

Merton Council

Council Meeting

Membership

The Mayor: Councillor Agatha Mary Akyigyina

The Deputy Mayor: Councillor Laxmi Attawar

Councillors: Stephen Alambritis, Mark Allison, Stan Anderson, Hamish Badenoch, John Bowcott, Michael Bull, Adam Bush, Tobin Byers, Charlie Chirico, David Chung, Caroline Cooper-Marbiah, Pauline Cowper, Stephen Crowe, Mary Curtin, David Dean, John Dehaney, Nick Draper, Edward Foley, Brenda Fraser, Fidelis Gadzama, Ross Garrod, Suzanne Grocott, Jeff Hanna, Joan Henry, Daniel Holden, James Holmes, Janice Howard, Mary-Jane Jeanes, Abigail Jones, Philip Jones, Andrew Judge, Sally Kenny, Linda Kirby, Abdul Latif, Najeeb Latif, Brian Lewis-Lavender, Gilli Lewis-Lavender, Edith Macauley MBE, Russell Makin, Maxi Martin, Peter McCabe, Oonagh Moulton, Ian Munn BSc, MRTPI(Rtd), Katy Neep, Dennis Pearce, John Sargeant, Judy Saunders, David Simpson CBE, Marsie Skeete, Peter Southgate, Geraldine Stanford, Linda Taylor OBE, Imran Uddin, Gregory Patrick Udeh, Peter Walker, Jill West, Martin Whelton and David Williams

Date: Wednesday 10 September 2014

Time: 7.15 pm

**Venue: Council chamber - Merton Civic Centre, London Road,
Morden SM4 5DX**

This is a public meeting and attendance by the public is encouraged and welcomed. For more information about the agenda please contact democratic.services@merton.gov.uk or telephone [020 8545 3361](tel:02085453361).

All Press contacts: press@merton.gov.uk, 020 8545 3181

Council Meeting

10 September 2014

1	Apologies for absence	
2	Declarations of interest	
3	Minutes of the previous meeting	1 - 12
4	Announcements by the Mayor, Leader of the Council and Chief Executive	
5	Public questions to cabinet members <i>The questions and written responses will be circulated at the meeting.</i>	
6	Councillors' ordinary priority questions to cabinet members <i>The questions and written responses will be circulated at the meeting</i>	
7a	Strategic theme: Councillors' questions to cabinet members <i>The questions and written responses will be circulated at the meeting.</i>	
7b	Strategic Theme: Main Report - Healthier Communities (<i>with particular reference to Embedding Public Health - one year on from transition</i>)	13 - 32
7c	Strategic theme: motions	
8	Report from Wimbledon Community Forum	33 - 36
9	Notice of motion - Conservative 1	37 - 38
10	Notice of motion - Conservative 2	39 - 40
11	Overview and Scrutiny Commission Annual Report: 2013-2014	41 - 62
12	Call-in and Urgency	63 - 66
13	Changes to membership of committees and related matters	67 - 80
14	Petitions	81 - 82
15	Business for the next ordinary meeting of the Council	

Note on declarations of interest

Members are advised to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting. If a pecuniary interest is declared they should withdraw from the meeting room during the whole of the consideration of that matter and must not participate in any vote on that matter. If members consider they should not participate because of a non-pecuniary interest which may give rise to a perception of bias, they should declare this, withdraw and not participate in consideration of the item. For further advice please speak with the Assistant Director of Corporate

Agenda Item 3

All minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the committee/panel. To find out the date of the next meeting please check the calendar of events at your local library or online at www.merton.gov.uk/committee.

COUNCIL
9 JULY 2014
(19.15 - 21.07)

PRESENT The Mayor of Merton, Councillor Agatha Mary Akyigyina
The Deputy Mayor of Merton, Councillor Laxmi Attawar

Councillors: Stephen Alambritis, Mark Allison, Stan Anderson, Hamish Badenoch, John Bowcott, Michael Bull, Adam Bush, Tobin Byers, Charlie Chirico, David Chung, Caroline Cooper-Marbiah, Pauline Cowper, Stephen Crowe, Mary Curtin, David Dean, John Dehaney, Nick Draper, Edward Foley, Brenda Fraser, Fidelis Gadzama, Ross Garrod, Suzanne Grocott, Jeff Hanna, Joan Henry, Daniel Holden, James Holmes, Janice Howard, Mary-Jane Jeanes, Abigail Jones, Philip Jones, Andrew Judge, Sally Kenny, Linda Kirby, Abdul Latif, Najeeb Latif, Brian Lewis-Lavender, Gilli Lewis-Lavender, Edith Macauley, Russell Makin, Maxi Martin, Peter McCabe, Oonagh Moulton, Ian Munn, Katy Neep, Dennis Pearce, John Sargeant, Judy Saunders, David Simpson, Marsie Skeete, Peter Southgate, Geraldine Stanford, Linda Taylor, Imran Uddin, Gregory Udeh, Peter Walker, Jill West, Martin Whelton and David Williams.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

No apologies were made.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST (Agenda Item 2)

No declarations were made

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 4 JUNE 2014 (Agenda Item 3)

It was noted that on page 2 that there was an error in respect of the Mayor's consorts, as the word 'Councillor' was included, when it should not have been and therefore needed to be removed. The Minute should read:

The Mayor announced that her consorts would be Charles Ocansey, Teresa Ocansey and Charlie Ocansey.

RESOLVED:

That with the inclusion of the above revision the minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held on 4 June 2014 were agreed as a correct record.

4. MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 4 JUNE 2014 (Agenda Item 4)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Special meeting of the Council held on 4 June 2014 were agreed as a correct record.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE (Agenda Item 5)

The Mayor made a presentation of the Local Government Chronicle award for Innovation to an officer from the Council's direct payments team, as they had won the award earlier this year.

The Mayor also provided the Council with an update of how her term in Office had gone so far.

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS (Agenda Item 6)

The responses to the written public questions were circulated prior to the meeting. The Mayor then invited each of the questioners in turn to ask (if they wished) a supplementary question to the appropriate Cabinet Member.

A copy of the supplementary questions and the responses would be included within the 'Public questions to Cabinet Members' published document.

7. COUNCILLORS' ORDINARY PRIORITY QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS (Agenda Item 7)

The responses to the Members' ordinary priority questions were circulated prior to the meeting. The Mayor then invited each of those Councillors in turn to ask (if they wished) a further supplementary question to the Cabinet Member

A copy of the supplementary questions and the responses would be included within the 'Councillors' ordinary priority questions' to cabinet members published document.

(a) STRATEGIC THEME: COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS (Agenda Item 8a)

The responses to the Members' strategic theme priority questions were circulated prior to the meeting. The Mayor then invited each of those Councillors in turn to ask (if they wished) a further supplementary question to the Cabinet Member

A copy of the supplementary questions and the responses would be included within the 'Strategic theme: Councillors' questions to cabinet members' published document.

(b) STRATEGIC THEME: MAIN REPORT (Agenda Item 8b)

RESOLVED:

That the report is agreed

(c) STRATEGIC THEME MOTION (Agenda Item 8c)

The motion was moved by Councillor David Dean and seconded by Councillor Hamish Badenoch.

The Labour amendment, as set out in item 19a was moved by Councillor Andrew Judge and seconded by Councillor Russell Makin.

The amendment was then put to the vote and was carried – votes in favour 37, and votes against 20 with 3 abstentions

The substantive resolution was agreed.

RESOLVED:

The Council's Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan states in the introduction that

“it is vital that we take action to...preserve a quality of life for subsequent generations.”

Labour's political leadership has genuine plans to improve the environment in this borough.

This Council notes that the most recent Annual Residents Survey revealed that:

- For the first time since 1995 when these records began, due to our 4 year council tax freeze, concern about council tax is at its lowest level ever and instead litter/dirt on Merton's streets has replaced this as a concern with a 6% increase in residents saying it is a concern compared to 2012, which is significantly higher than the London average. Nonetheless, resident satisfaction with street cleaning has risen under the current administration. In 2009/2010, under the previous Conservative administration, research by the GMB based on official government data named Merton as the dirtiest borough in the country. Council notes that since this low point under the Conservative administration, the Labour administration elected in May 2010 have prioritised street cleaning, introducing a new free bulky waste collection service, rolling out the free borough-wide food waste service,

investing in 200 new butt and gum bins, and increasing enforcement against those who drop litter in our streets. Detritus on the streets went from 31% under the Conservatives in 2009/10 to 6% currently. The recent Public Value Review survey carried out by BMG Research, a leading national Market Research organisation showed that 72% of residents would describe Merton streets as clean.

- 43% of residents in Wimbledon town centre and 44% of residents in Colliers Wood town centre are satisfied with the way the council deals with fly tipping although the administration acknowledges that the problem of people fly tipping has not yet been solved. There were 6 successful prosecutions for fly tipping in 2013-14 compared to 31 in 2009-10, however rates of fly tipping remain below the level of fly-tipping in 2009/10 under the previous Conservative administration, which is testament to the success of our free bulky waste collection.
- 50% of residents are satisfied with the way the council deals with dog fouling and the council has recently piloted a new “any bin will do” initiative in Colliers Wood which is due to be rolled out borough wide. There have been no statistically significant changes in levels of satisfaction with the council’s street cleaning service and recycling facilities, both of which are now above the outer London average. This fits with the research by BMG which found that 72% of residents thought Merton was a clean borough.

This Council further notes that the recycling rate in 2009/10 under the previous Conservative administration was 33% but under the current Labour administration this has risen to almost 40% which is in the top third of London boroughs and compares favourably with Wandsworth (28.4%) or Westminster (25.1%).

In the last four years this administration has:

- extended the kitchen waste recycling service to cover all 80,000 households;
- introduced doorstep recycling collection of mixed plastics and aluminium foil;
- implemented litter bins that enable 'on street' recycling;
- launched Merton's Mega Recycle in March to encourage recycling through the use of cash prizes.
- won funds to roll out a food waste collection to every school in the borough
- played a leading role in the proposals for an energy from waste plant operated on behalf of the South London Waste Partnership , which will replace energy produced by fossil fuels and generate heat that can be used by local businesses and homes. It will also bring an end to the polluting use of landfill at Beddington and enable the site to be remediated.

This Council recognises that Merton has undertaken the following projects to take advantage of renewable energy through solar panels and reap the rewards of feed in tariffs on its buildings and those of its partners like Circle Housing Merton Priory:

- (i) Coldbusters: 180 household grants totalling £760k approved for energy efficiency improvements in priority and vulnerable households across the borough.
- (ii) London Warm Zone: £211k invested in providing free loft and cavity wall insulation for 874 households with tenants or homeowners aged 65 or over and in receipt of qualifying benefits.
- (iii) Osborne Energy scheme: £46k invested in efficiency measures in 150 households in Colliers Wood aged 70 or over and in receipt of qualifying benefits.
- (iv) Re-New London: £183k invested in energy saving measures across 1602 households across the borough.
- (v) The Phipps Bridge Low Carbon Zone engaged 800 households and helped to deliver 12-16% carbon savings.

The total households improved through these schemes numbers 3,606 compared to just 2,439 homes nationally that have been improved through the Government's flagship Green Deal.

Council further notes:

- the new solar panel systems that have been installed across the borough since 2011, including on Canons Leisure Centre, Pollards Hill Library and nine primary schools, and will generate around 720 megawatt hours of electricity a year, helping to save money by reducing the council's electricity bills as well as reducing carbon. The comparator figure for the last Conservative administration was nil.
- the Combined Heat and Power plant installed in the Civic Centre in 2011 to generate heat and electricity and our explorations as to how the advantage of locally produced energy can assist a much wider group of residents, schools, community groups and businesses.
- the Labour administration kickstarted the micro-renewables industry in Britain in 2003 through the Merton Rule. Now we are continuing our cutting edge approach to tackling climate change through our planning policies. e.g we are ensuring that new developments are designed and built to high sustainability standards in order to limit future CO2 emissions. Policy CS15 outlines the minimum requirements in relation to environmental sustainability, including resource use, materials, water and CO2 emissions. All new developments are required to explore and utilise opportunities for district heat and power networks and achieve Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4 or BREEAM 'Very Good'. A good example of what can be achieved through our an excellent planning approach is that we crafted when we sold land at Rowan Park in Longthornton which has resulted in an exemplary sustainable development of 217 homes and community facilities including solar PV, CHP, a sustainable drainage system of swales, reed beds and balancing ponds and a new park. (national Project Winner at the 2012 Housing Design Awards)
- the administration has signed up to a partnership with Transport for London to deliver electric vehicle charging points and we intend to explore a number of potential on street charging points in Wimbledon Town centre over the coming year. Furthermore, Merton's new Sites and Policies Plan which is to be adopted by

full Council on 9 July introduces a new policy (CS20) to promote the installation of electric vehicle charging points in new developments in Merton.

This Council notes that the Climate Change Action Plan 2014-17 has been approved by a cross party scrutiny panel. This Council calls on the administration to:

- a) adopt Merton's Climate Change Strategy and thereby deliver a comprehensive environmental plan with quantifiable objectives and actions to help deliver improvements to the quality of life of Merton's residents.
- b) continue to monitor PM10s and keep abreast of any changes from the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs which is responsible for measuring and reducing polluting PM2.5 (all particulates that are up to 2.5 micrometres in diameter) to the legal limits.
- c) continue with its ambitious plans to increase recycling including green waste.
- d) continue working with TfL to introduce electrical charging points for cars to help de-carbonise transport.
- e) continue to focus on improved and more robust enforcement of fly tipping across the borough.

8. STRATEGIC THEME MOTION: LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC MOTION (AGENDA ITEM 8C (2)) (Agenda Item 19)

The motion was moved by Councillor Mary-Jane Jeanes.

The motion was not seconded, and the motion as a result falls.

9. REPORT FROM RAYNES PARK COMMUNITY FORUM (Agenda Item 9)

Councillor David Dean presented the report, which was received by the Council.

10. NOTICE OF MOTION 1 - CONSERVATIVE (Agenda Item 10)

The motion was moved by Councillor Abdul Latif and seconded by Councillor Gilli Lewis-Lavender.

The Labour amendment, as set out in item 19b was moved by Councillor Stephen Alambritis and seconded by Councillor Sally Kenny.

The amendment was then put to the vote and was carried – votes in favour 53, and votes against 0 with 6 abstentions

The substantive resolution was agreed.

RESOLVED:

That Council notes that Merton residents and others with connections to Merton are frequently honoured by Her Majesty the Queen in her Birthday and New Years Honours Lists. Council congratulates all those who have been recipients in the past. Given her recent passing and the significant impact she had on the civic and community life of the borough, Council particularly notes the MBE awarded posthumously last year to Chris Frost.

