

JOINT CHAIRS OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2022 AT 6.30 PM
COMMITTEE ROOM 1, CROWDALE CENTRE,
218 EVERSOLT STREET, LONDON, NW1 1BD

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MEMBERS

Councillors Linda Chung (LD), Jenny Headlam-Wells (L),
Samata Khatoon (L), Awale Olad (L) and Lorraine Revah (L)

L = Labour, LD = Liberal Democrats, C = Conservative

Issued on: Tuesday, 11 October 2022

CROWDALE CENTRE CORONAVIRUS AND FIRE EVACUATION MEASURES

Everyone is welcome to observe public meetings in Camden, and all public meetings will be webcast live at www.camden.gov.uk/webcast.

If you are planning to attend a meeting in person, please note the following:-

- If you are feeling unwell, please do not attend.
- Hand sanitiser will be available – please sanitise on arrival and at regular intervals during your visit.

If the fire alarm sounds continuously, or if you are instructed to do so, leave the building quickly and calmly by the nearest available exit. Do not stop to collect personal belongings. Fire exit doors are clearly marked and lead via the staircases to Crowndale Road or Eversholt Street.

Do not use the lifts. If you are a wheelchair user or have a mobility problem which prevents you from using the staircases, please proceed to the lift lobby area where you will be evacuated from the building.

Do not wait immediately outside the building – proceed to Oakley Square and await further instructions.

MEETINGS IN CAMDEN

Agendas for public meetings are available in advance on the Council's website at www.camden.gov.uk. If you are interested in a particular item being considered at a meeting and you wish to speak (called making a deputation), please write to the Committee Officer listed on the front of the agenda. The deadline for deputation requests for this meeting is **5pm on Monday, 17 October 2022**. If your deputation request is accepted, the option to make your deputation remotely via Microsoft Teams will be available.

The Council is allowed to discuss some items in private, although this does not happen often – any such items will be discussed at the end of the meeting and you will be asked to leave at this point. Any members of the public joining the meeting remotely will also be asked to leave.

Members of the public have a right to film, record or photograph public meetings for reporting purposes. This does not apply to any of the Council's meetings which are private or not open to the public. Laws on public order offences and defamation still apply, and you should exercise your rights with responsibility. Please respect the views of others when reporting from a meeting. You may be asked to stop filming, photographing or recording a meeting if the Chair feels that the activity is disrupting the meeting.

This meeting will be webcast and can be watched live or viewed for twelve months afterwards at www.camden.gov.uk/webcast. If you are attending a meeting but do not wish to appear on the webcast you are advised to sit in the public gallery.

If you have any views or questions about meetings at Camden Council please call Committee Services on 020 7974 1915.

WEBCASTING NOTICE

This meeting will be broadcast live by the Council via www.camden.gov.uk/webcast. The whole of the meeting will be filmed and recorded, except where there are confidential or exempt items, and the footage will be on the website for at least 12 months. A copy of it will also be retained in accordance with the Council's data retention policy.

If you make a representation to the meeting you will be deemed by the Council to have consented to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes.

The Council is obliged by law to allow members of the public to take photographs, film, audio-record, blog or tweet the proceedings at public meetings. The Council will only seek to prevent this should it be undertaken in a disruptive or otherwise inappropriate manner.

We have a privacy notice that explains our use of webcasting data which you can see at www.camden.gov.uk/webcast

If you have any queries regarding webcasting or the recording of meetings by the public, please contact the webcasting co-ordinator on 020 7974 5653.

**JOINT CHAIRS OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
19 OCTOBER 2022**

THERE ARE NO PRIVATE REPORTS

PLEASE NOTE THAT PART OF THIS MEETING MAY NOT BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS BECAUSE IT MAY INVOLVE THE CONSIDERATION OF EXEMPT INFORMATION WITHIN THE MEANING OF SCHEDULE 12A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, OR CONFIDENTIAL WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 100(A)(2) OF THE ACT.

AGENDA

Wards

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

To elect a Chair for the duration of the meeting.

2. GUIDANCE ON HYBRID MEETINGS

To agree the procedures for the operation of hybrid meetings.

(Pages
7 - 12)

3. APOLOGIES

4. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF STATUTORY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, COMPULSORY REGISTERABLE NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND VOLUNTARY REGISTERABLE NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN MATTERS ON THIS AGENDA

5. DEPUTATIONS (IF ANY)

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Broadcast of the meeting

The Chair to announce the following: 'In addition to the rights by law that the public and press have to record this meeting, I would like to remind everyone that this meeting is being broadcast live by the Council to the Internet and can be viewed on our website for twelve months after the meeting. After that time, webcasts are archived and can be made available upon request.

If you have asked to address the meeting, you are deemed to

be consenting to having your contributions recorded and broadcast, including video when switched on, and to the use of those sound recordings and images for webcasting and/or training purposes.’

Any other announcements

7. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

8. TERMS OF REFERENCE

To note the terms of reference as set out below;

1. To consider the Leader’s Annual Statement and any other relevant cross-cutting business of the Cabinet, or business deemed relevant by the advice of the Chief Executive;
2. To consider, in particular, areas and a programme of joint working by the scrutiny committees (see Part 3 of the Constitution) with the power, for the purposes of individual projects, of agreeing to vary terms of reference between the committees (subject always to statutory provisions) to facilitate joint and cross-cutting scrutiny working; and
3. To agree the allocation of scrutiny panels between scrutiny committees for the forthcoming year based on the Council’s agreed priorities within existing resources.

9. MINUTES

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2022.

(Pages
13 - 20)

10. UPDATE ON THE STATE OF THE BOROUGH REPORT

All Wards

Report of the Director of Strategy and Design

(Pages
21 - 26)

The State of the Borough report is a commitment made in the December 2021 Cabinet report on the findings of the Renewal Commission and in the March 2022 Cabinet report that adopted We Make Camden, the borough strategy. The report will be published annually and is intended to present a shared evidence base reflecting how people in Camden are doing and their experience of life.

