



**Full Council**  
21 November 2016

**Report from the Director of Policy,  
Performance and Partnerships**

For Action

Wards Affected:  
ALL

**Update Report from the Chair of the Community and  
Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee (Councillor Ketan Sheth)**

**1.0 Summary**

1.1 This report provides a summary of the activities carried out by the Council's Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee in accordance with Standing Order 14. The report covers the period from 19 September 2016 and details its work programme, visits and engagement, committee discussion and training.

**2.0 Detail**

**2.1 Work Programme 2016/17**

The development of the annual work programme has allowed the Committee to map out and plan its activities and work for the Municipal Year 2016/17. It has also built-in enough capacity to ensure there is the flexibility to respond to events as they arise and space for issues that Brent's residents may suggest.

On 28 June 2016, a member-led workshop developed a work programme for 2016/17 with input from officers from Brent Council and Brent Clinical Commissioning Group. This was done by filtering items according to the new criteria for scrutiny and deciding what subjects or ideas would be appropriate for a task group report and what would be appropriate for a committee report.

The revised 2016/17 work programme is detailed at Appendix A and is currently up-to-date.

On 22 September 2016, the Audit Committee made a recommendation that following an Ombudsman's report into housing a vulnerable person, scrutiny should review what improvements the Housing Needs service has made in working with vulnerable people affected by domestic violence. A report on this will be heard at the next committee meeting on 23 November. In addition, an item on the 2015-16 Complaints Report has been added to the agenda for 1 February, but it will only look at complaints in the committee's remit.

Members should note that the Committee held a special committee meeting on 19 October 2016 to discuss the housing management options report, which was outside the normal cycle of committee meetings. The meeting was attended by the Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare, Strategic Director for Community Wellbeing and the Operational Director for Housing and Culture. Recommendations agreed by the Committee were incorporated in the report considered by Cabinet on 15 November, which made the decision on the report.

In the 2016/17 work programme, there will be scrutiny task groups covering:

- Signs of Safety
- Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services

These time-limited task groups will include a small group of Councillors and are being led by a Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee member. Children's oral health will be reviewed by the committee.

The scrutiny task group on Signs of Safety aims to complete its report, which will include recommendations for the Cabinet, by early December this year. So far, it has held four meetings to help Members better understand the challenges and opportunities of implementing Signs of Safety in the Children and Young People's Department, and gather evidence for its report.

The Members of the task group are:

- Cllr Aisha Hoda Benn, task group Chair
- Cllr Dr Amer Agha
- Cllr Bhagwanji Chohan
- Cllr Suresh Kansagra
- Cllr Shama Tatler.

Recommendations made by the Committee have been discussed by Cabinet. On 24 October 2016, Cllr Sheth presented scrutiny's recommendations on landlord licensing and the Ethical Lettings Agency and on 15 November 2016 the scrutiny task group report on Brent's housing associations was presented to Cabinet.

## **2.2 Engagement and Visits**

The Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee is committed to improving scrutiny by carrying out visits outside of formal committee meetings. This allows Members to see at first-hand how services are delivered, speak to officers and most importantly speak with service users and residents about those services. Visits complement the discussion which takes place at committee meetings, and accounts of the visits are also written up in a standing report to the Committee so that there is publicly available information about what Members have done.

Before the special meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 19 October 2016, Members visited housing which is currently managed by Brent Housing Partnership. Cllr Sheth also visited Northwick Park hospital A&E on 15 November 2016. Members are also planning a visit to understand more about

the Like Minded mental health strategy which is being led by the Central and North West NHS Foundation Trust.

Committee made sure that tenants and leaseholders of Brent Housing Partnership (BHP) were aware of the special meeting taking place on 19 October 2016, and it was promoted at the BHP Talkback forum and on social media. Pleasingly, the meeting had a very high turnout of members of the public with 25 people attending and six residents also made contributions at the meeting.

Representatives of Healthwatch Brent attended the meeting of the Committee on 20 September 2016 to present Members with information about the role of the organisation in the Borough, its objectives and it is expected that they will attend future meetings as well.

The Committee also played its part in European Local Democracy Week, which took place from 10 to 16 October 2016. Cllr Sheth spoke to pupils at the Winston Churchill Lycee in Wembley about local democracy, participation and scrutiny and also took part in a phone-in on K2K Radio on the same topics with Councillor Matt Kelcher.

On the final day of the week, Cllr Sheth took part in a scrutiny café in a coffee shop in central Wembley which was open to residents to drop-in and discuss matters of concern or issues which they thought would be useful for scrutiny to look at. The issues raised included health, housing in Wembley and libraries and it was felt that the café allowing residents to meet with the Chair face-to-face, took scrutiny out of the formal atmosphere of the Civic Centre and by making use of social media during the scrutiny café and the radio show before it enhance its transparency and accessibility to residents.

