



## Overview & Scrutiny Committee April 2007

### Report from the Director of Communication & Consultation

For Information

Wards Affected:  
ALL

## Area and Service User Forums and Consultation Update

### 1. Summary

- 1.1 This report outlines key issues and trends across area and service user consultative forums, which took place during the third meetings cycle of 2006-07.
- 1.2 Meeting dates and topics for Area Consultative Forums are set out in appendix 1. Meeting dates and topics for User Consultative Forums are set out in appendix 2.
- 1.3 Full minutes of area and service user consultative forums are accessible from <http://www.brent.gov.uk/consultation> or can be obtained from the Consultation Team.
- 1.4 In line with the recommendations of the December 2006 Overview and Scrutiny meeting, this report also highlights other general consultation issues.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To note.

Meeting

Version no.

Date

Date

### 3. Detail

- 3.1 The Chair of the Private Sector SUCF had requested that an update on the delay of Home Multiple Occupation Licensing be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The issues are set out in detail in a separate report which will be presented at a future Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 3.2 There are no other issues from area or service user consultative forums.
- 3.3 The 2006/07 BVPI General Survey was finalised in mid March 2007. The overall satisfaction level for the Council has risen four points to 52%. The survey also showed some encouraging results on environmental performance indicators with eleven of the thirteen PI's showing improvement over the 2003 survey. Full results can be downloaded from the consultation tracker at: [www.brent.gov.uk/consultation](http://www.brent.gov.uk/consultation) Results of the other BVPI surveys, planning, revenues and benefits, libraries and tenants, are currently being finalised and will be available for download from the consultation tracker site.
- 3.4 An inaugural pre-meeting of the Brent youth parliament took place on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March in the national parliament annexe, Portcullis House. The meeting was hosted by South Brent MP, Dawn Butler and forty-seven young people from across the borough were in attendance. The participants discussed and prioritised a range of future issues for the youth parliament and were able to put questions to the MP and the youth parliament co-chair as well as the director and executive member for the Children and Families service area. A formal launch of the youth parliament is scheduled to take place on 9<sup>th</sup> Jun 2007 at Brent Town Hall.
- 3.5 A new Brent citizens' panel has been recruited. The new panel stands at just over 1,600 members. The panel was recruited over a six month period, principally from opinion and satisfaction surveys together with an ad hoc postcard recruitment drive targeted at people in the younger age ranges. The citizens' panel has already been used as part of the regional casino consultation and for running focus groups on environmental

health and methods of budget consultation. Future panel work includes; a joint Council / PCT survey on health priorities and a survey on the council's street tree policy as well as some parks service non-user focus groups.

- 3.6 The Consultation Team have recently bought into 'Consultation Portal', an on-line suite of consultation and database tools created by BMG systems, a Birmingham based IT consultancy company. The purchase was funded by money obtained through the Chief Executive's performance fund. The Consultation Portal will enable us to improve our current consultation database, Consultation Tracker, as well as providing additional facilities such as, on-line surveys, on-line focus group and bulletin boards. The Consultation Portal will also allow for improved management of the work of the citizens' panel by maintaining a system of continuous recruitment, the setting up of a separate e.panel and the creation of an e.mail system to alert panel members to forthcoming consultations.

### **Contact Officers**

Toni McConville  
Director of Communication and Consultation.

For further information contact Owen Thomson on 020 8937 1055.

## Appendix 1

### Area Consultative Forums

#### Quarterly Report extract – January 2007 to February 2007

##### 1. Kilburn & Kensal ACF

**Wards:** Brondesbury Park, Kilburn, Queens Park, Mapesbury

**Chair:** Councillor Rob Pagnamenta      **Vice Chair:** Councillor Mary Arnold

<b>Date</b>	16/01/07	<b>Topics</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	89	<b>Main item:</b> Traffic around the Harrow Road – the effects of the Extension to the Congestion Zone <b>Info / Updates:</b> Local Children’s and Health centre, Rail Vibration on North London Line, After the Tornado, Low Emission Zone (TfL)
<b>Venue</b>	Queens Park Community School	

Date of next meeting: 11 April 2007

##### 2. Harlesden ACF

**Wards:** Harlesden, Kensal Green, Stonebridge

**Chair:** Councillor James Powney      **Vice Chair:** Cllr Janice Long

<b>Date</b>	23/01/07	<b>Topics</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	75	<b>Main item:</b> Central Middlesex Hospital update by North West London Hospital Trust <b>Info / Updates:</b> Traffic management update and congestion charge western extension overview, community policing, Harlesden & Stonebridge Neighbourhood Renewal Team update
<b>Venue</b>	All Souls Church Hall	

Date of next meeting: 17 April 2007

##### 3. Wembley ACF

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Meeting

Version no.