It will help develop a shared ownership in Camden as it will be jointly owned by the council and partners. The report is planned to be published in March and presented to Full Council in April.

The Joint Chairs discussed the proposal for a State of the Borough report with the Leader of the Council, when she presented her Annual Statement in March 2022, and expressed an interest in further information about the proposal at future meetings.

11. JOINT CHAIRS OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - JOINT WORK PLANNING AND MID-YEAR REFLECTION SESSION

All Wards

(Pages
27 - 36)

Report of the Director of Strategy and Design.

Scrutiny plays an important role in improving outcomes for residents – making sure services meet resident needs, exploring issues which impact the wellbeing of the borough and providing improvement recommendations to the Council.

The scrutiny function has a democratic mandate to monitor decisions affecting local residents, contribute to the formation of policy and hold the executive to account.

The Joint Chairs of Scrutiny Committee was established to enable closer working relationships across the scrutiny function. Its terms of reference state that the Committee will discuss the Leader's Annual Statement and other relevant cross cutting matters arising from the business of the Cabinet or as advised by the Chief Executive.

This report sets out the work programmes of the individual committees during the municipal year so far, upcoming issues planned for scrutiny by each committee, and current plans for scrutiny panels. It also provides a brief overview of the emerging programme of work in response to cost of living crisis for joint chairs to consider how this can best be supported and scrutinised across their committees.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

AGENDA ENDS

Guidance on Hybrid Meetings

Hybrid Meetings are those held with some remote attendance but with the decision makers being physically present with social distancing measures in place

The following procedure shall be adopted in relation to the conduct of all meetings of the Council and its various committees and sub-committees within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1972 and associated legislation. The Council's Procedure Rules, while still applying, are to be interpreted in light of this guidance note and adjusted accordingly.

Council, committee and sub-committee meetings will be held in a meeting room as advertised on the published agenda, and members of the Committee wishing to participate will be required to be physically present in that meeting room. Except for in limited circumstances in which a resolution to exclude the press and public may be made, the press and public are by law permitted to attend these meetings. However, whilst social distancing measures remain in place, space for public attendees is very limited and, whilst it is the public's right to attend, those wishing to observe proceedings are encouraged to watch the live feed at www.camden.gov.uk/webcast. Those seeking to attend a meeting to present a deputation or petition with the agreement of the Chair, whilst they have the right to attend, are also encouraged to do so remotely. This guidance note sets out how such meetings will operate.

A. Attendance of committee members remotely

1. For all Council, committee and sub-committee meetings, Members of these committees may not participate in a meeting in any way other than to be physically present in the meeting place. It is not appropriate for a Member of these committees to take part in the discussion remotely (and it is never lawful for a Member of any committee to purport to vote on an item remotely) and thus to potentially influence voting Members of the committee. Any Member of the committee not wishing to attend the meeting place, but wishing to watch the meeting, may do so at www.camden.gov.uk/webcast.

B. Method for conducting hybrid meetings

1. The law requires that Members of the committee or sub-committee who wish to be counted as part of the quorum for the meeting and who wish to vote to be physically present at the place specified on the agenda for the meeting (the 'meeting place').
2. Other participants, such as councillors who are not members of the committee, officers and deputees, may join the meeting remotely and this will be facilitated using Microsoft Teams ('Teams'), using the calls functionality. Both those present in the meeting place and those joining remotely will be captured in the Teams call and on the live broadcast of the meeting.

3. The Teams call will utilise both the audio and video functionality so all remote participants¹ should be capable of being heard and seen by those physically present at the meeting place and by other remote participants, and vice versa.
4. It will not impact the lawfulness or otherwise of the meeting should a remote participant lose their connection or not be able to see the other participants for any part of the meeting, nor if they cannot be seen by other participants and / or the public. All participants will, as far as able, try to join the meeting using the Teams app or web browser and not via dialling into the meeting.
5. Unless a meeting is dealing with confidential items, it will be streamed to the public so that they may listen and watch (should video be available) but the public will not be able to participate unless section D below on deputations applies; these are meetings held in public via a digital connection, but are not public meetings. Therefore, other than with the permission of the Chair and as a depute, members of the public cannot participate.
6. The Chair will be provided with advice on procedure and meeting management by a committee officer and, for some meetings, a lawyer and other relevant officers. The committee officer will be physically present at the meeting place. Other officers will in most cases participate remotely.
7. Meetings will be streamed live as well as recorded, stored and uploaded to the Council's website. The Council will aim to do this within 48 hours of the meeting finishing.
8. Minutes will be taken and published in the usual manner.
9. In line with existing procedure rules, the ruling of the Chair on a point of order and on the construction or application of this guidance, procedure rules and standing orders shall not be challenged during any meeting, including any decision of the Chair to ask for contributors to be muted.

C. Prior to the meeting

1. Agendas will be published on the [website](#) and via the modern.gov app, and a public deposit copy will be available at the Crowndale Centre reception. Hard copies can be made available on request. Unless a matter is urgent, five clear working days will elapse from the publication of the agenda to the holding of the meeting. Committee members will, as usual, receive an automated email when the agenda is published online containing a link to the agenda.
2. Councillors who are not members of the Committee will be asked to confirm to the committee officer by the deputation deadline their wish to address the Committee and on which items, and will then be sent a link to join the meeting

¹ Remote participants are defined as: councillors who are not members of the committee but who seek to address the committee; officers advising the committee or presenting reports; any external partners / third-parties invited to address or advise the Committee; and deputees (including any member of the public with speaking rights).

remotely. Participation of non-Committee members will, as usual, be at the discretion at the Chair.

