetings.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Council is asked to note the contents of the report.

3. Detail

3.1 Audit and Standards Advisory Committee – July 2019

Internal Audit Annual Report 2018/19

This was the annual report from the Head of Audit and Investigations. It included the opinion of the Head of Audit on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's internal controls and presented a summary of the Internal Audit work undertaken during the year. The report showed a generally

good level of control in the Council's key systems based on the work of the Internal Audit team.

Treasury Management Out-turn Report 2018/19

The report updated members on Treasury Management activity and confirmed that the Council had complied with its relevant Prudential Indicators.

Review of the performance of the Committee (self-assessment)

The Committee self-assessed its effectiveness building on the training workshop held after the last meeting facilitated by a CIPFA trainer. Items for further work centred on: liaison with the Scrutiny function; Risk Management, and the constitution, skills and conduct of the Committee.

Annual Counter Fraud Report

This report provided an annual summary of the counter fraud work undertaken for the period 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019. The report detailed the depth and breadth of the work of the Investigations team including highlighting some key cases.

3.2 Audit and Standards Committee - July 2019

Statement of Accounts 18/19 and the External Auditor's Audit

The Audit and Standards Committee has responsibility for considering issues raised by the external auditors as part of the process of approving the annual statement of accounts. The Committee reviewed the following reports from the external auditor:

- Brent Council Audit Findings Report, and
- Brent Council Pension Fund Audit Findings Report.

In discussing the subsidiary accounts of Investment for Brent (i4B) and First Wave Housing (FWH) as part of the Council's Statement of Accounts 2018/19 and the audit process, the Committee noted the advice given by Grant Thornton to the Audit and Standards Advisory Committee on 10 July that the two subsidiary components (i4B and FWH) would not impact on Brent's Statement of Accounts 2018/19 as both of these did not meet the 'materiality' criteria. As a follow up action it was agreed that a financial update report on i4B and FWH accounts be presented at the next Audit & Standards Advisory Committee meeting.

The Chair expressed a view that the Audit and Standards Committee, in future, would like to see full details in advance on subsidiary companies (e.g. i4B and FWH) before considering to grant its approval of the Council's Statutory Accounts. The Chair and Members also felt that the external auditors needed to provide better details on the reconciliation work, particularly concerning 'supplier reconciliations'.


After this discussion, and following on from the consideration undertaken at the Audit and Standards Advisory Committee meeting, the Audit and Standards Committee unanimously agreed to accept the recommendation and approve the Statement of Accounts and two letters of representation to Grant Thornton.

Report sign off:

Councillor A. Choudry

Vice-Chair Audit & Standards
Advisory Committee

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 Brent	Cabinet 9 September 2019 Council 16 September 2019
	Report from the Director of Finance
2018/19 Treasury Management Outturn Report	

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-key Decisions	Key
Open or part/fully exempt: <small>(If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)</small>	Open
Number of Appendices:	Two: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix 1 - Debt and Investment Portfolio Appendix 2 - Prudential Indicators
Background Papers:	None
Contact Officer(s): <small>(Name, Title, Contact Details)</small>	Daniel Omisore, Head of Finance Daniel.Omisore@brent.gov.uk Tel: 020 8937 3057

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report updates members on Treasury Management activity and confirms that the Council has complied with its Prudential Indicators for 2018/19.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Cabinet is asked to consider the 2018/19 Treasury Management outturn report, and ask that it be forwarded to Council, in compliance with CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code).

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council's treasury management activity is underpinned by the Code, which requires authorities to produce annually Prudential Indicators and a Treasury Management Strategy Statement on the likely financing and investment activity. The Code also recommends that members are informed of treasury management activities at least twice a year.
- 3.2 This report fulfils the Council's obligation under the Local Government Act 2003 to have regard to both the CIPFA Code and the CLG Investment Guidance.
- 3.3 The Council has borrowed money over the long term to support investment in the Council's infrastructure and also invests cash balances held for short periods. It is therefore exposed to financial risks including the loss of invested funds and the

revenue effect of changing interest rates. The successful identification, monitoring and control of risk are central to the Council's treasury management strategy.