### **2.3 Training**

On 3 November 2016, Members of the Committee also took part in a briefing about the Local Safeguarding Children's Board, led by the Independent Chair of Brent LSCB and Gail Tolley, Strategic Director for Children and Young People.

On 11 October 2016, the Centre for Public Scrutiny's (CfPS) Members took part in a training session on effective skills for scrutiny, which included development around questioning skills, making recommendations and influencing techniques, which was led by Ed Hammond, from the CfPS and Cllr Ed Davie, Chair of Overview and Scrutiny at Lambeth Council.

### **2.4 Committee Meetings**

The Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee has met twice since the last report to full Council – on 20 September 2016 and 19 October 2016 (special meeting). The September meeting heard reports on the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) and the New Accommodation for Independent Living (NAIL) project.

The meeting was advised that that the STP had heard from senior officers in NHS organisations, Brent Council officers and Members. They included the Chief Executive, the Strategic Director for Community Wellbeing, the Cabinet

Member for Community Wellbeing as well as Healthwatch Brent, Simon Crawford, Director of Strategy, London North West Healthcare NHS Trust, Jo Carroll, Brent Borough Director, Central and North West London NHS Trust, Sarah Mansuralli, Chief Operating Officer, Brent Clinical Commissioning Group, and Rob Larkman, Chief Officer, Brent Harrow Hillingdon CCGs.

A report updating the Committee on the NAIL project was introduced by the Operational Director Social Care. The Committee heard that the project was the largest and most strategically important efficiency and quality improvement initiative in Adult Social Care. It aimed to identify, develop and acquire alternative forms of care to residential care for all vulnerable adult client groups in Brent.

At present, outcomes for people going into residential care were not as good as for those who remained in their own communities and the NAIL project sought to address this by supporting people in an independent living setting, allowing them to remain in a home of their own, or in their own communities. It was emphasised that independent living was not a prescriptive model of service design and could look very different for different people with different levels of care and support needs. The project had been active for two years.

Brent also takes part in the North West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The last meeting, held in Ealing on 16 October 2016, looked at aspects of Shaping A Healthier Future, and was attended by Cllr Ketan Sheth.

## **2.5 Scrutiny and the Cabinet**

The Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee has made a number of recommendations to Cabinet about different areas of policy. On 24 October 2016, the Committee's recommendations on landlord licensing and Ethical Lettings Agency were presented to Cabinet and, on 15 November 2016, recommendations of a scrutiny task group on housing associations were discussed by the Cabinet.

### **Contact Officers**

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**Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2016-17**  
**20 July 2016**

<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Objectives for scrutiny</b>	<b>Cabinet Member/Member</b>	<b>Brent Council/Partner organisations</b>
1.	Impact of the selective and additional landlord licensing schemes	Post-decision scrutiny on implementation of the landlord licensing schemes and impact on improving standards in private rented sector.	Cllr Harbi Farah, Cabinet Member for Housing	Phil Porter, Strategic Director for Community Wellbeing.  Jon Lloyd-Owen, Operational Director for Housing and Culture  Spencer Randolph, Head of Private Housing Services.
2.	Task Group report on Brent's housing associations	To discuss and agree report from Cllr Tom Miller's task group about housing associations in Brent.	Cllr Tom Miller  Cllr Harbi Farah, Lead Member for Housing	Phil Porter, Strategic Director for Community Wellbeing.  Jon Lloyd-Owen, Operational Director for Housing and Culture
3.	Update report on the implementation of an Ethical Lettings Agency	Post-decision scrutiny on implementing Ethical Lettings Agency agreed by Cabinet in July 2015.	Cllr Harbi Farah, Lead Member for Housing	Phil Porter, Strategic Director for Community Wellbeing.  Jon Lloyd-Owen, Operational Director for Housing and Culture
4.	Scrutiny 2015-16 Annual Report	To agree Scrutiny's Annual Report.	Cllr Matt Kelcher, Chair of Scrutiny Committee	Peter Gadsdon, Director Performance Policy and Partnerships
5.	Scrutiny 2016-17 Work Programme	To agree Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme for 2016-17.	Cllr Ketan Sheth, Chair of Scrutiny Committee	Peter Gadsdon, Director Performance Policy and Partnerships

\*Items involving school education. \*\* Items which may involve partnership work with schools.