D. At the meeting

1. The committee officer will begin the Teams call 15 minutes before the meeting start time to allow remote participants to join promptly and check their audio / video feeds are working.
2. The usual rules as to numbers of members to create a quorum will apply, and only physical presence in the meeting place of a voting member or substitute will count towards the quorum.
3. The meeting will, as the first item of business on the agenda, note and agree the variations / interpretations of procedure rules as set out in this document. The meeting will then follow the published agenda as normal and be conducted in accordance with the procedure rules set out in the Constitution as supplemented by this document.
4. Any non-committee Member participating remotely who declares an interest in any item of business which would normally require them to leave the room shall switch off their microphone and camera for the duration of the item so they cannot be heard or seen by the other participants. They should also refrain from sending any messages using the chat function during the item or do anything that may be reasonably perceived as trying to influence the debate. Any such action may be a breach of the Members' Code of Conduct. The relevant Member will still be able to see and hear the discussion and at the end of the item may switch their camera and microphone back on. The committee officer may use their ability to remotely switch microphones on and off to assist in this process.

Debate

5. Committee members present in the meeting place will indicate their desire to speak in the customary way by raising their hand. Any non-committee Member joining remotely will indicate a wish to speak by submitting their name using the "chat" function on Teams, and their participation will be at the discretion of the Chair. This "chat" will not be minuted nor be a formal part or contribution to the meeting. All participants should refrain from using the chat for any function other than indicating their wish to speak or indicating a loss of their audio feed (section C8) and will be reminded about this at the outset of the meeting.
6. When not speaking, participants will be asked to keep themselves muted. Officers may do this remotely to improve the audio quality of the meeting.

Interruptions to connections

7. If the audio feed of any non-committee Member joining the meeting remotely cuts out during the meeting they will:

- a) If still connected to Teams, use the 'chat' function to advise immediately that they can no longer hear the other participants;
 - b) If they are unable to use the Teams 'chat' function, use the emergency contact details provided to alert the relevant officer (usually the committee officer) by text message, who will advise the Chair.
8. Ordinarily the failure of the audio connection of a party joining the meeting remotely will not impact on the conduct of the meeting.

Deputations and petitions

9. Procedure rules with regard to deputations and petitions apply. Should the Chair agree to hear a deputation, the deputee will be encouraged to join the meeting remotely and issued with details on how to do this. Deputees will ordinarily need to provide an email address in order to join the meeting in this way.
10. Any person who would like to make a deputation, but cannot participate remotely due to technological reasons, or does not wish to do so, may attend the meeting place to give their deputation in person, subject to any restrictions on numbers required to maintain social distancing
11. If the Chair is notified of a deputee's audio feed failing during the item in which they have asked to address the Committee, then the Chair may adjourn the meeting for up to 15 minutes in order to re-establish the connection. Alternatively, the Chair may choose to move onto other items of business if considered appropriate, while the connection to the deputee is re-established.
12. Each deputation attending remotely will be required to identify a single speaker and where the connection of another member of the deputation party is interrupted, the Chair will not ordinarily adjourn the meeting but will have the discretion to do so where considered appropriate.
13. At the point at which their deputation is to be heard, the deputee should unmute their microphone so that they can address the meeting. Once the allotted time has expired they will be asked by the Chair to bring their remarks to a close and to mute their microphone. They may be asked to answer questions and to mute and unmute as required in order to do so.

Behaviour

14. The Chair will at their discretion be entitled to ask the committee officer to mute any remote contributors should they consider it appropriate. Should a remote participant become disruptive, the Chair will warn them and should that warning not result in a change of behaviour which is acceptable to the Chair then they shall, at their absolute discretion, be entitled to ask the committee officer to terminate the individual's participation in the meeting.

E. Licensing (Sexual Entertainment Venues) Sub-Committee and Licensing Panels

1. The above procedure rules shall apply unless superseded below. The Licensing procedures set out in the Constitution (which are published on every licensing agenda) shall also apply but may be varied at the Chair's discretion and upon advice, in so far as is necessary and reasonable in the context of a remote meeting.
2. Licensing hearings do not take deputations. The applicant / licence holder / parties making representations instead declare their intention to address the Committee beforehand. They will be sent a notice of the hearing as normal and are required to return this by 7pm, 2 working days before the meeting. Where a party has not indicated their intention to speak by this time, they will be presumed to not be addressing the Committee. Reasonable attempts will be made to accommodate those submitting late notifications, but their participation will not be guaranteed.
3. Those parties indicating their intention to attend and speak as per paragraph E2 above will be encouraged to join the meeting remotely and issued with details on how to do this. Parties will ordinarily need to provide an email address in order to join the meeting in this way.
4. Any party wishing to attend and speak, but who cannot participate remotely due to technological reasons, or does not wish to do so, may attend the meeting place to speak in person, subject to any restrictions on numbers required to maintain social distancing
5. In line with the above rules on deputations, it is stressed to applicants / licence holders/ parties making representations remotely that they must identify a single speaker in accordance with section D12 above. This may be themselves or another nominated person. They may invite others to speak as part of their submissions, but the sub-committee or panel will not adjourn the meeting for a speaker who is not the identified single speaker for the party unless the Chair is persuaded that that the non-lead speaker has material information to impart to the sub-committee or panel.

F. Confidential/Exempt Items

1. Should the meeting have confidential or exempt items on the agenda, the Chair will move the usual motion to move into private session.
2. The meeting shall then stand adjourned until the Chair is satisfied upon the advisement of the committee officer that the public live feed has paused and all remote participants not eligible to remain in this part of the meeting have been removed from the Teams call.
3. When resolving to move back into public session, the meeting shall again adjourn until the Chair is satisfied, upon the advisement of the committee officer, that the

public live feed has resumed and all eligible remote participants have had their audio / video feeds restored satisfactorily.

G. Equalities

1. It is recognised that that some persons who ordinarily would be able to participate in Council meetings in person will not be able to participate in remote meetings due to physical or other disability or because they lack the technological capability to do so, and others may not wish to participate remotely. To this end, and to comply with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Government (Access to Information Act) 1985 that the press and public have the right to attend committee and sub-committee meeting, the press and public will be physically admitted up to a safe limit at which social distancing can be maintained.
2. Where there is the functionality to dial into a meeting instead of joining via the Internet, the Council will support this as far as possible in line with the procedures set out above.
3. Teams has live captions functionality for remote meetings for the deaf / hard of hearing, which users can independently turn on; guidance on how to do so will be provided. The Council cannot accept any liability for the accuracy of these live captions.
4. The Council will consider any other requests for reasonable adjustments to be made in order to allow parties to be involved in remote Council meetings as far as circumstances at the time of the meeting allows.
5. In addition the Council will review and monitor the operation of its hybrid decision making and make adjustments when it considers it can further mitigate any adverse impact.

