

	<p style="text-align: center;">Overview and Scrutiny Committee 7 October 2008</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Report from the Director of Policy and Regeneration</p>
<p>For Action Wards Affected: ALL</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Overview and Scrutiny Task Group and Review Updates</p>	

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 The report provides an update on the work of the current task groups and review that have been commissioned by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee. These are:
- Climate Change Task Group
 - Access to Health Sites
 - Increasing Participation in Recycling in flats

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to comment on work of the task group

3.0 Detail

Climate Change Task Group

- 3.1 At its meeting on 18th June 2007 the Executive agreed to ask Overview and Scrutiny Committee to establish a climate change task group to review the Council's Carbon Management Strategy and Implementation Plan 2007-11 and in particular to consider the achievability of its ambitious targets.
- 3.2 In October 2007 the Overview and Scrutiny considered a draft scope for the review and agreed to set up a Climate Change task group. The following members agreed to take part in the review:
- Cllr Derek Brown;
Cllr HB Patel (Chair); and
Cllr H Singh.

- 3.3 The Carbon Management Strategy and Implementation Plan (CMS&IP) outlines how Brent Council will achieve its Corporate Strategy commitment of reducing the council's emissions of carbon dioxide by 20% by 2011. The CMS&IP was approved by the Executive at its meeting held on 18th June 2007. The CMS&IP contains 38 projects that need to be delivered by different services from across the Council.
- 3.4 The CMS&IP is solely focused on Brent Council's own emissions of carbon dioxide, making it an internally focussed document. A carbon management strategy differs from a climate change strategy in that it does not attempt to address adaptation to climate change, but focuses on the management of emissions of green house gasses, specifically carbon dioxide, and in particular how these can be reduced by each of the Council's services.
- 3.5 The task group has agreed to review the projects in the CMS&IP within the following themes:
- Raising awareness and training for both staff and members of the public on climate change issues
 - Energy efficiency in council owned buildings
 - Improving sustainability in the councils transport fleet and among staff
 - The civic centre project
- 3.6 The task group has taken evidence from:
- Jeff Bartley, Environmental Projects and Policy Manager
James Young, Deputy Head of Property and Asset Management
Nitin Parshotam, Head of Asset Management Children and Families
Conrad Chambers, Network Manager, ITU
- The Task Group is due to report early in 2009.

Access to Health sites

- 3.7 In December 2007 the Overview & Scrutiny Committee agreed to set up a joint task group with the Health Select Committee to look at public transport access to health sites in Brent.
- 3.8 The members of the task group are:
- Cllr Chris Leaman (Chair);
Cllr Eddie Baker; and
Janice Long.
- 3.9 The task group is particularly interested in public transport access to hospitals, where there are well known problems and difficulties. The group is keen to find out what work is going on to improve transport access and whether the council, Transport for London and health organisations are working together effectively to plan and improve transport services.
- 3.10 The group will also be looking at how Transport for London and the council are being engaged by Brent PCT and other health commissioners in London now that Lord Darzi's vision of healthcare in London is to be implemented. Some specialist acute services are to be centralised into fewer hospitals and GP led health centres (commonly called polyclinics) are to be developed across London with knock on transport implications for patients, staff and visitors. The task group wants to find out

what preparations have been made with transport planners to ensure people are able to access the health services they need.

- 3.11 To date meetings have been held with representatives of North West London NHS Hospitals Trust, London Travel Watch, Brent Council's Public Transport Officer and a residents in the Burnley Road area, where GP services were closed at short notice some years ago. Meetings are set up with the PCT and Transport for London. Research into transport policy and best practice has also taken place.
- 3.12 The task group hopes to complete its work by November 2008, to report to the Health Select Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Committee in December 2008.

Increasing Participation in recycling in flats

- 3.13 On 22nd July 2008 the Overview & Scrutiny Committee agreed to undertake a review into increasing participation in recycling in flats. The members participating in the review are:
- Cllr HB Patel (Chair);
Cllr Clues; and
Cllr Thomas.
- 3.14 Members held their first meeting on the 8th September when they received some background information about what is currently happening in Brent and a summary of internet research about best practice elsewhere.
- 3.15 Members also agreed the scope of the review which includes:
- Visiting sites in the borough to look at current practice
 - Talking to tenants and residents groups to identify issues and potential solutions
 - Talking to registered social landlords to identify their role in increasing participation in recycling.
 - Visiting other local authorities who have had some success in increasing participation in recycling in flats.
- 3.16 All members have been asked to contribute to the review by being asked to put forward suggestions for site visits in Brent. It is hoped that the visits will take place week commencing 6th October 2008.

Background Papers

Brent Councils Carbon Management Strategy and Implementation Plan
Overview & Scrutiny Committee Minutes 11th December 2007
Overview & Scrutiny Committee Minutes 22nd July 2008

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