## 20 September 2016

Agenda	Item	Objectives for scrutiny	Cabinet Member/Member	Brent Council/Partner organisations
1.	New Accommodation for Independent Living (NAIL) project	Scrutiny review of progress of NAIL scheme to date against its 2016/17 targets.  *Members' visit to Victoria Court, Wembley on 12 September.	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	Phil Porter, Strategic Director for Community Wellbeing.
**2.	Task Group Signs of Safety	Agree task group scoping paper and TOR.	Cllr Wilhelmina Mitchell-Murray, Cabinet Member Children and Young People	Gail Tolley, Strategic Director Children and Young People
3.	Sustainability and Transformation Plan	Scrutiny review of progress of STP.	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	Carolyn Downs, Chief Executive Phil Porter, Strategic Director for Community Wellbeing Sarah Mansuralli, Chief Operating Officer, Brent CCG Rob Larkman, Chief Officer, BHH
4.	Co-opted Members on Scrutiny committee	To set out the role of co-opted Members on the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.	Cllr Ketan Sheth, Chair of Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny	Pascoe Sawyers, Head of Strategy and Partnerships.
5.	Scrutiny Work Programme update	Review the Work Programme for 2016/17 and note any changes.	Cllr Ketan Sheth, Chair of Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	Pascoe Sawyers, Head of Strategy and Partnerships.

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## Special Scrutiny Meeting

19 October 2016

<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Objectives for scrutiny</b>	<b>Cabinet Member/Member</b>	<b>Brent Council/Partner organisations</b>
1.	Review of housing management options	Pre-Cabinet scrutiny of report on the future of management for Council housing stock.	Cllr Harbi Farah, Cabinet Member for Housing	Phil Porter, Strategic Director for Community Wellbeing.  Jon Lloyd-Owen, Operational Director for Housing and Culture

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## 23 November 2016

<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Objectives for scrutiny</b>	<b>Cabinet Member/Member</b>	<b>Brent Council/Partner organisations</b>
1.	NHS estate in Brent	Evaluate impact of changes to the NHS estate in Brent	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	Jake Roe, NHS Property Services  Sue Hardy, Head of Strategic Estate Development Brent, Harrow, Hillingdon and Ealing CCGs
*2.	Brent Local Safeguarding Children's Board	Receive 2015-16 annual report.	Cllr Wilhelmina Mitchell-Murray, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	Mike Howard, Independent Chair Brent LSCB
3.	Housing Needs services and vulnerable clients	To review progress in implementing recommendations for improvements.	Cllr Harbi Farah, Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare Reform	Phil Porter, Strategic Director for Community Wellbeing  Jon Lloyd-Owen, Operational Director for Housing and Culture  Laurence Coaker, Head of Housing Needs

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## 1 February 2017

Agenda	Item	Objectives for scrutiny	Cabinet Member/Member	Brent Council/Partner organisations
1.	Community Pharmacies	Assess impact on community pharmacies of recent changes by central government.	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	NHS England Local Pharmaceutical Committee
2.	Brent Safeguarding Adults Board	Receive 2015-16 annual report	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	Michael Preston-Shoot, Chair Brent ASB
3.	Air quality and public health	Evaluation of air quality and public health.	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	Phil Porter, Strategic Director for Community Wellbeing  Dr Melanie Smith, Director of Public Health  Brent CCG
**4.	Task Group Scoping paper CAMHS	Receive report from task group and discuss recommendations for Cabinet.	Cllr Wilhelmina Mitchell-Murray  Task group chair	Gail Tolley, Strategic Director for Children and Young People
**5.	Task group report Signs of Safety	Receive task group report on Signs of Safety	Cllr Wilhelmina Mitchell-Murray, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People Cllr Aisha Hoda-Benn Task group chair	Gail Tolley, Strategic Director Children and Young People

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**29 March 2017**

<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Objectives for scrutiny</b>	<b>Cabinet Member/Member</b>	<b>Brent Council/Partner organisations</b>
<b>*1.</b>	School Annual Standards and Achievement report	Receive report. Examine reasons for underachievement in Brent's schools among particular groups.	Cllr Wilhelmina Mitchell-Murray, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	Gail Tolley, Strategic Director for Children and Young People
<b>*2.</b>	Special educational needs (SEN)	Update and evaluation of SEN provision.	Cllr Wilhelmina Mitchell-Murray, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	Gail Tolley, Strategic Director for Children and Young People

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9 May 2017

<b>Agenda Rank</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Objectives for scrutiny</b>	<b>Cabinet Member/Member</b>	<b>Brent Council/Partner organisations</b>
1.	Brent's community libraries	Community libraries and draft cultural strategy.	Cllr Tom Miller, Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities	Phil Porter, Strategic Director for Community Wellbeing.  Jon Lloyd-Owen, Operational Director for Housing and Culture
2.	Primary Care Transformation	Review implications of primary care transformation for Brent	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	Brent CCG
**3.	Children's oral health	Review of working being done to improve children's oral health in Brent.	Cllr Krupesh Hirani, Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing	Phil Porter, Strategic Director for Community Wellbeing  Dr Melanie Smith Director of Public Health

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