Council specifically congratulates those who have been honoured in the Birthday and New Years Honours lists since June 2010:

- Joyce Andrews, volunteer swimming teacher at Wimbledon and Merton Swimming Club, awarded an MBE
- Jenny Archer, sports coach to six time Olympic gold medallist David Weir, awarded an MBE for services to athletics
- Dr Richard Barker, former Director of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, awarded an OBE
- James Bennet, awarded an MBE for charity work with the Prince's Trust and Action for Children
- Robert Bieber, awarded an MBE for services to the voluntary sector
- James Cochrane, Chair of British Red Cross, awarded a CBE for services to health
- Barry Cox, Chair of Digital UK, awarded a CBE for services to media and digital TV
- Professor David Delpy, awarded a CBE for services to engineering and scientific research
- Marion Friend, Chair of Wimbledon Symphony Orchestra, awarded an MBE for services to musical education
- Honor Godfrey, Curator of Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum, awarded an OBE
- DCI Caroline Goode, who led the investigation into the murder of Banaz Mahmod, awarded the Queen's Police Medal for Distinguished Service
- Prof Judith Freedman, awarded a CBE for services to tax research
- Dr Howard Freeman, Chairman of Merton Clinical Commissioning Group and the London Clinical Commissioning Council, awarded an MBE for services to Primary Care
- Philip Froomberg, volunteer for Soldiers, Sailors, Airman and Families Association of Veterans, awarded the British Empire Medal

- Keith Grimshaw, awarded an MBE for services to National Savings and Investments and the magistracy
- Andrew Gairdner, Chief Steward All England Club, awarded an MBE
- Rosemary Hickson, awarded the British Empire Medal for services to the community
- Sophie Hosking, Olympic gold medal winner, awarded an MBE for services to rowing
- Michael Hourahine, security officer, awarded an OBE for services to the Cabinet Office
- Judith Ish-Horowicz, Head of Wimbledon Synagogue school, awarded an MBE
- Stephen Jack, Chair of the Independent Living Fund, awarded an OBE
- Fiona Jeffery, Head of international water charity Not a Drop, awarded an OBE
- Dr Kanwaljit Kaur-Singh, Chair of the British Sikh Education Council, awarded an MBE for services to education and inter-faith understanding
- Dr Kenton Lewis, Partnership Manager at St George's University, awarded an MBE for services to higher education
- Cllr Edith Macauley JP, awarded an MBE for services to the community
- Karl Mackie, Chief Executive of the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution, awarded a CBE
- Selina Master, awarded an MBE for her work with vulnerable people and improving dental health
- Sylvia Morris, Headteacher, made a Dame
- Indira Patel, Commissioner on the Women's National Commission, made a Dame
- Martin Rumsey, civil servant, awarded an MBE for services to the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills
- Peter Steiner, Vice President of Merton and Morden Guild of Social Services, awarded the British Empire Medal
- Paul Strank, roofer, awarded an MBE for services to charity and the community

- Christopher Townsend, Commercial Director of LOCOG, awarded an OBE for services to the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

11. ADOPTION OF MERTON'S SITES AND POLICIES PLAN (Agenda Item 11)

RESOLVED

That Council:

A). adopts Merton's Sites and Policies Development Plan Document and Policies Map replacing the remaining policies in Merton's Unitary Development Plan and Proposals Map 2003.

B). delegates authority to the Director of Environment and Regeneration to deal with all the necessary adoption documents and other consequential matters in accordance with the appropriate Regulations.

12. ADOPTION OF LBM CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY (2014-2017) (Agenda Item 12)

The report and its recommendations were moved by Councillor Andrew Judge and seconded by Councillor Russell Makin, which was put to the vote and was carried – votes in favour 38, and votes against 20, with 2 abstentions.

RESOLVED:

That Council adopts the Merton's Climate Change Strategy (2014-2017), having noted the recommendations of the scrutiny review of Climate Change and the Green Deal.

13. CIRCLE HOUSING MERTON PRIORY: REGENERATION PROJECT (Agenda Item 13)

The report and its recommendations were moved by Councillor Stephen Alambritis and seconded by Councillor Peter McCabe.

The Conservative amendment, as set out in item 19c was moved by Councillor Janice Howard and seconded by Councillor David Williams

The amendment was then put to the vote and was unanimously supported.

The substantive resolution was agreed.

RESOLVED:

That the Council:

1. were updated on due diligence undertaken over the past six months by the London Borough of Merton (LBM) and Circle Housing Merton Priory (CHMP) officers working together.
2. notes the significant opportunity this project represents to improve housing conditions for tenants, leaseholders and freeholders and the potential contribution to addressing wider housing provision pressures in Merton and London.
3. further notes however the concerns expressed by various tenants, leaseholders and freeholders about different aspects of the project, including the proposed increase in housing density on the estates, and therefore resolves to listen and take account of residents' clear preference for quality homes that people want to live in with private gardens and to learn from the mistakes of the past by ensuring that any redevelopment of Merton's estates contains a good social mix of housing tenure, which is sustainable for the future.
4. agrees to proceed with exploration of estate regeneration schemes for Eastfields, High Path and Ravensbury via:
 - (a) preparation, in partnership with Circle Housing Merton Priory of a statutory Estate Regeneration Local Plan Document setting out the strategic planning framework to guide any estate regeneration proposals;
 - (b) consideration of the Council's statutory powers where appropriate, to help deliver the proposed Estates Regeneration Local Plan.
5. adopts the revisions to Merton's Local Development Scheme as the project plan and timetable to prepare the proposed Estates Regeneration Local Plan, subject to the Mayor of London's approval.
6. suspends the obligation in the Stock Transfer Agreement dated 22 March 2010 ("Transfer Agreement") on the part of CHMP to carry out the Qualifying Works (as defined in the Transfer Agreement) at High Path (South Wimbledon), Eastfields (Mitcham) and Ravensbury (Morden) to comply with the Decent Homes Standard for a period of up to 18 months subject to there being no legal objection or obstacle, to enable CHMP to explore the viability of estate regeneration schemes for the above estates, an agreed programme to regenerate the subject properties and the planning position being concluded including the formulation of an Estates Regeneration Local Plan. The period of suspension will commence from the date of 9th July 2014 and will also have regard to the date upon which the Deed of Variation is completed.
7. undertakes to full and comprehensive consultation throughout the process with existing tenants, leaseholders and freeholders as well as any other affected parties, and that the Director of Environment and Regeneration in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environmental Sustainability and Regeneration be authorised to approve consultation documents prior to public consultation, publish the Local Development Scheme (subject to its approval by the Mayor of London and other consequential matters in accordance with the appropriate Regulations).

8. recommends, in view of the serious concerns that have been expressed by a number of residents and councillors about lack of oversight of this important project and uncertainty about its financial implications as well as about standards of responsiveness and quality of repairs undertaken by CHMP, that:

(a) the whole CHMP Regeneration Project comes before the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel for review on a regular basis; and

(b) CHMP is required to provide to each meeting of the Sustainable Communities Panel written reports containing resident satisfaction rates with the quality and speed of repairs; the number of outstanding repairs; and the percentage of homes now falling below the Merton Standard.

14. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (LGPS) 2014 - EMPLOYER DISCRETIONS (Agenda Item 14)

RESOLVED:

That Council agrees:

A). not to exercise the discretion on Shared Cost Additional Pension Contributions – (SCAPCs) or Shared Contribution AVCs (SCAVCs) but to review annually.

B). to exercise the discretionary power to continue to adopt a Flexible Retirement policy from 1 April 2014 but only to exercise the discretionary power to waive the actuarial reduction in exceptional cases where the Director of Corporate Services considers it to be justified on financial, equal opportunity or other relevant grounds.

C). not to waive the actuarial reduction for early payment of pension benefits at the request of a current employee but to review annually.

D). not to exercise the discretion to 'switch on' the 85 year rule for members who choose to voluntarily draw their benefits from age 55 (but to review annually).

E). not to use the discretion to award additional pension contributions, but to review annually.

F). to continue the discretion to continue the provision for deferred benefits to be brought into payment on compassionate grounds for pre 2014 deferred members. The discretion will not normally be exercised, but the Director of Corporate Services will consider applications.

15. CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND RELATED MATTERS (Agenda Item 15)

RESOLVED:

That Council:

- A). notes the changes to the membership of Committees approved under delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council;
- B). notes the revised terms of reference for the Corporate Parenting Group, including how this relates to Councillors' membership in the future.
- C). agrees that the current membership of the South West London Joint Health and Scrutiny Overview and Committee, namely Councillor Peter McCabe and Councillor Brian Lewis-Lavender (substitute Councillor Brenda Fraser) should represent Merton on the new standing Joint Health Scrutiny Committee until Council has an opportunity to agree its constitution and formally appoint members.
- D). constitutes the establishment of a Joint Committee for the shared Regulatory Service with London Borough of Merton (lead authority) with the other participating authorities, and agrees to the appoint two Members to this joint committee.
- E). agrees to appoints a Councillor to fill the Council position on the South West London and St. George's Mental HealthTrust – Council of Governors

16. PETITIONS (Agenda Item 16)

No petitions were presented.

17. BUSINESS FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL (Agenda Item 17)

RESOLVED:

That the Strategic Theme for the next ordinary meeting of the Council to be held on 10 September 2014 shall be Public Health.

In closing the meeting the Mayor apologised to the new councillor who was not given as much time as expected, and that this would be addressed at a future meeting.

Committee: Council

Date: 10 September 2014

Wards: All

Subject: Strategic Theme Report – Healthier Communities (with particular reference to Embedding Public Health – one year on from transition)

Lead officer: Kay Eilbert Director of Public Health

Lead member: Councillor Caroline Cooper Marbiah, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health

Contact officer: Kay Eilbert kay.eilbert@merton.gov.uk

Recommendations:

A. That Council consider the content of the report.

1.1 Council at its meeting on 6 March 2013 approved the Business Plan 2013-2016.

The Business Plan represents the way in which the council will deliver the Sustainable Community Strategy, which is grouped into five strategic themes (sustainable communities, safer and stronger communities, healthier communities, older people, children and young people). Performance against these themes, plus an additional theme of corporate capacity, is monitored by Council.

1.2 Each meeting of Council will receive a report updating on progress against one of these strategic themes. This report provides Council with an opportunity to consider progress against the priorities that are to be delivered under healthier communities theme – with a specific focus on the work of the Public Health team following transition to the Council.

1.3 The ambition for the theme as outlined in the Council's Business Plan 2013-17 is to 'improve health outcomes, maintain robust safeguarding, improve educational outcomes, promote children and young people's positive contribution and their economic wellbeing'. In respect of the specific healthier communities focus of this report 'to work over the next five years in partnership to stem the increase in inequalities in health across Merton, providing greater opportunities for everyone to be healthy'.

1.4 The key portfolio holder is the Cabinet Member for education, Councillor Caroline Cooper Marbiah

1.5 The Business Plan can be viewed at www.merton.gov.uk/businessplan

2. DETAILS

Poverty is bad for your health – Office for National Statistics July 2014

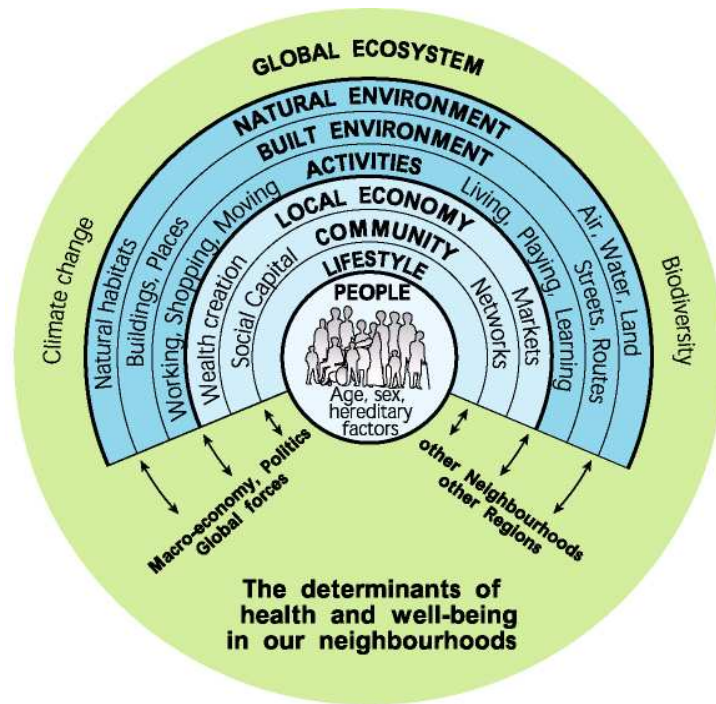
The Office for National Statistics has said that millions of people are destined to die nine years earlier than they should because they are poor. Males in the most deprived part of the population - the bottom decile - are set to die before they reach 74 years old '73.8' - almost a decade earlier than those in the top decile, who can expect to live until they are 83 years old '82.9'. Females share a similar fate, with those born in the bottom decile expected to die by the time they are 79 years old, seven years earlier than the most affluent '85.9'.

Public Health following transition.

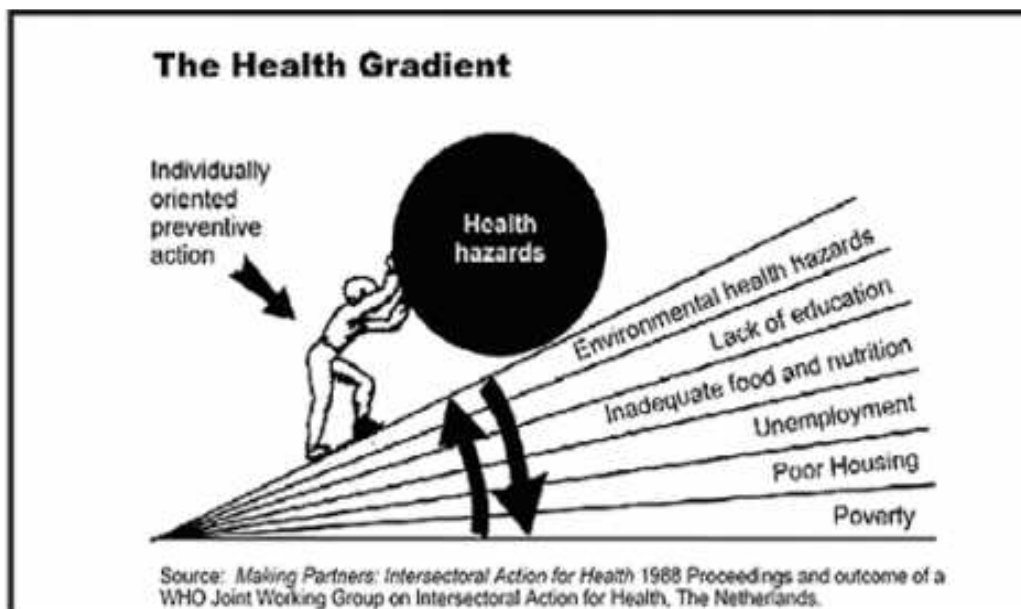
- This report provides an update following the first year of Public Health moving to the Council in April 2013. It focuses on the work to date, and that planned, to address inequalities in health and to work more widely to tackle the causes of those inequalities.
- Building on the well established work of Merton Partnership and others, the Public Health team has worked across the Council and beyond, focussing on reducing the significant health inequalities that exist across Merton and the determinants of health which influence these.
- Working as part of the local authority has opened up exciting opportunities to work on the factors that create health, such as the environment in which we live. This broadens the traditional focus on health care and lifestyles to a wider approach to prevention. The challenge is to raise awareness of the influence of Council services on health effectively and for Councillors as well as officers to act as advocates for good health in all we do.
- This focus on prevention, addressing the influences on health is also increasingly reflected in the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board and will be taken forward through the forthcoming review of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

2.1 Introduction - What is health?

- 2.1.1 For the benefit of new members who did not receive the Public Health Strategic Theme Report in April we are restating the factors that make up good health.
- 2.1.2 As can be seen in the diagram below, health is about putting in place the conditions in which people can be healthy. People's health and wellbeing is strongly influenced by the conditions in which they live and work. Health inequalities are created by inequalities in wider society, for example in unequal opportunities for a good education and a good job.



