

Minutes & Reports

**For Presentation to the Council
At the meeting to be held on**

Wednesday, 20 July 2011

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COUNCIL

At a meeting of Annual Council on Friday, 20 May 2011 in the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Councillors Austin, Balmer, M. Bradshaw, J. Bradshaw, Browne, D. Cargill, E. Cargill, Carlin, Dennett, Edge, J. Gerrard, Harris, Hignett, Hodge, Howard, Jones, Leadbetter, M Lloyd Jones, P. Lloyd Jones, K. Loftus, A. Lowe, J. Lowe, Macmanus, McDermott, McInerney, Morley, Nelson, Osborne, Parker, Philbin, Polhill, M. Ratcliffe, Redhead, Roberts, Stockton, Swain, Thompson, Wainwright, Wallace and Wharton

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Fry, Hodgkinson, Horabin, Nolan, Rowe and Shepherd

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney, A. Scott, D. Johnson, I. Leivesley, G. Meehan and D. Parr

Also in attendance: None

	<i>Action</i>
<p>COU1 ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR</p> <p>Moved by Councillor McDermott and seconded by Councillor Gilligan</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Councillor Keith Morley be elected Mayor of the Borough for the Municipal Year 2011/12.</p> <p>Moved by Councillor Parker and seconded by Councillor Wharton.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Councillor Tom McInerney be elected Deputy Mayor for the Borough for the Municipal Year 2011/12.</p> <p>THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR KEITH MORLEY) IN THE CHAIR</p>	
<p>COU2 MINUTES</p> <p>The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council</p>	

held on 20 April 2011, having been printed and circulated, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting be confirmed and adopted.

COU3 THE MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor made the following announcements:-

1. that the charities he would support during his term of office would be:
 - Halton Haven Hospice
 - Halton Royal British Legion
 - Mark Gorry Foundation
2. the Mayor's Chaplain for 2011/12 would be Reverend Ray Jones

COU4 BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTION AND AV REFERENDUM RESULTS 5 MAY 2011

Details of the Borough Council election results and the AV Referendum results held on 5 May 2011 were submitted for information.

RESOLVED: That the election results be noted.

COU5 EXECUTIVE BOARD (SELECTION COMMITTEE) 17 MAY 2011

The following recommendations of the Executive Board were moved by the Mayor and seconded by the Deputy Mayor.

COU6 LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

RESOLVED: That

- 1) Councillor Polhill be appointed Leader of the Council; and
- 2) Councillor Wharton be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the Municipal Year 2011/2012.

COU7 BOARDS, COMMITTEES, APPEAL PANEL AND WORKING PARTY

RESOLVED: That the Boards, Committees, Appeals Panel and Working Party be constituted with the membership as shown for the Municipal Year 2011/12:

Executive Board (10)

Councillors Polhill, (Chairman), D. Cargill, Harris, Jones, McInerney, Nelson, Stockton, Swain, Wharton and Wright.

Executive Sub (3)

Councillors Wharton (Chairman), Harris and Nelson.

3MG Executive Sub-Board (3)

Councillors McInerney, Nelson and Stockton

Mersey Gateway Executive Board (3)

Councillors Polhill (Chairman), Wharton and Stockton

Corporate Policy and Performance Board (11)

Councillors A. Lowe (Chairman), J Roberts (Vice Chair) Browne, Dennett, Gilligan, C. Loftus, A McInerney, Philbin, N Plumpton Walsh, Redhead, and Wainwright.

Health Policy and Performance Board (11)

Councillors E. Cargill (Chairman), J. Lowe (Vice Chair), Austin, Baker, Dennett, Horabin, M Lloyd-Jones, C Loftus, MacManus, C Plumpton Walsh and Zygadlo

Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board (11)

Councillors Hignett (Chairman), Gerrard (Vice Chair), Baker, J Bradshaw, E. Cargill, Hodgkinson, A McInerney, Nolan, Thompson, Wainwright and Zygadlo.

Employment, Learning, Skills and Community Policy and Performance Board (11)

Councillors Edge (Chairman), P Lloyd Jones (Vice Chair), Carlin, Horabin, Howard, MacManus, Parker, C Plumpton Walsh, Roberts, Rowe, and Zygadlo.

Children, Young People and Families Policy and Performance Board (11)

Councillors Dennett (Chairman), Horabin (Vice Chairman), M Bradshaw, Cole, Fraser, Fry, Hodge, P Lloyd Jones, K

Loftus, J. Lowe and N Plumpton Walsh

Safer Policy and Performance Board (11)

Councillors Osborne (Chairman), Wallace (Vice Chair), Cole, Edge, Fraser, Gerrard, M Lloyd Jones, Ratcliffe, N Plumpton Walsh, Shepherd and Thompson.

Development Control Committee (11)

Councillors Nolan (Chairman), Thompson (Vice Chairman), Balmer, J. Bradshaw, Cole, Gilligan, Hignett, Hodgkinson, Leadbetter, T McInerney, and Osborne.

Business Efficiency Board (11)

Councillors Leadbetter (Chairman), M Lloyd Jones (Vice Chair), Balmer, Browne, Howard, A. Lowe, McDermott, MacManus, Philbin, Roberts and Rowe.

Standards Committee (11)

Mr. W. Badrock, Parish Councillor B Allen, Mrs A Morris, Mr A. Luxton, Parish Councillor Canon David Felix, Mr. Robert Garner and Councillors Browne, Parker, Redhead, Swain and Wainwright.

Appeals Panel (20)

Councillors Wainwright (Chairman), Parker (Vice Chairman), Austin, E Cargill, Edge, Fry, Gerrard, Gilligan, Hodge, D Leadbetter, P Lloyd Jones, K Loftus, J. Lowe, McDermott, A McInerney, Osborne, C Plumpton Walsh, M. Ratcliffe, Redhead and Wallace.

Regulatory Committee (11)

Councillors Philbin (Chairman), K Loftus (Vice-Chairman), Browne, Fraser, Fry, Howard, A. Lowe, McDermott, Ratcliffe, Wainwright and Wallace.

Local Development Framework Working Party (15)

Councillors T McInerney (Chairman), Browne, Gerrard, Hignett, Hodgkinson, MacManus, McDermott, Nolan, Parker, Polhill, Roberts and Wainwright.

Mayoral Committee (5)

The incumbent Mayor (Councillor Morley) and Councillors Browne, Gilligan, Hignett and Hodgkinson.

Appointments Committee (6)

Councillors Polhill, Browne, Redhead and Wharton (plus relevant PPB Chairs x 2)

COU8 APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATOR

RESOLVED: That Councillor Tony McDermott be appointed Scrutiny Co-ordinator for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

COU9 APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTES TO THE HEALTH POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD AND THE SAFER POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

RESOLVED: That the following appointments be confirmed for the 2011/12 Municipal year:

- 1) Mr Paul Cooke as the LINK representative on the Health Policy and Performance Board; and
- 2) Mr Bob Hodson as the Police Authority representative on the Safer Policy and Performance Board.

COU10 EXECUTIVE BOARD PORTFOLIOS

The Leader confirmed that the Executive Board would consist of the following portfolio holders for the forthcoming year:

Children, Young People and Families– Councillor Swain
Health and Adults – Councillor Wright
Transportation– Councillor Stockton
Community Safety– Councillor D Cargill
Economic Development – Councillor Jones
Resources – Councillor Wharton
Environmental Sustainability – Councillor Nelson
Neighbourhood, Leisure and Sport – Councillor Harris.
Physical Environment – Councillor McInerney

RESOLVED: That the portfolios be noted.

COU11 CIVIC SUNDAY

The Mayor announced his intention to attend a Civic Service at St Paul's Church, Victoria Square, Widnes on Sunday 10 July 2011 at 9.30am.

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Meeting ended at 7.10 p.m.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

At a meeting of the Executive Board on Thursday, 26 May 2011 in the Marketing Suite, Municipal Building

Present: Councillors Polhill (Chairman), D. Cargill, Harris, Jones, McInerney, Nelson, Stockton, Swain, Wharton and Wright

Apologies for Absence: Councillors None

Absence declared on Council business: Councillor None

Officers present: A. Scott, M. Reaney, G. Cook, D. Johnson, I. Leivesley, G. Meehan, D. Parr and B. Dodd

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

EXB4 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2011 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

HEALTH AND ADULTS PORTFOLIO

EXB5 LOCAL HEALTHWATCH PATHFINDERS

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Communities on Local HealthWatch Pathfinders.

The Board was advised that Local Involvement Network (LINKs), currently in place, were contractually managed and administered by St Helens and Halton Voluntary and Community Action, with each Borough having a separate Board. The Government had announced that HealthWatch would replace LINKs and build on the current remit and strengthen the ways in which commissioners and providers took the views of patients and the public into account when improving the quality and safety of health and social care services.

The report outlined the remit of Local HealthWatch

Action

subject to the passing of the Health and Social Care Bill. Local Authorities would continue their role as commissioners for Local HealthWatch as they did for LINKs.

In March 2011, Local Authorities and their LINKs had been invited to apply to become a Pathfinder. HealthWatch Pathfinders would be able to test and challenge emerging models with and alongside other Local Authorities and LINKs. However, the Council had already been accepted as an Early Implementer for the establishment of Health & Wellbeing Boards and had supported the GP Consortia Pathfinders. As the Council was working with the new Mersey NHS Clusters and with Ashton, Wigan & Leigh NHS Trust and would shortly address the transfer of Public Health functions to the Council, supporting a further Pathfinder would stretch current Council Officer and Elected Member time.

RESOLVED: That Council note that, after consultation with the Leader and Members of the Executive Board, the Chief Executive, under delegated powers (Matters of Urgency, Constitution) determined not to submit a Local HealthWatch Pathfinders proposal.

Chief Executive

EXB6 NHS LISTENING EXERCISE

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Communities on the NHS Listening Exercise.

The report provided information on some of the key elements of the extensive range of measures contained within the Health and Social Care Bill.

The Board was advised that on 4 April 2011, the Health Secretary announced that the Government would take "the opportunity of a natural break in the passage of the bill to pause, to listen and to engage with all those who wanted the NHS to succeed". A 'Listening Exercise' was announced by the Department of Health which established the NHS Future Forum to oversee the process. The Forum membership included clinicians, patient representatives, voluntary sector representatives and others from the health field including front line staff. It was intended to drive the process of engagement with staff, patients and communities, reporting back on four themes:

- the role of choice and competition for improving quality;
- how to ensure public accountability and patient

- involvement in the new system;
- how new arrangements for education and training could support the modernisation process; and
- how advice from across a range of healthcare professions could improve patient care.

