



# Environment, Housing and Regeneration Select Committee

Date:

WEDNESDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2021

Time:

7.00 PM

Venue:

COMMITTEE ROOM 5 -CIVIC CENTRE, HIGH STREET, UXBRIDGE

Meeting Details:

Members of the Public and Media are welcome to attend. This meeting may also be

broadcast live.

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#### **Councillors on the Committee**

Wayne Bridges (Chairman)
Alan Chapman (Vice-Chairman)
Nicola Brightman
Allan Kauffman
Alan Deville
Scott Farley (Opposition Lead)
Janet Gardner

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Putting our residents first

Lloyd White
Head of Democratic Services
London Borough of Hillingdon,
Phase II, Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1UW

# **Environment, Housing & Regeneration Select Committee**

# Membership

7 Councillors appointed on a proportional basis.

#### **Terms of Reference**

To undertake the overview and scrutiny role in relation to the following Cabinet Member portfolio(s) and service areas:

Cabinet Member Portfolio	Cabinet Member for Environment, Housing & Regeneration
Relevant service areas	<ol> <li>Planning &amp; Regeneration</li> <li>Housing</li> <li>Green Spaces, Sport &amp; Culture (only Green Spaces)</li> <li>Waste Services</li> </ol>

This Committee will also act as lead select committee on the monitoring and review of the following cross-cutting topics:

- Climate Change
- Local impacts of Heathrow expansion
- Local impacts of High Speed 2

# <u>Specific portfolio responsibilities of the Cabinet Member for</u> Environment, Housing & Regeneration – Cllr Eddie Lavery

- 1. To oversee and report to the Cabinet on the Council's responsibilities and initiatives in respect of:-
  - Climate change, including air quality
  - Council's flood policy,
  - parks, open spaces, woodlands, allotments and other amenity land,
  - reservoirs,
  - provision and management of trees,
  - Colne Valley Park
  - Crematoriums, Cemeteries & Mortuary Service
  - housing need for the Borough,
  - homelessness duties,
  - conditions of tenancies,
  - home ownership,

- standards of privately let housing
- private sector housing grants,
- new homes initiatives,
- maximising the use of empty homes
- the Chrysalis programme of environmental improvements,
- Street Champions & Feel Proud [neighbourhood campaigns]
- Regeneration, including Town Centres
- Promoting a high quality built environment
- sustainable development
- Designation of conservation areas,
- Borough wide planning policies
- Planning enforcement policies,
- purchase notices,
- revocation of planning consents,
- stop notices
- recycling,
- waste strategy,
- civic amenity sites,
- refuse collection,
- street cleansing,
- trade waste.

# Agenda

1	Apologies for Absence	
2	Declaration of Interest in matters coming before this meeting	
3	To confirm that all items marked Part 1 will be considered in Public and that any items marked Part 2 will be considered in Private	
4	To agree the Minutes of the previous meeting	1 - 6
5	Review Witness Session 2 - Engagement with Tenants and Leaseholders	7 - 14
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# Agenda Item 4

# **steMinutes**

# ENVIRONMENT, HOUSING AND REGENERATION SELECT COMMITTEE



#### 14 September 2021

Meeting held at Committee Room 6 - Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge

#### **Committee Members Present:**

Councillors Wayne Bridges (Chairman)

Alan Chapman (Vice-Chairman)

Alan Deville

Scott Farley (Opposition Lead)

Janet Gardner

Carol Melvin (In place of Allan Kauffman)

Teji Barnes (In place of Nicola Brightman)

#### LBH Officers Present:

Neil Fraser, Democratic Services Officer

Marion Finney, Customer Engagement Officer

Ian Anderson, Business Manager, Complaints and Enquiries

Mark Billings, Housing Manager

**Gary Penticost** 

Debby Weller, Residents Services - Housing Strategy Manager

Rod Smith, Residents Services - Tenancy Services

### 24. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** (Agenda Item 1)

Apologies were received from Councillors Brightman and Kauffman. Councillors Barnes and Melvin were present as their respective substitutes.

# 25. DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN MATTERS COMING BEFORE THIS MEETING (Agenda Item 2)

None.

# 26. TO CONFIRM THAT ALL ITEMS MARKED PART 1 WILL BE CONSIDERED IN PUBLIC AND THAT ANY ITEMS MARKED PART 2 WILL BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE (Agenda Item 3)

It was confirmed that all items would be considered in public.

# 27. TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Agenda Item 4)

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting. It was agreed that the previously suggested additions to the Work Programme would be discussed during agenda item 9.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2021 be approved

# 28. **HOUSING STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT AND CONSULTATION** (Agenda Item 5)

Debby Weller - Housing Policy and Strategy Manager, introduced a report as part of the consultation process for the draft Housing Strategy 2021/22 to 2025/26. Mark Billings - Head of Housing Options, Homelessness & Standards, and Gary Penticost - Head of Repairs, Engineering, Planned Works & Facilities Management, were also in attendance.

The Committee was informed that the wide consultation process had included an online questionnaire which had resulted in, to date, 75 responses. It was felt that, while this figure was accepted as somewhat low, this still constituted a positive level of response that had provided meaningful feedback, as had a number of meetings and workshops with a wide range of service users and other stakeholders. Themes from the responses received included concerns regarding:

- measurable targets;
- local strategic approaches;
- · communication with community groups;
- sustainability and infrastructure to accompany development (e.g. provision of schools, GPs, etc);
- affordable housing;
- time on the housing register before rehousing;
- prices of houses versus flats;
- overcrowding;
- communication with tenants prior to their moving in;
- the Council's role as leader and its responsibility to support landlords and tenants:
- unsustainable debt and concerns regarding Universal Credit;
- support for independent living, with a focus on differently abled or older residents; and
- support for mental health, debt, and drug and alcohol dependency
- work towards DAHA accreditation is seen as positive.

It was confirmed that officers would consider the above when drafting the final report for determination by Cabinet. The Committee was requested to provide further comments for inclusion in that report.

In response to questions from the Committee, officers confirmed that the consultation had included various posts and advertisements on social media, together with an online questionnaire. Online questions had been bolstered by supporting information (e.g. summary detail on affordable housing), and a link to the full strategy had also been provided.

Regarding the strategy's target of ensuring all homes had at least a Band C energy rating, it was acknowledged that ideally all homes would be at Band A. However, many homes were currently substantially lower than Band C, and so the strategy was focussed on addressing the most problematic areas first.