- 2.1.3 In fact, health care and social care services and our biology only account for about 20-30% of our health and wellbeing. While these services are important to help those who become ill or disabled to re-establish their independence as far as possible, the rest is mainly determined by the social and physical environments in which we live. If all inequalities in access to health care services were eliminated, there would still be health inequalities that are created by the wider environment.
- 2.1.4 The 2010 Marmot review of health inequalities recommended working across the life course - prioritising the early years (because the habits that children develop influence their health outcomes as adults), through working age to a thriving retirement. We have adopted this approach, focusing on reducing the significant health inequalities that exist within Merton and the social determinants which influence these inequalities.
- 2.1.5 The figure below shows that we must combine efforts to provide information and services to enable individuals to take responsibility for their own lifestyle choices – but they can only make healthy choices where options are available. The Council has numerous levers to improve availability of healthy options, through for example planning and licensing.



2.2 Public Health as part of Merton Council

2.2.1 As previously reported to Council, since transition in April 2013 the Public Health team has been forging new partnerships, seeking opportunities to address the significant health inequalities in Merton and to embed prevention in everyone's work in the Council and beyond.

The current year sees these priorities continuing with particular focus on integration, joining up services effectively and embedding public health in Council services, and on prevention, addressing the wider determinants of health that lead to health inequalities.

2.2.2 Merton Council inherited a relatively small Public Health budget and team, which has worked to make public health as effective as possible, while realising that we have to work differently and more efficiently within limited resources. This has been enhanced by a strengthened Public Health team, bringing new expertise that allows a greater focus on building the evidence base and promoting prevention.

During 2013-14, the Public Health team reviewed inherited contracts including school nursing, community dietetics and falls prevention. During 2014-15, we continue this review for contracts covering sexual health.

2.2.3 Opportunities remain to embed and increase engagement with partners and communities building capacity to address the wider determinants of health. During times of financial pressure, Public Health approaches offer ways to improve the quality of people's lives, while saving money in the medium to long term.

2.2.4 Further details of Council services influences on health and wellbeing are included in Appendix 3.

2.3 The Public Health Approach

- 2.3.1 The Public Health vision for Merton over the next five years remains to stem the increase in the significant health inequalities that exist between the East and West of Merton, providing more equal opportunities for all residents of Merton to be healthy.
- 2.3.2 In addition to providing public health support and advice, the Public Health team is working to make health everyone's business - working with partners, in the Council, Merton Clinical Commissioning Group and the voluntary sector – embedding health concerns in policies and contracting and training frontline staff as Health Champions across Merton.
- 2.3.3 Public Health has taken this approach to the Health and Wellbeing Board, which has placed a greater emphasis on prevention; for example plans are in place to establish a Harm Prevention sub group to the Health and Wellbeing Board.. Work is also currently underway to establish the evidence base for targeted place based approaches to tackling health inequalities.
- 2.3.4 There is an increasing recognition, at national policy as well as local level, that prevention is key to sustainability and that prevention will need to be a core focus of HWBs moving forward.

2.4 Public Health Mandatory Work

Local authority responsibilities for public health include mandatory functions and services:

- Developing the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), which commissioners must use as the basis for their commissioning decisions. The JSNA sets out the health and social care needs of residents, as well as information on the environment in which people live. The JSNA is available online at <http://www.merton.gov.uk/health-social-care/publichealth/jsna.htm>
- Supporting the Health and Wellbeing Board and leading on Merton Health and Wellbeing Strategy which will be refreshed in 2015. Public Health is also leading on the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment which is currently underway.
- Producing the Director of Public Health's annual report on the health of the people in Merton which will be published in September.
- Commissioning or providing local mandatory services, i.e.,
 - sexual health services,
 - National Child Measurement Programme,
 - NHS Health Checks
 - Assuring health protection functions, such as immunisations, screening and pandemic flu through the DPH

- Providing public health advice to Merton Clinical Commissioning Group (MCCG)

2.5 Working with Merton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

- Public Health has worked with Merton CCG to advocate a focus on the east of the borough. The CCG is now developing a new model of care in East Merton and have agreed to pilot a 'Proactive GP Practice' model in the East of the borough.
- Public Health is supporting Merton CCG priorities with Public Health staff participating in five (Children. Early Detection and Management, Elderly and Vulnerable Adults – Merton Model, Mental Health and Prevention) of the six CCG Priority Groups achieving a close working relationship and bringing the public health approach of evidence based work. Within this, we are collaborating on needs assessments for weight management and adult mental health.
- The Director of Public Health contributes to Merton CCG through membership on the Board and Executive Team.

2.6 Working across the Council

CMT agreed a budget and plan for Public Health for a programme of activities that focuses on embedding health cross Council Directorates. This includes:

- A Health Impact Assessment policy for the whole Council, starting with pilot HIAs. A process for delivering this across Council work is being considered by management for delivery in 2014.
- Work with procurement to embed health concerns in LBM contracts as part of the Social Value requirement for the Council.
- Signing up the Council to the London Healthy Workplace Charter that supports and recognises employers who invest in the health and wellbeing of their staff

2.6.1 Working with Children

- A review into Children's Centres has been completed and now investment is being placed in training staff to deliver best practice. In addition, the work focuses on bringing together the different cadres of staff who deliver services to children including GPs, children's centre staff, health visitors, midwives with links to school nurses.
- Work with East Merton school clusters on support for Healthy Schools, including a core offer and additional support that schools can buy in. Broader borough wide work includes increasing the numbers of children using Free School Meals and weight management for children and families

2.6.2 Working with Adults

- Investment in ESOL (English as a second language) and Ageing Well, both increasing residents ability to remain as independent as possible and participate in community life.
- Development of a Healthy Weight Strategy for Merton – identified as a priority and a gap in services by developing a multi-agency comprehensive Healthy Weight framework for Merton for both adults and children
- Support to improve partner use of needs analysis and evidence to guide commissioning decisions. Public Health is proposing development of a 'knowledge hub' to provide services across the Council..

2.7 **Public Health Wider Focus**

2.7.1 Health and Wellbeing Peer Challenge

In autumn 2013 Merton put itself forward as a pilot in the Health and Wellbeing Peer Challenge. The purpose of the Challenge was to support the Council in implementing its new statutory responsibilities through a systematic challenge by peers. The challenge focussed on the establishment of an effective Health and Wellbeing Board, the operation of Public Health and the establishment of HealthWatch, and provided feedback which included many positive and constructive comments. Merton was recognised for '*excellence and maturity in working with the voluntary sector through MVSC*' and for '*its clear strategy, enthusiasm and commitment to improving health and wellbeing of residents*'

Recommendations included the need for the Health and Wellbeing Board to maintain a focus on delivery with pace and public health to be fully embedded in Council service plans.

2.7.2 Merton Partnership Conference on Health Inequalities

The Health and Wellbeing Peer Challenge was followed by Merton Partnership conference 2013 focusing on health inequalities. The aim of MP Conference was 'to commit to new ways of working that will help reduce health inequalities in Merton'.

In November 80 people from the voluntary sector, the Merton Clinical Commissioning Group and the London Borough of Merton came together with Public Health to identify and to make commitments to address inequalities between the east and the west of Merton. Participants first agreed that all residents of Merton should have equal opportunities for a good life. The elements of a good life are:

1. Best Start in Life - early years development and strong educational achievement.
2. Good health – preventing illness, ensuring early detection of illness and accessing good quality health and social care.
3. Relevant life skills, lifelong learning and good work.
4. Community participation and feeling safe.
5. A good natural and built environment.

This work is the focus of the Director of Public Health Merton Annual Report 2013-14 and will be taken forward during the coming year.

2.7.3 Public Health Making Health Everyone's Business

In addition to the mandatory work that public health must deliver, a wider programme of initiatives has been developed in partnership across the Council, with Merton Clinical Commissioning Group, voluntary and other organisations, to address health inequalities and deliver prevention.

Examples of work are given below and the full Public Health high level work plan for 2014-15 is included in Appendix 1.

2.7.4 Working to Deliver Prevention

Public health also works to delivering a wider agenda that includes prevention:

- CMT agreed to implement a health impact assessment across all Council work following a pilot.
- Work has taken place with Environment and Regeneration, Planning and Licensing to identify opportunities to use these levers to improve prevention.
- A place based approach is under development in local communities to bring together Council work across directorates, within existing resources, to deliver a more effective package of services. This has the potential to lead to community ownership for defining their own priorities and for monitoring delivery.
- Embedding prevention in frontline staff by training all partners to act as Health Champions for brief advice and signposting to prevention services
- An Alcohol strategy is under development to work across prevention through to treatment, ensuring that this work addresses individual behaviours and environmental influences through planning and licensing, for example, as well as treatment services.

2.7.5 Working with the Voluntary Sector

- Community Health Champions work within the Livewell service through a range of community organisations representing different groups of residents mainly in the more deprived East of the borough. Community group members encourage their members to adopt healthier lifestyles and to take up prevention services. A My Health Guide provides information for Champions and opportunities for residents to make commitments to lifestyle changes.
- LiveWell provides training of front line workers to make every contact count by providing basic prevention advice and signposting to services. Training has been provided to fire fighters, library staff, and leisure centre staff.

2.8 Developing the Public Health team

- As previously reported, the Council inherited a small Public Health team and budget and argued successfully for a small increase in the allocation for public health. The allocation for 2014/15 is £9.2 million.
- The Public Health team will be up to full capacity by the end of September, with the addition of four public health specialists to work on children, older people, public health intelligence and prevention. Two posts will be shared with Merton Clinical Commissioning Group.
- This brings the total team to 12, still well below that of most London Public Health teams and brings the total investment for staff to about 10% of the total public health budget. The increased capacity is now beginning to provide additional public health expertise to support Council and MCCG work and foresee the addition of health visitors. A structure chart of the PH team is in Appendix 2.
- Following transition, Public Health agreed an integration approach, where Public Health staff work alongside colleagues across Directorates to add value to improve local people's health. There have been some successes in embedding Public Health in the Council but the actual configuration will be kept under review to ensure that it develops effectively to meet partner requirements.

2.9 Next Steps

- 2.9.1 The Public Health TOM (Target Operating Model) will be finalised by the end of 2014, effectively integrating Public Health into the Council, demonstrated by, for example, taking on certain Safer Merton functions, considering a future Public Health role as a 'knowledge hub' for the Council and identifying further opportunities to take forward the role of Public Health in the Council up to and beyond 2015/16 when the ring fence is planned to be removed.
- 2.9.2 The focus on prevention and the wider determinants to tackle health inequalities will be translated into a number of initiatives by the Public Health team. This focus will be reflected in the forthcoming review and refresh of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2015.
- 2.9.3 A strong evidence base will be established through the new Joint Strategic Needs Assessment now a live document, constantly updated with newly available data. Wider contributions to, and use of, this resource will be encouraged across the Council as part of the proposed knowledge hub, and to partners as a robust source of intelligence to inform future policy development.
- 2.9.4 This evidence base will support a programme of Health Impact Assessments, piloted last year, to be developed to assess the impact on health of new policies and projects.
- 2.9.5 Public health will continue to work across our health partnerships in the Council, the MCCG and the voluntary sector by adding value to the work of each. It will seek new opportunities to embed health as everyone's business and use available levers and policies that impact on health.

2.9.6 The work of Public Health relates to that of all members and officers who can act as advocates for good health in all we do. Appendix 3 sets out a short summary of how each cabinet portfolio influences health and wellbeing.

3. Reports of Overview and Scrutiny Commission/Panels

3.1 The Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel has a keen interest in Public Health issues, the Director of Public Health will be invited to the September meeting to discuss their priorities for the year ahead. The Panel will also be scrutinising the refreshed Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

3.2 Local authorities have an important role in overseeing the immunisation and screening programmes by supporting the DPH assurance role of these services. The Panel received a report from NHS England on childhood immunisations and diabetic eye screening last year. Scrutiny of the cancer screening programme will take place in the spring. The scrutiny function has also received support from the Centre for Public Scrutiny to run a supported review on childhood immunisations. The task group, which consists of councillors from across the scrutiny panels, is holding an event with a wide range of partners in September to determine which aspect to focus on.

3.3 The Panel also received support and advice from the Public Health team to run a review on physical activity amongst those who are fifty five plus. More work is taking place on this review, beginning with a comprehensive audit of the services available to this group.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

4.1 Not applicable – this report is for information only

5. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

5.1 Public Health has undertaken engagement for the refresh of the JSNA and other elements of the work programme.

6. TIMETABLE

6.1 Public Health transferred to the local authority from 1 April 2014

7. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no financial, resource or property implications arising from this information report. All related services are delivered within existing resources.

8. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no legal or statutory implications arising from this information report.

9. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Public Health is focused on tackling health inequalities across Merton and this is reflected in the vision of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

10.1 No specific implications for the purpose of this report.

11. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 No specific implications for the purpose of this report.

12. APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

Appendix 1 Public Health Workplan 2014-15

Appendix 2 Public Health Team Structure Chart

Appendix 3 Council Services influence on health and wellbeing

13. BACKGROUND PAPERS

2013 – 2017 Merton Business Plan

Merton Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Appendix 1 - London Borough of Merton

Public Health Directorate Workplan 2014-15

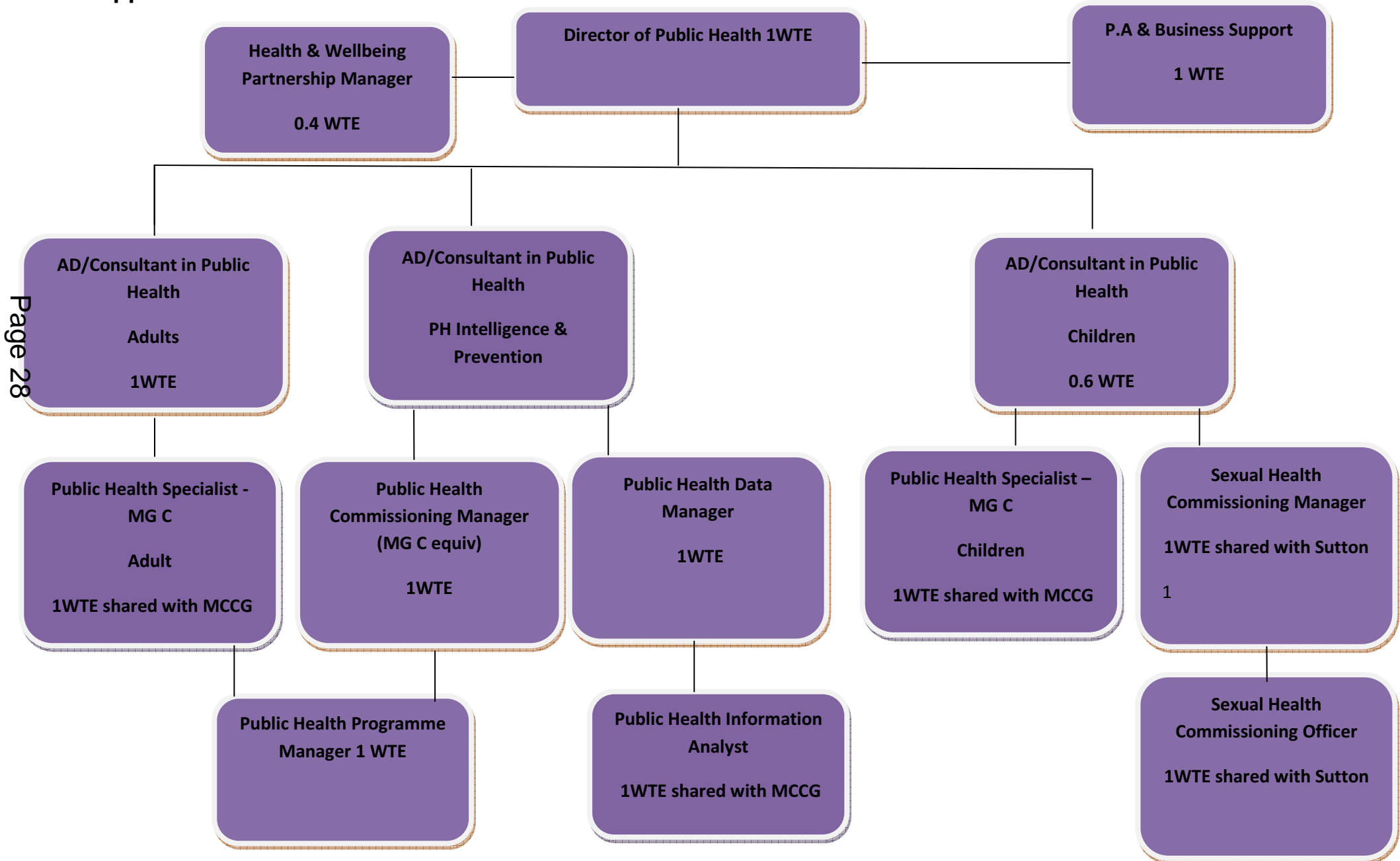
Area	Task	Evidence of Success	Responsibility	Comment
Embed Public Health across the Health and Wellbeing partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise profile and understanding of public health in LBM and across partnership • Develop strategies to make 'health everyone's business' • Undertake 3-4 in-depth needs assessment and/or strategy development e.g, weight management and alcohol in partnership with key stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners understand their contribution to health • Public health concerns embedded in contracts; e.g., leisure • Frontline staff trained to provide prevention messages and signposting 	DPH and Public Health	
Provide leadership for public health in LBM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose strategies to embed public health across LBM; e.g, health impact assessment • Agree joint work and provide ongoing support across LBM directorates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIA policy agreed and being delivered • Public Health embedded across LBM with ongoing, effective relationships through 'workplans' agreed with each directorate • Evidence-based strategies and action plans 	DPH, PH team and CMT	
Produce annual public health report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decide theme and prepare report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Public Health Report available 	DPH	
Review public health team function within LBM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake review and develop options paper. Finalise TOM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMT agreed option delivered 	DPH in consultation with team and Simon Williams	

Area	Task	Evidence of Success	Responsibility	Comment
Develop annual workplan for public health to deliver the mandated services as a minimum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff in team propose and agree objectives Discussions with CCG to agree PH inputs Build staff objectives into annual workplan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual workplan agreed by CMT 	Public health team, DPH with partners	
Oversee directorate budget , ensuring expenditure stays within budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure 2014/15 budget reflects full cost of transferred services Work with CMT to agree use of 2013/14 underspend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2014/15 budget agreed – roll over of 2013/14 budget Use of underspend agreed 	DPH and LBM finance CMT	
Ensure robust services are contracted for 2014-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete reviews of services inherited from the NHS Develop contracts for services/posts agreed for recurrent PH budget Using recommendations of reviews, procure coordinated services across evidence-based pathways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviews finalised with recommendations Pilot services in place 2014/15 2014/15 services procured in timely manner 	PH team	
Ensure robust performance management in place for all contracts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree KPIs for each service contract Agree regular performance management arrangements for each contract Participate in multi-borough contract monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All contracts are performance managed on robust KPIs 	PH team	
Ensure monitoring data provided as required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree public health monitoring data to be reported to C&H Provide monitoring data Make adjustments in delivery as indicated by data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service delivery is adjusted to reflect monitoring results 	PH team	

Area	Task	Evidence of Success	Responsibility	Comment
Develop good working relationships with key stakeholders in the Clinical Commissioning Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in MCCG Board and management • Agree Memorandum of Understanding • Agree annual workplan with MCCG, including two shared posts • Take Mitcham model of care forward with MCCG 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health providing appropriate support to 5 MCCG Operating Plan priorities • Mitcham model of care plans approved by DoH 	DPH and PH team	
Develop partnership with the voluntary sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree support to MVSC • General • Health champions • Address inequalities by identifying and delivering opportunities in East Merton – work with BME groups and Pollards Hill pilot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health seen as important partner • Contract in place with MVSC • Support being delivered to Health Champions • BME groups in E Merton providing support for older people • Pilot in Pollards Hill agreed and being delivered across partnership 	PH team	
Support the Health and Wellbeing Board and delivery of the Health and Wellbeing strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide public health leadership to HWB; including support such as development exercise(s) with external expertise • Refresh HWB strategy • Develop Harm Prevention sub-group for prevention to HWB agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well functioning HWB • HWB strategy reflects community plan more closely • Prevention firmly embedded in HWB agenda 	DPH and PH team Members of Harm Prevention group	

Area	Task	Evidence of Success	Responsibility	Comment
Ensure Joint Strategic Needs Assessment is updated regularly, using detailed needs assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update JSNA on a rolling basis • Work with LBM colleagues to standardise JSNA • Work with LBM colleagues to produce robust needs assessment; i.e., adult social care inequalities assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JSNA seen as LBM process to assess needs across the Council • JSNA provides most up-to-date analysis of health and social needs 	PH and LBM partners	
Provide local assurance for NHS England and Public Health England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assure in partnership robust plans for immunisations and screening, for example • Support health protection work, as required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robust local delivery of NHS England and Public Health England work 	DPH	

Appendix 2 - Public Health Team Structure Chart



Appendix 3 – Council Service Influences on Health and Wellbeing

1. Community Safety, Engagement and Equalities

Residents who live in areas of high crime may not feel safe to go outside to benefit from the positive effect of green spaces or access to opportunities for physical activity.

Crime rates affect people's sense of security and increase stress, which causes physical effects that can have damaging health consequences. Crime affects health in a number of ways - directly, indirectly and by influences on the health care system

Public Health is taking on responsibility for parts of Safer Merton including the Strategic Assessment.

Engagement

Social cohesion helps to protect people and their health and is defined as 'the quality of social relationships and the existence of trust, mutual obligations and respect in communities or in the wider society'. A breakdown in social cohesion may reduce trust, increase violence, increase health conditions such as heart disease and poor mental health.

Public Health is working with a range of colleagues and partners on a pilot engagement project in Pollards Hill involving the wider determinants of health.

Equalities

The link between health and equalities/inequalities is represented through the effect of deprivation on life expectancy. The more deprived, the shorter life expectancy and the more affluent, the longer life expectancy. It is not only deprivation but the inequalities in access to resources that influence our health.

Poverty and social inequality are two key factors in triggering violence, while social integration presents particular challenges for immigrants. Combined with feelings of being powerless to change their situation, these factors can all contribute to poor health outcomes by bringing about a stress response that raise heart rates.

Health inequalities across Merton is a core focus of the work of Public Health.

2. Community and Culture

Physical activity

People who are physically active have

- half the risk of heart disease than those with a sedentary lifestyle,
- 33–50% lower risks of type 2 diabetes and obesity (independent risk factors for heart disease)
- lower risk for stroke
- lower risk of colon cancer by up to 40–50% (with moderate activity – about 3–4 hours walking per week)
- lower risk of breast cancer by up to 30% (with 30 minutes walking a day reduces risk by 20%)
- increased life expectancy and healthy life expectancy

Public health is working on a range of projects including for example with leisure providers to ensure provision of healthy vending machines.

Housing

Housing quality is an important determinant of health and a marker for poverty. The condition of housing stock is a major influence on the borough's capacity to reduce inequality. Factors that create risks to health include

- the presence of lead, asbestos, and radon,
- house dust mites, cockroaches and other infestations;
- extreme low or high temperatures and inadequate ventilation,
- inferior air quality, dampness/mould,
- cramped conditions and multiple family occupancy,

Health outcomes that may result from these conditions include asthma and TB for physical health and mental health conditions, such as stress.

Public health is jointly leading health impact assessments on three regeneration projects.

3. Environmental Sustainability and Regeneration Services

Licensing

The move of Public Health to local government provides many new opportunities to use the levers under local government control that influence health. Licensing is an example of one of these levers that is particularly important for controlling alcohol harm in the borough, for example.

Physical Environments – open spaces, allotments, parks

Access to green, open spaces can have both physical health and psychological and mental health benefits, including reductions in stress levels.

Spatial planning and regeneration

Health improvement requires a two-pronged approach in this area; i.e., creating a built environment that offers healthy options for individuals to take responsibility for their own lifestyle choices.

Public Health is working with Planning to create a built environment that offers healthy options to, for example, fast food, alcohol and betting shop outlets.

4. Children's Services

The Marmot Review 'Fair Society, Healthy Lives (2010)' set out the case for focusing investment on early years. The Review advocated a life-course approach to tackling health inequalities, demonstrating that giving every child the best start in life is crucial to reducing health inequalities across the life-course. The reasons for this include

- Early childhood is the most important phase for overall development throughout the lifespan.
- Brain and biological development during the first years of life is highly influenced by an infant's environment.

- Early experiences determine health, education and economic participation for the rest of life.

Public Health is working with early years and schools to provide a healthy schools initiative.

5. Education

Educational qualifications are a key determinant of future employment and income. Education and income together represent the most significant influences on health.

Poor educational attainment is a key risk factor in teenage pregnancy, offending behaviour, truancy, levels of crime and alcohol and drug misuse. There are also clear links between attainment, absenteeism and both current and future health outcomes.

People with higher levels of education tend to have healthier lifestyles. Life expectancy is used as the main measure of health; evidence shows that additional years of life are added with each year of education.

Schools and colleges have an important role in promoting health and wellbeing for students, for example through provision of healthy schools meals, sport and physical activity, sex and relationship education, promotion of emotional wellbeing. Evidence shows that this can contribute to improving student performance as well as longer term health and wellbeing.

As outlined above Public Health is working in partnership on a Healthy Schools initiative.

6. Finance

Value for money

NICE (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) has produced ROI (returns on investment) tools for tobaccoⁱ and others are soon to be published on physical activity and on alcohol. NICE also has produced various costing and cost impact tools that could be used locally to assess the returns on investment for various public health initiatives where applicable.

Savings

Health Impact Assessments (HIA)ⁱⁱ are intended to inform new policies and decision making - by promoting the positive consequences for health and mitigating against the negative health consequences - which can lead to savings.

Pilot Health Impact Assessments have been mentioned above. Public Health will work to develop a corporate HIA policy.

Public Health is also working to embed health considerations in procurement

Human Resources

The London Healthy Workplace Charterⁱⁱⁱ provides a framework to support employers develop good practice by promoting health in their organisation in a practical way. It is coordinated by the GLA working in partnership with health experts in partner boroughs. Merton has agreed to sign up to the Charter and Public Health is working with colleagues to deliver this.

7. Environmental Cleanliness and Parking

Waste services and waste operation

Incinerators, such as the recently commissioned South London incinerator in Beddington Lane in Sutton^{iv} (which will serve Merton as well) can be controversial although Public Health England has done considerable research to establish the safety of incinerators^v. Recycling and sustainability are also important public health considerations^{vi}.

Public Health is working with litter enforcement officers who offer smokers who litter cigarette butts an option for referral into the smoking cessation service instead of being fined.

ⁱ <http://www.nice.org.uk/usingguidance/implementationtools/returnoninvestment/TobaccoROITool.jsp>

ⁱⁱ <http://www.apho.org.uk/default.aspx?RID=40141>

ⁱⁱⁱ <http://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/health/focus-issues/health-work-and-wellbeing>

^{iv}

http://www.suttonguardian.co.uk/news/10422261.South_London_incinerator_granted_planning_permission/

^v

<http://www.hpa.org.uk/ProductsServices/ChemicalsPoisons/IntegratedPollutionPreventionControlIppcIncineration/>

^{vi} <http://www.sdu.nhs.uk/>

LONDON BOROUGH OF MERTON ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION DEPARTMENT	
	<u>NOTES OF MEETING</u>
	Subject: Wimbledon Community Forum
	Date: 10th July 2014 Time: 19.15
In attendance	Councillor James Holmes – Chair; John Hill (Head of Public Protection) – Lead officer; Rana Bhutta – Consultation and Community Engagement Officer; Paul McGarry –Head of futureMerton (LBM); Councillor Andrew Judge, Councillor Abdul Latif, Councillor David Simpson, Councillor Suzanne Grocott, Councillor David Williams; Helen Clark-Bell (Love Wimbledon); 26 local residents
Action Needed By:	<p>1. <u>Welcome/Introductions</u></p> <p>1.1 Cllr. Homes welcomed all to the meeting at Mansel Road Community Centre and introduced himself as the councillor for Trinity ward in Wimbledon and the new Chair of the forum for 2014-15.</p> <p>1.2 Cllr. Holmes paid tribute to the previous chair of the forum, Henry Nelless, commenting that he now wished to build on and extend the work of the forum. JH is working with council officers to look at how to do this, e.g. building an online arena for discussion. Further feedback will be given to residents on this at future meetings.</p> <p>1.3 Each of the councillors in attendance introduced themselves and the ward they represent.</p>
	<p>2. <u>Minutes of last meeting/Update</u></p> <p>2.1 John Hill (JH) said that the issue of water ponding at Carluccio's in Wimbledon Village and Merton High St has now been resolved.</p> <p>2.2 Ride London takes place in various places around Merton on 10 August.</p> <p>2.3 Work has been done to the trees causing damage on Shelton Rd, but some trees are still to be cut down</p> <p>2.4 Residents had not been informed of works on Haydons Road and Quicks Road, so a newsletter was sent to inform them.</p> <p>2.5 The review of 20-30mph signage in the town centre is complete and recommendations from the review have been added to the 2014-15 work programme. Councillor Judge added that zones and</p>