Halton Borough Council's response to the Listening Exercise was attached to the report at Appendix 1 and was based on the issues that had been raised during the early stages of the implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Boards, the recent Commissioning event and the other observations during preparation for the implementation of the legislation.

During the Executive Board debate concerns were expressed about the timescales to implement the proposals as they currently stand, opportunities to extend the role of 'Monitor' should be further considered and that in certain circumstances there should be opportunities for GPs to opt out of the GP Commissioning consortia.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the contents of the report be noted; and
- 2) the response, as set out in Appendix 1, the additional areas debated and subject to agreement, be submitted to the Department of Health on behalf of Halton Borough Council, and any subsequent amendments be approved by the Leader in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder.

Strategic Director
- Communities

TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

EXB7 TRANSPORT CAPITAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME 2011/12

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources on the Transport Capital Implementation Programme 2011/12.

The Board was reminded that Halton's third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) was approved by the Executive Board on 17th March 2011. The key issues for Transport in Halton, identified through the public consultation exercise for LTP3 were listed in Appendix 1. LTP3 contained within its Implementation Plan Appendix (and also within the Executive Summary) details of the Government's final local transport capital block settlements for 2011/12 and 2012/13

and indicative settlements for 2013/14 and 2014/15, which covered the whole period of the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR10).

As part of CSR10, the Board noted that the Department for Transport announced a radical simplification of local transport funding, moving from 26 separate grant streams to just four:

- block funding for small transport improvement schemes – the Integrated Transport Block (capital);
- block funding for highways maintenance (capital);
- major schemes (capital); and
- a new local sustainable transport fund (capital and revenue).

All other specific grants were ended with reduced allocations incorporated within the main Local Government Formula Grant administered by the Department for Communities and Local Government. The grants no longer available to the Council were listed in Appendix 2.

The report provided supporting information on the local authority integrated transport block and highway capital maintenance allocations, calculated through needs-based formulae. The settlement represented a significant reduction in transport funding from previous years. It was noted that the Integrated Transport budget was cut by 61% (to £1.087 million) and the Highway Capital Maintenance budget was cut by 9% (to £207,000), compared with the original 2010/11 allocations.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Local Transport Settlement and indicative allocations covering the Comprehensive Spending Review Period be noted;
- 2) Council be recommended to approve the following sums for incorporation into the Council's Capital Programme for 2011/12:

Transport Implementation Programme
£2,663,000;
Transport Major Scheme Capital Funding(SJB)
£4,416,000;
Street Lighting £200,000;
Flood Defence £106,000;
Fleet Replacements £370,000.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

- 3) authority to agree the detailed programme of schemes, based where appropriate upon the four year implementation Programme described in the Local Transport Plan 3, be delegated to the Strategic Director Policy and Resources, in consultation with the Executive Board Member for Transportation; and
- 4) a bid for funding from the Government's Sustainable Transport Fund be prepared for presentation to the Board before submission to Department for Transport by 24th February 2012.

MINUTES ISSUED: 2 June 2011

CALL IN: 9 June 2011

Any matter decided by the Executive Board Sub Committee may be called in no later than 9 June 2011

Meeting ended at 2.15 p.m.

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EXECUTIVE BOARD

At a meeting of the Executive Board on Thursday, 16 June 2011 in the Marketing Suite, Municipal Building

Present: Councillors Polhill (Chairman), D. Cargill, Jones, McInerney, Nelson, Stockton, Swain, Wharton and Wright

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: Councillor Harris

Officers present: A. Scott, M. Reaney, G. Cook, I. Leivesley, G. Meehan, D. Parr, B. Dodd, P. McWade, W Rourke and D. Hennessy

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

EXB8 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2011 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

EXB9 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 URGENT BUSINESS

The Board was advised that two matters had arisen which required immediate attention by the Board (Minute EXB 12 and 13 refers). Therefore, pursuant to Section 100 B (4) and 100 E, and due to immediate action being required, the Chairman ruled that the items be considered as a matter of urgency.

HEALTH AND ADULTS PORTFOLIO

EXB10 ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE FAIRER CHARGING FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL SERVICES POLICY

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Communities on the Annual Review for the Fairer Charging

Action

for Non-Residential Services Policy.

The Board was reminded that at its meeting on 1 April 2010, the policy for Fairer Charging for Non Residential services was approved. The policy ensured charges for non-residential community care services were calculated in an open and transparent manner and that all service users treated fairly and consistently.

The Board was advised that for the services to be sustainable, the charge to service users would need to be increased. Halton was identified as being amongst the lowest charging authority in a recent benchmarking exercise, and the report detailed the method of calculations used to determine the charges. Department of Health guidance stated that certain benefits should be disregarded in the calculations, although the disregard of the Severe Disability Premium (SDP) was left to the discretion of each local authority.

Appendix 1 contained details of the revised policy, which also clarified the treatment of couples.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the removal of the Severe Disability Premium disregard from the Charging Policy with effect from 1 July 2011 be approved; and
- (2) the revised Fairer Charging for Non-Residential Services Policy detailed at Appendix 1, be approved.

Strategic Director
- Communities

RESOURCES PORTFOLIO

EXB11 REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources on the Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places.

The Board was advised that the Electoral Administration Act 2006 introduced a statutory duty for local authorities to carry out a review of their parliamentary Polling Districts and Polling Places by 31 December 2007 and every four years thereafter.

The Board was advised that the last formal review of

Polling Districts and Polling Places was undertaken in 2007. Since that time, Polling Stations had been reviewed at election times by the Returning Officer, and where changes had been necessary, Ward Members had been consulted and changes made.

The report detailed the three stages of review; the Preliminary Stage, the Proposal Stage and the Consultation Stage. Following the Consultation Stage, the Authority must make its final decisions on the review, taking into account all the representations received. This would need full Council approval before the publication of the Register of Electors on 1 December 2011.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) authority be given for the publication of the notice of the Polling Districts and Polling Places Review; and
- (2) a Working Party of 6 Members (4 Labour, 1 Liberal Democrat and 1 Conservative) be appointed to undertake the review of Polling Districts and Polling Places, following consultation, as required by the Electoral Administration Act 2006 and to make recommendations to Executive Board.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- (1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- (2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant

exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it is likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information will be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PORTFOLIO

(NB: Councillor Nelson and Councillor Stockton declared a personal interest in the following item of business as Governors of The Grange School)

EXB12 BSF- TITLE COMPENSATION

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise which provided an update on the Financial Closing of the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) agreement.

The Board was advised that the BSF final business case was approved by the Executive Board based upon the Competitive Dialogue (CD) process. The risks associated with title and price position were discussed as part of the dialogue. Although these issues were subject to discussions in the CD process, the issues were withdrawn by the consortia because it was their intention to procure title insurance to mitigate the risks. HTP advised late afternoon on Friday 10th June that they were unable to secure the appropriate insurance to satisfy the funders (Aviva) requirements, as outlined in the report.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the revised BSF Project Agreement as specified in the report in respect of the potential risks on the titles be approved;

Chief Executive

- 2) the Chief Executive be given Delegated Authority to take such actions as are necessary to resolve this matter, in consultation with the Leader, the Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People, the Operational Director- Legal and Democratic Services and the Operational Director – Finance; and
- 3) this decision be excluded from the call-in procedure, as immediate action was required so Financial Close could take place by week commencing 20 June 2011.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB13 SINGLE WORK PROGRAMME

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise on the Single Work Programme in Halton.

The Board was advised that, as part of the Government's welfare reform proposals, a number of existing employment support programmes had ceased and had been replaced by a new initiative called the Single Work Programme. This would be a mandatory programme for residents reaching key milestones of unemployment.

It was noted that the work programme would be delivered through a number of contract areas and that Halton was included in a large contract area which covered Merseyside, Lancashire and Cumbria. The report contained details of the Prime Contractors for the area together with the Work Programme Income and Expenditure forecasts.

RESOLVED: That Halton Borough Council enter into contracts to deliver the Single Work Programme with the Prime Contractors named in the report.

Strategic Director
- Children and
Enterprise

MINUTES ISSUED: 22 June 2011

CALL-IN: 29 June 2011

Any matter (with the exception of Minute No: EXB 12 above) decided by the Executive Board may be called in no later than 5.00pm on 29 June 2011.

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Meeting ended at 2.20 p.m.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

At a meeting of the Executive Board on Thursday, 30 June 2011 in the Marketing Suite, Municipal Building

Present: Councillors Polhill (Chairman), D. Cargill, Harris, McNerney, Stockton, Swain and Wharton

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Jones, Nelson and Wright

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney, D. Johnson, I. Leivesley, G. Meehan, D. Parr, A. Cross and A. Jones

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

EXB14 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2011 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

HEALTH AND ADULTS PORTFOLIO

EXB15 ADULTS AND COMMUNITY CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which informed Members of the final outturn figures for 2010/11 and the provisional capital programme for 2011/12.

The Board was advised that the 2010/11 underspend in the main related to two areas:-

- Borough Placements & Service Development – the scheme required detailed planning on an individual basis and negotiation with housing developers. Both of these activities were time consuming and had incurred delays, impacting on the expected spending; and

Action

- Extra Care – Payment was now expected in two halves, one of which was incurred in 2010/11, the second in 2011/12.

The Board was further advised that the Government had clear expectations that councils would support vulnerable people by promoting independence and wellbeing. Capital projects detailed in the report supported these objectives and promoted social inclusion through sport and leisure.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the final 2010/11 outturn figures be noted; and
- 2) the Board recommend that the Council approve the capital project for 2011/12 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

Strategic Director
- Communities

COMMUNITY SAFETY PORTFOLIO

EXB16 HATE CRIME REDUCTION STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN - KEY DECISION

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which informed Members of the Hate Crime Reduction Strategy and Action Plan for Halton.

The Board was advised that hate crime was a serious issue, affecting the quality of life for people and communities. It can take various forms of either physical or verbal abuse and even the threat of attack. Due to the low number of reported incidents in Halton, and the knowledge that there is a smaller diverse community, work had progressed to include hate crime matters with wider safeguarding issues. This included training of front line service providers and the use of existing communication methods to raise awareness of reporting centres.

The Board noted that the strategy and action plan was for the wider Strategic Partnership to progress, as the Council was unable to do so alone. The strategy had been shared with a variety of Partners, groups and networks, as detailed in the report.