On the matter of tenant/leaseholder workshops and meetings, these had been held in person prior to the pandemic but had since been put on hold. Officers were looking to start these again, with attendees based on a list of residents who had indicated their

willingness to participate in such events.

Regarding meeting the Borough's need for more 3 and 4 bed homes, officers advised that they worked closely with planning officers, developers and housing associations to promote housing that would meet such needs as identified by strategic market assessments. Implementation of the strategy would include continuing to explore further innovation in this area.

On the matter of moving tenants into smaller homes, the Committee was advised that the incentive scheme for downsizers had been reviewed, and a new package of financial support had been signed off by the Cabinet Member. This included, but was not limited to, a £2k payment for each bedroom released. It was confirmed that the Council ensured that homes were never statutorily overcrowded.

Homelessness presentations resulting from evictions in the private rented sector had been difficult to accurately forecast, as a result of the pandemic. Following the reopening of the Courts, presentations due to evictions in July had increased, with a slight reduction in August, though numbers remained higher than pre-pandemic. However, some areas of homelessness presentations had declined, e.g. the number of rough sleepers or asylum seeker clients. Other areas had increased, e.g. domestic abuse clients. It was suggested that the Committee could receive a larger report on the topic of homelessness at a future meeting.

Regarding hospital discharges and referrals to the Council, it was confirmed that officers were in regular communication with hospitals to upskill staff to identify patients in need of referral.

It was confirmed that officers were in discussion with the GLA regarding grant funding for addressing Traveller sites, though this was at an exploratory stage.

The Committee thanked officers for their work on the strategy and was pleased to see that the wide consultation had resulted in meaningful responses. The Committee requested that the report to Cabinet include a key focus on bringing empty homes back into use, potentially linked with the Council's Buy Back scheme, building relationships with key stakeholders such as housing associations, and downsizing/upsizing tenancies where required. The Committee also supported the suggestion that a further report on homelessness be considered at a future meeting.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- 1. that the report be noted;
- 2. that the comments of the Committee be included in the forthcoming report to Cabinet; and
- 3. that a further report on homelessness be added to the Work Programme for consideration at a future meeting.

# 29. ANNUAL COMPLAINT & SERVICE MONITORING REPORT FOR 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021 (Agenda Item 6)

lan Anderson - Business Manager, Complaints and Enquiries, introduced the annual complaints report which covered the period 01 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.

Key headlines from the report included:

- Informal complaints had risen significantly;
- Formal stage 1 and stage 2 complaints had reduced;
- The Ombudsman had chosen to investigate 34 complaints, a low number that would likely increase next year as things returned to normalcy following the pandemic;
- Compliments had significantly increased, with many received regarding the Borough's planting of wildflowers;
- Member's Enquiries (MEs) had reduced, likely due to the pandemic.

Regarding MEs, the Committee was advised that the monthly data received via the Group Offices showed different numbers to that of the report, due to the manner in which MEs without an address were allocated to Wards. The Committee was advised that the move to a new recording system would resolve this discrepancy for future reports. Work also remained to ensure readiness for the forthcoming changes to Ward boundaries in 2022. It was confirmed that any interested Members could arrange a visit to see the current ME recording system through the officer.

Two key themes from complaints had been identified as communication, and delays(often linked to repairs, social housing waiting lists, etc). Calls into the Call Centre had significantly increased, which had resulted in some residents being unable to be connected. It was expected that the number of callers would likely reduce following the pandemic.

Regarding Ombudsman's ruling of 'did not investigate', it was confirmed that this was misleading as often the Ombudsman did investigate, with all complainants receiving a detailed summary of the Ombudsman actions in plain English.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- 1. That the report be noted;
- 2. That the officer confirm the % number of compliments relating to wildflowers.

# 30. FIRST WITNESS SESSION FOR REVIEW - ENGAGEMENT WITH TENANTS AND LEASEHOLDERS (Agenda Item 7)

Rod Smith – Service Manager, Tenancy Services, and Marion Finney – Regulation and Engagement Manager, addressed the Committee to provide information to aid the Committee's review.

The purpose of the review was summarised. The Committee was informed that the Council's landlord service was entering a new period of Regulatory scrutiny as set out in the 'Charter for Social Housing Residents; Social Housing White Paper', published in November 2020. The White Paper set out the government's intention to make effective use of the Regulator of Social Housing to ensure that residents in social housing were safe, were listened to, lived in good quality homes, and had access to redress when things went wrong.

Ensuring that residents in social housing had a 'voice' and were listened to was seen as key, with the government setting out clear expectations regarding a step change in approach which would see engagement and involvement as a 'golden thread' running through services delivered by social housing providers. To align itself with these expectations, the Council was now developing a 'Tenant & Leaseholder Engagement and Involvement Strategy' with the review providing the Committee with the

opportunity to shape the development of the Strategy at an early stage.

The 'Hierarchy of Involvement' was presented as set out within the report, covering 5 distinct layers governing how the service recommended interaction with residents, before the Committee was provided a summary of current engagement actions (Appendix A) and potential options for future engagement (Appendix B).

It was recognised that the service should avoid a 'one size fits all' approach but instead should tailor its strategy to resident needs, together with their willingness or availability to become involved. Key interaction methods identified included various assemblies and group meetings (currently on hold due to the pandemic) direct contact via 'Meet The Manager' sessions, increased digital engagement include revisions to the Council website to ensure accessibility, and collaboration on the service's annual report.

It was accepted that many of the residents willing to engage with the Council were retirees, who had more free time. The Strategy would therefore carefully consider how to engage with people with more limited time, tailoring engagement actions to fit with their own availability.

The Committee recommended that any engagement strategy should make provision for inclusion of people with limited English. Officers advised that overcoming barriers to engagement was of key importance to the strategy. Where required, members of the team often acted as interpreters, alongside the Council's external interpreting service. In addition, residents often brought friends or family that could interpret for them. Access to IT was also being reviewed, alongside traditional methods of communication such as telephone calls.

Members recommended that officers consider how to reach residents who were unwilling to engage with the Council. Officers advised that methods of structured communication were being considered as part of the strategy. Statutory communications, such as letters setting out service fees or fees for works to be carried out were already in place, thought it was accepted that more could be done to ensure residents were presented with enough data to allow them to feel that they were receiving value for money.