ENDS

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

At a meeting of the **JOINT CHAIRS OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held on **THURSDAY, 3RD MARCH, 2022** at 6.30 pm in Committee Room 1, Crowndale Centre, 218 Eversholt Street, London, NW1 1BD

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE PRESENT

Councillors Douglas Beattie, Awale Olad and Lorraine Revah

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ABSENT

Councillors Maryam Eslamdoust and Andrew Parkinson

ALSO PRESENT

Councillor Georgia Gould, Leader of Camden Council
Councillor Pat Callaghan, Deputy Leader of the Council,

The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting. They are subject to approval and signature at the next meeting of the Joint Chairs of Scrutiny Committee and any corrections approved at that meeting will be recorded in those minutes.

MINUTES

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

RESOLVED

THAT Councillor Douglas Beattie be appointed as Chair for this meeting only.

2. GUIDANCE ON HYBRID MEETINGS

RESOLVED

THAT the guidance on hybrid meetings be noted.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Eslamdoust and Councillor Parkinson.

4. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY, NON-PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

No declarations were made.

5. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair announced

‘In addition to the rights by law that the public and press have to record this meeting, I would like to remind everyone that this meeting is being broadcast live by the Council to the Internet and can be viewed on our website for twelve months after the meeting. After that time, webcasts are archived and can be made available upon request.

If you have asked to address the meeting, you are deemed to be consenting to having your contributions recorded and broadcast, including video when switched on, and to the use of those sound recordings and images for webcasting and/or training purposes.’

7. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

There was no urgent business.

8. TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED

THAT the following terms of reference be noted:

1. To consider the Leader’s Annual Statement and any other relevant cross-cutting business of the Cabinet, or business deemed relevant by the advice of the Chief Executive;
2. To consider, in particular, areas and a programme of joint working by the scrutiny committees (see Part 3 of the Constitution) with the power, for the purposes of individual projects, of agreeing to vary terms of reference between

the committees (subject always to statutory provisions) to facilitate joint and cross-cutting scrutiny working; and

3. To agree the allocation of scrutiny panels between scrutiny committees for the forthcoming year based on the Council's agreed priorities within existing resources.

To Note: All

9. MINUTES

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 20th January 2020 be agreed as an accurate record.

10. THE LEADER'S ANNUAL STATEMENT

Consideration was given to the Leader of the Council's Annual Statement.

Councillor Georgia Gould, Leader of the Council presented her report that outlined her continued commitment to making Camden a fairer, more equal and just place in which everyone had a voice. The Leader's Annual Statement summarised the many ways in which the Council, working with its communities, had stayed true to that purpose in unprecedented circumstances; including paying tribute to the compassion and kindness that had been shared during the last two years of loss, grief and uncertainty.

Councillor Georgia Gould and Councillor Pat Callaghan, Deputy Leader of the Council, then gave the following responses to questions and points from the scrutiny committee chairs:

Covid Renewal, We Make Camden policy development and how do we measure progress and performance?

- There would be bold measurable time limited initiatives that would bring together the Council, partner organisations and the community. Building coalition's and working collectively towards shared objectives. The aims of the Council were measurable as well as aspirational
- There would be a focus on 2030 and the big systemic problems would be addressed in an annual statement about Camden, with large public meetings to scrutinise the Council.
- The Camden Climate Investment, that had recently been introduced, was a good example of funding the green future of the borough
- The idea for a State of the Borough Summit style event was based on work in Manchester that could be further developed in Camden

The cost of the We Make Camden events, were they value for money, can the costs of the events be provided?

- Eight boroughwide 'We Make Camden' events had taken place to date, and more were planned. There was a financial cost to organising these events but they had provided invaluable opportunities for community engagement and intergenerational work following a time of social isolation. There had been moments of interaction with starting points for further community networks and initiatives, that otherwise would not have taken place. The cost of the 'We Make Camden' events could be provided.

Looking at the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board – what difference would the new integrated partnership across five boroughs make to Camden?

- The Health and Wellbeing Board and all health partners were committed to addressing health inequalities and the social determinants of health that had been identified by Michael Marmot. The impact of employment on health outcomes had been addressed by the Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy and would continue to be a focus. There had been recent alarming statistics about the impact of unemployment and the importance of providing support into good employment opportunities. There was Health and Wellbeing accountability for the Strategy, with investment at a local level to make a real difference in the Camden community.
- The North Central London Integrated Partnership (comprising of the boroughs of Barnet, Camden Enfield, Haringey and Islington) would hopefully benefit Camden. The Local Care Partnership was working well, with the aim that services would be closer to communities. There were some challenges about political representation in the structure, with some tensions about democratic accountability.
- There continued to be concern about the lack of consultation about planned changes to services, particularly dentistry. There had been a very limited dental service during the pandemic and 60% of the dental service was currently operational. The NHS was under enormous financial pressure but there should be safeguards to ensure that essential services were provided and that there was accountability at a local level. Making cuts in preventative services provided the potential for more complex health issues and increased health costs later on.

There had recently been a tragic preventable death of a cyclist in Holborn. Over the last 10 years Camden's roads had been transformed but what more could be done to resolve road planning issues in the borough that were within the remit of Transport for London? We should be more proactive in addressing the issues of road safety and making changes that would result in increased safety.

- Condolences to the bereaved families were expressed by the Councillors.
- There was a national lack of funding for roads and highways as well as a need for further investment in London. Camden was working with London

Councils to prioritise improvements to road safety, and this would include working with Transport for London.