Reason(s) For Decision

To address hate crime issues within the Borough and increase the joint working across Partners that will make Halton a stronger and more resilient place to live.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Current arrangements could continue however as identified in this report the Council cannot progress and develop this work without the input from the Strategic Partnership.

Implementation Date

The detailed action plan had several different implementation dates depending on which action was being undertaken. Some activity had already started with the latest completion date being December 2012, depending on Partners' involvement.

RESOLVED: That the draft Hate Crime Reduction Strategy and Action Plan as detailed in the report be endorsed.

RESOURCES PORTFOLIO

EXB17 CHANGES TO PROCUREMENT STANDING ORDERS

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on proposed changes to Procurement Standing Orders.

The Board was advised that, as part of the Council's Procurement Strategy, the Procurement Division had been actively seeking new ways to improve procurement practice across the Council.

Current Procurement Standing Orders state differing thresholds of spend to allow officers to procure goods, services and works. The thresholds were detailed in the report and were:

- Up to £1000: Advisable for quotations to be sought;
- £1,001 - £50,000: Must seek three quotations via the Chest (Due North) E sourcing system; and
- £50,001 - £1M: Must follow a formal tender process and in line with EU Public Procurement Contract Regulations in terms of the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) requirements. (Thresholds £156,442 goods and services and £3,927,260 works).

The Board was advised that it was proposed to change the thresholds from £50,000 to the OJEU threshold for goods and services of £156,442. This would mean that for contracts between £1,001 and £156,442, that the three

quotation process via the Chest would be used in future. By moving this threshold it would allow both officers in Directorates and the Procurement Team the ability to take a less bureaucratic process to seek quotations via the Chest rather than follow a formal tender.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to approve the changes to Procurement Standing Orders as set out in Appendix 1.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB18 HALTON CORE STRATEGY - SUBMISSION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE - KEY DECISION

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on the Halton Core Strategy, which sought approval to submit the document to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, to commence its formal examination.

The Board was reminded that on 31 March 2011, approval was given to make changes to the Proposed Submission Core Strategy (November 2010) for the purpose of a further six week public consultation and representation period.

A further period of public consultation took place on the Revised Proposed Submission Core Strategy between 13 May 2011 and 24 June 2011. The main matters provoking the need for a further consultation period were detailed in the report. Once the final version of the Strategy had been collated and ratified by Council, it would then be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination, and, following the statutory stages of inspection as outlined in the report, it was expected that the Core Strategy would be adopted by Spring 2012.

Reason(s) For Decision

The next stage in the production of the Halton Core Strategy was for the document to be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination. Officers were seeking Executive Board endorsement and full Council ratification to proceed to the examination stage for the Core Strategy.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

No alternative options had been considered at this stage. Submitting the Core Strategy for examination was the next

step in the process of the Core Strategy's production and was in accordance with the associated Regulations for the production of Development Plan Documents.

Implementation Date

It was envisaged that the Core Strategy would be submitted to the Secretary of State in late July 2011, with the examination phase commencing in Autumn 2011, to be followed by adoption of the Core Strategy in Spring 2012. After its adoption, the Core Strategy would then be used for development management purposes in the determination of planning applications and to direct development to the most appropriate locations in accordance with the adopted spatial strategy for the Borough.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to:

- 1) approve the Halton Core Strategy Revised Proposed Submission Document (May 2011) for Submission to the Secretary of State under Regulation 30 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2008;
- 2) agree that any minor editorial amendments required to improve the legibility of the Halton Core Strategy be agreed with the Inspector by the Operational Director for Policy, Planning and Transportation in consultation with the Executive Board Member for Physical Environment;
- 3) delegate authority to the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, to enter into discussions with parties and to suggest wording changes, as are deemed necessary by the Inspector to reach agreement on matters discussed at the examination into the soundness of the Core Strategy; and
- 4) material weight to give to the Halton Core Strategy Revised Proposed Submission Document (May 2011) as a material consideration in Council Development Control policy decisions.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PORTFOLIO

EXB19 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2011-14 - KEY DECISION

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director,

Children and Enterprise, on the adoption of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2011-14.

The Board was advised that the CYPP was the agreed joint strategy of the partners in the Children's Trust, detailing how they would co-operate to improve children's wellbeing. The Plan represented Halton's local vision and aspirations for children and young people in the Borough, provided strategic direction and determine how the Children's Trust Board would work together to commission services to address locally identified needs and better integrate provision.

In July 2010, the Coalition Government announced its intention to reform Children's Trusts. The proposals came into force on 31 October 2010 and the report detailed the changes. The reforms removed the requirement to produce a CYPP. However, with agreement to continue the Children's Trust arrangements, came the need for a CYPP to provide strategic direction.

The Board was further advised that, following a Children's Trust Development Day in December 2010, work began on a new CYPP, and following further consultation, the new priorities for the Children's Trust had been agreed as:-

- Improve outcomes for children and young people through embedding integrated processes to deliver early help and support;
- Improve outcomes for children and young people through effective joint commissioning; and
- Improve outcomes for our most vulnerable children and young people by targeting services effectively.

Reason(s) For Decision

An Equality Impact Assessment undertaken on the document showed that there were no negative impacts on any individuals and groups within Halton as a result of the Plan. The Children & Young People's Plan facilitates positive action for children and young people overall in Halton and for particular groups of children and young people as appropriate.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

This CYPP had been developed to replace the previous

Plan that expired on March 31st 2011 and took into account the agreed new priorities for the Children's Trust for the next three years. The CYPP was also aligned with the new Sustainable Community Strategy 2011-26.

Implementation Date

Not applicable.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to endorse and adopt the Children and Young People's Plan 2011-14.

Strategic Director
- Children and
Enterprise

EXB20 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- 1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- 2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it is likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information will be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

EXB21 TRADED SERVICES: SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT SERVICES - KEY DECISION

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise, which provided an update on the outcome of the Competitive Dialogue process that the Directorate had, regarding the development of a Traded Schools Improvement Service Joint Venture.

The Board was advised that supporting School Improvement had always been a key focus for the Council and the Children and Enterprise Directorate had provided an in-house service to deliver those responsibilities and functions. Changes to the grant funding to local authorities ceased on 31 March 2011 and was redirected to schools in order for them to purchase their own improvement support.

The report outlined the national policy background as well as developments that had taken place in Halton. An options appraisal was carried out in December 2010 in order to identify an appropriate commercial partner. Following decisions of the Executive Boards of Halton and Warrington Borough Councils, investigations were made for the development of a joint venture, as detailed in the report.

Reason(s) For Decision

The funding for this staff group and area of service delivery was no longer available to the Council.

The rationale for preferring a Joint Venture was due to the lack of contractual control of the income, i.e. the services will be procured via the school budgets and not the local authority budgets. In looking for this partner, the two authorities should be able to mitigate some of the redundancy liability of school improvement staff whose funding ended on 31st March 2011. This was a significant saving to the Council, but also offered the employees concerned a continuity of their employment.

The establishment of a joint venture partnership would ensure that the employment of our staff was secured and redundancy costs were mitigated.

The support made available to our schools via this model would ensure continued influence by the Council, deliver high quality personnel and generate potential income to the Council.

Alternative Options Considered And Rejected

The alternative of Joint Venture had been considered as part of the option appraisal and this model demonstrated the best solution to the Council.

Implementation Date

It was planned that the selected bidder be notified on 1st July 2011 to ensure mobilisation by the 1 September 2011.

RESOLVED: That Executive Board:

- 1) agree to appoint SERCO Ltd as the preferred bidder;
- 2) delegate responsibility to make any changes to final contract structure to the Chief Executive in consultation with the (i) the Leader of the Council and (ii) the Lead Member for Children, Young People and Families;
- 3) note that this Joint Venture can be used as a procurement vehicle into the future for additional school support services; and
- 4) to give effect to the above, the Operational Director (Legal and Democratic Services) be authorised to enter into the necessary legally binding documents on behalf of the Council.

Strategic Director
- Children and
Enterprise

(N.B. Councillor Stockton declared a personal interest in the following item of business as he was a Governor of The Grange School)

EXB22 THE GRANGE ALL THROUGH SCHOOL DAY CARE- KEY DECISION

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise which informed Members of the Review of Full Day Care Provision on the Grange All Through School Site.

The Board was advised that facilities at The Grange Day Care centre were put in place following the introduction of the Neighbourhood Nursery Initiative in 2002. The intention at the time was for the full day care element to be self sustaining. An internal audit in September 2010 had found that The Grange had been run at a deficit for two years and was on track to make a further loss in 2010/11.

The Childcare Act 2006 placed a duty on local authorities to secure the provision of sufficient childcare to meet requirements of parents in their area. A recent Halton Child Care Sufficiency Assessment identified sufficient high quality child care in Runcorn and this sufficiency judgement would be unaffected by the withdrawal of full day care at this location.

Reason(s) For Decision

To control the financial risk to the Council.

Alternative Options Considered And Rejected

Tendering- out the setting to Private/Voluntary/Independent (PVI) sector: It was highly unlikely that a PVI provider could be found to take on Day Care making losses of this size. Because the staff were paid on local authority rates, TUPE regulations would mean any provider would be faced with having to pay rates that were significantly higher than the norm for the PVI sector. A nearby Local Authority had just attempted a similar exercise with one of its day care settings and had been unable to find a provider.

Implementation Date

Autumn 2011.

RESOLVED: That Full Day Care ceases to be delivered from the Grange All Through School Site.

Strategic Director
- Children and
Enterprise

MINUTES ISSUED: 4 July 2011

CALL- IN: 11 July 2011

Any matter decided by the Executive Board may be called in no later than 5.00pm on 11 July 2011.

Meeting ended at 2.45 p.m.

EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Executive Board Sub Committee on Thursday, 26 May 2011 in the Marketing Suite, Municipal Building

Present: Councillors Wharton (Chairman), Harris and Nelson

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney, B. Dodd, S. O'Sullibhan and A. Scott

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE**

		<i>Action</i>
ES1	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 April 2011 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.</p> <p>RESOURCES PORTFOLIO</p>	
ES2	<p>TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2010/11 Q4 JANUARY - MARCH</p> <p>The Sub-Committee received a report of the Operational Director, Finance on the Treasury Management 2010/11 4th Quarter (January to March) which updated the Sub Committee on activities undertaken on the money market as required by the Treasury Management Policy.</p> <p>The report provided supporting information on the economic forecast, short term investment rates, longer term investment rates, temporary borrowing/investments, investment income forecast, longer term borrowing/investments and policy guidelines. The Sub-Committee noted that all investments had been within policy guidelines.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>	

ES3 INSURANCE TENDER

The Sub Committee received a report of the Operational Director, Finance on the tender evaluation process recently undertaken by the Council's appointed insurance broker, Aon.