To receive greater feedback, the service was considering setting up 'Estate Marshalls' to act as points of contact for the Council to collaborate with. The Committee expanded on this, suggesting greater collaboration via 'Street Searches', attendance at street parties or fetes, youth councils, or through pairing up with partners such as the Police, with the target of being 'seen' within the various communities. In addition, it was suggested that increased use of social media and messaging services, such as WhatsApp, should be considered.

The Committee moved to consider the witness session to be held at the next meeting. Regarding potential witnesses, the Committee was reminded that the service was Housing Revenue Account funded and it was therefore necessary to ensure that approaches were targeted at the Council's tenants and leaseholders only.

Members requested that the session should focus on tenants and leaseholders who had valuable feedback to share. It was also requested that the Association of Council Leaseholders should be invited to participate.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

31.	CABINET FORWARD PLAN (Agenda Item 8)
	RESOLVED: That the Cabinet Forward Plan be noted.
32.	WORK PROGRAMME (Agenda Item 9)
	The clerk provided a summary of email communication regarding the previously requested additions to the Work Programme (WP), with items confirmed as follows:
	Items added to Work Programme:
	Recycling - added for October 2021 Climate Change – added for January 2022 (interim report) and March 2022
	Items not within the SC's remit:
	Pest Control – under the remit of the Public Safety SC Alley gating – under the remit of the Corporate Services SC (an information item was considered at the previous Corporate Services POC in January 2021) The Hillingdon First card – under the remit of the Corporate Services SC
	Items to be on hold for now:
	Street Champions - the scheme is currently under review internally.
	RESOLVED: That the Work Programme be noted.
	The meeting, which commenced at 7.00 pm, closed at 9.06 pm.

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Neil Fraser on 01895 250692. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.

# Agenda Item 5

'Our engagement with tenants and leaseholders - improving participation and feedback to improve service and satisfaction' -2<sup>nd</sup> Witness Session

Committee name	Environment, Housing & Regeneration Select Committee	
Officer reporting	Rod Smith – Residents Services	
Papers with report	Appendix A – online questionnaire	
Wards	All	

#### **HEADLINES**

This report sets out details of the witnesses taking part in the Committee's second information gathering session for its review of engagement with residents and leaseholders. In addition, Appendix A sets out a survey put to residents, the results of which will be confirmed at the meeting.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

#### That the Committee:

- 1. Notes the information presented in the officer presentation and delivered as part of the witness session:
- 2. Consider the potential range of options to include in a tenant and leaseholder involvement and engagement offer, and
- 3. Following feedback from witnesses and officers, make recommendations regarding the content of the Council's Tenant & Leaseholder Engagement Strategy

# SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The following witnesses will be present to take part in the information gathering sessions on 13 October 2021:

Mr Alan Clark - Chair of the Leasehold Association

Mrs Ros Jorge - Tenant rep

Ms Natalie Lindsay - Tenant rep

#### Resident Feedback

Appendix A sets out the questions put to tenants and leaseholders as part of gathering feedback, the results of which will be presented by officers at the meeting.

Classification: Public

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#### IMPLICATIONS ON COUNCIL RELATED POLICIES

A role of the Select Committees is to make recommendations on service changes and improvements to the Cabinet who are responsible for the Council's policy and direction.

The Council's Landlord Service is in the process of developing a Tenant & Leaseholder Engagement Strategy.

### HOW THIS REPORT WILL BENEFIT HILLINGDON RESIDENTS

The opportunity presents to incorporate appropriate recommendations into the emerging Tenant & Leaseholder Engagement Strategy. This will benefit the Council's tenants and leaseholders by clearly setting out to them the full spectrum of involvement and engagement opportunities available to them which will improve transparency and help to shape and improve the landlord services they receive.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report. However, the establishment of a Tenant & Leaseholder Engagement Strategy which supports meaningful opportunities to tenants and leaseholders to tailor services and to ensure the Council has a clear focus on services which matter to residents makes good business sense.

#### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

NIL.

Classification: Public

# Residents Satisfaction Sample Survey September to October 2021

1. Are you
○ Tenant
Cleaseholder
2. How long have you been a council tenant/leaseholder?
Under a year
1-5 years
○ 5-10years
O 10years +
3. How good or poor do you feel Hillingdon Council is at keeping you informed about their services and decisions?
O Very good
C Fairly good
Neither good or poor
○ Fairly
O Very poor

4. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that Hillingdon Council gives you a say in how services are managed?
Very satisfied
<ul> <li>Somewhat satisfied</li> </ul>
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
Somewhat dissatisfied
Very dissatisfied
5. How good or poor do you feel Hillingdon Council is at keeping you informed about things that might affect you as a resident?
○ Very good
Fairly good
Neither good or poor
○ Fairly
O Very poor
6. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with opportunities given to you to participate in Hillingdon Council's decision making processes?
Very satisfied
Somewhat satisfied
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
Somewhat dissatisfied
Very dissatisfied

7.	To what extent do you agree or disagree that Hillingdon Council has given you information on building safety and what your responsibilities are?
	Strongly agree
	○ Agree
	Neither agree nor disagree
	○ Disagree
	Strongly disagree
8.	What if anything, stops you from being more involved in housing and other community activities within your estate/area?
	Time commitment
	I can't find anything I am interested in or would enjoy
	I don't know how to be more involved
	Caring responsibilities
	Language barrier
	Disability or health
	Nothing
	I am already involved