What measures were in place to support refugees from Afghanistan and Ukraine arriving in Camden?

- There had been a national failure of planning, resulting in the responsibility for refugees being left to local councils. In Camden there were staff specifically allocated to providing dedicated support to children and families with education, health, training, qualifications and support into employment.
- Councillor Gould expressed thanks to staff and community organisations for the incredible support they had shown in the welcome and guidance provided. However she voiced concerns about how unsuitable it was for families to have to live in hotels for extended periods of time and that government investment was required in order to secure housing in the private rented sector. The UK response had been deeply disappointing to the plight of refugees and lobbying would be taking place to ensure that resources and support were made available.

There had been recent national newspaper reporting about Russian Oligarch money in London and the impact on property prices affecting the private rented sector, what was Camden's approach?

There needed to be a wholesale change in the national approach, registering where money comes from and properties being used to store assets should be seized. Properties should not be used to artificially drive up rental prices and making them even more unaffordable. Camden as a local council does would support the changes recommend by the Mayor of London about a registry of London properties. When developing its own Council housing schemes, on its own land/property Camden had authority over the sales.

In response to questions about - housing ballots on the Wendling Estate; whether retrofitting the estate would have been a preferable option for local communities in West Kentish Town and what provision had been made for news homes for residents with disabilities or needing support - the Scrutiny Committee Chairs were provided with the following responses

- An 80% turn out of the people eligible to vote in the ballot, with 93% of the vote supporting the development, was an indication that people had understood what had been presented to them and were in favour of the proposals

Joint Chairs of Scrutiny Committee - Thursday, 3rd March, 2022

- The redevelopment of the West Kentish Town Estate had been the best options to address the massive issues of overcrowding and the quality of the housing stock on the estate
- Improvements to an estate should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis, by listening to the views and needs of the people who live there and whether retrofitting was a better option
- Moving people elsewhere was disruptive. An important part of the ballot was that residents had been able to have confidence in the promises that had been made to them that it would be worthwhile for the improved, safe and good quality homes that they would have
- The ballot process had empowered residents, with the 93% vote support for the proposals showing the strength of feeling to build a better estate; doubling the bedroom space; children having their own bedrooms and life changing work that works best for residents
- The redevelopment was about better lives for families and children. In the absence of government support the proposals were delivering quality housing for families and had made a real difference to their lives. Good quality housing, with the addition of lifts, a community centre and there had not been any complaints from families
- The Tybalds Estate scheme had not moved as quickly during the pandemic but progress had been positive
- The new flats could be adapted to meet the needs of residents with disabilities. The Charlie Ratchford Centre was providing extra care facilities for older residents. The option for there to be quiet blocks for older residents on new developments could be part of the co-production discussions about housing and community in the borough

The following points were provided in response to questions about the role of scrutiny; more opposition Members chairing scrutiny committees and the number of Cabinet Members who were also members of the Planning Committee

- The role of scrutiny was to provide challenge to the decisions being made by the executive
- Members were able to put aside their Cabinet roles in dealing with quasi-judicial matters when sitting as members of the Planning Committee, Licensing Committee or Licensing Panels and back benchers should also be encouraged to sit on these committees,
- The appointment of opposition chairs of scrutiny committees had been generous in relation to proportionality. The Peer Review had asked for the role of scrutiny at Camden to be looked at and possible options would be considered after the Local Elections in May

Joint Chairs of Scrutiny Committee - Thursday, 3rd March, 2022

There were further questions to the Leader and Deputy Leader, from a Councillor for St Pancras and Somers Town ward, about what funding was available to retrofit Council housing in the ward. The following points were made in response:

- The London Council's agreement of £98bn to retrofit homes had been for the whole of London and not just council housing stock,
- Camden's focus would be on Council housing stock and retrofitting would differ on each estate because of the diverse housing stock in the borough,
- There would be some funding from Camden and opportunities for other investments such as the UK Cities Climate Investment Commission (UKCCIC) would be explored
- The sustainable energy pilot to reduce energy bills in the borough was part of bringing improvements to local communities. The Neighbourhood Strategy for Somers Town was another example of embedding the Green New Deal locally by collaborating with the local community, along with the support of external investments to realise future neighbourhoods vision for 2030.

Councillor Georgia Gould, Leader of the Council and Councillor Pat Callaghan, Deputy Leader of the Council were thanked for attending the meeting and the responses that they had provided.

RESOLVED

THAT the Leader of the Council's Annual Statement be noted.

To Note: All

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

There was no such business.

The meeting ended at 8.30 pm.

CHAIR

Contact Officer: Donna Alexander-Morrison

Telephone No: 020 7974 5319

E-Mail: donna.alexander-morrison@camden.gov.uk

MINUTES END

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LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN	WARD: All
REPORT TITLE: Update on the State of the Borough Report	
REPORT OF: Director of Strategy and Design	
FOR SUBMISSION TO: Joint Chairs of Scrutiny Committee	DATE: 19 th October 2022
<p>SUMMARY OF REPORT:</p> <p>The State of the Borough report is a commitment made in the December 2021 Cabinet report on the findings of the Renewal Commission and in the March 2022 Cabinet report that adopted We Make Camden, the borough strategy. The report will be published annually and is intended to present a shared evidence base reflecting how people in Camden are doing and their experience of life.</p> <p>It will help develop a shared ownership in Camden as it will be jointly owned by the council and partners. The report is planned to be published in March and presented to Full Council in April.</p> <p>The Joint Chairs discussed the proposal for a State of the Borough report with the Leader of the Council, when she presented her Annual Statement in March 2022, and expressed an interest in further information about the proposal at future meetings.</p> <p>Local Government Act 1972 – Access to information: No documents that are required to be listed were used in the preparation of this report.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Michal Shinwell Strategic Research and Evidence Lead London Borough of Camden 5 Pancras Square London N1C 4AG Michal.shinwell@camden.gov.uk</p>	
<p>RECOMMENDATIONS:</p> <p>The Joint Chairs of Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the further development of the State of the Borough report and process • Agree to receive the State of the Borough report at individual scrutiny committee meetings in February 	