The Sub Committee was advised that the Council's insurance programme had expired on 31 March 2011 and a formal tender exercise had been conducted under EC Procurement Procedures. In accordance with Procurement Standing Order 2.11, the Operational Director, Finance had accepted the successful tenders.

The report provided information on the tenders received and the amendments to the Council's insurance programme. It was noted that following advice from Aon, cover for Terrorism had been added to the programme.

The Sub Committee noted that the contracts had been awarded on a three year basis, with an option to extend for a further two years. In addition, under the contract with Travelers, the Council would receive five free risk management consultancy days each year.

RESOLVED: That the following be noted:

- 1) the tenders had been accepted;
- 2) the names of the various tenderers;
- 3) the amounts of the tender figures; and
- 4) the changes to the Council's insurance programme.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

ES4 SHOPMOBILITY

The Sub Committee received a report of the Strategic Director, Communities on the Shopmobility service provided at Halton Lea.

The Sub Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 2 December 2010, it had authorised a tender process to be initiated for future service provision. Only one tender had been received, from Warrington Disability Partnership, the current provider. However, Officers had identified an

alternative viable option utilising the Council's day services for disabled people, together with a negotiated waiver of the licence fee and service charge for the location of the service at Halton Lea, as detailed in the report.

It was noted that, if successful, the service may be provided in Widnes Town Centre, using this model of provision.

RESOLVED: That the Council note that, after consultation with the Leader and Members of the Executive Board Sub Committee, the Chief Executive had, under delegated powers (Matters of Urgency, Constitution), expressed support for the Licence to be agreed as set out in paragraph 3.7 of the report.

Chief Executive

MINUTES ISSUED: 1 June 2011

CALL IN: 8 June 2011

Any matter decided by the Executive Board Sub Committee may be called in no later than 8 June 2011

Meeting ended at 10.20 a.m.

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EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Executive Board Sub Committee on Thursday, 16 June 2011 in the Marketing Suite, Municipal Building

Present: Councillors Wharton (Chairman) and Nelson

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: Councillor Harris

Officers present: M. Reaney, G. Ferguson and G. Collins

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE**

		<i>Action</i>
ES5	MINUTES	
	The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 th May 2011 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.	
ES6	SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985	
	The Board considered:	
	(1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and	
	(2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public	

interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it is likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information will be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

ES7 SALE OF PERCIVAL LANE INDUSTRIAL UNITS

The Sub Committee considered a report which sought approval for the surrender of a lease to Halton Chamber of Commerce. The lease related to Percival Lane Industrial Estate which comprised 17 small industrial units. It was proposed that the surrender of the lease to the Chamber would be in exchange for writing off a debt of £20,343, which represented repayment of ERDF funds.

In addition, the report also sought approval to place the freehold interest on the open market for sale with a target date for auction in September 2011.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the surrender of the lease to the Chamber in exchange for writing off a debt from the Chamber to the Council of £20,343, representing repayment of ERDF funds be approved; and
- (2) the sale of its freehold interest through auction in September 2011 be approved subject to achieving a reserve price.

Strategic Director
Children and
Enterprise

ES8 LEASE OF 2 SEYMOUR COURT TO NORTON PRIORY

The Sub Committee considered a request to grant a two year lease, rent free, to Norton Priory for the occupation of Seymour Court, Runcorn. The lease would allow Norton Priory to submit a Lottery bid for improvements. It was noted that Norton Priory had been located at Seymour Court for the previous six months.

RESOLVED: That the grant of the lease to Norton
Priory at nil rent for 2 years be approved.

Strategic Director
Children and
Enterprise

MINUTES ISSUED: 17 June 2011

CALL IN: 24 June 2011

**Any matter decided by the Executive Board Sub Committee may
be called in no later than 24 June 2011**

Meeting ended at 10.15 a.m.

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EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Executive Board Sub Committee on Thursday, 30 June 2011 in the Marketing Suite, Municipal Building

Present: Councillors Wharton (Chairman) and Harris

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Nelson

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney, G. Ferguson, P. McCann, J. Briggs and S. Clough

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE**

		<i>Action</i>
ES9	<p>MINUTES</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th June 2011 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.</p> <p>CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES PORTFOLIO</p>	
ES10	<p>EXTENDING SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS FOR PUPIL REFERRAL UNIT PROVISION:</p> <p>The Sub-Committee considered a report which sought agreement to allow for the extension of Service Level Agreements for a period of 12 months for current providers of education to KS4 Pupil Referral Unit learners in order to secure the continuity of education for these vulnerable learners.</p> <p>It was noted that in April 2011 the Procurement Team supported the 14-19 Division to procure provision for the KS4 PRU from September 2011, advertising the tender opportunity with The Chest, the Council's e-tendering facility hosted by Due North.</p> <p>Following the assessment of the Pre Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) and Invitation to Tender (ITT)</p>	

Documentation, all those providers who submitted a tender failed to progress further in the process as they did not pass Gateway questions on the PQQ or failed to meet the minimum standards for information within the ITT document.

As the timescale to run a full procurement exercise again did not allow provision to be in place for September 2011, provision was required for a 12 month period so learners had the opportunity to complete qualifications with one provider during that period of time.

RESOLVED: That

1) under Procurement Standing Order 1.8.2 Standing Orders 3.1 and 3.2 be waived in respect of the current provision of education for KS4 Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) learners with the intention to extend existing contracts to August 2012 in view of the exceptional circumstances following a recent procurement process that resulted in no contracts able to be awarded. There would insufficient time to conduct a further tender exercise as provision needed to be in place before September 2011; and

2) the 14 – 19 Divisional Manager be authorised to negotiate a 12 month extension with providers where a Service Level Agreement was already in place.

Strategic Director
Children and
Enterprise

ES11 ADVANCES LEVEL PERFORMANCE SYSTEMS

The Sub-Committee considered a report which sought agreement to waive standing orders to enter into a contract with Alkemygold Limited as the only provider of the Advance Level Performance System for the analysis of results for the academic year 2010/11. The ALPS was a nationally used Level 3 A Level and BTEC Course analysis and training package for delivering quality improvement in schools and colleges. It was developed to raise standards in education on a national scale and to engage teachers and educational professionals to give them practical tools to achieve this.

Members were advised that Halton had historical ALPS value added scores for post 16 institutions and each subject area, which allowed analysis of trends over time. Continuation of the use of ALPS would allow for continued analysis of the effectiveness of Post 16 Institutions' improvement plans in raising attainment for learners compared to other institutions nationally.

It was noted that Post 16 institutions made valuable

use of the target setting software to set challenging targets for learners and this was part of the strategies that had resulted in the increased Level 3 performance Halton had experienced. In 2010, 42.3% of Halton learners had achieved a Level 3 qualification by age 19. This was an 8.4% increase upon the 2009 recorded figure for this indicator and represented the second largest local authority increase. The cost of purchasing ALPS for the academic year 2010/11 was £4,000 excluding VAT, and was included in the spending plan for the 14 – 19 Division 2011/12.

RESOLVED: That

1) under Procurement Standing Order 1.8.2 (a) Standing Orders 4.1 and 4.2 be waived in respect of Alkemygold Limited for the Advanced Level performance System (ALPS); and

Strategic Director
Children and
Enterprise

2) the 14 – 19 Divisional Manager be authorised to enter into a contract with Alkemygold Limited as the only provider of the ALPS for the analysis of results for the academic year 2010/11.

RESOURCES PORTFOLIO

ES12 DISCRETIONARY NON DOMESTIC RATE RELIEF

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which sought Members' consideration of two applications for discretionary rate relief, under the provisions of the Local Government Finance Act 1988.

The Sub-Committee was advised that under the provisions of Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1988, the Authority was allowed to grant discretionary rate relief to organisations that were either a charity or a non-profit making organisation. This relief may also be awarded to Community Amateur Sports Clubs. A summary of the applications was outlined within the report and a list of the associated figures was included.

RESOLVED: That

1) under the provisions of Section 47, Local Government Finance Act 1988, discretionary rate relief be granted to the following organisation at the percentage indicated, for the period from 1st April 2011 or the commencement of liability, whichever is the later, 31st March 2013:

Strategic Director
Policy and
Resources

Halton District Citizen Advice Bureaux Service 20%

2) in respect of the following organisation, it was also recommended that they should be granted discretionary rate relief for the backdated element of the charge from 1st April 2010 or the commencement of liability, whichever is the later:

Halton District Citizen Advice Bureaux Service 20%

3) under the provisions of Section 47, Local Government Finance Act 1988, the following application for discretionary rate relief be refused:

National Council of Young Men's Christian Associations
(Incorporated) 20%

TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

ES13 PASSENGER TRANSPORT TENDERS

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director Policy and Resources which advised that transport tenders for a complex range of passenger transport contracts and arrangements for vulnerable children and adults were to be publicised by The Chest. The accumulative value of the contracts was projected to be in excess of £1m.

RESOLVED: That

1. the Sub-Committee note that transport tenders were being advertised for services on behalf of Children and Enterprise and Communities Directorates, required from September 2011; and
2. a further report be submitted to the Sub Committee detailing the results of the passenger transport contracts tenders.

Strategic Director
Policy and
Resources

MINUTES ISSUED: 5th July 2011

CALL IN: 11th July 2011

Any matter decided by the Executive Board Sub Committee may be called in no later than 11th July 2011

Meeting ended at 10.36 a.m.

MERSEY GATEWAY EXECUTIVE BOARD

At a meeting of the Mersey Gateway Executive Board on Thursday, 16 June 2011 in the Marketing Suite, Municipal Building

Present: Councillors Polhill (Chairman), Stockton and Wharton

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: B. Dodd, D. Parr, M. Reaney, S. Nicholson, M. Noone and A. Scott

Also in Attendance: Councillor Browne

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

Action

MGEB1 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2011, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

MGEB2 RESULTS OF THE MARKET CONSULTATION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which set out the response the Council had received to the recent Market Engagement exercise from firms interested in delivering the Mersey Gateway Project. The consultation process was reported to the Board on 17 March 2011.