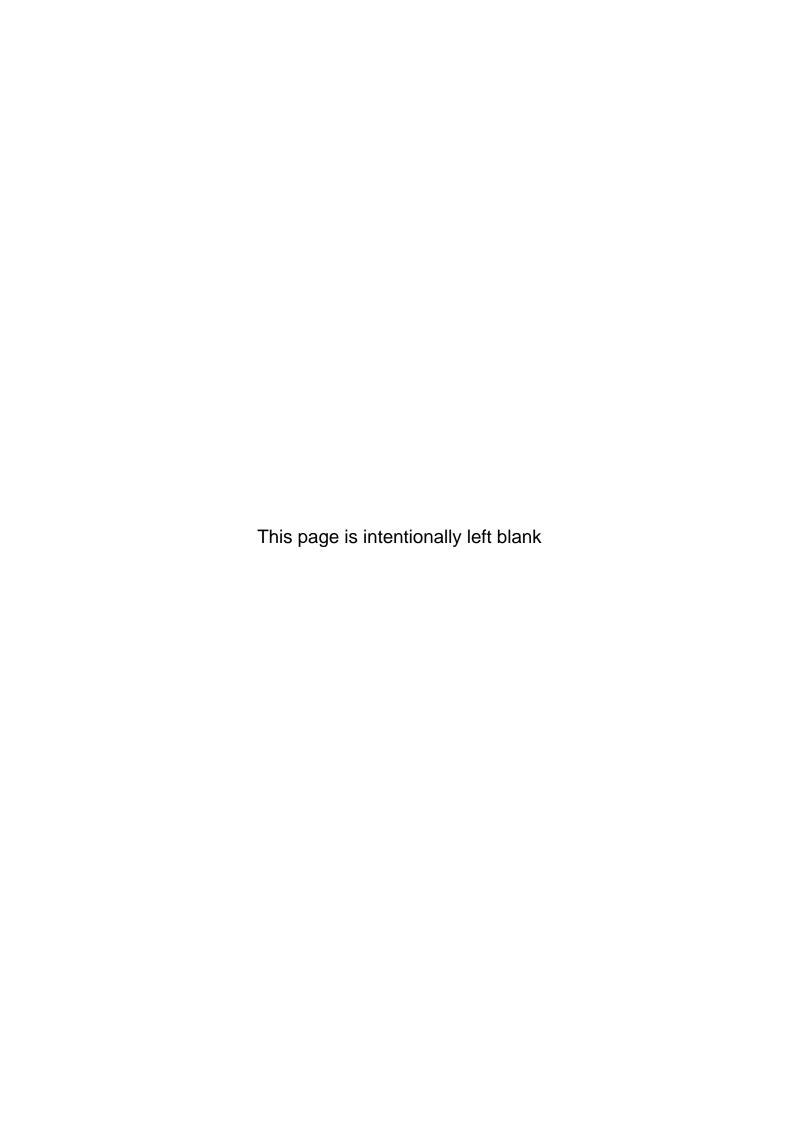
9. How interested are you in being involved in the following areas?	
Community initiatives	
Residents groups	
Focus groups and Consultations (groups that will focus & provide feedback on on specific areas of services)	
Specialist groups such as disability/older people/carers	
Repairs Service	
Caretaking Service/Estate inspections	
Publishing of quarterly newsletters or Annual Report	
Improving online services to develop digital offer.	
Other	
10. If you have identified area(s) for involvement, please provide your name and contactinformation.	ct
	ct
	et
information.	
information.	ct
information.	
information.  11. Email address	
information.  11. Email address  12. Age range	
information.  11. Email address  12. Age range  18-24 years	

3. What is your postcode?	
◯ TW6	
○ UB5	
○ UB10	
○ UB6	
○ TW19	
○ UB7	
○ UB3	
○ UB4	
○ UB9	
○ HA4	
○ WD3	
○ HA6	
○ HA5	
○ UB8	
Other	

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# LITTERING AND FLY-TIPPING REVIEW - UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Committee name	Environment, Housing & Regeneration Select Committee	
Officer reporting	Cathy Knubley, Waste Services	
Papers with report	None	
Ward	All	

#### **HEADLINES**

The now retired Residents, Education and Environmental Services Policy Overview Committee (REESPOC) completed its review of littering and fly-tipping within Hillingdon late last year. This report provides detail of the progress of implementing the recommendations resulting from the review, that were endorsed by Cabinet in October 2020.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

#### That the Committee:

1. Notes the information contained within the report.

#### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The progress of implementing the recommendations from the review is set out in blue text below:

- 1 Greater Landlord & Tenant Awareness:
  - a. That Waste Services promotes the Council's waste collection services in a targeted way to key landlords, letting agents, the Landlords Forum, Housing Associations on their and their tenants responsibilities;
  - b. To include consideration of 'welcome information' for new tenants on waste and recycling procedures, via letting agents and key landlords.

#### **Landlords**

Letters have been sent to landlords underlying their responsibilities with regards to the Waste and Recycling service in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The letter outlined how the council can help them, for example, engagement, leaflets and if necessary, an onsite meeting.

Classification: Public

These letters have been sent to registered landlords including HMO's. Approx. 300 letters were sent, to date we have only had two responses back. For the two who responded back the recycling team have delivered leaflets and sacks.

#### **Estate Agents**

We have emailed 32 estate agents asking if they would be interested to send a Waste and Recycling Information Welcome pack to their clients. This included:

- 1. Letter for new residents
- 2. Flats recycling guide
- 3. Kerbside recycling guide

Paper and PDF versions available, all the estate agents went for PDF versions.

Five large estate agents were interested, they have the welcome packs as PDF's to send out to residents in all their branches.

Coopers estate agents were the first to trial this. Coopers feedback was very positive as many new residents asked about Waste and Recycling services in the borough. They advised the welcome pack was perfect to give to new residents moving into the borough.

# 2 Beautification and Civic Responsibility

a. That officers increase the scope of roadside beautification through the planting of wildflowers to instil greater civic pride in areas, visually helping to deter littering from cars and by pedestrians;

We have planted several verges across the borough with flowers to help encourage biodiversity, which have been well received by residents. Our own observations are where we have planted these areas, they have been in the main kept litter free and well respected.

b. That a new 'warning letter' regime be instigated, with letters issued to suspected offenders as recommended by officers following receipt of complaints;

A standard template advisory letter is available and circulated to all ASB Officers for use

c. That the Council develops its relationship with external organisations such as Keep Britain Tidy and participates in national civic awareness campaigns;

Not yet had suitable campaign that meshes with Hillingdon Comms.

Classification: Public

d. That officers investigate the possibility of introducing a unique reference number for each bin to enable Waste Services to easily identify patterns (via reports/requests from residents) where particular bins overflow regularly or indeed are underused, and in turn, allow them to deploy limited resources more strategically and effectively.

We explored this idea at length, it was decided that this would be cost inhibited and have no major benefits as we use road names and addresses to locate bins.