Economic Background

- 3.4 UK Consumer Price Inflation (CPI) for February 2019 was up 1.9% compared to last year, just above the consensus forecast but broadly in line with the Bank of England's February Inflation Report. The most recent labour market data for the three months to January 2019 showed the unemployment rate fell to a new low 3.9% while the employment rate of 76.1% was the highest on record. The 3-month average annual growth rate for pay excluding bonuses was 3.4% as wages continue to rise steadily and provide some upward pressure on general inflation. Once adjusted for inflation, real wages were up 1.4%.
- 3.5 After rising to 0.6% in the third calendar quarter from 0.4% in the second, fourth quarter economic growth slowed to 0.2% as weaker expansion in production, construction and services dragged on overall activity. Annual GDP growth at 1.4% continues to remain below trend. Following the Bank of England's decision to increase Bank Rate to 0.75% in August, no changes to monetary policy have been made since.
- 3.6 The ongoing uncertainty around Brexit continues to weigh on sterling and UK markets. Due to the continually changing circumstances a verbal update on Brexit, to the extent that it is relevant to this report, will be provided at the meeting.
- 3.7 While the domestic focus has been on Brexit's potential impact on the UK economy, globally the first quarter of 2019 has been overshadowed by a gathering level of broader based economic uncertainty. The US continues to be set on a path of protectionist trade policies and tensions with China in particular, but with the potential for this to spill over into wider trade relationships, most notably with EU. The EU itself appeared to be show signs of a rapid slowdown in economic growth with the major engines of its economy, Germany and France, both suffering misfires from downturns in manufacturing alongside continued domestic/populist unrest in France. The International Monetary Fund downgraded its forecasts for global economic growth in 2019 and beyond as a consequence.
- 3.8 Gilt yields continued to display significant volatility over the period on the back of ongoing economic and political uncertainty in the UK and Europe. After rising in October, gilts regained their safe-haven status throughout December and into the new year - the 5-year benchmark gilt yield fell as low as 0.80% and there were similar falls in the 10-year and 20-year gilts over the same period dropping from 1.73% to 1.08% and from 1.90% to 1.55%. The increase in Bank Rate pushed up money markets rates over the year and 1-month, 3-month and 12-month LIBID (London Interbank Bid) rates averaged 0.53%, 0.67% and 0.94% respectively over the period.
- 3.9 Recent activity in the bond markets and PWLB interest rates highlight that weaker economic growth is not just a UK phenomenon but a global risk. During March the US yield curve inverted (10-year Treasury yields were lower than US 3month money market rates) and German 10-year Bund yields turned negative. The drivers are a significant shift in global economic growth prospects and subsequent official interest rate expectations given its impact on inflation expectations. Further to this is world trade growth which collapsed at the end of 2018 falling by 1.8%

year-on-year. A large proportion of this downturn in trade can be ascribed to the ongoing trade tensions between the US and China which despite some moderation in January does suggest that the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) and Organisation for Economic Co-Operation & Development's (OECD) forecasts for global growth in 2019 of 3.5% might need to be revised downwards.

The Borrowing Requirement and Debt Management

- 3.10 The table below summarises the Council's borrowing activity during 2018/19. The Council's underlying need to borrow as measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) was £688m at 31/03/2019.