It was reported that the final Market Engagement exercise before commencing procurement was launched in February, where comments were invited on several topics. It was further noted that a number of groups had formed a consortia with the intention of expressing an interest in bidding for Mersey Gateway when the Contract Notice would be published in the Official Journal of the European Union. The Board was informed that overall a very encouraging response had been received which demonstrated a high level of interest in tendering for the Mersey Gateway Project.

Appended to the report for information was the Council's response to feedback received during the consultation. Key issues noted were detailed in the report and covered the procurement process, payment mechanism, contaminated land, tolling infrastructure, operational governance arrangements and advance works.

At the request of the Board, Councillor Peter Browne agreed to make representations to the relevant Government Minister to request urgent action on the final decision making stage of the project funding agreement.

RESOLVED: That the actions arising to support a robust procurement process be noted.

MGEB3 PROCUREMENT PREPARATION

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which detailed the progress made in preparing for the procurement process.

The Board was advised that, although the Council was not able to commence procurement until the funding agreement with Government had been settled in detail, good progress had been made with procurement preparation. It was reported that discussions with department officials were also progressing and the project continued to receive expressions of support from Government including advice from the Prime Minister that reinforced the backing given to the project.

It was further noted that the project team was ready to launch procurement with developments in place, as outlined in the report.

Members were advised that the procurement strategy had been developed based on selecting three candidates (bidders) who would be invited to participate in a Competitive Dialogue procurement process. It was noted that the level of market interest evident in Mersey Gateway indicated that the Council may have more than three groups who would express interest and a pre-qualification process had been prepared that was designed to select the best three candidates from those applying.

It was further reported that once Government approval had been received, the procurement process could be launched.

RESOLVED: That, subject to the required approval from Government, it be noted that the project team were ready to launch the procurement process.

MINUTES ISSUED: 22 June 2011

CALL-IN: 29 June 2011

Any matter decided by the Mersey Gateway Executive Board may be called in no later than 5.00pm on 29 June 2011.

Meeting ended at 3.20 p.m.

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3MG EXECUTIVE SUB BOARD

At a meeting of the 3MG Executive Sub Board on Thursday, 30 June 2011 in the Marketing Suite, Municipal Building

Present: Councillors McInerney (Chairman) and Stockton

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Nelson

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney, S. McDonald, M. Noone, G. Meehan, D. Parr, W Rourke, A. Jones and P O'Donnell

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE SUB-BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
ESB1 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2009 were taken as a correct record and signed.</p>	
ESB2 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985	
<p>The Sub-Board considered:</p>	
<p>1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and</p>	
<p>2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public</p>	

interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it is likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information will be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100(1) and paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

ESB3 HBC FIELD - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Chief Executive which explained the progress in relation to HBC Field and made recommendations for its development as part of the 3MG Masterplan.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) The Council enters into an Agreement with ProLogis UK Ltd for the development of HBC Field;
- 2) The Council enters into lease arrangements for the disposal of HBC Field to ProLogis UK Ltd;
- 3) The Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio Holder, be authorised to take such action as he judges necessary to give effect to the above; and
- 4) The Operational Director (Legal and Democratic Services) be authorised to enter into such agreements and take such other actions concerned with legal and administrative processes as may be necessary to give effect to the above.

MINUTES ISSUED: 1 July 2011

CALL IN: 11 July 2011

Any matter decided by the 3MG Executive Board may be called in no later than 11 July 2011.

Meeting ended at 3.15 p.m.

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Children, Young People and Families Policy and Performance Board on Monday, 23 May 2011 in the Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Dennett (Chairman), Horabin (Vice-Chairman), A.Cole, Fraser, Fry, P. Lloyd Jones, Loftus, J. Lowe and N.Plumpton Walsh

Apologies for Absence: Councillors M. Bradshaw, Hodge and L. Lawler

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: G. Bennett, M. Simpson, G. Meehan, N. Moorhouse, S. Nyakatawa, H. Coen, S. Clough and L. Crane

Also in attendance: Councillor Swain accordance with Standing Order 33, Eileen O'Meara and Jane Lunt, Halton and St Helens PCT.

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

		<i>Action</i>
CYP1	MINUTES The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 st February 2011, having been printed and circulated were signed as a correct record.	
CYP2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST (INCLUDING PARTY WHIP DECLARATIONS)	
CYP3	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME It was reported that no public questions had been received. <i>(NB: Councillor Lloyd Jones declared a personal interest in items related to health due to being a non-executive director of Halton and St Helens Primary Care Trust)</i>	
CYP4	EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES The Board received a report which contained the minutes relating to the Children and Young People Portfolio	

which had been considered by the Executive Board Sub-Committee since the last meeting of the PPB.

In relation to EXB124 Academy Update, it was reported that the deadline for the two schools who had formally notified the Authority that they intended to convert to Academies under the new arrangements had now been put back to the 1st June 2011.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes be noted.

CYP5 SSP MINUTES

In receiving the Minutes Members discussed the Health and Wellbeing Board and it was noted that the details regarding the format and relationships with Scrutiny Boards had not yet been determined.

Members considered Youth Offending and the proposals to move the Youth Justice Board responsibilities to local councils, numbers of NEET (Not in Education Employment or Training), learners suffering from dyslexia, options for the replacement of the EMA Payments to Students and plans to work with providers through the 14 – 19 Partnership regarding a Halton policy for provision of bursary schemes for students.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes be noted.

CYP6 CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director for Children and Enterprise which provided Members with an annual report outlining the work carried out by the Board and Officers in 2010 to March 2011. The Chair wished to note on record his thanks to Members for all the work carried out throughout the year.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Report be received.

CYP7 SCRUTINY TOPIC FEEDBACK - YOUNG CARERS

The Board received a verbal report from Nigel Moorhouse, Operational Director Children and Families Services which provided an update on the Scrutiny Topic for Young Carers. It was reported that a sub-group was formed last year in order to scrutinise work and developments within the Young Carers area.

It was noted that staff had joined a group of Young

Carers in order to obtain feedback from their own experiences. From this a need for joined up working with adult services had been identified. The group was looking to establish a similar implementation team as used for adult services for Young Carers.

It was further noted that a meeting was planned for week commencing 30th May 2011 in order to discuss further options and progress with regard to the Scrutiny Topic.

RESOLVED: That the update be received

CYP8 SCRUTINY TOPICS 2011-12

Members discussed various areas to be adopted for scrutiny for the year 2011/12, areas to be considered were suggested as follows:-

- A joint scrutiny Topic with the Employment Learning, Skills and Communities PPB around apprenticeships;
- Provision of Mental Health services and Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services CAMS in the Borough;
- Transition from Young People to Older People's Services;
- Young Homelessness provision; and
- Provision for Young People with Special Educational Needs in relation to Real Life Skills aspect.

It was noted that the Young Carers' Topic would be completed and the Board would set future topics at a later date. It was further noted should Members have any other ideas for a Scrutiny Work Topic to e-mail the Chairman.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the ideas for Scrutiny Topics be noted; and
- (2) Members notify the Chair of any further ideas for Scrutiny Work Topics.

CYP9 STRATEGIC DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

The Board received a presentation from Gerald Meehan, Strategic Director Children and Enterprise which

outlined the following:

- Update from Prof. Munro's report in relation to Safeguarding and early help and prevention services;
- Key recommendations from the Munro report for the government to take forward;
- Children in Care and Implementation of Halton's Strategy;
- Halton's performance in relation to childcare;
- OfSTED Action Plan, arising from the Safeguarding and Looked After Children Inspection 2011;
- Budget Planning for 2012/13;
- The role of Councillors in Scrutiny regarding Regulation 33 and Climbiè visits; and

Arising from the presentation, Members discussed the need to determine what the priorities were for Children and Young People in relation to budget reductions and reduce these in line with the priorities. The Board also considered the possibility of reclaiming costs of children placed from out of Borough.

RESOLVED: That the presentation be noted.

CYP10 COMPASS STEERING GROUP UPDATE

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise which provided an overview of the findings and performance impact that projected under the management of the Compass Steering Group has had since commencement of the Youth Crime Action Plan (YCAP) funding in June 2009.

It was reported that during July 2008 the Government published the Youth Crime Action Plan which set out a comprehensive package of measures to prevent and tackle youth crime through a triple track approach of tough enforcement, non-negotiable support and prevention.

It was further noted under the YCAP proposal £700,000 had been made available to Halton over two years up to 2011. Following on from this the Compass Steering

Group was established and joint planning and commissioning framework was essential in order to progress with these projects. It was noted that the Compass Strategy Board oversaw the implementation and monitoring of the various projects carried out over the two years which were outlined in the report for information.

Members were advised that as a direct result of the projects the Steering Group had implemented, Halton could report a significant reduction in youth-related anti-social behaviour. It was further reported that police recorded incidents relating to youth anti-social behaviour had been reduced by a staggering 48% when compared to the period of the same time before the projects began.

It was reported that the YCAP funding came to an end in March 2011. However, due to commitment and input from Steering Group Members and the dedication of all staff connected to the project, Halton had been able to continue with the projects which were set out in the report for information.

Arising from discussion of the report, Members raised concerns in relation to costs occurred to the Borough as a result of children from other authorities being housed in the Borough into private homes and exhausting Halton's resources such as social services, police resources and health service provisions, especially around the Missing From Home agenda. In response, it was noted that the Borough was working closely with police and the service had been reconfigured. Prevention Teams had also been established and links with the CRMZ have been made. It was further noted additional work with independent home care providers would be carried out.

In relation to the cost occurred to the Borough, from children from outside authorities it was reported that teams were investigating the numbers of young people from out of Borough placements to determine any patterns from certain authorities. Members also discussed the possibility to charge authorities for care provision of children from their area and it was noted that this was something that could be monitored. Members requested further investigation be carried out in relation to Partnership Commissioning and joint work with Police and other agencies to tackle the issues. It was noted that resources were also provided and utilised from Cheshire Rescue and Fire Service, Housing Associations and the Police.

RESOLVED: That the report be received.

(NB: Councillor Loftus declared a personal interest in the following item due to being an employee of Riverside College)

CYP11 PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORTS - QUARTER 4

The Board received a report of the Chief Executive on the Performance Monitoring Reports for Quarter 4 2010/11.

Members were requested to consider and raise any questions or points of clarification in respect of the performance management report on progress against service plan objectives and performance targets, performance trends/comparisons and factors affecting the services etc. for:

- Children and Families;
- Children's Organisation Provision; and
- Learning and Achievement.