# 3 Hard-hitting Communications Campaign:

- a. That Cabinet note some of the detailed ideas and creative approaches (not recommendations) suggested by the Committee in the report for consideration as part of the Council's wider communications campaign, including poster campaigns to highlight the impact, cost, and potential fines resulting from littering and fly-tipping
  - Hillingdon People feature in the May/June 2021 magazine outlining how fly-tipping reports have fallen compared to 2020. The article included fly-tip incident statistics, explained how to report fly-tipping and what the council does once it receives a report and warned that where evidence is found offenders are fined. The article also highlighted the council's weeks of action where patrols are carried out at hotspot locations, and included a reminder to residents to check waste carrier licences if they're paying someone to take waste away. Additionally, the article signposted residents to the council's bulky waste collection service.
  - Hillingdon People feature in November/December 2020 highlighting a decrease in fly-tipping incidents, explaining that those caught are fined, and introducing the weeks of action by explaining how many fines were issued and listing some of the hotspot areas. The feature outlined the correct ways to dispose of waste (including publicity of the council's civic amenity sites and bulky waste collection service).
  - A press release (similar story to November/December Hillingdon People) was issued in October 2020. A press release was also issued on 7 September 2020 when the weeks of action began.
  - A range of social media has been issued with good engagement rates (average rate of 5.2 per cent which is above the industry average). This has included messaging on: the weeks of action and fines issued, how to dispose of waste properly, publicity of the bulky waste collection service and a spotlight on the work of crews. (All highlight the fines if someone is caught fly-tipping)
  - A CCTV campaign on social media will start this month to appeal for witnesses.

Classification: Public

# Comparison of Fly Tipping Stats 2020/2021

Year		Incident Count
2021	January	497
2020	January	912

Year	Month	Incident Count
2021	February	571
2020	February	724

Year	Month	Incident Count
2021	March	808
2020	March	736

Year	Month	Incident Count
2021	April	773
2020	April	703

Year	Month	Incident Count
2021	May	811
2020	May	866

Year	Month	Incident Count
2021	June	877
2020	June	1009

Year	Month	Incident Count
2021	July	693
2020	July	1008

Year	Month	Incident Count
2021	August	630
2020	August	917

		Incident
Year	Month	Count
2021	September	460

Classification: Public

2020 September 935

Street Cleansing have also changed the way in which they work by introducing a new 'ward system.'

The new system assures that our van crews now take responsibility for the clearance of fly tips, emptying of litter bins cleaning of shop fronts etc and any other issues that occur in their dedicated wards, creating a sense of ownership of their area.

This we feel has reduced reports of fly tipping as they are now being picked up before they are reported by the public.

Along with this we have also created a Hotspot crew that attend areas that are known to be problem 'dumping' spots. They attend these areas on a regular basis clearing the waste before it becomes a problem.

That Corporate Communications produces a catchy online clip showing how to report fly-tipping and to book the bulky waste removal service, sharing online and across social media platforms;

- A CCTV campaign on social media will start this month to appeal for witnesses.
- A series of videos publicising the work taking place to investigate fly-tipping, how easy it is to report fly-tipping on the council's website, booking bulky waste, issuing fines and clearing fly-tipping are being prepared for digital use (website and social media).
- A visual fly-tipping campaign is also being prepared to start being used in October. This will include JC Decaux, posters for council sites and community notice boards, graphics for social media and adverts for Hillingdon People.
- c. That officers further investigate, and report back to the Cabinet Member with proposals, on the potential for "CCTV appeals" on video and social media, for residents to help identify offenders caught on CCTV in an effort to promote greater public engagement and a new avenue of information for securing successful later prosecutions;

This has been approved and we now are circulating imagery of unidentified suspects through a number of social media platforms which are live and in use. No results to date.

d. That ASBET officers, in conjunction with the Legal officers and the Corporate Communications team, roll out a regular programme to publicly 'name and shame' offenders once prosecuted, communicated widely including to Councillors, Street Champions and Neighbourhood Watch.

Classification: Public

This is in place.

e. That the Council publicise all successful prosecutions from the preceding 12 months through the Communications team.

One outstanding case for publication however offender is awaiting sentencing, no court date set as yet. This has been discussed with Communications Team and will be publicised as soon as the court process is complete. All future successful prosecutions will be publicised, subject to Legal advice and agreement.

- 4 Engaging Volunteers and Young People:
  - a. That the Council provides free litter picking equipment to established local groups, residents associations, schools, Ward Councillors or street champions, upon request;

Street cleansing have been working together with the 'Hillingdon Litter Pickers' They are a local community group that organise litter picks and waste clearances across the borough. We have been providing the litter picking equipment and bags to them and then picking up and disposal of the waste after the events. We have also worked with and supplied equipment to various Ward Councillors and residents.

b. That the Waste Services Team establish a programme of liaison with Hillingdon Schools, including environmental awareness and training, pupil led poster campaigns; and regular litter-picking activities:

This has been delayed due to Covid.

c. That the Council steps up its use of Community Payback to help clear litter and fly-tipping in parks, as well as 'hotspots' such as alleyways.

This has been delayed due to Covid.

- 5 Embracing National Changes
  - a. Following the Motion approved at Council on 16 January 2020 and national changes expected from the 2020 Environment Bill, notes that the Committee will revisit what additional steps can be taken by the Council should new powers and the ability to impose larger fines be granted upon local authorities to provide a stronger deterrent, reporting back to Cabinet as appropriate.

Classification: Public

#### Implications on related Council policies

A role of the Policy Overview Committees is to make recommendations on service changes and improvements to the Cabinet who are responsible for the Council's policy and direction.

# How this report benefits Hillingdon residents

The Committee's recommendations were put forward to enable the Council to further address the blight of littering and fly-tipping across the Borough, through the use of innovative approaches to public engagement and awareness, and additional tools for officers to pursue increased prosecution of offenders.

### **Financial Implications**

Corporate Finance previously confirmed that there were no direct financial implications resulting from the recommendations.

### **Legal Implications**

The Borough Solicitor previously confirmed hat there were no legal implications resulting from the recommendations.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

NIL.

Classification: Public



# Agenda Item 7

# RECYCLING WITHIN HILLINGDON

Committee name	Environment, Housing & Regeneration Select Committee	
Officer reporting	Cathy Knubley, Waste Services	
Papers with report	None	
Ward	All	

#### **HEADLINES**

Following a request for information on recycling within Hillingdon, this report provides a general summary of the work Hillingdon has carried out as part of the Council's recycling services over the last year.

#### RECOMMENDATION

#### That the Committee:

1. Notes the content of the report.

#### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

#### Food waste service roll out

After three successful weeks rolling out the segregated food waste service from the 10 May, there will be a proactive food waste campaign promoting the two segregated services from Monday 24 May, with the videos going live from 7.30am. During the first three weeks there were no issues with our Contact Centre experiencing any change in phone calls from residents confused with service changes.