<p>JH</p> <p>JH</p>	<p>limits are being reviewed across London but the police have said that they will not enforce 20mph zones at all in London and councils do not have the authority to enforce speed limits. The time frame for the London-wide review is not set by Merton council.</p> <p>2.6 Manufacturers of the uplighters opposite the train station have agreed to replace the faulty uplighters at no cost to the council. JH will chase Highways to find out when this will happen</p> <p>2.7 Regarding a property in South Park Road, the disabled bay was given approval by the council.</p> <p>2.8 No planning application has been received for the Marquis of Lorne. The planning department will update residents if and when an application is submitted.</p> <p>2.9 Pre-application meetings have been held with AFC Wimbledon/Galliard Homes re the Greyhound Stadium site but a formal application has not yet been submitted. Public consultation is being carried out by AFC. www.redevelopingploughlane.co.uk. The council has not received any contact from the Paschal Taggart Greyhound proposals.</p> <p>2.10 There was no update from the YMCA; no further pre-application discussions since last year's consultation.</p> <p>2.11 The manholes on Kingston Road leading towards South Wimbledon were reported to be uneven and in need of fixing. JH to report to Highways.</p> <p>2.12 Cllr. Judge explained that the Home Zone Light project in Shelton Road is not yet complete because of objections from businesses. As such, new options are being explored for informing drivers they are entering a residential area.</p>
	<p>3. <u>Future Wimbledon</u></p> <p>3.1 Cllr. Andrew Judge and Paul McGarry (PM) presented on the futureWimbledon town centre ideas competition www.futurewimbledon.co.uk</p> <p>3.2 Wimbledon Station is operates at capacity at peak times so investment from Crossrail 2 will ease congestion and no-doubt have the potential to improve Wimbledon Station but the full impact/benefit is not yet known. Network Rail is putting together preferred options for the tracks layout and station proposals. Consultation is live at www.crossrail2.co.uk.</p> <p>3.3 FutureWimbledon Ideas competition is an open competition to gather ideas for the future of Wimbledon; a partnership between</p>

<p>PM</p>	<p>Merton Council and Love Wimbledon.</p> <p>A public vote on the design ideas submitted for futureWimbledon; as part of the exhibition in Wimbledon town centre in autumn will ensure that residents have a say on the ideas. PM agreed to look into having a residents' representative on the judging panel, but highlighted the potential conflict as we're also inviting residents to submit ideas. The public vote on the exhibition display may be a suitable alternative. The competition will also be publicised to schools.</p> <p>3.4 PM encouraged residents to get involved in the Crossrail 2 consultation as well as the futureWimbledon design competition at www.futurewimbledon.co.uk and www.crossrail2.co.uk.</p>
	<p>4. <u>Soapbox</u></p> <p>4.1 Cllr. Judge clarified that the YMCA pre-app proposals hadn't been in line with council policy and neither the council nor Love Wimbledon had any involvement in the YMCA proposal that was put forward.</p> <p>4.2 A resident who had attended a public meeting held by 'We Want Wimbledon' regarding the greyhound stadium asked if the council would encourage the greyhound consortium to submit a proposal. PM explained that there are currently two consortia of developers: one in favour of a new greyhound stadium; one for AFC Wimbledon. Both propose to include flats of similar quantity; however the greyhound plans have not yet been discussed with the council. The key issue for development is who owns the land.</p> <p>4.3 Cllr. Judge added that council policy is to support sporting initiatives and stated that in principle, he personally would be in favour of the return of AFC to Wimbledon. He added that his support would not affect the council's final decision because he is not a member of the planning committee, which would decide on any applications.</p> <p>4.4 Cllr. Judge stated that any development on the Greyhound Stadium site, for any use, would need to take flooding and transport impact into account as part of the normal planning process.</p> <p>4.5 A council study on the possible capacity of a new stadium is available on Merton's website at www.merton.gov.uk/wimbledon_greyhound_stadium.</p> <p>4.6 Residents reported a problem with missed bin collections and spillage of rubbish on the streets when it is collected, particularly on Palmerston Road and other roads off The Broadway. JH said the council is aware of this problem and is trying to address it. Rubbish</p>

<p>JH</p> <p>JH</p> <p>JH</p> <p>Helen Clark-Bell/JH</p>	<p>on Haydons Road will be reported to the street cleaning team. Residents can use the council's 'Love Clean Streets' app to report rubbish.</p> <p>4.7 The proposed works in Hartfield Road are to reconstruct the road's surface because residents have been suffering vibrations due to a problem underneath the road surface. JH to follow up with Highways on providing a response to a local resident on what the works are for.</p> <p>4.8 Subject to availability an officer from the Council's CCTV team will present on the Council's Control Room at the next forum meeting.</p> <p>4.9 Benches and trees on Wimbledon Way were reported to be in poor condition. Helen Clark-Bell will ask local businesses to water the trees. JH to look into whether Section 106 money can be used to mend the trees.</p> <p>4.10 Residents are still contributing to the Lea Valley Regional Park. The council would like to see this amended but a Parliamentary Act would be required to repatriate the money.</p> <p>4.11 Cllr. Holmes was thanked by residents for chairing the meeting.</p>
--	--

COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2014

NOTICE OF MOTION

This Council welcomes the recent consultation on extending Tramlink so that it connects Merton to Sutton via Morden and Wimbledon.

In particular, this Council believes that, whilst the costs of the final route must clearly be affordable and deliver good value for money for the taxpayer, it is vital that the St Helier Hospital loop goes ahead in order to deliver improved access to the hospital for many local families and older residents. It is also vital that disruption to residents and local neighbourhoods is minimised and green spaces and playing fields are protected.

This Council therefore resolves to take every opportunity that arises:

- a) to press the case for the St Helier Hospital loop with our partners at the London Borough of Sutton, Transport for London and the Mayor of London; and
- b) strongly to resist any alternative route option which would impact adversely on Abbey Recreation Ground and Nursery Road Playing Fields and residents' enjoyment of this open space.

Councillor Stephen Crowe

Councillor Daniel Holden

Councillor Najeeb Latif

This page is intentionally left blank

COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2014

NOTICE OF MOTION

This Council notes the opening of Merton's first free school in September 2014. Furthermore, this Council congratulates the head teacher and staff at Park Community School on opening its doors this month and wishes the staff and all the pupils a successful future.

Recognising the enormous costs and challenges for the borough in meeting the growing demand for school places among Merton's primary age group as a result of increased birth rates and also recognising the even greater costs to be incurred for when this cohort of children reaches secondary school age, this Council is resolved to look at all options for meeting the need for more school places, including free schools and academies.

Where a free school wishes to set up in the borough, this Council hopes and expects that it will adhere to the following principles:

- Agree to be part of Merton's admissions procedures, working closely with officers;
- Employ only qualified teachers;
- Participate fully in the Merton Education Partnership; and
- Demonstrate genuine community support.

Therefore, in order to ensure that Merton's education system is able to offer local families both quality and choice, this Council resolves to encourage and invite applications from the best and most innovative providers nationally as well as local groups to establish free schools in Merton where those applicants are willing to adopt the aforementioned principles and where the Council is confident that the standard of education offered is comparable with the best schools in the borough.

Councillor James Holmes

Councillor Daniel Holden

Councillor Michael Bull

This page is intentionally left blank

Committee: Council

Date: 10 September 2014

Wards: All

Subject: Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2013-2014

Lead officer: Julia Regan, Head of Democracy Services

Lead member: Councillor Peter Southgate, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission

Contact officer: Julia Regan; Julia.regan@merton.gov.uk; 020 8545 3864

Recommendations:

A. That Council receives the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Council is invited to receive the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report.

2. Details

2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is required to produce an annual report outlining the work of the overview and scrutiny function over the course of the Municipal Year. This year the Commission has used the report as an opportunity to draw attention to some of the outcomes achieved from 2010-2014 as well as covering in detail the work covered by each Panel/Commission during the year 2013/2014.

2.2 The report (attached as appendix 1) therefore includes:

- a foreword by the 2013/14 Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Commission
- a brief explanation of the term 'overview and scrutiny'
- scrutiny achievements 2010-2014
- a report from each Panel and the Commission on activities during 2013/14
- a description of how local residents and local voluntary and community organisations can get involved in scrutiny

2.3 The report was approved for submission to Council by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission at its meeting on 7 April 2014.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission would be in breach of the constitution if it did not produce an annual report and present it to Council.

4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

4.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission approved the content of the Annual Report. Each Panel Chair and Vice Chair was consulted on the section relating to their work.

5. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are none specific to this report.

6. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is constitutionally bound to produce an annual report for the overview and scrutiny function and to present the report to the full Council. The Overview and Scrutiny Commission would be in breach of the constitution if it did not do this.

7. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

7.1 It is a fundamental aim of the scrutiny process to ensure that there is full and equal access to the democratic process through public involvement and engagement. Examples of how this aim is achieved are included in the annual report under the community engagement section.

8. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The Police and Justice Act 2006 requires every Council to have a scrutiny committee with the power to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken by the Council and the other responsible authorities in the exercise of their crime and disorder functions.

8.2 In Merton this responsibility lies with the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and its work on these issues is described in the Commission's section of the Annual Report.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are none specific to this report.

10. APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

10.1 Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2013-2014.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 None.



Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2013/14

London Borough of Merton

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2013/14

Contents

Foreword	3
What is overview and scrutiny?	4
Scrutiny achievements, 2010-2014	5
Overview and Scrutiny Commission	7
Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Panel	9
Healthier Communities and Older People Overview & Scrutiny Panel	12
Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Panel	15
Get Involved	16
Contact the Scrutiny Team	17

Foreword

Although this is the foreword to the annual report for 2013/14, the temptation to look back and consider how overview and scrutiny has fared during the life of this council is almost irresistible at this stage in the electoral cycle. I see no reason to resist.

I believe that scrutiny has come of age in Merton, and achieved a level of self confidence that was lacking four years ago. Then, we were absorbing reductions in officer support that led to the painful but inevitable conclusion that the number of panels (excluding the Commission) would have to be reduced from four to three. It took a while to find a format to replace the Corporate Capacity Panel, but we now have it in the Financial Management Task Group which functions as a sub committee reporting to the Commission. The FMTG is strictly for those who like delving into the numbers, but its devotees have been rewarded with insightful reports into the potential impact of reductions in council tax benefit, and the operating economics of Merton's commercial waste service.

The report includes a number of examples where scrutiny has made a difference to the decisions taken by council, but if I had to pick one it would be the impact on the budget, and scrutiny's recommendations not to proceed with savings that could have affected service delivery. It is a mark of the mature relationship between scrutiny and the executive that nearly all of our recommendations were accepted by Cabinet.

Much of the credit for scrutiny's confident performance belongs to the stability of the team, both chairs and officers. I would like to thank Cllrs Jeff Hanna, Russell Makin and Logie Lohendran for chairing their panels with professionalism and impartiality. But we all depend on officer support to make things happen, and we are indebted to Julia Regan, Stella Akintan, Rebecca Redman and Richard Greig for their enthusiasm and unfailing commitment to scrutiny.

Councillor Peter Southgate
Chair, Overview & Scrutiny Commission

What is overview and scrutiny?

Overview and Scrutiny was introduced by the Local Government Act 2000. Merton operates a Leader and Cabinet model, where the Cabinet makes the executive decisions of the authority on behalf of local residents.

Overview and Scrutiny's main roles are:

- holding the Cabinet to account
- improving and developing council policies
- examining decisions before they are implemented
- engaging with members of the public
- monitoring performance of the council and its partners

Scrutiny can look into services provided by other agencies and other matters of importance to the people of the borough. Scrutiny has legal powers to monitor and hold to account local health services (Health and Social Care Act 2001) and to scrutinise crime reduction and community safety issues (Police and Justice Act 2006).

Principles

Overview and Scrutiny at Merton is:

- open to the public
- informed by methodically gathered evidence
- based on careful deliberation and discussion
- conducted in an appropriate manner

How Overview and Scrutiny works in Merton

Merton Council has an Overview and Scrutiny Commission, which acts as a coordinating body supporting three Overview and Scrutiny Panels with individual areas of responsibility:

- Children and Young People
- Healthier Communities and Older People
- Sustainable Communities

Commission and Panel meetings take place throughout the year and members of the public are welcome to attend. Dates, agendas and minutes for these meetings can be found on the council website: <http://www.merton.gov.uk/council/committee.htm>.

More information about Scrutiny at Merton can be found at <http://www.merton.gov.uk/scrutiny.htm> or by phoning the scrutiny team on 020 8545

3864 or emailing scrutiny@merton.gov.uk.

Scrutiny achievements 2010-2014

Councillors involved in scrutiny have indicated that they have found this to be a rewarding and influential role, as highlighted from feedback from our last survey of scrutiny councillors, co-opted members and Cabinet members:

“Task group work continues to be one of the most rewarding aspects of scrutiny for those who take part.”

“Overall find overview and scrutiny very intensive and effective.”

“Cabinet usually takes on board the comments/communique issued during scrutiny meetings.”

Scrutiny has led to real changes in policies, service provision and council budgets over the last four years. Some of the highlights are set out below:

Scrutiny impact on the Council Budget

Scrutiny councillors have had a significant impact on budget decisions taken by Cabinet. In many cases, following intervention by scrutiny, the proposed budget savings have been overturned or additional money made available to reduce the impact of the saving. For example:

- In 2013 when a significant number of savings were proposed across council services Cabinet agreed with the majority of the recommendations made by scrutiny panels, including not taking savings relating to the Attic Theatre or the council's enforcement team and to defer savings on parks and greenspaces until a review of these services has been carried out.
- Again in 2013, Cabinet responded to a request by scrutiny to reconsider their plans to withdraw Freedom passes from people with mental health problems, by finding temporary funding to support this group
- In 2014 Cabinet agreed to withdraw savings relating to the council's enforcement and building and development control services. It also agreed to defer savings on green spaces and staffing reductions in the Children Schools and Families' Division until detail information can be provided.

New money allocated for noise nuisance pilot

The Overview and Scrutiny Commission has made two referrals to Cabinet, resulting in the allocation of £12,000 for a pilot of an increased out of hours service to assess the actual level of demand.

Tackling climate change and alleviating fuel poverty

The task group review of Climate Change and the Green Deal resulted in the development of a proposal for a Merton Energy Services Company (ESCO). The

ESCO will generate benefits in terms of the type and scale of energy efficiency initiatives that the council could deliver, as well as opportunities for improvements to council estates, local businesses and residents, in particular seeking to support residents at risk of fuel poverty.

The Cabinet Member for Environmental Sustainability and Regeneration and the Director for Environment and Regeneration enthusiastically welcomed the work of the task group which also involved the contribution of co-opted members with expertise in this area, (from a local Charity, Sustainable Merton). Acknowledging that the proposal and associated recommendations could offer opportunities for innovative energy solutions in Merton, the Cabinet Member also asked that full Council agree the proposal to ensure cross party consensus on such an important issue.