Arising from the report, Members considered the key highlights in relation to strategic discussions and OfSTED, it was reported there was a plan in place for working with the Early Years settings in order to raise the standards of Childminders in the Borough. It was reported that a seminar would be provided for Members in the future presenting more information.

With regard to the Care First system, it was reported that it had not been implemented by April, however front line teams would be using it by June 2011.

In relation to the opening of the CRMZ it was reported that there was a heavy footfall. The college had reported that a high percentage of their pupils attending during lunch then returned back in the afternoon, resulting in increased attendance levels.

With regard to teenage pregnancies there had been a lot of positives in terms of the uptake in the Sexual Health Clinics, C. Card distribution scheme and testing for Chlamydia.

Members also discussed strategies around breast feeding and joint working schemes with Warrington Road Children's Centre and various baby friendly initiatives, in addition to the commercial side with baby welcome schemes present in shops in Halton.

RESOLVED: That the fourth quarter Performance Management Reports be received and comments made be noted.

CYP12 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

The Board considered the report of the Strategic Director Children and Enterprise which provided information on the progress in achieving targets contained within the Sustainable Community Strategy for Halton.

It was reported that the Sustainable Community Strategy was a central document for the Council and its partners which provided an evidence-based framework through which actions and shared performance targets could be developed and communicated.

It was noted that following extensive research and analysis and consultation with all stakeholder groups including Elected Members, partners and the local community and representative groups. A new Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) 2011 - 26 was approved by Council on 20th April 2011.

Members were advised that there was an increase in the percentage of pupils making the expected two levels of progress in English and Maths at Key Stage 2 compared to 2009. For teenage pregnancy the last available data was from December 2009 and was calculated on a rolling quarterly average basis. There were a number of initiatives which had been established since December 2009 and future statistics would determine if these initiatives were having an affect.

In relation to obesity rates among Primary School children in year 6, the commentary had been revised therefore the figure was 21.6% for the academic year 2009/2010. Steps being taken in Halton to reduce obesity further were outlined by the PCT. A supplementary paper was circulated to Members.

Arising from discussion of the data Members commented on the role of the School Nurse and whether there were sufficient School Nurses in Secondary Schools to deal with the wider range of problems that could arise with teenage children. It was further noted that multi-services had been developed within schools to support and improve the service School Nurses provided including work around drugs

and alcohol, sexual health and various aspects covered by Youth Workers. All the agencies involved had undertaken a comprehensive training package for working with children and continued support would be provided. Members suggested that a paper be brought to a future meeting to determine how effective the School Nurses were in relation to the wider workforce and whether an exercise could be carried out to ascertain the hours required for Nurses in the school setting and whether benchmarks and toolkits could be established.

RESOLVED: That the report be received.

Meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.

**EMPLOYMENT, LEARNING, SKILLS AND COMMUNITY POLICY AND
PERFORMANCE BOARD**

At a meeting of the Employment, Learning, Skills and Community Policy and Performance Board on Wednesday, 8 June 2011 in the Conference Room 2, Municipal Building

Present: Councillors Edge (Chairman), P. Lloyd Jones (Vice-Chairman), Carlin, Horabin, Howard, Macmanus, Parker, C. Plumpton Walsh and Roberts

Apologies for Absence: Councillor G.Zygodllo

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: L. Derbyshire, T. Gibbs, T. Leather, C Pool and W Rourke

Also in attendance: In accordance with Standing Order 33, Councillor Jones Portfolio Holder – Economic Development.

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
<p>ELS1 MINUTES</p> <p> The Minutes from the meeting held on 7 March 2011, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.</p>	
<p>ELS2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</p> <p> The Board was advised that no public questions had been received.</p> <p><i>Note: (Councillor P Lloyd Jones declared a Personal Interest in the following items of business as a non Executive Director of Halton and St Helens Primary Care Trust).</i></p>	
<p>ELS3 EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES</p> <p> The Board considered the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive Board Sub Committee relevant to the Employment, Learning, Skills and Community Board.</p> <p> RESOLVED: That the minutes be noted.</p>	

ELS4 LOCAL ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise which provided information regarding the development of a Local Economic Assessment (LEA) for the Borough of Halton.

The Board was advised that the draft LEA, where possible, utilised information contained in previous Halton Economic Reviews to provide a longer timeframe for the analysis of structural changes in the economy of Halton. The utilisation of an economic forecasting model to anticipate, for example GVA and employment growth, had been a key element of the previous reviews. The procurement of a bespoke, Halton specific, economic model to underpin the production of a Halton LEA would prove prohibitively expensive. The modelling of the future performance of the economy of Halton would, therefore, be provided by Cheshire East Council utilising the Cheshire and Warrington Economic Model, amended to include Halton. The results of that exercise would be available in July 2011 and would be factored into the next iteration of the report.

In this respect, the Board received a presentation from Mr T Leather, Children and Enterprise which:-

- Outlined the background to the Local Economy Assessment which focussed on key themes which influenced the performance of a local economy as follows:-
 - Productivity;
 - Labour Market and Industrial Structure;
 - Labour Supply;
 - Skills;
 - Enterprise and Innovation;
 - Land and Property; and
 - Summarised the conclusions in respect of employment, skills and enterprise.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- It was noted that historically the level of self employment and entrepreneurship in Halton was lower than the average. However, it was also noted that educational attainment in the Borough had significantly increased and this would encourage young people to consider self employment;

- Clarity was sought on the percentage of vacancies in properties. In response, it was reported that this would be circulated to all Members of the Board;
- It was noted that the College provided a basic course in new business start ups and the Council's Enterprise Team also provided support. It was also noted that the Council worked closely with the College and partners regarding the information obtained from businesses on their skill requirements in order to match these with the curriculum. Furthermore, it was highlighted that the approach and interface with businesses was improving;
- It was noted that the percentage of 16-18 year olds classed as Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) in Halton had declined over the last few years. It was also noted, however, that the number of young people unemployed was still high due to a number of factors such as inexperience etc;
- It was noted that a whole range of employment opportunities for different people was required and Halton's employee skills base would need to be matched to the expectations of employers; and
- The importance of retaining manufacturing opportunities for residents in the Borough was noted. It was also noted that the College was unable to offer some courses, because of the lack of a sufficient number of people being interested and this resulted in young people undertaking training outside of the Borough.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the comments raised be noted; and
- (2) the Board agree that the intelligence provided by the draft Halton Local Economic Assessment be utilised when formulating the key strategic documents of the Council.

Strategic Director
– Children &
Enterprise

ELS5 ANNUAL REPORT

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise which provided an Annual

Report of the work carried out by the Employment, Learning, Skills and Community Policy and Performance Board for 2010/11. The report set out the work carried out and recommendations made for work programmes throughout the Municipal Year of 2010 to March 2011.

It was noted that the remit of the Board now included communities and it was agreed that future reports on libraries etc would be presented to the Board for consideration.

The Board agreed that a meeting be arranged with Riverside College to look at the Runcorn Campus and vocational training.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Report and comments raised be noted.

ELS6 HALTON DIGITAL ECONOMY AND INCLUSION STRATEGY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which set out the Digital Economy and Inclusion Strategy (DEIS) and supporting evidence paper which had been produced for Halton. It was also noted that consultation had taken place with stakeholders and comments incorporated. A draft Action Plan had been produced which suggested delivery vehicles and estimated costs.

The Board was advised that the strategy targeted Next Generation Access (NGA) Broadband as a mechanism for driving economic development of social inclusion in Halton. It was reported the term "next generation access" (NGA) referred to superfast broadband that was enabled by replacing current technology such as copper phone lines with new technology, such as fibre optic cable fibre and the latest fixed mobile wireless technologies. NGA, it was reported achieved speeds above 50Mbps (Megabits per second) and the network in Halton currently achieved 2 – 20Mbps.

The Board was further advised that the four elements of the digital economy and inclusion strategy were set out in the report for information. It was noted that the new communications technologies not only helped businesses trade and develop but also created opportunities for businesses to develop new applications and services. The report also detailed the BGA Broadband Group and next steps in terms of the key milestones over the next six

months.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- It was noted that the next generation NGA broadband would create opportunities for localised video conferencing;
- It was noted that maintenance costs would decrease with the new system and the Department of Business was making available £580m available to set up next generation broadband;
- It was noted that the information would only be quicker with appropriate equipment and clarity was sought on whether this would result in digital social exclusion for some residents in the Borough who did not have adequate IT equipment. In response, it was reported that this was addressed in the Strategy and that consideration was being given to recycling IT equipment and renting it out at a nominal cost to increase the number of people who had access to technology. In addition, facilities were available in the libraries throughout the Borough and basic skill courses were also available;
- It was noted that some people were not interested in using Information Technology. It was also noted that an action plan was in the strategy which would encourage people in Halton to use the new technology and this would be widely available via UK online centres, libraries, Adult Learning – PC courses and the Volunteer Policy i.e. neighbours teach each other etc;
- It was noted that the business plan would develop the business site and the strategy if achieved would attract businesses and this would result in a reduction in the overall costs in Halton; and
- The financial differences between the three scenarios set out on pages 54 and 55 of the report were noted.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Board support the Strategy; and
- (2) the Executive Board be recommended to

Strategic Director

adopt the Digital Economy and Inclusion Strategy.

– Policy &
Resources

ELS7 QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources on the performance management reports for quarter four of 2010/11.

Members were requested to consider and raise any questions or points of clarification in respect of the performance management reports against service plan objectives and performance targets, performance trends, comparisons and factors affecting the service for –

- Enterprise and Employment and Adult Learning and Skills Development; and
- Community services namely, Library Services and other Culture and Leisure Services.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- Page 79 - Clarity was sought on why there were only 18 schools, including two secondaries that hosted a family learning programme. In response, it was reported that the figures only represented the fourth quarter and other schools had been included;
- Page 79 – Agreeing future provision in light of WNF ceasing is a priority for the division – It was reported that enrolments were reducing and this was partly due to the impact of the economic downturn and whether an individual could afford to participate in courses;
- It was noted that consideration had been given to activities funded by the ceased WNF funding and some underspend had been identified last year to continue with the majority of the projects previously delivered;
- EEB L12 – Clarity was sought on the differential between health and disability. In response, it was reported that this information would be circulated to all Members of the Board;
- NI146 – it was noted that adults with learning disabilities could be further disadvantaged as the

economic downturn continued. It was reported that Halton People Into Jobs provided generic and specialist service to individuals. In addition, it was a competitive market and there were various reasons for barriers to employment; and

- Page 84 – Double the number of Council apprenticeships by January 2011 – the reasons that this target had not been met was noted. However, it was also noted that the Council had retained ten apprenticeships.

