

## SUMMONS ITEM 8

### LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT COUNCIL MEETING – 24<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2006

#### Items Selected by Non-Executive Members under Standing Order 39

- (a) From Councillor Vijay Shah

##### **Clean up days**

Residents in Ealing Road, London Road and other nearby roads are fed up with the lack of joined-up action on dumping, illegal trading, forklift truck loading, bad parking, and Brent's failure to clean up. These problems will worsen further when building work starts at Copland School.

When Liberal Democrats had a share of power in Brent, Clean-Up Days were held involving the Council, Police and other agencies. These ended when Labour lost all their seats in Wembley and all interest in residents' wishes. I ask the Executive to reinstate these clean-ups, and introduce some effective enforcement to protect local people.

- (b) From Councillor Bob Wharton

##### **Funding the voluntary sector – older persons services**

I ask the Executive to review the working of funding for the voluntary sector, particularly with regard to services for older people.

It is important that the funding system should not be targeted wholly at direct support for services to highly dependent people (for which the Council has statutory responsibilities.) The funding system should also recognise, and support, the services of the voluntary sector in helping older people to lead independent lives.

- (c) From Councillor Carol Shaw

##### **Housing overcrowding – planning enforcement**

People are seeing a large increase in houses being converted to flats or becoming Houses in Multiple Occupation, bringing congestion and other

environmental problems. Few follow-up visits are made to ensure that Conditions attached to Planning permissions are complied with, and Brent has been ill-prepared for, and slow to implement, new Licensing laws for HMO's.

I ask the Executive to seek a full review of Planning policy and enforcement to reduce the trend towards overcrowding and creeping overdevelopment, and to lobby Government to strengthen Planning laws to give residents the same rights as developers to appeal against decisions.