Scrutiny intervention halts closure of a residential mental health facility

Earlier this year the Chair of the Healthier Communities and Older People Panel was informed a decision had been made to close Norfolk Lodge, a residential facility for people with mental health problems. Merton Clinical Commissioning Group (MCCG) were invited to scrutiny to discuss this decision. Following intervention by scrutiny, the MCCG decided to halt the closure plans and conduct a comprehensive review of mental health services across the borough. The results of the review are due in April and will be reported to scrutiny in the new municipal year.

Scrutiny Panel lobbies local MP's

The Children and Young People Panel discussed the implications of the national Children and Families Bill going through Parliament and were concerned that the Act may lead to additional financial burden on local authorities, who are already working to reduce budgets in the most efficient way possible. Therefore they requested that the Children Schools and Families Department contact the local MP's on behalf of the Panel to lobby on consideration of the financial implications of the Bill for Local Authorities and the need for Government to properly resource any statutory provisions within the Bill once it is passed.

Improvements to local services

Over the last four years our task group reviews have also had a significant impact on council services:

The review of trees in 2011/12 has led to greater community involvement in caring for the borough's trees through increased support to the tree wardens and friends groups. It also resulted in the Council making a commitment to woodland creation and improvement of the "urban forest" through an annual tree planting programme in open spaces and on streets.

The review supported housing for people with mental health problems in 2010/11 has led to a clear identification of people with mental health problems on the council's housing list so that appropriate accommodation may be offered. Contracts with other housing providers now require them to provide activities for residents with mental health problems and access to smoking cessation services.

The review of late night drinking in 2010/11 has resulted in a Christmas campaign on sensible drinking, continuation of mystery shopping on under-age alcohol sales as

well as closer working between the council, police and street pastors.

Overview and Scrutiny Commission

The Overview and Scrutiny Commission is responsible for the scrutiny of cross cutting and strategic issues, crime and disorder and issues relating to the council's "corporate capacity". The Commission acts as a coordinating body in supporting the three Overview and Scrutiny Panels and has responsibility for developing and keeping scrutiny under review.

Scrutiny reviews

Volunteering

The task group made a number of recommendations aimed at supporting and celebrating the valuable roles that volunteers undertake in the community and to help communities and the Council to achieve maximum benefit from this work. It also recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Commission should promote volunteering and encourage innovation by receiving an annual progress update.

The Commission received a detailed implementation plan in September 2013 and a further update in April 2014, including information on the volunteering strategy and associated action taken by the Council's corporate management team. The Commission was pleased with the progress made.

Civil unrest

The Commission has continued to monitor and is now satisfied that all recommendations have been implemented. It was pleased to hear that the Mayor's Office of Policing and Crime had allocated £23,000 to commission a service for offenders aged 19-25 to help prevent re-offending.

Strategic issues and pre-decision scrutiny

At the start of the year the Commission received a presentation from the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive to set out the Council's priorities for 2013/2014.

Later on, it received a detailed report on population shifts projected to 2017 with associated policy development and financial information. This has subsequently been used as a context for scrutinising the Council's budget. It will also be used to identify priorities for inclusion in the 2014/15 scrutiny work programme.

The Commission has examined a number of strategic issues including:

- noise nuisance – it has made two referrals to Cabinet, resulting in the allocation of £12,000 for a pilot of an increased out of hours service to assess

the actual level of demand. Cabinet also agreed to the Commission's recommendation that there be further analysis of the pattern of calls

- customer contact strategy – the Commission has continued its scrutiny of this strategy and stressed the need for prompt action on this project so that customers be able to access services in the most efficient way
- single fraud investigation service – the Commission commented on forthcoming changes and referred concerns to the Cabinet Member for Finance so that these could be taken into account

Policing in Merton

The Borough Commander has attended three times to answer questions about crime and policing in Merton. The Commission thanked him and his officers for excellent work in continuing to keep crime rates low. It has examined detailed information on officer numbers and performance so that the impact of the move to the Local Policing Model could be assessed.

Call-in

In May 2013, the Commission referred a decision on the sale of land on Wimbledon Broadway (P4) back to Cabinet for further consideration. Cabinet was asked to consider the potential the site to contribute to the emerging "creative quarter" in this part of the Broadway; and to be mindful of the provisions of the Localism Act allowing the community right to bid for public assets. After receiving further information, Cabinet decided to uphold its initial decision to proceed to sell.

Finance and performance monitoring

The Commission established a sub-group to examine financial monitoring reports on a quarterly basis. The work of the sub group has resulted in various changes to the layout and content of the reports. The capital programme has been examined in detail and its large size compared to spend in previous years was noted.

The sub-group has also discussed a range of options for the local council tax benefit scheme and recognised that any decision on these would be a political one and therefore a matter for Cabinet rather than scrutiny.

An independent review of the commercial waste service was examined and the sub-group discussed development plans with the service managers.

Scrutiny of the budget

The draft business plan and proposed budget savings proposals were scrutinized in detail and recommendations made to Cabinet. At the Commission's request, draft service plans were made available to provide a context for the savings proposals.

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

This Panel has responsibility for the scrutiny of issues relating to children and young people. This includes education, children's social care, child protection and youth services.

Scrutiny reviews

A task group review of school leadership succession planning was carried out this year that sought to determine how succession planning was undertaken by schools and supported by the council, and how the next generation of leaders could be identified, and talent nurtured, to address the future shortage of head teachers due to the anticipated retirement of current head teachers in the next few years.

Recruitment and retention and the role of governors was considered, as well as BME leadership and succession planning, to seek to address the under representation of BME and female leaders in headships and ensure that teachers could be recruited from within and outside of Merton schools and given opportunities to develop leadership capabilities to progress into headship.

A range of stakeholders were engaged in the review ranging from head teachers, governors and consultants and representatives from the Merton Education Partnership, the National College for Teaching and Leadership and the Institute of Education. The task group made a number of recommendations upon conclusion of their review which sought to address the following:

- Tackling the underrepresentation of female and BME leaders;
- Ensuring sufficient mechanisms are in place to identify and nurture talent;
- Increasing the number of professional development and leadership capacity building opportunities for teachers in Merton schools; and
- Supporting governors more in their role in succession planning

The task group will report its findings and recommendations to Cabinet in June 2014.

Strategic issues and pre-decision scrutiny

At the first meeting of the municipal year, presentations were given on the key challenges faced by those delivering services to children and young people and priorities for the year ahead.

The Panel also received a report at each meeting on the developments in the Children, Schools and Families department covering national and local developments that fell within the remit of the Panel, which enabled Members to maintain a strategic overview.

The Panel has considered a number of strategic issues including:

Children and Families Bill – The Panel discussed the implications of the national Children and Families Bill going through Parliament and requested that a letter be sent to the local MP's from the Panel to lobby on consideration of the financial implications of the Bill for Local Authorities and the need for Government to properly resource any statutory provisions within the Bill once it is passed.

Children's Health Services - The Panel considered the councils priorities for delivering public health outcomes in relation to health services for children. Panel also commented on the opportunities for partnership working in this area.

Free School Meals – Members made recommendations on how to address the shortfall in pupils who were entitled to free school meals not applying for this benefit, which had a knock on effect on the council's pupil premium funding that forms part of schools budgets.

School Places Strategy – Members considered the councils strategy for addressing the anticipated demand for school places in Merton. This item was linked to the work that the task group had undertaken during its task group review of the provision of secondary school places.

Performance monitoring

The Panel receives a performance monitoring report at each of its meetings and has reviewed the performance indicators it wishes to receive.

The Panel also receives an annual report to provide greater detail on performance measures relating to education, including test and examination results, school attendance and exclusions and standards in the Celebrating Success – Standards and Achievement in Merton Schools report.

Members also received progress updates on the following:

- Home Office Peer Review Programme on Gang Culture;
- Transforming Families initiative in Merton;
- Permanency and Adoption;
- Safeguarding;
- Looked After Children;
- Early Intervention and Prevention services; and
- Early Years and Children's Centres

Outcomes of previous task group reviews were also considered to ensure that agreed timescales for implementation of the Panel's recommendations were met, and that anticipated benefits and outcomes had been realised:

- Alternative Education; and
- Post 16 Career Pathways

Financial monitoring

The Panel scrutinised the proposed budget for 2014/15 in November and January. Several budget saving proposals were referred back to Cabinet for further consideration after panel members expressed concern about efficiencies being made within early years and school improvement.

The Panel also undertook budget monitoring at appropriate intervals throughout the year.

Healthier Communities and Older People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

This Panel has responsibility for the scrutiny of issues relating to health and adult social care. This includes promoting good health and healthy lifestyles, mental health issues, and reducing health inequalities for people of all ages.

Introduction

Health Scrutiny has been a point of stability during a time of change within the health landscape. New organisations have emerged such as the clinical commissioning groups, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Healthwatch, while the Primary Care Trusts and local Links ceased to operate. The council was also given responsibility for public health. As the new structure embeds, we have been able to provide the consistent scrutiny and accountability based on local knowledge and expertise. The recent changes means that the scope and breadth of scrutiny work has increased.

Scrutiny reviews

Safeguarding older people task group

The panel maintained oversight of the recommendations from the safeguarding older people task group. This review looked at safeguarding older people in their own homes as this was the area with the highest level of abuse.. The Panel were pleased to see that many of the recommendations were implemented including training for unpaid carers, improved identification of those living with dementia, leaflet for self funders; self funders can get a free Criminal Records Bureau check.

Physical Activity for the 55 plus age group

This year the Panel decided to conduct a review on sport and fitness for residents who are fifty five plus. It was agreed to look at this area because only 7% of this age group participates in enough sport and physical activity to benefit their health. The panel is keen to focus on the prevention agenda in its reviews and this continues with that theme, as improving health for this group can help to stem the rise in a number of diseases that can be attributed to an inactive lifestyle. The Panel spoke to a number of witnesses including Chief Executive of Age UK, Merton and PRO-Active South London. A number of barriers to participation included the cost of services and finding out where events are being held. Recommendations included Using Sport England's market segmentation tool to identify where to place services. The report was agreed by the Panel and will be forwarded to Cabinet.

Strategic Issues

Local Health organisations protocol

With health scrutiny, Healthwatch and the Health and Wellbeing Board covering a range of health issues across the borough, it is important to avoid duplication and overlap between the three bodies. Therefore a joint protocol was developed setting out how the organisations could work together, share information and use resources effectively, whilst maintaining their distinct roles. The Protocol has got off to a good start with the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board providing regular updates at scrutiny meetings and officers meeting to discuss the work programme.

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

Every year the Health and Wellbeing Board leads on refreshing the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, which sets out the health and wellbeing needs and inequalities of the local population. The panel looked at this document in the draft stage and will scrutinise different elements of JSNA as a regular part of the work programme.

Sutton hospital

The panel were approached by Sutton Hospital and asked to endorse their proposals to consolidate services from three sites into one. While this would involve some considerable changes Panel members felt that overall it would improve services for residents, therefore they supported the plan. The panel will be receiving an update report when the work has progressed.

Long term conditions

The Panel had a comprehensive discussion about the services for people living with long term conditions such as diabetes, respiratory and circulatory diseases. The Panel asked about a number of issues including varying quality between GP Practices, how to improve detection rates of long term conditions and take up of NHS health checks.

Extension of alcohol pathways to increase prevention

The Director of Public Health and Head of Safer Merton attended the Panel to discuss the projects in place to reduce the harmful impact of alcohol. The panel asked for more information about policies to reprimand those who sell alcohol to those who are underage, training for front line staff and other council officers and the fire service about talking to people about alcohol and smoking cessation services. The Panel will receive a detailed action plan on alcohol prevention programmes in the next municipal year.

St Georges Healthcare NHS Trust

The Chief Nurse and Director of Corporate Affairs, from St Georges attended the Panel to provide an update of the work of the Trust. The Panel were informed that significant improvements had been made since their last Care Quality Commission inspection. The panel also asked about feeding policies for vulnerable patients, and plans to tackle the variation in quality of care between wards.

Immunisations

The Panel considered NHS England's local immunisation programme as they assumed responsibility for this area of work from the local authority in April 2013. The Panel received data on Child Immunisations and Diabetic eye Screening. Members of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel were invited to join the discussion on child immunisations. Panel members asked to receive information which relates to Merton only, rather than Sutton and Merton. The Panel also agreed to include cancer screening in their future work programme.

Public Health Team

The Director of Public Health attended the panel for a number of report items during the year. The Panel also received an update on the work of the team over the last twelve months. The panel have on-going concerns about health inequalities in Merton and were pleased that the Public Health Team has this as a key focus for their work. The Panel were also informed that Public Health will be supporting GP's to improve their take up of NHS Health checks by providing them with administrative software.

Review of Health Services in South West London

Dr Howard Freeman, Chair of Merton Clinical Commissioning Group attended the panel to discuss the next steps for health services in South West London following the end of the Better Services Better Value Review. Dr Freeman informed the panel that there would be another review as the issues with the current configuration of health care services still remain. The Panel raised a number of questions and concerns including what had happened to the funds from the Treasury to support to redevelopment of St Helier Hospital. (Dr Freeman stated that the hospital passed the first stage of the application process, but due to its financial position it did not make an application for the stage two and three.) Members were told that St Helier are preparing to apply for a loan of £78 million from the Treasury. The Panel were also informed that the six South West London Clinical Commissioning Groups(Merton, Sutton, Kingston, Croydon, Richmond and Wandsworth) are drawing up a five year strategy for health services, the broad priority areas will be published in June 2014 with further work taking place over the next year.

Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel

This Panel has responsibility for the scrutiny of issues relating to housing, environmental sustainability, culture, enterprise and skills, libraries and transport.

Scrutiny reviews

The Panel undertook a task group review of Climate Change and the Green Deal. The task group made recommendations on:

- Developing a business case for further rolling out solar PV to schools and other council sites, as well as establishing the opportunities for residents to access solar PV technology;
- Developing a business case for an ESCO (Energy Services Company) to deliver energy efficiency improvements internally and externally and generate income for future initiatives;
- Increased strategic working across council departments to roll out climate change initiatives that impact on several service areas and various customer groups;
- Marketing and engagement to raise awareness of climate change activities; and
- A local Green Deal for Merton

Adult skills and employability: The Panel endorsed its scrutiny report in this area and forwarded recommendations to Cabinet for consideration which addressed reducing unemployment, increasing inward investment and improving the adult education provision in the borough

Strategic issues and pre-decision scrutiny

Mitcham Town Centre regeneration scheme: The Panel heard the call in and considered residents concerns about the possibility of a new bus lane in the area and made recommendations to officers and Cabinet in response.

Regeneration of housing stock by Merton Priory Homes (MPH): The Panel heard the call in of the Merton Priory Homes housing modernisation proposals. The Panel discussed their concerns regarding the lack of sufficient consultation with residents and councillors. The Panels recommendations informed subsequent stages of consultation on proposals brought forward by MPH.