RESOLVED: That the quarterly monitoring reports and comments raised be noted.

ELS8 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which provided information on the progress in achieving targets contained within the Sustainable Community Strategy for Halton.

The Board was advised that the Sustainable Community Strategy for Halton, and the performance measures and targets contained within it would remain central to the delivery of community outcomes. It was therefore important that progress was monitored and that Members were satisfied that adequate plans were in place to ensure that the Council and its partners achieved the improvement targets that had been agreed.

The importance of support for people with mental health issues to access jobs and during potential redundancies was noted.

RESOLVED: That the report and comment raised be noted.

ELS9 SCRUTINY TOPICS 2011 / 2012

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director Children and Enterprise which updated Members on the existing Scrutiny Topic Groups and suggested various topic groups to be considered for the year 2011/12.

The Board was advised that the scope for the topic group was set out in the report for information. The Board also considered the progress made regarding the topic for “assessing the impact of the Government’s deficit policy on Employment Learning and Skills in Halton” which was

detailed in the report for information. Members also agreed to carry over the topic barriers to employment from an employer perspective topic group into the Municipal Year for 2011/12.

The Board was further advised that a joint scrutiny topic group with the Members of the Children, Young People and Families Policy and Performance Board was being established.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Members support a Joint Scrutiny Topic Group on apprenticeships, in conjunction with the Children, Young People and Families PPB;
- (2) the following Members be appointed to the Joint Topic Group on apprenticeships – Councillors Edge, Horabin, P Lloyd Jones, Parker and C Plumpton Walsh; and
- (2) progress made for the topic “Assessment the Impact of the Government’s Deficit Policy on Employment Learning and Skills in Halton”, be noted; and
- (3) the Board agree to carry over the topic ‘Barriers to Employment from an Employer’ perspective into the Municipal Year 2011/12.

Strategic Director
– Children &
Enterprise

ELS10 SINGLE WORK PROGRAMME PROGRESS REPORT

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise which provided an update on the Single Work Programme and set out progress being made to implement the programme in Halton.

It was reported that at a meeting of the PPB on 7 March 2011 it was agreed that a key priority for the year ahead would be maximising single work programme opportunities for Halton.

It was noted that as a part of the Government’s welfare reform proposals, a number of existing employment support programmes had ceased and had been replaced by a new initiative called “The Single Work Programme”.

The Board was advised that the work programme would be a mandatory programme for residents reaching

key milestones of unemployment. For 18 – 24 year olds, referrals would be after nine months of claiming Jobseekers Allowance. Those aged 25 and over would be mandated to attend after 18 months of claiming benefit. Other groups such as those on sickness benefits found fit for work, would also be referred. Once referred, support would be given for a period of up to three years.

The Board was further advised the work programme was being delivered through a number of contract areas, Halton was part of a large contract area which included Merseyside, Lancashire and Cumbria.

It was reported that in April the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) had awarded contracts for the Merseyside, Lancashire and Cumbria area to A4e and Ingeus. They were described as 'Prime Contractors'. A description of the two companies was set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

Prior to the awarding of the contracts, Halton Borough Council had undertaken to meet bidders with the purpose of ascertaining whether successful bidders would wish to enter into a Sub-Contracting arrangement for the Council to deliver the contract in Halton. Both A4e and Ingeus had expressed an interest in working with Halton Borough Council via the Halton People into Jobs team.

Furthermore, discussions regarding how the contract would be operated in Halton were at an early stage. For example, further clarification was required regarding the potential TUPE transfer of employees from Ingeus and A4e as well as other contractors who provided frontline services under the current arrangements. Confirmation on targets and numbers of beneficiaries was still being developed with the two external organisations and would be subject to formal ratification by the Council. There was also a remote possibility that the proposed transferees would not be acceptable in its entirety. In addition, it was reported that the support of the Council's HR and Legal colleagues had been invaluable to date and it was proposed that an internal implementation group would be established to oversee and scrutinise the process. Similarly further negotiations were taking place regarding an implementation date in June.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- It was noted that there would need to be a harmonisation of the TUPE terms and conditions:

- The background information on the A4e and Ingeus companies was noted;
- The financial implications and possible risks of entering into an agreement with A4e and Ingeus was noted;
- It was suggested that the Board receive further update reports at future meetings;
- Clarity was sought on an individual's salary during training. In response, it was reported that the individual would be unemployed whilst undertaking training and development. When an individual had been in employment for six months they would be paid at an appropriate level commensurate with the job. From nine months to three years, support would be given and it was hoped that they would enter into employment during that period;
- Members of the Board unanimously supported the negotiations and the next steps in delivering the programme;
- It was noted that Appendix 1 to the report was not attached to the agenda and reported that this would be circulated to all Members of the Board; and
- It was noted that discussions were taking place on a regular basis with Trade Unions.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the progress made to date on the Single Work Programme be noted; and
- (2) the Board unanimously support the negotiations and proposed next steps in delivering the programme in Halton.

Meeting ended at 8.55 p.m.

HEALTH POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Health Policy and Performance Board held on Tuesday, 7 June 2011 at Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Councillors E. Cargill (Chairman), J. Lowe (Vice-Chairman), Austin, S. Baker, Dennett, Horabin, M Lloyd Jones, C. Loftus, Macmanus, C. Plumpton Walsh and P. Cooke

Apologies for Absence: Councillor G.Zygodllo

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: L. Derbyshire, J. Hunt, A. Lewis, H. Moir, E Sutton-Thompson and S. Wallace-Bonner

Also in attendance: Mr S Banks and Ms Chris Turner – Halton & St Helens PCT, Elaine McDowell – Bridgewater – Halton & St Helens Division and Mr D Melia– Warrington & Halton NHS Foundation Trust.

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
HEA1 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes of the meetings held 8th and 28th March 2011 having been printed and circulated were signed as a correct record.</p>	
HEA2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
<p>The Board was advised that no public questions had been received.</p>	
HEA3 EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES	
<p>The Board considered the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive Board Sub Committee relevant to the Health Policy and Performance Board.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes be noted.</p>	

HEA4 SSP MINUTES

The Minutes of the Health Strategic Partnership Board of its meeting held on 10 March 2011 were submitted to the Board for consideration

RESOLVED: That the minutes be noted.

HEA5 PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORTS - QUARTER 4

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources regarding the 4th Quarter Monitoring Report for:

- Prevention and Commissioning Services;
- Complex Needs; and
- Enablement Services.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- PCSI 1 – Repossession – Due to budgetary cuts to the Citizen Advice Bureau and in the current economic climate it was suggested that the Board would need to monitor this situation as more houses could be re-possessed in the Borough. However, Members noted that the Authority had a mortgage advisor who would be able to provide assistance in this matter;
- PCS10 – It was noted that the Authority undertook the training of staff employed by the independent sector registered care services on the protection of adults;
- Page 60 -% of items of equipment and adaptations delivered within 7 working days - the Board took the opportunity to place on record their congratulations to Officers on their excellent performance;
- NI236 – Early access for women to maternity services - It was agreed the Recovery Plan be monitored by the Board; and
- It was noted that questions had been submitted prior to the meeting and responses provided which had been circulated at the meeting and would be attached as Appendix 1 to the minutes.

RESOLVED: That the report and comments made be noted.

HEA6 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE HEALTH POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which presented the Annual Report for the Health Policy and Performance Board for April 2010-March 2011 attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

It was reported that during 2010 -11 the Board had looked in detail at many of Halton's Health and Social Care priorities. Further details of these were outlined within the Annual Report set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

Note: (Councillor M Lloyd Jones declared a Personal Interest in the following item of business due to her husband being a Non Executive Director of Halton & St Helens Primary Care Trust.)

HEA7 WINDMILL HILL ACCESS CENTRE

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which gave Members an update on the recent Patient and Public consultation regarding the potential closure of the nurse led Windmill Hill Access Centre.

The Board was advised that a report had previously been submitted to Halton & St Helens PCT Clinical Commissioning Committee in October 2010 and to the Finance Performance Approvals Committee on 27th April 2011.

The Board was further advised that prior to 1997 the residents of Windmill Hill had access to a single handed GP practice for their health needs. However, when the GP had left, the existing patient list had been distributed between Castlefields and Murdishaw practices.

Ms Chris Turner, Halton & St Helens PCT and Ms Elaine McDowell, Bridgewater, Halton and St Helens division were in attendance at the meeting to present the report. They reported that the Windmill Access Centre had been introduced and provided a limited service to the residents of Windmill Hill. This service, which was delivered by Bridgewater Community Health Services staff, was open from 9am until 5pm Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays) and people accessed the service by telephoning for an appointment time. However, if they arrived without an

appointment they could wait to be seen by a nurse.

Since opening, the access centre had provided health care for people who had coughs, sore throats, rashes, and many other minor illnesses. However, people who had more complex or long term conditions required the continuity provided by their own GP.

On the 29th January 2010 the new Equitable Access GP practice had been opened to the residents of Windmill Hill, and now had a list size of 1173 patients. The new GP practice provided an enhanced service to that available at Windmill Hill Access Centre. There had also been an increase in the opening hours and the facility was available seven days a week.

In January 2011 the PCT had completed a three month consultation with the residents of Windmill Hill regarding the access centre. The results from the consultation highlighted the need for access to health care. It was proposed to close the nurse led access centre from 1 August 2011.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- The Board noted that the Member for the Windmill Hill ward was not in attendance at the meeting;
- It was noted that there would be no job losses as a result of the changes;
- Clarity was sought on how the changes would be communicated to the community. In response, it was reported that the Primary Care Trust would be developing a full communication plan to ensure the community were aware of the changes. In addition, patients had already been registered at Murdishaw and Castlefield surgeries; and
- It was noted that the new GP centre was fully accessible for people with disabilities.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report and comments raised be noted; and
- (2) Ms Turner and Ms McDowell be thanked for their verbal presentation.

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which gave Members a summary of the Quality Accounts 2010/11 for Warrington and Halton NHS Foundation Trust.

The Board was advised the Quality Accounts summary detailed a comparison between 2009/10 figures and 2010/11 figures for various subject areas, for example, infection control, pressure ulcers, Thromboprophylaxis, falls, Hospital Standardised Mortality Review (HSMR), along with a narrative for each area.