	Balance on 01/04/2018	Borrowing Repaid	New Borrowing	Balance on 31/03/2019	Average Rate	Average Life
	£m	£m	£m	£m	%	Years
CFR	670.9			688.0		
Short Term Borrowing	21.0	(21.0)	0.0	0.0		
Long Term Borrowing	413.6	(27.8)	0.0	385.8	4.2	33.7
TOTAL BORROWING	434.6	(48.8)	0.0	385.8		

- 3.11 At 1 April 2018 the Council had £413 million of long-term borrowing, to finance its previous years' capital programmes. With short-term interest rates being much lower than long-term rates, it was more cost effective in the short-term to use internal resources rather than undertake further long-term borrowing. By doing so, the Council has been able to reduce net borrowing costs and reduced overall treasury risk as overall long-term borrowing has also fallen (£385 million).
- 3.12 Temporary borrowing was not required during the year. The average rate on long term borrowing of 4.78% was lower than last year's rate of 4.82% was due to the redemption of the RBS LOBO loan and PWLB loans that are paid back steadily over their lifetime.
- 3.13 If the Council were to repay its long term borrowing this would involve paying a premium to compensate PWLB for their inability to relend the money at the rate at which they have financed the loan. For example, the Council's most expensive loan is £3.05m at a rate of 8.875%, to repay it would cost £0.781m, a 26% premium on the value of the loan before the cost of re-financing. In short, the cost of re-financing our loans under the Government's punitive approach means is not economical. However, this analysis might change if interest rates returned to historically normal levels.
- 3.14 The Treasury Management Strategy approved by the Council in February 2018 states that the Council will maintain borrowing at the lowest level consistent with prudent management of the Council's finances. This implies that, at present discount rates, we will not undertake premature repayment of debt but that, in conjunction with our Treasury Management advisers, Arlingclose, we will remain abreast of developments and be prepared to borrow up to the level of CFR if a significant permanent rate rise appears likely. These circumstances did not arise during the year.

3.15 The Authority has £70.5m exposure to LOBO loans - Lender's Option Borrower's Option (2018/19 £80.5m) of which £31m of these can be "called" during 2019/20. Under the LOBO arrangements lenders can exercise their rights at set times to amend the interest rate on the loan. At that point, the Borrower can accept the revised terms or reject them and repay the loan without penalty. LOBO loans present a potential refinancing risk to the Authority since the decision to call a LOBO is entirely at the lender's discretion. This risk is mitigated by the fact that the Council's current cash holdings mean that any repayment could be accommodated by reducing deposits. It is also unlikely that LOBO loans will be called at the present time due to low interest rates – although this may change in the future if rates rise.

3.16 The following LOBO loan was redeemed in Nov 2018.

Details:

Counterparty	RBS
Notional Amount	£10m
Original Maturity	01/04/2060
Date of Restructuring	29/11/2018

3.17 Prior to this redemption the Council had £80.5m in Lender Option Borrower Option ("LOBO") market loans. The majority of the loans were taken out before 2010 meaning that in the current interest rate environment the likelihood of these loans being "called" by the bank, in terms of changing the rate, is low.

3.18 However certain banks (including RBS) have been active in seeking to exit these loans for various reasons which possibly relate to either the regulatory rules required in terms of setting aside capital ("Risk Weighted Assets") which restrains the bank from lending further in other areas and more recently the changes in International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) and in particular IFRS9 which impacts the bank with regards to the accounting for these loans.

3.19 In Nov 2018 the Council was approached by RBS with a view to entering into negotiations for the early redemption of the above loan. As well as taking advice from Link Asset Services the Council undertook a detailed analysis of the options and merits of different approaches, including maintaining the status quo. This included sensitivity analysis, identification of potential risks with any existing structure and any potential new structure, a quantification of the potential benefits from restructuring as well as accounting implications.

3.20 A number of different rescheduling options were compared and written down over the life of the loan and the cash flow discounted back using rates taken from the HM Treasury Green Book. The results were used as benchmark from which to negotiate improved terms with RBS. In late Nov 2019 terms were agreed (based on the parameters modelled above). Furthermore, the Council has used internal investment balances available for the repayment of the principal and the premium. This means that the level of external investment will reduce by this amount, thus reducing the level of investment income due to the reduced cash.