This introduction has been a great experience for using Alloy, which will be rolled out for future services.

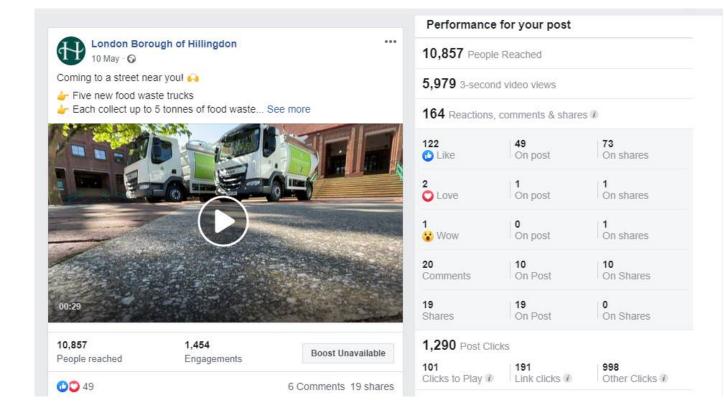
The food waste communication campaign has been shortlisted for a national recycling award to be announced on the 8 December 2021.

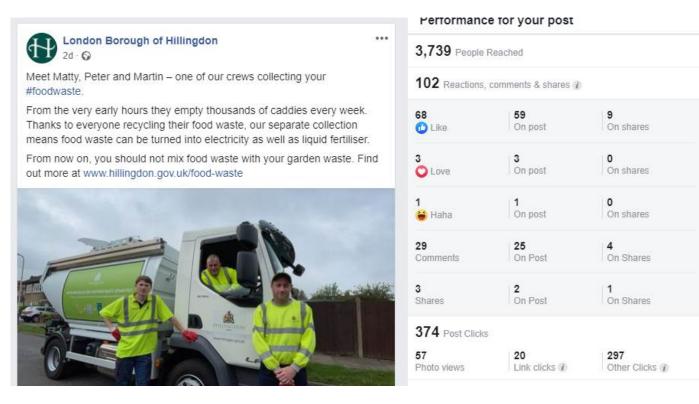
#### Confirmed food truck names

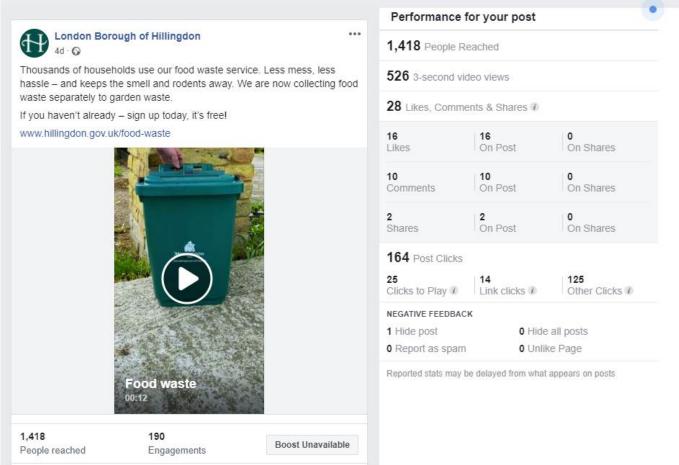
There has been a great response to our request for naming our food waste vehicles and with 3,809 public votes the winners are:

Classification: Public

•	Happy Scrappy"I enjoy looking out my window and seeing the van and how happy the people are"	7.04%	268
•	R2 Bin 2"Star Wars has a robot and he is helpful, so our trucks that collect all of the food are helpful"	7.35%	280
•	Sir Recylelot"Everyone should recycle a lot"	8.03%	306
•	The Green Gobbler"It is green waste and the truck will gobble it up"	10.19%	388
•	Scrappy Dappy Food"Scooby Doo inspired me"	33.03%	1,258







**DEFRA 2020/21 Recycling Rates** 

Classification: Public

These figures were released at the beginning of July and shows the increase or decrease in recycling percentage for the April – June period last year. Hounslow have stated that their data is incorrect and will be queried, so it is likely that Hillingdon had the largest increase of the six West London boroughs.

Authority	_	sehold waste sent for composting (Ex NI192		
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Difference 2019-20 to 20-21
Brent LB	0.376	36.5%	34.3%	-2.2%
Ealing LB	0.549	47.7%	48.7%	1.0%
Harrow LB	0.416	41.7%	34.2%	-7.5%
Hillingdon LB	0.428	39.9%	41.9%	2.0%
Hounslow LB	0.303	31.2%	35.9%	4.7%
Richmond	0.422	42.5%	38.9%	-3.6%

# **NYGL Signage and Reuse Centre update**

The new signs have been installed at NYGL to improve recycling. A reuse facility has been introduced at this site with all donations going towards the Mayors charity.









# **Recycling Roadshows**

The team promoted food waste to encourage residents to sign up on the day. Many food waste liners, dry mixed recycling clear sacks and garden waste sacks were given out and plenty of information on Hillingdon's recycling service. Over 4500 residents were spoken to and over 800 residents signed up for our new food waste service.







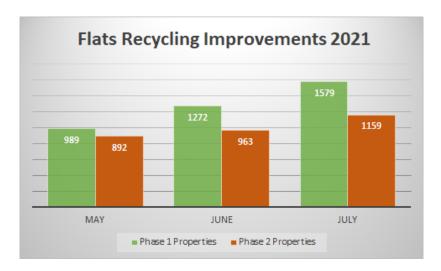


# Recycling rollout to our flats

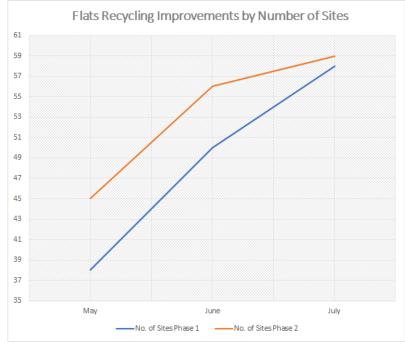
Progress of this project since May 2021 can be seen from the charts below. The first chart

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shows the number of properties that have had recycling improvements and engagement.



This second chart shows an increase in the number of sites with recycling improvements.