- Agree to explore in future meetings how to use the State of the Borough report to inform the development of scrutiny committees' work programming

Signed: Executive Director Corporate Services

Date: 10th October 2022

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The recently approved borough strategy, We Make Camden (WMC), as well as the Renewal Commission report, both refer to a commitment towards an annual reporting on outcomes for people in the borough. The WMC strategy, a refreshed and updated version since Camden 2025 was published, sets out the six joint ambitions for the borough. It also defines 4 missions and 6 challenges as complex issues requiring different approaches and ways of working to deliver change. The WMC also sets out an approach to understanding impact and evaluating delivery, as an “*annual State of the Borough report, supporting an approach to measuring the progress towards our community vision.*”
- 1.2. The Renewal Commission report recommends that council “...*Facilitates annual, cross-borough learning and reflection on progress towards the missions*” and that it develops “...*a shared mission outcomes framework to understand the progress towards the missions... co-designed with the Camden community and express what it will look and feel like for Camden residents when the missions are achieved. based on ‘good life’ measures, building on international work such as the Sustainable Development Goals, and local work such as the Euston Wellbeing Index.*”
- 1.3. These commitments are strongly aligned with the 2019 Local Government Association (LGA) Peer Review on prioritisation and evaluation, and fit in with the Council’s emerging approach to insight and accountability. There are three interlinked components to this approach: assuring performance accountability, developing insight, and understanding the state of the borough and residents’ wellbeing.
- 1.4. A State of the Borough report will look at how life is for people in the borough, and how sustainable the current situation is. It is data and evidence focused and tells a story using data in order to understand people’s perspectives, experiences, and expectations for the future. It also includes stories that bring the voice and lived experience of residents to the fore.
- 1.5. It follows a practice of using a ‘State of the [...]’ reports to delve into policy issues affecting people which is grounded in data and evidence. At times, this is focused on a specific issue, such as the *State of the Nation report on Social Mobility* by the Social Mobility Commission. Other reports cover a wide range of issues relevant to the constituents of the organisation. For example, Manchester City Council publish an annual *State of the City Report* which aligns to the 5 themes of their long-term strategy and presents statistics on these alongside council actions for each theme. The London Borough of Barking and Dagenham publishes a *State of the Borough* report which similarly tracks the borough’s manifesto and presents statistics aligned to the main themes. In Camden, the *Annual Public Health* report published by Public Health takes a similar approach in describing the current situation for people in the borough from the health perspective, using available data. The common underlying theme of these reports is that they present data and evidence on how life is for people in a certain place or a certain theme.
- 1.6. The State of the Borough report supports several objectives:

- **Partnership and cross-borough ownership** for the borough strategy for facing its main challenges. As a consensual set of data and insights about how life is for people in the borough, it allows partners and key institutions from across the borough to address and take action independent from the Council. A shared understanding of the challenges faced by Camden allows for different prioritisation aligned to the objectives, mandates, and capabilities of each of the partners.
 - **Conversations with residents and the community** about priorities for the borough: alongside presenting the data and evidence, the State of the Borough report and convening event would be supported by the voices and lived experiences of residents and partners.
 - **Supporting prioritisation, impact measurement and scrutiny** through member engagement on data and evidence.
 - Developing and deepening a **culture of data and evidence-based policy** in the Council. Working as an organisation to generate the State of the Borough report will require engaging with the outcomes that residents have identified as priorities, as well as data literacy to support this. It also supports the ongoing work to develop the insights and accountability frameworks which help us understand the change we seek to achieve and our tools to make it happen.
 - As a regular annual reporting mechanism which supports **continuous assessment of the delivery and impact** of our ambitions – making the WMC strategy a “living document”.
 - **Breaking through silos** of policy issues by articulating the multidimensional way that people’s quality of life is experienced in the borough.
- 1.7. Subject to the views of the Joint Chairs of Scrutiny Committee and the individual scrutiny committees, the state of the borough report could also become a key input to work planning for the subsequent municipal year, informing work programmes and the commissioning of panels to explore in more detail the findings about outcomes for Camden’s communities and residents.
- 1.8. In line with the publication of the WMC strategy in March 2022, the State of the Borough is planned to be published in March 2023 alongside a convening event with partners and the community. We aim to have partners endorsing the report at the event so that it has a shared ownership. Following the event, the report will be presented at Full Council.
- 1.9. The emerging work on developing a wellbeing measurement framework, currently titled ‘Good Life Camden’, will provide the foundation for the State of the Borough report in the future. This framework is being co-created with residents and builds on the Good Life Euston project which was developed together with University College London’s Institute for Global Prosperity and the Euston Partnership. In which residents developed a conceptual framework which captures the dimensions important for living a good life in Euston. The Good Life Camden project is underway, with a planned ‘soft launch’ in March, alongside the State of the Borough report.

1.10. The drafting of the report is under way, and we are starting to reach out to partners to invite them to contribute data, evidence and lived experience stories to the report. This will support the shared ownership approach and reflects the understanding that not all the relevant data and evidence is held in the Council.

1.11. The proposed process for the report is as follows:

- Final draft to Scrutiny Committees (February)
- Publication and convening event (March).
- Full Council (April)

2. Finance Comments of the Executive Director Corporate Services

2.1. Officer resource will be provided by the Corporate Strategy and Policy Design team which will be met from within existing resources, and any additional initial costs will be met from Camden Plan reserve as previously agreed. The report also touches on the “Good Life Camden” project which has agreed funding from the Camden Plan reserve.