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Date

**Wards:** Alperton, Northwick Park, Preston, Sudbury, Tokyngton, Wembley Central

**Chair:** Councillor Alan Mendoza

**Vice Chair:** Councillor Vijay Shah

<b>Date</b>	25/01/07	<b>Topics</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	62	<b>Main item:</b> Quintain developments – new detailed phases <b>Info / Updates:</b> A new civic centre for Brent, Complaints Procedure, updates from previous forum
<b>Venue</b>	Patidar Centre	

Date of next meeting: 18 April 2007

#### 4. Willesden ACF

**Wards:** Dollis Hill, Dudden Hill, Welsh Harp, Willesden

**Chair:** Councillor Gavin Sneddon

**Vice Chair:** Councillor Lesley Jones

<b>Date</b>	30/01/07	<b>Topics</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	56	<b>Main item:</b> Brent Primary Care Trust budget cuts <b>Info / Updates:</b> , Complaints Procedure, community policing, local transportation issues
<b>Venue</b>	College of NW London	

Date of next meeting: 24 April 2007

## 5. Kingsbury & Kenton ACF

**Wards:** Barnhill, Fryent, Kenton, Queensbury

**Chair:** Councillor Atiq Malik      **Vice Chair:** Councillor Ruth Moher

<b>Date</b>	6/02/07	<b>Topics</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	111	<b>Main item:</b> Kingsbury and Kenton Road transportation issues <b>Info / Updates:</b> Population increase in Brent, local policing issues, planning updates including Oriental City proposals, Complaints Procedure
<b>Venue</b>	Kingsbury High School	

Date of next meeting: 1 May 2007

## Appendix 2

### Service User Consultative Forums

#### Quarterly Report extract – February 2007 to March 2007

#### 1. Brent Disabled User Forum

**Chair:** Councillor Kanta Mistry

**Lead Manager:** Mike Bibby

<b>Date</b>	5 February 07	<b>Topics</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	35	<b>Main item:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Joint commissioning Strategy</li><li>• Health &amp; Social Care</li><li>• Report back on 'Fulfilling Lives' event in November</li></ul>
<b>Venue</b>	Town Hall	

Date of next meeting: 14 May 2007

#### 2. Voluntary Sector Forum

**Chair:** Councillor Reg Colwill

**Lead Manager:** Mike Bibby

<b>Date</b>	14 March 07	<b>Topics</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	29	<b>Main items:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Futurebuilders – presentation</li><li>• Voluntary Sector Funding Task Group</li></ul>
<b>Venue</b>	Town Hall	

Date of next meeting: tba

#### 3. Private Sector Housing Forum

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Meeting

Version no.

Date

Date

**Chair:** Councillor Janice Long

**Lead Manager:** Perry Singh

<b>Date</b>	14 March 2007	<b>Topics</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	100	<b>Main items:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local Housing allowance</li><li>• Disabled Facilities Grants – presentation</li><li>• HMO licensing</li></ul>
<b>Venue</b>	Town Hall	

Date of next meeting: June - date tba

#### **4. Black & Minority Ethnic Forum**

**Chair:** Councillor Daniel Bessong

**Lead Manager:** Elizabeth Bryan

<b>Date</b>	29 January 07	<b>Topics</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	40	<b>Main item:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sexual Health</li><li>• Sexual Education</li><li>• Parenting</li><li>• Financial Procurement</li><li>• Quintain Developments</li></ul>
<b>Venue</b>	Willesden Green Library	

Date of next meeting: 30<sup>th</sup> April 2007

#### **5. Pensioner's Forum**

**Chair:** Councillor David Clues

**Lead Manager:** Christabel Shawcross

<b>Date</b>	2 April 07	<b>Topics</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	-	<b>Main item:</b> Too late for inclusion
<b>Venue</b>	Town Hall	

Date of next meeting: tba