3.21 However, with interest rates at low levels and the general expectation for a slow and gradual increase in rates in the medium term, the council's investment income is suppressed and therefore using this cash balance for the repayment of the loans could save money. In fact, the analysis indicates that, based on the amount paid to

redeem the loan (par + 240 bps), there will be a substantial saving based on the interest saved on the loan, with even greater savings if the loan is not replaced. As noted above at this time the authority has chosen not to not refinance the loan with PWLB or any other borrowing but has utilised internal cash balances. However, this position is remains under constant review.

- 3.22 There are many complex arguments made about LOBOs, by their supporters and by their detractors. The Council's position is simply that the LOBOs are part of its portfolio, and must therefore be managed as effectively as possible. There are no plans to enter into further LOBO contracts. However, it should be noted that the average rate of interest being paid on LOBOs is currently less than that paid on PWLB debt (4.60% compared to 5.19% at 31 March). The most expensive LOBO was at 6.234% on 31 March 2019, compared with the most expensive PWLB at 8.875%.

Forward Borrowing

- 3.23 The Council is continuing to assess the potential benefits of taking out forward loans to fund the expanding capital programme. This option allows the Council fix the rate now for a period of up to five years in advance. This would support a short term, cheap position, with the added comfort of fixed rate loans being drawn down in the future in parallel with our capital commitments. Officers are currently in the process of procuring both legal and technical advisors to assist in this endeavor and will report back to this committee later in the year.

Municipal Bonds Agency

- 3.24 In a recent note to shareholders, the MBA cited the requirement for a Joint and Several Guarantee (JSG) as the main reason why they have failed to issue any bonds to date and proposed assembling a group of authorities to redesign the bond offer, with the JSG removed. Clearly, dropping the JSG could improve clients' appetite for borrowing via this channel, but conversely may reduce investor appetite to buy bonds which would be reflected in pricing. In current markets it may prove difficult for the yield on MBA bonds and therefore loans to local authorities, to be attractive relative to PWLB in the absence of the guarantee, however this is continually under review.

Investment Activity

- 3.25 Both CIPFA and the CLG Investment Guidance require the Council to invest prudently and have regard to the security and liquidity of investments before seeking the optimum yield. The table below summarizes investment activity during 2018/19.

	Balance on 1/4/2018	Investments made	Investments repaid	Balance on 31/03/2019	Average Rate	Average Term
	£m	£m	£m	£m	%	Days
Fixed term deposits	105.2	475.0	519.0	61.2	1.0%	142
Money Market Funds and notice deposits	35.2	711.0	704.2	42.0	0.62%	
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	140.4	1,186.0	1,223.2	103.2	0.85%	142

- 3.26 Security of capital remained the Council's main investment objective. This was maintained by following the Council's counterparty policy as set out in its Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2018/19 which defined "high credit quality organisations" as those having a long-term credit rating of A- or higher that are domiciled in the UK or overseas where the sovereign rating is AA+ or higher.

Credit developments and credit risk management

- 3.27 The Council assessed and monitored counterparty credit quality with reference to credit ratings, credit default swaps (a means of insuring loans), perceived credit-worthiness of the country in which the institution is registered and its share price. The minimum long-term counterparty credit rating determined by the Council for the 2018/19 treasury strategy was A- across rating agencies Fitch, S&P and Moody's. The Council continues to monitor risks, with advice from Arlingclose.

Liquidity Management

- 3.28 With changes to the regulatory environment during the year the Council adopted a cautious approach to investments by adopting mainly 3-month lending limit, investments with financial institutions were primarily by means of purchasing 3 month Certificates of Deposit (CDs). Longer maturities with more attractive rates are available from Local Authorities, though these will depend on being able to satisfy demand when it arises. At peak periods, mindful of the primacy of security as a criterion for decision making, larger balances were held in short term investments, particularly Money Market Funds. The use of short term borrowing at times of lower cash balances is judged to maintain a prudent balance between maintaining security and liquidity and achieving a reasonable yield on investments, however this was not required during 2018/19.