3. Legal Comments of the Borough Solicitor

3.1. The Borough Solicitor has been consulted and there are no legal comments.

4. Environmental Implications

4.1. This proposal has no environmental implications.

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LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN	WARDS: All
REPORT TITLE: Joint Chairs of Scrutiny Committee – Joint work planning and mid-year reflection session	
REPORT OF: Director of Strategy and Design / Statutory Scrutiny Officer	
FOR SUBMISSION TO: Joint Chairs of Scrutiny Committee	DATE: 19 th October 2022
<p>SUMMARY OF REPORT:</p> <p>Scrutiny plays an important role in improving outcomes for residents – making sure services meet resident needs, exploring issues which impact the wellbeing of the borough and providing improvement recommendations to the Council.</p> <p>The scrutiny function has a democratic mandate to monitor decisions affecting local residents, contribute to the formation of policy and hold the executive to account.</p> <p>The Joint Chairs of Scrutiny Committee was established to enable closer working relationships across the scrutiny function. Its terms of reference state that the Committee will discuss the Leader's Annual Statement and other relevant cross cutting matters arising from the business of the Cabinet or as advised by the Chief Executive.</p> <p>This report sets out the work programmes of the individual committees during the municipal year so far, upcoming issues planned for scrutiny by each committee, and current plans for scrutiny panels. It also provides a brief overview of the emerging programme of work in response to cost of living crisis for joint chairs to consider how this can best be supported and scrutinised across their committees.</p> <p>Local Government Act 1972 – Access to information:</p> <p>No documents that are required to be listed were used in the preparation of this report.</p> <p>Contact Officer: James Coumbe Portfolio Lead – Insight and Improvement London Borough of Camden 5 Pancras Square London N1C 4AG Tel: 020 7974 5965 James.coumbe@camden.gov.uk</p>	
<p>RECOMMENDATIONS:</p> <p>The Joint Chairs of Scrutiny Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the forward plans set out at Table 1 of the report, share key points of learning, and agree any areas of future joint working 	

- Reflect on scrutiny activity in 2022/23 so far, and agree the focus for any areas for development or training

Signed: Executive Director Corporate Services

Date: 10th October 2022

1. Background

- 1.1. Scrutiny plays an important role in improving outcomes for residents – making sure services meet resident needs, exploring issues which impact the wellbeing of the borough and providing improvement recommendations to the Council.
- 1.2. The scrutiny function has a democratic mandate to monitor decisions affecting local residents, contribute to the formation of policy and hold the executive to account.
- 1.3. The Joint Chairs of Scrutiny Committee exists to enable closer working relationships across the scrutiny function. Its terms of reference state that the Committee will discuss the Leader's Annual Statement and other relevant cross cutting matters arising from the business of the Cabinet or as advised by the Chief Executive.
- 1.4. This year, the local election in May resulted in a large number of new members joining the Council, and consequently a large number of new scrutiny members coming to role for the first time. There are also newly appointed scrutiny chairs for three of the five committees in 2022/23 (Children, Schools and Families, Housing, and Resources and Corporate Performance).
- 1.5. All scrutiny committees have met at least once during 2022/23 so far and have discussed and agreed work plans for the remainder of the municipal year, though these may be adjusted during the course of the year to reflect changing priorities and circumstances.

2. Scrutiny Agenda for 2022/23 Municipal Year

- 2.1. The table below sets out the work plans for each scrutiny committee – both what has been looked at so far this municipal year and what is presently planned for future agenda. The Committee is recommended to discuss individual committee work plans and areas of focus for the remainder of the year:
 - Highlighting any key points of learning from scrutiny sessions so far
 - Considering any possible overlaps and agreeing on areas for joint working between individual committees, and
 - Reviewing and discussing the scope and timing of any planned scrutiny panels
- 2.2. At present, the following scrutiny panels are being considered:
 - Impact on Covid-19 on language development in early years (Children Schools and Families, from November)
 - Circular Economy (Culture and Environment, from November)

Table - 2022/23 scrutiny committee forward plans

Issues considered to date				
Children, Schools and Families	Culture and Environment	Health and Adult Social Care	Housing	Resources and Corporate Performance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ofsted Inspection of Children's Services (results) • Corporate Performance Reporting • Youth Review (Cabinet Report) • Camden's provisional exam results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Euston Road Cycle Lanes • Tree Planting Strategy follow up • Biodiversity Strategy / Action Plan • End of Year Performance Summary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community connectedness and Friendships • Public Health Quarter 3 (Q3) Performance Report 2021-2022 • Corporate Performance Reporting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Future of West Kentish Town Estate • Agar Grove Estate • Camley Street Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasury Management Annual Report and Mid-Year Strategy (Cabinet report) • Community Investment Programme Update (Cabinet report) • Procurement of Insurance Policies (Cabinet report)

Page 30

Forward plan (Non-Cabinet Reports)				
Children, Schools and Families	Culture and Environment	Health and Adult Social Care	Housing	Resources and Corporate Performance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School places planning report • CSCP Annual Report 2021-22 / Business Plan 2022-23 • Children's Services Annual Complaints Report 2021-22 • Young Inspector's Report on a Children's Service • Corporate Parenting Annual Report 2021-22 • Achievement and Standards Report 2022 • Annual Health Report on children, young people and families • Corporate Performance Reporting • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputation residents re Delancey Street • Corporate Performance Reporting • Co-ordination of utility company works • Trust and Transparency Action Plan: Building Trust with Black Communities • Access to sport for young people • Climate Annual Review 2022 • Borough Commander Annual Update • Camden Council's approach to powered two-wheel vehicles. • VCS rent and leases update • Library Service (TBC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on the transition to an Integrated Care System • Primary Care: Enhanced access and the Fuller Report • Public health annual report 2020/21 • Public Health Quarterly Performance Reporting • The impact of the rise of cost of living on Adult Social Care • Health and Wellbeing Strategy priority: Good work and employment • Corporate Performance Reporting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Management Services (service improvement changes and neighbourhood development proposals) • Housing Services quarterly performance reports (Including KPIs) • Community Investment Programme annual report • Leaseholder services • Landlord Licensing Scheme update • Improving the safety of estates (assess crime and ASB data, progress on CCTV installation across the borough) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CIP Annual Report • Corporate Performance Reporting • Communicating with our diverse communities (TBC) • Update on customer contact and customer services (TBC) • Partnerships and partner engagement (TBC) • CIP Panel Report Response (TBC) • CIP Annual Report (TBC) •