Street lighting: The Panel discussed an options report on the council's current contract and commented on considerations that needed to be made with regard to the new contract.

Parking on shopping parades: the Panel undertook pre-decision scrutiny of the department's findings and proposals on parking in neighbourhood shopping parades and made recommendations for Cabinet consideration.

Cycle routes: the Panel provided comments on the next stages of the councils bid for the Mayor of London 'Mini Holland' fund which would allow the council to roll out a wider and more improved cycling provision in the borough.

Performance monitoring

The Panel has regularly undertaken a performance monitoring role by reviewing performance results against key performance indicators (KPIs) and making recommendations to the appropriate service.

Street cleaning: The Panel contributed to the Public Value Review (PVR) of street cleaning being undertaken by the department from the scoping stage and throughout, at the appropriate intervals, on findings and recommendations. The recommendations made included automated e-forms for online reporting of issues and an improved system of mobile response in the borough.

20 mph limits/zones: The Panel received an update about how 20mph road limits are reducing road casualties. In order to assess the effectiveness of the current schemes that have been implemented in Merton and if a borough wide 20 mph scheme should be implemented, the Panel made recommendations to Cabinet to request that further analysis be undertaken and proposals brought back for consideration, which should include benchmarking and good practice from other boroughs.

Trees: The panel received an update and progress report on the action plan resulting from their review on the council's approach to tree planting and maintenance. An outcome of which has been increased community engagement.

Financial monitoring

The Panel scrutinised the proposed budget for 2014/15 in November and January. Several budget saving proposals were referred back to Cabinet for further consideration after panel members expressed concern about efficiencies being made on parking permits, building and development control, waste disposal, leisure centres, libraries and housing needs.

Call In

The panel heard the call in of the following decisions that have been taken and made recommendations which were accepted by Cabinet:

- Merton Priory Homes Regeneration Proposals (9 October 2013)

- Mitcham Town Centre Regeneration Scheme (6 November 2013)

Get involved

The involvement of local residents, community organisations and partners is an important part of the scrutiny process and councillors are committed to responding to the views and concerns of residents.

Getting involved in scrutiny is one of the best ways to influence decision making at the council, as councillors will hear your experiences first hand. There are a number of ways you can get involved in the work of scrutiny at the council:

Suggesting an issue for scrutiny

The council's website contains an online form which can be used to make suggestions on issues and topics for future scrutiny:

<http://www.merton.gov.uk/council/scrutiny/scrutiny-getinvolved.htm>

Suggestions may also be made in writing, by email or by phone to the Scrutiny Team – contact details overleaf.

All suggestions received will be discussed by the relevant scrutiny Panel and the person who made the suggestion will be contacted to let them know what has happened to it.

Attending meetings

All scrutiny meetings are open to the public except where confidential information has to be discussed. A list of meeting dates and agenda items can be found on the council's website. <http://www.merton.gov.uk/council/committee.htm>

If you would like to attend a meeting simply come along to the meeting venue or, if you want more information, contact the Scrutiny Team – details overleaf.

Providing information and views

Members of the public can send in written views or speak on issues that are under discussion at the Overview and Scrutiny Commission or one of the Overview and Scrutiny Panels.

Information on current task group reviews and any deadlines for submission on information can be found on <http://www.merton.gov.uk/scrutiny> or by contacting the Scrutiny Team – details overleaf.

Contact the Scrutiny Team

The Scrutiny Team provides independent and professional support and advice to the Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission and the three standing Overview and Scrutiny Panels.

You can contact the Scrutiny Team using one of the following methods: -

In writing:

Scrutiny Team
Corporate Services
Merton Civic Centre
London Road
Morden
Surrey SM4 5DX

By emailing:

scrutiny@merton.gov.uk

By phoning:

Julia Regan – Head of Democracy Services
020 8545 3864

Stella Akintan –Scrutiny Officer
020 8545 3390

Rebecca Redman – Scrutiny Officer
020 8545 4035

For further information about overview and scrutiny at Merton please access our web pages using the following address <http://www.merton.gov.uk/scrutiny>

Committee: Council

Date: 10 September 2014

Wards: All

Subject: Call-in and Urgency – IT Storage Area Network Replacement

Lead officer: Paul Evans, Assistant Director Corporate Governance

Lead member: Councillor Stephen Alambritis, Leader of the Council

Contact officer: Chris Pedlow, Senior Democratic Services Officer, (020 8545 3616)

Recommendations:

- A. That Council note the taking of an urgent key decision and the waiving of the call-in procedure.

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report appries Council of the taking of an urgent key decision in accordance with the provisions of Part 4 E, section 17 of the Council's constitution.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. The Constitution makes provision for the taking of an urgent decision i.e.

“Part 4 E, Paragraph 17(a) states that the call-in procedure ...shall not apply where the decision being taken is urgent. A decision will be urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests.

- 2.2. In accordance with paragraph 17(b) of the constitution the above titled report presented to The Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Commission was brought to the attention of the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Commission who made the following statement:

“the award of a new contract for IT equipment to replace existing SAN equipment which is nearing the end of its planned life and is no longer capable of quick and effective recovery. I having read the report and its recommendations to whom the contract should be awarded to and accept that the recommendation is based on a fair tendering process. I have also read the argument for making the decision quickly in order to terminate the existing contract and take advantage of a time limited pricing offer from the proposed supplier, while ensuring continuity of service. I accept these timing pressures do not allow for the decision to be taken within the normal framework set out in the constitution.”

A copy of the published notice has been included as Appendix A.

- 2.3. Paragraph (c) of section 17 requires that “Decisions taken as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council

together with the reason for urgency (the reason for urgency is identified at 2.2 above).

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

3.1. None for the purpose of this report.

4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

4.1. None for the purpose of this report.

5 TIMETABLE

5.1. None for the purpose of this report

6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

6.1. None for the purpose of this report.

7 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

7.1. None for the purpose of this report.

8 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

8.1. None for the purpose of this report.

9 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

9.1. None for the purpose of this report.

10 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

10.1. None for the purpose of this report.

11 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

Appendix A - Notice of Decision

12 BACKGROUND PAPERS

12.1. None.



Notice is hereby given that a key delegated decision will be taken by Chief Executive on the following matter

IT STORAGE AREA NETWORK REPLACEMENT

Where a matter is a key decision and has not been advertised 28 days prior to the date that the decision is required to be taken, and it has also not been possible to give five clear days notice, then the decision can still be taken Under Delegation if the provisions of Rule 15 (Special Urgency) of the Access to Information Procedure Rules Part 4B of the Constitution can be applied, once agreement, has been obtained by Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, that the decision cannot reasonably be deferred.

Also when a key decision contains exempt information and would be considered in private session and the 28 days notice period prior to the date that the decision is required to be taken has not been given, then the decision can still be taken Under Delegation if the provisions of contained within Rule 17 (Exempt Urgency Procedure) of the Access to Information Procedure Rules Part 4B of the Constitution.

Councillor Southgate in his capacity as Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, has approved the use of Section 15 - Special Urgency, and Section 17 - Exempt Urgency procedures for this decision, and acknowledged that the use of the latter procedure exempts the decision from call-in.

The decision to be taken relates to the award of a new contract for IT equipment to replace existing SAN equipment which is nearing the end of its planned life and is no longer capable of quick and effective recovery. The reason for urgency is to enable continuity during the implementation of the new system. The reasons for exemption pertains to Section 10.4, Category 3 information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information), of the Access to Information Procedure Rules Part 4B of the Constitution.

This page is intentionally left blank

Committee: Council

Date: 10 September 2014

Subject: Changes to Membership of Committees and related matters

Lead officer: Ged Curran, Chief Executive

Contact officer: Chris Pedlow, Senior Democratic Services Officer, (020 8545 3616)

democratic.services@merton.gov.uk

Recommendations:

- A. That the changes to the membership of Committees approved under delegated powers since the last meeting of the Council are noted.
 - B. To endorse the establishment of the new South West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee along with its Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure.
 - C. To nominate Councillor Brian Lewis Lavender and Councillor Greg Udeh to the South West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Councillor Brenda Fraser and Councillor Suzanne Grocott as substitutes.
 - D. To appoint a Councillor to the Groundwork London's Local Authority Strategic Input Board.
-

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report asks the Council to note the membership changes made under delegated powers since the publication of the agenda for the Council meeting held on 9 July 2014 and also details a change to political group membership
- 1.2. The report seeks to endorse the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for the South West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Standing Committee and to appoint two Members to the Committee.
- 1.3. To seek an appointment to fill the vacancy on Groundwork London's Local Authority Strategic Input Board.

2 DETAILS

- 2.1. The following membership changes have been made under delegated powers in accordance with section A4 of part 3F of the Constitution:

Appendix Two

Committee	Member resigning	replaced by	date
London Road Safety Council	Stephen Crowe	David Simpson	03/07/14
Sustainable Communities Panel	Stephen Crowe	David Dean	03/07/14
General Purposes	Suzanne Grocott	Stephen Crowe	03/07/14
Overview and Scrutiny Commission	Katy Neep (As substitute)	Peter Walker (As substitute)	08/07/14
Joint Regulatory Service Committee	Vacancy	Judy Saunders	10/07/14
Joint Regulatory Service Committee	Vacancy	Nick Draper	10/07/14
Children and Young People O&S Panel	Linda Taylor (moving from full member to substitute member)	Hamish Badenoch (moving from substitute member to full member)	18/08/14
Corporate Parenting Steering Group	Linda Taylor	Hamish Badenoch	19/08/14

2.2. **Establishment of the South West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Standing Committee**

Background

- 2.2.1 Under the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 local authorities may establish a joint health overview and scrutiny committee to undertake health scrutiny functions on their behalf, and must establish a joint health overview and scrutiny committee to respond to consultation on proposals for substantial variation in health services affecting more than one local authority area.
- 2.2.2 Discussions between officers responsible for health scrutiny across South West London have concluded that the best way forward is the creation of a Standing Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, with responsibility for responding to consultations on substantial service change affecting multiple boroughs across the area. This will obviate the need to go through a separate decision-making process each time a consultation requiring the establishment of a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is initiated, enabling local authorities to respond more rapidly and saving officer and member time. The draft terms of reference and rules of procedure are attached as Appendices 1 and 2. Points to note are:

- There will be two members of the Committee for each local authority represented, in accordance with local procedures. Local authorities are also encouraged to nominate substitutes to attend when their primary representatives are unable to.
- The Committee will have the power to establish sub-committees, and much of the work in relation to specific consultation will be undertaken in these sub-committees. The members of a sub-committee may be members of the main committee, but Boroughs may also nominate another representative to serve on a specific sub-committee.
- Where a consultation affects some, but not all, of the six South West London boroughs, voting membership of the relevant sub-committee will be restricted to the authorities directly affected. Thus, for example, the sub-committee responding to consultation on the Mental Health Trust's estates strategy would not include Croydon as a voting member.
- There is no minimum frequency of meetings of the Committee, and when there are no current consultations there will be no need for the Committee to meet.
- The life of the Committee will be for a maximum of four years. Boroughs will nominate members annually, and there will be an annual election for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee.

2.2.2 At the Council meeting held on the 9 July the Council agreed that the current membership of the South West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee represent Merton at the new standing joint health scrutiny committee, should a meeting be held prior to the Council having the opportunity to agree its constitution and formally appoint members.

2.2.3 The new South West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Standing Committee first meeting took place on 17th July 2014 in Wandsworth Town Hall. Secretarial services for this meeting were provided by Richmond Borough Council. The initial meeting looked at:

- Formal dissolution of the Better Services, Better Value Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
- Agreement of the terms of reference and rules of procedure;
- Election of a Chair and Vice-Chair;
- The draft consultation plan and consultation document on the Mental Health Trust's Estates Strategy
- Establishment of a sub-committee to consider and respond to consultation on the Mental Health Trust's Estates Strategy.

2.3. **Groundwork London's Local Authority Strategic Input Board.**

The Council has been invited to appoint a representative to the Groundwork London's Local Authority Strategic Input Board. A copy of their governance arrangement has been included as Appendix 3 to this report.

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

3.1. N/A

4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

4.1. N/A

5 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

5.1. None for the purposes of this report.

6 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

6.1. The information regarding membership changes in this report complies with legal and statutory requirements. Council is required to accept nominations made by political groups.

7 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

7.1. None for the purposes of this report.

8 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

8.1. None for the purposes of this report.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

9.1. N/A

10 APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

Appendix 1 - Joint Health O&S Committee South West London – Terms of Reference

Appendix 2 - Joint Health O&S Committee South West London – Rules of Procedure

Appendix 3 - Groundwork London's Governance Arrangement

11 BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1. Documents from the authorised officer confirming approval of the membership changes agreed under delegated powers.

**JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
SOUTH WEST LONDON**

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1.1 The South West London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is established by the London Boroughs of **Croydon, Merton, Richmond upon Thames, Sutton, Wandsworth**, and the **Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames (constituent boroughs)** in accordance with s.245 of the NHS Act 2006 and the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013.

1.2 It will be a standing Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee which will undertake scrutiny activity in response to a particular reconfiguration proposal or strategic issue affecting some, or all of the constituent Boroughs.

1.3 The length of time a specific matter / proposal will be scrutinised for will be determined by the Joint Committee.

1.4 The purpose of the Standing Joint Committee is to consider the following matters and commission sub-committees to carry out detailed scrutiny work as below:

(a) To engage with Providers and Commissioners on strategic sector wide *proposals* in respect of the *configuration* of health services affecting some or all of the area of Croydon, Merton, Richmond upon Thames, Sutton, Wandsworth, and the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames (the area.)

(b) Scrutinise and respond to the consultation process (including stakeholder engagement) and final decision in respect of any reconfiguration proposals affecting some, or all of the constituent Boroughs.

(c) Scrutinise in particular, the adequacy of any consultation process in respect of any reconfiguration proposals (including content or time allowed) and provide reasons for any view reached.

(d) Consider whether the proposal is in the best interests of the health service across the affected area.

(e) Consider as part of its scrutiny work, the potential impact of proposed options on residents of the reconfiguration area, whether proposals will deliver sustainable service change and the impact on any existing or potential health inequalities.

(f) Assess the degree to which any proposals scrutinised will deliver sustainable service improvement and deliver improved patient outcomes

(g) Agree whether to use the joint powers of the local authorities to refer either the consultation or final decision in respect of any proposal for reconfiguration to the Secretary of State for Health.

(h) As appropriate, review the formal response of the NHS to the Committees consultation response.”

1.5. The Joint Committee will consist of 2 Councillors nominated by each of the Boroughs and appointed in accordance with local procedure rules. Each Council can appoint named substitutes in line with their local practices.

1.6 Appointments to the Joint Committee will be made annually by each Borough with in-year changes in membership confirmed by the relevant authority as soon as know.

1.7 A Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Joint Committee will be elected by the Committee at its first meeting for a period of one year and annually thereafter.