Yield

- 3.29 On the 7 Feb 2019 The Bank of England's monetary policy committee voted unanimously to keep the base rate at 0.75 per cent. The rate has stayed at this level since it was raised from 0.50 per cent in early August last year. Short term money market rates temporarily increased as a result but continue to remain relatively low. This has continued to have a significant impact on investment income. The low rates of return on the Council's short-dated money market investments reflect prevailing market conditions and the Council's objective during 2018/19 of optimising returns commensurate with the principles of security and liquidity.
- 3.30 The Council's budgeted investment income for the year had been estimated at £1m. The average cash balance during 2018/19 was £121.8m and interest earned was £1.03m, an average return of 0.85%. (*2017/18 – average cash balance of £179m and interest earned was £0.7m or 0.41%*). The Council has set a higher investment income target for 2019-20 and the Treasury Strategy has been updated accordingly to reflect this.

Update on Investments with Icelandic Banks

- 3.31 The Council has recovered 98% of its £10 million deposit with Heritable Bank. The administrators have not made any further estimate of final recoveries yet, though a further distribution is expected, subject to the outcome of a legal case.

Compliance

- 3.32 The Council confirms that it has complied with its Prudential Indicators for 2018/19, which were approved by the Council on 26 February 2018 as part of the Council's

Treasury Management Strategy Statement.

- 3.33 In accordance with the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice this report provides members with a summary report of the treasury management activity during 2018/19. None of the Prudential Indicators have been breached and a prudent approach has been taken in relation to investment activity with priority being given to security and liquidity over yield.

Further information is set out in Appendix 1 and 2.

Investment Training

- 3.34 The needs of the Council's treasury management staff for training in investment management are kept under review and considered as part of the staff appraisal process, and additionally when the responsibilities of individual members of staff change.
- 3.35 During 2018/19 staff attended training courses, seminars and conferences provided by Arlingclose and CIPFA.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 Already noted within the report as this is the Treasury Management Outturn Report.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 None identified.

6. Diversity Implications

- 6.1 None identified.

7. Staffing Implications

- 7.1 None identified.

Related documents:

Treasury Management Strategy Report to Council – 26 February 2018

Report sign off:

MINESH PATEL

Director of Finance

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Appendix 1

Debt and Investment Portfolio Position 31/3/2019

	Actual Portfolio £m 31/03/2019	Average Rate as at 31/03/2019 %
External Borrowing:		
PWLB - Maturity	271.5	5.0
PWLB - Equal Instalments	28.8	2.8
Fixed Rate Market Loans	15.0	4.3
LOBO Loans	70.5	4.6
Total External Borrowing	385.8	4.2
Other Long Term Liabilities:		
PFI	26.6	9.5
Finance Lease	4.7	4.1
Total Long Term Liabilities	31.2	6.8
Total Gross External Debt	417.1	5.5
Investments:		
Deposits	61.2	1.0
Money Market Funds	42.0	0.6
Total Investments	103.2	0.8
Net Debt	313.9	

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Appendix 2

Prudential Indicators

(a) Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)

The Council's cumulative maximum external borrowing requirement for 2018/19 is shown in the table below:

Capital Financing Requirement	31/03/2019 Estimate £m	31/03/2019 Actual £m
General Fund	487.2	527.1
HRA	167.0	159.9
Total CFR	654.2	687.0

(b) Gross Debt and the Capital Financing Requirement:

In order to ensure that over the medium term debt will only be for a capital purpose, the Council should ensure that debt does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of capital financing requirement in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional capital financing requirement for the current and next two financial years. This is a key indicator of prudence.

Debt	31/03/2019 Estimate £m	31/03/2019 Actual £m
Borrowing	395.8	385.8
PFI Liabilities	31.2	31.2
Total Debt	427.1	417.1
Capital Financing Requirement	654.2	687.0
Borrowing in excess of CFR?	No	No

(c) Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary for External Debt

The Operational Boundary for External Debt is based on the Council's estimate of most likely, i.e. prudent, but not worst case scenario for external debt. It links directly to the Council's estimates of capital expenditure, the capital financing requirement and cash flow requirements and is a key management tool for in-year monitoring. Other long-term liabilities comprise finance lease, Private Finance Initiative and other liabilities that are not borrowing but form part of the Council's debt.