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture Service (TBC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Wellbeing Strategy Priority: Community connectedness and friendships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camden Housing Strategy 	
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Forward Plan – (Cabinet Reports)

Children, Schools and Families	Culture and Environment	Health and Adult Social Care	Housing	Resources and Corporate Performance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEND strategy • Youth Mission • Secure Children’s Home for London and Pan-London Commissioning (TBC) • Revenue estimates and council tax report inc. Schools Funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camden Transport Strategy: Review of Progress Since 2019 and Proposed Three Year Programme 2022/23 to 2024/25 • Flood Risk Management Strategy • Camden Clean Air Action Plan 2022 - 2026 (All Wards) and Camden Clean Air Strategy 2019 – 2034 • VCS Grants Priorities – 2024 Onwards 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HRA Budget (Annual rent setting) • Housing Strategy • Housing Allocations (TBC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • London Borough of Camden Annual Complaints Report • Camden’s Climate Investment 2027, the Council’s Local Climate Bond • Camden’s Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023 – 2026 • Council Tax Support Scheme 2023 – 2024

Cabinet Member Annual Reports

Children, Schools and Families	Culture and Environment	Health and Adult Social Care	Housing	Resources and Corporate Performance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Report of the Cabinet Member for Best Start for Children and Families • Annual Report of the Cabinet Member for Young People and Culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual report of the Cabinet Member for a Sustainable Camden • Annual report of the Cabinet Member for Voluntary Sector, Equalities and Cohesion • Annual report of the Cabinet Member for Safer Communities • Report of Councillor Nina de Ayala Parker, Cabinet Advisor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Report of the Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Report of the Cabinet Member for Better Homes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Report from the Cabinet Member for Finance and Cost of Living

	<p>on Promoting Green Space and Biodiversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual report of the Cabinet Member for New Homes, Jobs and Community Investment			
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3. Cost of Living Crisis Response

- 3.1. Camden Council has made tackling inequality a core part of our priorities and commitments. The cost of living crisis is a further entrenchment of poverty and an exacerbation of existing structural issues that the council has sought to respond to in recent years. What has changed is the speed at which the crisis has developed, the breadth of its impacts across people's lives, and the scale of its impact on communities. For this reason, the Council's response to the crisis combines short-term harm reduction and long-term systems change and mitigation.
- 3.2. Camden is doing all it can to respond in the coming months to reduce the harm of the crisis on the most vulnerable – recognising the existing trauma that many are experiencing as a result of the pandemic - and doing all we can to support households to access the support available to them.
- 3.3. Camden's response to the cost of living crisis is being overseen by a Cabinet Member Response Group chaired by the Cabinet Member for Finance and Cost of Living. The Response Group was set up in July 2022 to maintain oversight of the Council's systemic response to the challenge of poverty and hardship in our communities resulting from the increasing cost of living. The Response Group is tasked with providing strategic direction on key projects that support the delivery of Camden's response. The Response Group first met in September 2022 and will make recommendations to Cabinet for formal decision-making, including producing a final report by July 2023.
- 3.4. The Cabinet Member Response Group is supported by a Cost of Living Officer Group, which takes responsibility for the management and delivery of the Council's response to the cost of living crisis. The Cost of Living Officer Group is developing, coordinating, and delivering interventions across ten workstreams:
- Financial Support
 - Warming Homes
 - Food Insecurity
 - Community Response
 - Data and Insight
 - Communications and Participation
 - Schools and Early Years
 - High Risk Groups
 - Support for Employees
 - Lessons Learned and Scenario Planning
- 3.5. Significant initiatives include the Cost of Living Crisis Fund, which was approved by Cabinet in July 2022 and for which £2m has been allocated to fund direct awards to Camden households in financial crisis. The workstreams above also incorporate projects to maximise uptake of free school meals, develop a network of warm places in the winter at which holistic support can be accessed, and

delivery of debt and welfare advice by dedicated Camden staff and the Camden Advice Network.

- 3.6. The cost of living crisis will have significant impacts on communities in terms of health and wellbeing, young people's opportunities, housing and homelessness, and Camden households' economic security in our borough for years to come. For this reason, Joint Chair of Scrutiny Committee is recommended to consider:
- The role of Scrutiny Committees need to play in the Council's response to the cost of living crisis
 - How Scrutiny Committees may work together on this subject, given the wider range of services that will be involved and impacts it will have on residents, and
 - How the impacts of the cost of living crisis may be reflected in each committee's work programme

4. Reflections on scrutiny in 2022/23

- 4.1. The Council remains committed to continuing to improve and develop the scrutiny function as a key part of ensuring effective governance and delivery as an organisation, and to realising the opportunities for scrutiny to "play a more central role in both the Council's place-leadership and participation priorities", as identified in the 2020 Local Government Association Corporate Peer Challenge report.
- 4.2. Following the local elections in May 2022 there was a large new intake of councillors, which is reflected in the membership of scrutiny committees. A range of induction and training opportunities were provided, including briefings for individual scrutiny committees with the relevant Executive Director, looking at the previous work of the committee and its remit, and external training from the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny.
- 4.3. Acknowledging that the remit of each committee is broad and each covers a number of complex topics and business areas, Joint Chairs are invited to give their reflections on what further support committee members might benefit from over the remainder of the municipal year, and any further reflections – for example:
- What would you like to do differently in the next part of the year, and in the coming year, to continue to add to the value of scrutiny?
 - What are the challenges – and opportunities – bringing together a committee with a new membership and what do you need to in your role as chair to address/take advantage of these?

5. Finance Comments of the Executive Director Corporate Services

The Executive Director Corporate Services has been consulted and no comments are required.

6. Legal Comments of the Borough Solicitor

The Borough Solicitor has been consulted and no comments are required.

7. Environmental Implications

This proposal has no environmental implications.

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