1.8 The life of the Joint Committee will be for a maximum of four years from its formation in July 2014.

1.9 For each specific piece of scrutiny work undertaken relating to consultations on reconfiguration or substantial variation proposals affecting all or some of the constituent borough areas, the Joint Committee will either choose to act as a full Committee or can agree to commission a sub-committee to undertake the detailed work and define its terms of reference and timescales. This will provide for flexibility and best use of resource by the Joint Committee.

1.10 In determining how a matter will be scrutinised, the Joint Committee can choose to retain decision making power or delegate it to a sub-committee.

1.11 The overall size of each sub-committee will be determined by the main Committee and must include a minimum of 1 representative per affected Borough.

1.12 Where a proposal for reconfiguration or substantial variation covers some but not all of the constituent Boroughs, in establishing a sub-committee, formal membership will only include those affected Boroughs. Non affected boroughs will be able to nominate members who can act as 'observers' but will be non-voting.

1.13 The Committee and any sub-Committees will form and hold public meetings, unless the public is excluded by resolution under section 100a (4) Local Government Act 1972 / 2000, in accordance with a timetable agreed upon by all Boroughs and subject to the statutory public meeting notice period.

JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (JHOSC)

RULES OF PROCEDURE

1. Membership of Committee and Sub-Committees

- 1.1 The London Boroughs of Croydon, Merton, Richmond upon Thames, Sutton, Wandsworth and the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames, will each nominate, 2 members to the JHOSC, appointed in accordance with local procedure rules .
- 1.2 Appointments will be reconfirmed annually by each relevant authority
- 1.3 Individual boroughs may change appointees in accordance with the rules for the original nomination.
- 1.4 Individual boroughs will be strongly encouraged to nominate substitutes in accordance with local practice.
- 1.5 In commissioning Sub-Committees, membership will be confirmed by the JHOSC and can be drawn from the main Committee or to enable use of local expertise and skill, from non-Executive members of an affected borough.
- 1.6 The membership of a sub-committee will include at least one member from each affected Borough. (Non affected boroughs can appoint 'observer' members to sub-committees but they will be non voting.
- 1.7 The JHOSC, may as appropriate review its membership to include authorities outside the South West London area whom are equally affected by a proposal for reconfiguration or substantial variation who can be appointed to serve as members of relevant sub-committees.

2. Chairman

- 2.1 The JHOSC will elect the Chairman and Vice Chairman at the first formal meeting. A vote will be taken (by show of hands) and the results will be collated by the supporting Officer.
- 2.2 The appointments of Chairman and Vice Chairman will be reconfirmed annually.
- 2.3 If the JHOSC wishes to, or is required to change the appointed Chairman or Vice Chairman, an agenda item should be requested supported by four of the six constituent Boroughs following which the appointments will be put to a vote.
- 2.4 Where a sub-committee is commissioned, at its first meeting a Chairman and Vice-Chairman will be appointed for the life of the sub-committee.

3. Substitutions

- 3.1 Named substitutes may attend Committee meetings and sub-committee meetings in lieu of nominated members. Continuity of attendance is strongly encouraged.
- 3.2 It will be the responsibility of individual committee members and their local authorities to arrange substitutions and to ensure the supporting officer is informed of any changes prior to the meeting.
- 3.3 Where a named substitute is attending the meeting, it will be the responsibility of the nominated member to brief them in advance of the meeting.

4. Quorum

- 4.1 The quorum of a meeting of the JHOSC will be the presence of one member from each of five of the six participating Boroughs.
- 4.2 The quorum of a meeting of a Sub Committee of the JHOSC will be three quarters of the total membership of the sub-committee to include a minimum of two members.

5. Voting

- 5.1 Members of the JHOSC and its sub Committees should endeavour to reach a consensus of views and produce a single final report, agreed by consensus and reflecting the views of all the local authority committees involved.
- 5.2 In the event that a vote is required each member present will have one vote. In the event of there being an equality of votes the Chairman of the JHOSC or its sub-committee will have the casting vote.

6. JHOSC Role, Powers and Function

- 6.1 The JHOSC will have the same statutory scrutiny powers as an individual health overview and scrutiny committee that is:
 - accessing information requested
 - requiring members, officers or partners to attend and answer questions
 - Referral to the Secretary of State for Health if the Committee is of the opinion that the consultation has been inadequate or the proposals are not 'in the interests' of the NHS
- 6.2 The JHOSC can choose to retain the powers of referral to the Secretary of State for Health for a particular scrutiny matter or delegate them to an established sub-committee.

7. Support

- 7.1 The lead governance and administrative support for the JHOSC will be provided by Boroughs on an annual rotating basis.
- 7.2 The lead scrutiny support for sub-committees will be provided by Boroughs on a per issue basis to be agreed by the JHOSC.

- 7.3 Meetings of the JHOSC and its sub-committees will be rotated between participating Boroughs.
- 7.4 The host Borough for each meeting of the JHOSC will be responsible for arranging appropriate meeting rooms and ensuring that refreshments are available.
- 7.5 Each borough will identify a key point of contact for all arrangements and Statutory Scrutiny Officers will be kept abreast of arrangements for the JHOSC.

8. Meetings

- 8.1 Meetings of the JHOSC and its sub-committees will be held in public unless the public is excluded by resolution under section 100a (4) Local Government Act 1972 / 2000 and will take place at venues in one of the Six SWL boroughs.
- 8.2 Meetings will not last longer than 3 hours from commencement, unless agreed by majority vote at the meeting.

9. Agenda

- 9.1 The agenda will be drafted by the officers supporting the JHOSC or its sub-committees and agreed by the appropriate Chairman. The officer will send, by email, the agenda to all members of the JHOSC, the Statutory Scrutiny Officers and their support officers.
- 9.2 It will then be the responsibility of each borough to:
- publish official notice of the meeting
 - put the agenda on public deposit
 - make the agenda available on their Council website; and
 - make copies of the agenda papers available locally to other Members and officers of that Authority and stakeholder groups as they feel appropriate.

10. Local Overview and Scrutiny Committees

- 10.1 The JHOSC or its sub-committees will invite participating Borough's health overview and scrutiny committees and other partners to make known their views on the review being conducted.
- 10.2 The JHOSC or its sub-committees will consider those views in making its conclusions and comments on the proposals outlined or reviews.
- 10.3 Individual Overview and Scrutiny Committees will make representations to any NHS Body where a consensus at the JHOSC cannot be reached"

11. Representations

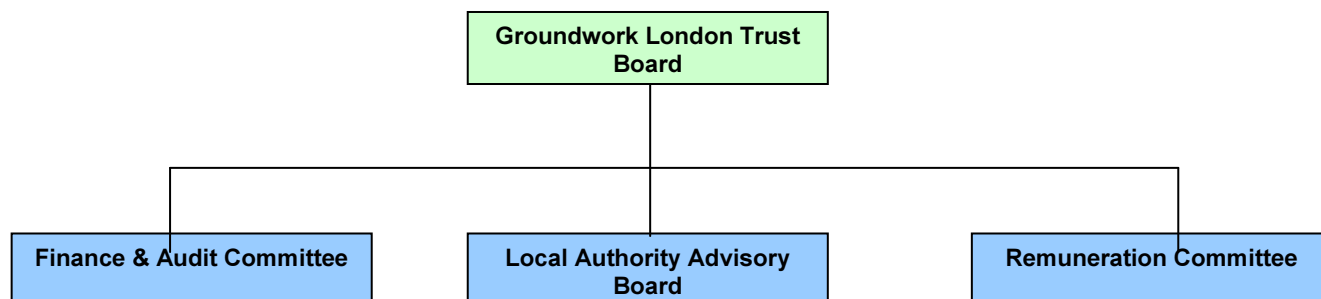
- 11.1 The JHOSC or its sub-committees will identify and invite witnesses to address the committee and may wish to undertake consultation with a range of stakeholders.
- 11.2 As far as practically possible the committee or sub-committee will consider any written representations from individual members of the public and interest groups that represent geographical areas in South West London that are contained within one of the participating local authority areas.

- 11.3 The main Committee and any established sub-committees will consider up to 3 verbal representations per agenda item from individual members of the public and interest groups that represent geographical areas in South West London that are contained within one of the participating local authority areas. Individuals must register to speak before 12pm on the day before the meeting takes place.
- 11.4 The Chairman or any committee or sub-committee will have the discretion to accept more or late speakers where s/he feels it is appropriate.

Groundwork London Governance structure

1. Governance structure

The agreed governance structure for Groundwork London includes:



2. Membership of Groundwork London Board & committees

Groundwork London Board

Groundwork London’s Board is made up of 4 appointed, 2 nominated, and 9 co-opted Trustees:

- 4 Local Authority members are appointed to the Groundwork London Board by an electoral process conducted by the members of the Local Authority Strategic Input Board.
- 2 Groundwork Federation nominees are appointed by the Groundwork Federation Board.
- 9 independent co-opted members are appointed by the Groundwork London Board. As and when vacancies become available the Board may consider any potential external candidates and put their names forward.

Local Authority Strategic Input Board

The Local Authority Strategic Input Board includes:

- 1 member nominated by each Local Authority, members to be elected Councillors of the Local Authority
- Meeting to be chaired by a Local Authority nominee, who is also a member of the Groundwork London Board
- Current Local Authorities include: Westminster, Haringey, Camden, Islington, Hackney, Hammersmith & Fulham, Ealing, Wandsworth, Merton, Lambeth, Southwark, and Lewisham.

Finance & Audit Committee

The Committee shall normally comprise of at least 3 members of the Groundwork London Board:

- Meetings will be chaired by a member of the Groundwork London Board

Remuneration Committee

The Committee shall normally comprise three members of the Groundwork London Board:

- The Chairman of the Board
- The Chairman of the Finance & Audit Committee
- Co-opted Board member

3. Role of Groundwork London Board & committees

Role of the Groundwork London Board

The Board is primarily concerned with policy, strategy and governance. The day-to-day management of the organisation is delegated to the paid professional staff, who report progress back to the Board. The Board is legally responsible for the activities of the organisation. The generic role of the Board is to:

1. Lead the organisation and ensure it has a clear purpose and an overall framework of policies and standards;
2. Develop overall strategies to achieve the organisation's aims and to ensure there is a clear system to delegate implementation of the strategies to the staff team;
3. Monitor the progress of the organisation and ensure that it provides the highest quality of care, balanced with the effective, efficient and economic use of the organisations resources and assets;
4. Ensure compliance with the law and accountability to the organisations stakeholders;
5. Ensure that the Board itself performs effectively, contains people with the skills and experience it needs and makes its plans to ensure the recruitment, induction and development of new trustees.

Role of the Local Authority Strategic Input Board

The Local Authority Strategic Input Board will enable Local Authorities to:

1. Shape the strategic direction of Groundwork within Local Authorities by:
 - Advising Groundwork on local authority strategic planning, priorities and targets.
 - Advising Groundwork on the regeneration needs of local communities.
 - Providing input to the development process for projects and programmes.
 - Developing and maintaining close relationships with elected members and officers of local authorities.
 - Developing relationships with other key local partners.
2. Keep their Local Authorities informed about the breadth of Groundwork London's expertise:
 - Receiving information on or visiting Groundwork London projects.
 - Enabling Groundwork London best practices to be introduced to local authority departments.
 - Sharing information on potential resources and stakeholders for projects.
3. Appoint, via an electoral process, members to the Groundwork London Board.

Role of the Remuneration Committee

The Committee is appointed by the Board to assist the Board in the appointment of the Executive Director and to support the Executive Director in the appointment of members of the Executive Team and to consider and approve their remuneration.

The Remuneration Committee will have delegated authority to:

- Lead the recruitment of the Executive Director, and to agree with the Executive Director the selection and recruitment process of the Executive Team;
- Consider and approve all remuneration issues relating to the Executive Director and Executive Team of Groundwork London;

- Consider all relevant labour market information and financial data about Groundwork London to approve pay and conditions of the Executive Director and the Executive Team;
- Act as the disciplinary and grievance panel for the Executive Director and the Appeals Panel for Executive Team in disciplinary and grievance matters;
- Ensure that there are training and development plans for the Executive Director and that succession plans exist and are relevant to the organisation's needs;
- Commission research if necessary;
- Receive from the Chair of the Board a report of the Executive Director's performance review, for scrutiny and endorsement.

Role of the Finance & Audit Committee

The Finance & Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing the overall direction of financial and investment resources at Groundwork London and for making appropriate recommendations to the Board. In exercising this responsibility the Finance & Audit Committee will work within the parameters set by the Groundwork London Board in the annual Business Plan.

The Finance & Audit Committee will have delegated authority to:

- Advise the Board on financial issues pertaining to the Trust and its subsidiary or subsidiaries within the limits of the Business Plan and will report its decisions to the Board of Groundwork London.
- From time to time the Board may delegate decisions to the Finance & Audit Committee. Where this is the case, decisions taken will be reported back fully and promptly.

Typical areas of work include:

- Ensuring that a clear statement of *Financial Rules and Regulations* is in place and reviewed on an annual basis;
- Advising an annual financial strategy that will be developed in line with the annual business planning process, including risk assessment and the maintenance of the Risk Register;
- Reviewing the quarterly management accounts (statement of income and expenditure plus a separate balance sheet together with any supporting documentation) prepared by the Director of Finance & Corporate Services;
- Reviewing any recommendations proposed by the auditors at the annual audit
- Providing a report on the quarterly management accounts to the Board;
- Reviewing the draft audited annual accounts and highlighting issues to the Board;
- Reviewing cash flow forecasts for twelve months ahead prepared by the Director of Finance & Corporate Services;
- Ensuring that Groundwork London has a clear reserves policy and that it has sufficient working capital to meet the needs of the business;
- Reporting on specific financial matters as requested by the main Board;
- Reviewing its Terms of Reference to ensure that they remain current and continue to meet the needs of the business. If changes are necessary they should be reported to the main Board for approval in April of each year;
- Reviewing the organisational Risk Register and reporting its findings to the main Board.

This page is intentionally left blank

Committee: Council

Date: 10 September 2014

Subject: Petitions

Lead officer: Paul Evans, Assistant Director, Corporate Governance

Lead member: Leader of the Council

Contact officer: Democratic Services, democratic.services@merton.gov.uk

Recommendation:

That the Council receives petitions (if any) in accordance with Part 4A, paragraph 18.1 of the Council's Constitution; and

- 1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**
 - 1.1. This report invites council to receive petitions in accordance with Part 4A, paragraph 18.1 of the Council's Constitution
- 2 DETAILS**
 - 2.1. No petitions were received at the last meeting of the Council held on 9 July 2014.
- 3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**
 - 3.1. None for the purpose of this report.
- 4 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED**
 - 4.1. None for the purpose of this report.
- 5 TIMETABLE**
 - 5.1. None for the purpose of this report.
- 6 FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS**
 - 6.1. None for the purpose of this report.
- 7 LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**
 - 7.1. None for the purpose of this report.
- 8 HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS**
 - 8.1. None for the purpose of this report.
- 9 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**
 - 9.1. None for the purpose of this report.
- 10 RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**
- 11 APPENDICES**
 - 11.1. None.
- 12 BACKGROUND PAPERS**
 - 12.1. None.

This page is intentionally left blank