The Authorised Limit for External Debt is the affordable borrowing limit determined in compliance with the Local Government Act 2003. It is the maximum amount of debt that the Council can legally owe. The authorised limit provides headroom over and above the operational boundary for unusual cash movements.

	Operational Boundary £m	Authorised Limit £m	Actual External Debt £m 31/03/2019
Borrowing	900.0	1,000.0	385.8
Other Long Term Liabilities			31.2
Total	900.0	1,000.0	417.1

The Chief Finance Officer confirms that there were no breaches to the Authorised Limit and the Operational Boundary during 2018/19.

(d) Upper Limits for Fixed Interest Rate Exposure and Variable Interest Rate Exposure

This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to interest rate risk. The upper limits on fixed and variable rate interest rate exposures, expressed as the proportion of net principal borrowed.

	Approved Limits for 2018/19 as a proportion %	Maximum during 2018/19 as a proportion %
Upper Limit for Fixed Rate Exposure Compliance with limits:	100 Yes	100 Yes
Upper Limit for Variable Rate Exposure Compliance with limits:	40 Yes	0 Yes

(e) Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate Borrowing

This indicator is to limit large concentrations of fixed rate debt needing to be replaced at times of uncertainty over interest rates.

Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate Borrowing	Upper Limit	Lower Limit	Actual Fixed Rate Borrowing at 31/3/2019	% of Fixed Rate Borrowing at 31/3/2019	Compliance with set limits?
	%	%	£m	%	Yes / No
Under 12 months	40%	0%	31	8%	Yes
12 months and within 24 months	40%	0%	14	4%	Yes
24 months and within 5 years	40%	0%	38	10%	Yes
5 years and within 10 years	60%	0%	3	1%	Yes
10 years and within 20 years	75%	0%	24	6%	Yes
20 years and within 30 years	75%	0%	51	13%	Yes
30 years and within 40 years	75%	0%	213	55%	Yes
40 years and within 50 years	75%	0%	11	3%	Yes
50 years and above	75%	0%	0	0%	Yes
			385.8	100%	

(f) Capital Expenditure

This indicator is set to ensure that the level of proposed capital expenditure remains within sustainable limits and, in particular, to consider the impact on Council tax and in the case of the HRA, housing rent levels.

Capital Expenditure	31/3/2019 Estimate	31/3/2019 Actual
General Fund	169.6	113.6
HRA	51.6	37.5
Total	221.2	151.1

(g) Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream

This is an indicator of affordability and highlights the revenue implications of existing and proposed capital expenditure by identifying the proportion of the revenue budget required to meet financing costs, net of investment income.

Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream	31/3/2019 Estimate	31/3/2019 Actual
General Fund	5.92%	4.45%
HRA	16.75%	16.06%

(h) Adoption of the CIPFA Treasury Management Code

This indicator demonstrates that the Council adopted the principles of best practice.

Statement: The Council adopted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice 2011 (2017 Edition).

(i) Upper Limit for Total Principal Sums Invested Over 364 Days

The purpose of this limit is to contain exposure to the possibility of loss that may arise as a result of the Council having to seek early repayment of the sums invested.

Upper Limit for Total Principal Sums Invested Over 364 Days	31/3/2019 Approved £m	31/3/2019 Actual £m
	40	0

(j) HRA Limit on Indebtedness

HRA Debt Cap per MHCLG	£199m	
	31/3/2019 Estimate £m	31/3/2019 Actual £m
HRA CFR	£167m	£159m

In October 2018 the government removed the HRA borrowing cap by issuing a determination revoking previous determinations that specified a local authority's limits on indebtedness.