During these summer months, the recycling team have been rolling out this project, carrying out recycling roadshows and organising bins for projects and trade waste, as well as manufacturing signs and working closely with comms to promote the food waste service. The team have also been working closely with the caretakers for recycling and waste improvements on the estates.

Before After

Classification: Public





### Working in partnership with the NHS



Clinical waste found in dry mixed recycling is both detrimental to the recycling process and dangerous for our collection crews and staff at the sorting facility. Following reports from Biffa, our MRF supplier, of needles in the dry mixed recycling, the team has been working with the NHS to advertise the correct method of disposing of clinical waste and sharps through our dedicated, free to use clinical waste service. Posters are now being displayed and leaflets are being distributed to residents in:

### Hospitals

- 48 GPs
- 62 Pharmacies

work has been shortlisted for two separate awards to be announced in October and December.

# Promoting a circular economy

On 9<sup>th</sup> August, the recycling and comms team will meet with a volunteer from the Dr Bike scheme to record a set of videos to be released on social media and on our website about bicycle maintenance.

This is the first project that the team will be involved in to support a more circular economy by promoting re-use and repair over dispose and replace in order to reduce waste entering

Classification: Public

This

the system and to keep products and materials in use for longer. The short clips will detail the following topics:

- Demo of quick safety (or ABC) check.
- Discuss flat tyres and types of valves, etc.
- Brakes adjusting and checking.
- Looking at chain for wear, and brief talk about drive train.
- Check steering for looseness and play.
- General check for loose or worn components.

### **DMR** processing costs

Contamination rates continue to be lower than previous years and the market for resale of materials continues to improve. The Council is now paying the lowest rates for many years for processing its dry mixed recycling. Should contamination in our material reduce further, we could be in a position whereby processing this material becomes an income stream.

The below table details the cost comparison to last year. The gate fee has increased by £7.50 this year as a new contract was introduced in June 2021.

	Cost per tonne	Tonnes collected	Total cost	Contamination rate
Jul-20	£73.26	1848	£136,777	16.74%
Jul-21	£26.45	1867	£48,866	9.51%

# The latest waste stats

- 1. Refuse: 5,871 tonnes collected 633 tonnes more than last year
- 2. Recycling: 2,321 tonnes collected 593 tonnes more than last year
- 3. Garden & kitchen: 2,357 tonnes collected 237 more tonnes less than last year
- 4. Trade customer's card income at NYGL: £55,039.42
- 5. Kerbside recycling contamination rate: 9.51 %
- 6. Income from materials collected at NYGL:
  - a. Metal 54.55 tonnes £10,738.58

Diversion from waste rate: 44.3% Household recycling rate: 43.9%

(Household recycling rate July '20 = 42.4%)

## Update on social media comms

The team have reviewed a summary report of social media posts over the last 6 months. The report shows how many people each post has reached with 87 posts being made in total.

- 25 posts advertised the recycling roadshows
- 22 posts promoted the food waste service

Classification: Public

21 posts promoted what is and isn't acceptable in dry mixed recycling

The most popular post was a video about the launch of the new food waste vehicles which reached more than 11,000 people and was clicked on by nearly 1300 people.

The recycling service has received great comments that have been shared by residents on local Facebook groups.

# Implications on related Council policies

A role of the Policy Overview Committees is to make recommendations on service changes and improvements to the Cabinet who are responsible for the Council's policy and direction.

### How this report benefits Hillingdon residents

None at this stage.

### **Financial Implications**

None at this stage.

# **Legal Implications**

None at this stage.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

NIL.

Classification: Public



# Agenda Item 8

# **CABINET FORWARD PLAN**

Committee name	Environment, Housing & Regeneration Select Committee
Officer reporting	Neil Fraser, Democratic Services Officer
Papers with report	Appendix A – Forward Plan
Ward	All

## **HEADLINES**

The Committee is required by its Terms of Reference to consider the Cabinet Forward Plan and comment as appropriate to the decision-maker on key decisions which relate to services within its remit (before they are taken by the Cabinet or by the Cabinet Member).

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Environment, Housing & Regeneration Select Committee notes and comments on items going to Cabinet.

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The latest published Forward Plan is attached.

# Implications on related Council policies

The role of the Select Committees is to make recommendations on service changes and improvements to the Cabinet, who are responsible for the Council's policy and direction.

# How this report benefits Hillingdon residents

Select Committees directly engage residents in shaping policy and recommendations and the Committees seek to improve the way the Council provides services to residents.

# **Financial Implications**

None at this stage.

# **Legal Implications**

None at this stage.

# **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

NIL.

Classification: Public



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							Officer			
							Contact			Public /
							for			Private
						Cabinet	further			Decision
	Upcoming			War	Final decision by	Member(s)	informati	Consultation on	NEW	&
Ref	Decisions	<b>Further details</b>		d(s)	Full Council	Responsible	on	the decision	ITEM	reasons
			_			–				1

SI = Standard Item each month Council Departments: I = Infrastructure, Transport & Building Services P + Planning, Environment,
Education & Community Services SC = Social Care CR&S - Corporate Resources & Services FD= Finance

			Community Se	ervices SC	= Social Care CR	&S – Corporate	Resources & Serv	ices i	וא = בעי
Cabin	et Meeting – 14 Octob								
082	Statement of	Following Cabinet approval	All		Cllr Eddie	PE - Prag	Public		Public
	Community	to consult on this in June,			Lavery -	Shah / Julia	consultation		
	Involvement	this report seeks final			Environment,	Johnson /			
		approval on a revised			Housing & Regeneration	Tom Campbell			
		Statement of Community			Regeneration	Campbell			
		Involvement, which will set							
		out how the Council will							
		involve all sections of the							
		community in the planning							
		process and engage with							
		local communities,							
		businesses and other							
		interested parties when							
		developing and reviewing							
		planning documents and							
		determining planning							
		applications. It will replace							
		the Council's current							
		Statement of Community							
		Involvement from 2006.							
081	Approval to	Cabinet approval will be	N/A		Cllr Eddie	PE - Mark			Public
	establish a	sought to establish a			Lavery -	Billings			
	Dynamic	Dynamic Purchasing			Environment,				
	Purchasing System	System for Temporary			Housing &				
		Accommodation for			Regeneration				
		Housing Services, enabling							

	for Temporary Accommodation	improved procurement and sourcing.							
Cabin	et meeting - 11 Novem	ber 2021							
84	Hayes Estate Regeneration	Cabinet will consider the exercise of the Council's compulsory purchase powers to progress the Hayes Estate Regeneration project.	Townfield		Cllr Eddie Lavery - Environment, Housing & Regeneration	IT – Perry Scott		NEW ITEM	Private (3)
85	Provision of a Graffiti & Fly Posting Removal Service & Street Washing Services	Cabinet will consider the appointment of a contractor to provide a graffiti removal service incorporating a fly posting removal service and street washing service on behalf of the London Borough of Hillingdon.	All		Cllr Eddie Lavery - Environment, Housing & Regeneration	IT – Nicola Herbert		NEW ITEM	Private (3)
56b	Hillingdon's Housing Strategy 2021-2026 (POLICY FRAMEWORK)	The Borough's Housing Strategy is being reviewed during 2021. The strategy will set out the key housing issues locally and the Council's proposed housing priorities. Following public, stakeholder and Policy Overview Committee consultation, a final draft of the Strategy will be presented to Cabinet for recommendation and if agreed, to full Council in	All	Proposed Full Council adoption - 13 January 2022		PE - Debbie Weller / Mark Billings / Dan Kennedy	Select Committee pre- engagement and consultation / public consultation / stakeholder consultation		Public

		November for final adoption.						
032	Cranford Park Project: Restoration Contract	Cabinet will progress this important local conservation project by considering a contract for the repair and restoration of the historic buildings, structures and landscapes at Cranford Park, and the building of visitor facilities to include a café, interpretation, public toilets, new playground, enlarged and landscaped car park, a perimeter cycling/walking track and improved park entrances and signage.	Heathrow Villages, Pinkwell		Cllr Jonathan Bianco	RS - Charmian Baker		Private (3)
<b>Cabine</b> 038(a )	t meeting – 16 Decement The Council's Budget - Medium Term Financial Forecast 2022/23 - 2026/27 (BUDGET FRAMEWORK)		All	Proposed Full Council adoption - 24 February 2022	Cllr Ian Edwards - Leader of the Council / Cllr Martin Goddard - Finance	FD - Paul Whaymand	Public consultation through the Select Committee process and statutory consultation with businesses & ratepayers	Public

Cabine	t meeting – 17 Februa	ry 202 <mark>2</mark>							
038(b )	The Council's Budget - Medium Term Financial Forecast 2022/23 - 2026/27 (BUDGET FRAMEWORK)	Following consultation, this report will set out the Medium Term Financial Forecast (MTFF), which includes the draft General Fund reserve budget and capital programme for 2022/23 for consultation, along with indicative projections for the following four years. This will also include the HRA rents for consideration.	All	Proposed Full Council adoption - 24 February 2022	Cllr Ian Edwards - Leader of the Council / Cllr Martin Goddard - Finance	FD - Paul Whaymand	Public consultation through the Select Committee process and statutory consultation with businesses & ratepayers		Public
86	t meeting – 19 May 20 Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	Following approval of the Flood Action Plan in May 2021, Cabinet will consider consultation on an updated Local Flood Risk Management Strategy detailing the Council and partner's approach to tackling local flooding. The Strategy is a statutory requirement.	All		Cllr Eddie Lavery - Environment, Housing & Regeneration	PE - Victoria Boorman	Select Committee and public consultation.	NEW	Public
	t meeting – July 2022 Strategic Climate Action Plan	(Date TBC)  Hillingdon Council passed a Climate Change Declaration at its full Council meeting on 16 January 2020 which set out targets to become carbon neutral and achieve 100%	All		Cllr Eddie Lavery - Environment, Housing & Regeneration	PE - David Haygarth / Ian Thynne	Select Committee	NEW ITEM	Public

clean energy a	cross the		
Council's servi	ces by 2030.		
Cabinet in July	2021		
approved the	Council's		
Climate Action	Plan to		
achieve this ar	d also		
agreed to revi	ew progress		
annually. This	s the first		
annual progre	ss review of		
the Plan to Ca	pinet.		

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# Agenda Item 9

# WORK PROGRAMME Committee name Environment, Housing & Regeneration Select Committee Officer reporting Neil Fraser, Chief Executive's Office Papers with report Appendix A – Work Programme Ward All

## **HEADLINES**

To enable the Committee to note future meeting dates and to forward plan its work for the current municipal year.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Environment, Housing & Regeneration Select Committee considers the report and agrees any amendments.

# SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1. The Committee's meetings will start at 7pm and the witnesses attending each of the meetings are generally representatives from external organisations, some of whom travel from outside of the Borough. Forthcoming meeting dates are as follows:

Meeting Date	Room
13 October 2021	CR5
25 November 2021	CR5
20 January 2022	CR5
16 February 2022	CR5
16 March 2022	CR5
14 April 2022	CR5
June 2022	TBC
July 2022	TBC

# Implications on related Council policies

The role of the Select Committees is to make recommendations on service changes and improvements to the Cabinet, who are responsible for the Council's policy and direction.

# How this report benefits Hillingdon residents

Select Committees directly engage residents in shaping policy and recommendations and the Committees seek to improve the way the Council provides services to residents.

# **Financial Implications**

None at this stage.

Classification: Public

# **Legal Implications** None at this stage. **BACKGROUND PAPERS** NIL.

# WORK PROGRAMME 01 May 2021 - June 2022

ENVIRONMENT, HOUSING AND REGENERATION	October	November	2022	January	February	March	April	Ма	y June
SELECT COMMITTEE	13	25			20	16	16	14 TB	С ТВС
REVIEW: Topic selection / scoping stage Witness / evidence / consultation stage Findings, conclusions and recommendations Final review report agreement Target Cabinet reporting	Witness Session	Findings	1	Approv	al Cabinet				
Regular service & performance monitoring Complaints & Service Annual Report CIL Expenditure Monitoring - Annual Report Mid-year budget / budget planning report Cabinet's Budget Proposals For Next Financial Year Cabinet Forward Plan Monthly Monitoring	X	X	1	X X	X	X	l X		
One-off service monitoring New Call-in Process New Planning Policies - Proposed planning reforms Housing Strategy development & consultation Draft Revised Statement of Community Involvement Redevelopment of High Streets following Pandemic Strategic Climate Action Plan: Progress Update Houses of Multiple Occupancy within the Borough Empty Properties within the Private Sector HS2 Update (TBC) Recycling Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	X	X		X	X		Х		Х
Past review delivery Littering and Fly-tipping review	Х	1							

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