Mr David Melia, Director of Nursing, Warrington and St Helens NHS Foundation Trust attended the meeting to present the report, Mr Melia outlined the issues and priorities that had been identified last year for improvement and provided assurance on performance in respect of:-

- Infection Control;
- Hospital acquired pressure ulcers;
- Falls;
- The Hospital Standardised Mortality Review;
- The significant improvement in reducing the number of cardiac arrests in hospital;
- Complaints;
- The PALS Service; and
- The National In Patient Survey 2010.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- Clarity was sought on the procedures that were in place for when a patient used their call bell. In response, it was reported that one of the priorities for the organisation was to look at ways of freeing up nurse time to enable them to have more control of their wards, spend more time with patients and relatives and undertake regular ward rounds. This would result in nurses being more aware of any issues/concerns that a patient may have and reduce the need for patients to use a call bell. It was noted that this would present a challenge. However, it was also noted that work was being undertaken with staff to identify areas of duplication, work processes and what activities that take nurses away from providing clinical care;
- It was noted that a recent unannounced inspection had shown that staff were very responsive to the needs of the patient and the dignity in care for older

people had received an endorsement;

- It was noted that there had been some improvement in electronic systems such as the transfer of images between the sites, but as yet electronic records had not been developed;
- Clarity was sought on whether there were any action plans for the eight target areas. In response, it was reported that each area was project led, with clear aims and objectives and a monitoring process in place. It was suggested that this information could be presented to a future meeting of the Board;
- Clarity was sought on the information relating to falls – out of the 55 patients, how did they fall, where they alone when they fell and the age range. In response, it was reported that the detailed information was available on the website. Members requested the link to the website and it was agreed that this would be circulated to all Members of the Board;
- Clarity was sought on MRSA procedures in relation to informing family members or carers when the patient was discharged from hospital. In response, it was reported that this raised issues of confidentiality and the patient would indicate who they wished to be informed of their condition. However, universal precautions were undertaken to minimise the risk to patients and their families / carers etc; and
- It was noted that a question had been submitted prior to the meeting and a response provided which had been circulated at the meeting and attached as Appendix 1 to the minutes.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report and comments raised be noted; and
- (2) Mr Melia be thanked for his informative verbal presentation.

HEA9 DRAFT SCRUTINY REVIEW OF DIGNITY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which introduced the draft report of

the Scrutiny Review of Dignity in Care.

It was reported that Appendix 1 set out in the report was commissioned by the Board. A scrutiny review working group had been established with five Members from the Board, a Principal Policy Officer from the policy team, the Dignity in Care Co-ordinator and the Divisional Manager from the Independent Living Service.

The Board was advised that the report had been commissioned as Halton Borough Council was the only local authority in the country with a Dignity in Care Co-ordinator, as well as the only one that covered both the council and the wider remit of Health.

The scrutiny review had been conducted through a number of means between October 2010 and April 2011, as follows:

- Monthly meetings of the scrutiny review topic group;
- Presentations by various key members of staff from the Council and Health (detail of the presentations were attached at Appendix 2 of the report);
- The provision of information;
- Service-user consultation; and
- A field visit to a Productive Ward at Whiston Hospital.

An additional paper was circulated at the meeting which requested that Members endorse the report and all the recommendations that were in the report. In addition it be agreed that they should be put together at the end of the report for clarity. The Board was advised that the report would be presented to the Executive Board for approval. In addition, it was agreed that the Board monitor progress on the recommendations on a six monthly basis.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the comments raised be noted; and
- (2) the Dignity in Care Scrutiny Review endorse the following recommendations:-
 - to include the Multi Agency contact sheet in a future edition of Inside Halton;

Strategic Director
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- endorse continued briefing and training of staff both within social care and health and continue with the public awareness raising;
 - continue to positively promote the work of personalisation within Halton;
 - the group suggest the continued roll out of the Productive Ward concept in both Warrington and Whiston hospitals;
 - the use of Health Passports throughout the care system and extended beyond adults with learning disabilities;
 - in single sex wards in Whiston Hospital the male/female sign on toilets should also be accessible to people with visual impairment; and
 - Whiston Hospital to implement training/guidance for staff to feel comfortable raising concerns / making complaints;
- (3) the recommendations be presented to the Executive Board for adoption; and
- (4) the Board receive six monthly update reports on the progress of the recommendations.

HEA10 HALTON'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT (JSNA)

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which presented the process undertaken for the production of the 2011 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).

The Board was advised that the draft executive summary was attached in Appendix 2 to the report which included a summary of key findings and priorities.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- It was noted that a question had been submitted prior to the meeting and a response provided which had been circulated at the meeting and

attached as Appendix 1 to the minutes;

- It was agreed that as there was an overlap with the Children and Young People's Policy and Performance Board, that the report sent to Members of that Board;
- It was agreed that contact details of the Mortgage Rescue Advisor would be circulated to all Members of the Board;
- Concern was raised that due to the budgetary cuts elderly people could be more vulnerable to falls in the evening. In response, it was reported that the Telecare System was available and there had been an increase in the health budget for night services on a temporary basis and this gave the Authority an opportunity to try out new approaches; and
- It was noted that it was a very comprehensive report. However, it was suggested that in light of the current economic downturn, future reports contained information on the work available in the Borough as this impacted on the health and well being of families.

RESOLVED: That the report and comments raised be noted.

HEA11 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY 2010 - 11 YEAR-END PROGRESS REPORT

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which provided information on the progress in achieving targets contained within the Sustainable Community Strategy for Halton.

The Board was advised that the Sustainable Community Strategy for Halton, and the performance measures and targets contained within it would remain central to the delivery of community outcomes. It was therefore important that progress was monitored and that Members were satisfied that adequate plans were in place to ensure that the Council and its partners achieved the improvement targets that had been agreed.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- In respect of NI 142 – Improve the number of

vulnerable people supported to maintain independent living – Clarity was sought on how many services were commissioned. Members also requested more information on the service;

- It was agreed that information on the Floating Support Service would be circulated to all Members of the Board;
- It was noted that organisations were encouraged to submit their performance monitoring data. It was also noted that sometimes organisations had failed to submit their data due to the timescales; and
- It was suggested that a list be provided of performance indicators that had ceased to exist at a national level be produced with an indication of how they would be monitored in the future. In response, it was reported that the next steps would be to identify priorities in order to determine what the performance indicators would need to be. In addition, it was reported that this process had just commenced and Members views were welcomed.

RESOLVED: That the report and comments raised be noted.

HEA12 THE CHESHIRE AND MERSEYSIDE TREATMENT CENTRE

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which reported that NHS Halton and St Helens were undertaking a formal consultation on future plans for the building known as The Cheshire and Merseyside Treatment Centre. This report was being presented to gain views from the Health Policy & Performance Board as part of this consultation.

The Board was advised that the Cheshire and Merseyside NHS Treatment Centre (CMTC) was located adjacent to Halton Hospital in Runcorn. The CMTC had been operational since 2006 providing a range of Orthopaedic services, to residents of Halton in addition to residents from Cheshire and Merseyside. The CMTC had ceased the provision of the current Orthopaedic services on the 31st May 2011.

The Board was further advised that NHS Halton and St Helens had developed a business case which identified a range of options to be considered for the future provision of

services on this site. Four broad options had been identified by the PCT and Runcorn GP Commissioning Consortium as from 1st June 2011 as follows:-

- Do nothing- included only to provide a benchmark for cost comparison;
- Divest- sell the building on the open market guided by an assessment by the District Valuer;
- Lease- seek through a procurement process an organisation that was willing to take on a lease for the building; and
- Utilisation- use the asset for local health care provision, if costs including capital charges, depreciation and running costs could be recouped.

It was reported that NHS Halton and St Helens would be consulting with all key local stakeholders in relation to these proposed plans. The consultation period ran from 6th May 2011 to 29th July 2011.

The report, concluded that taking into account the overall mix of benefits, costs and risks and assuming that the covenant did not apply, it was recommended that further work be undertaken to develop the implementation option details for D2 and D3 set out in the report.

The Board also received a presentation from Mr Simon Bank, Halton and St Helens Primary Care Trust (PCT), outlining the key issues and benefits within each option. He also reported that various public events had been arranged in Widnes, Runcorn and St Helens to obtain views from the public. The PCT had also met with MP's across Cheshire and Merseyside and would be presenting the report to the Executive Board and Area Forums to enable an open consultation. The decision would be made in September 2011 and the preferred option progressed fairly quickly.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- Clarity was sought on whether the option put forward could be delivered, particularly in light of the Government proposed changes. In response, it was reported that the options had been through the process of a benefits evaluation and had been led by the GP Consortia. The proposed options would deliver the best patient experience and the long term needs of patients in Halton;

- Clarity was sought on whether this would have an impact on the services provided at Halton Hospital. In response, it was reported that a capital programme was being explored. Furthermore, any services in the treatment centre should not be at the detriment of the current provider;
- It was noted that at the end of the consultation period, the facility would be utilised in the short term in order to recover some of the costs;
- It was emphasised that it was an excellent facility and that it must be retained for health purposes;
- It was noted that two questions had been submitted prior to the meeting and responses provided which had been circulated at the meeting and attached as Appendix 1 to the minutes; and
- Members of the Board indicated that they would send in their comments on the various options.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Mr Simon Banks be thanked for his informative presentation; and
- (2) the report, presentation and comments raised be noted.

HEA13 PROPOSAL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HEALTH AND WELL-BEING BOARD

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which gave Members an update on the development of a Shadow Health and Well-being Board for Halton, the application to become an Early Implementer of Health and Well-being Boards and detailed the draft terms of reference for comment and discussion.

The Board was advised that it was proposed that a Shadow Health and Well-being Board would be established by summer 2011. Recent consultation with GP colleagues highlighted a desire not to rush into any formal arrangements, but to take a more measured approach in order to allow the new Board to evolve as all parties became clearer about their respective roles and the emerging role for the new partnership Board. In order to progress development of a Shadow Board the following points were suggested for action:

- Distribute the Draft Terms of Reference more widely following comments from PPB members;
- If it is agreed, that the new Shadow Health and Well-being Board could also incorporate the role of the Health Partnership Board and arrangements would need to be made to dissolve the HHP Board;
- Arrange the first meeting / development session for the new Shadow Health and Well-being Board to take place in Summer 2011; and
- Make use of the Early Implementer Network to share experiences with other areas and benefit from the expertise offered from the DH.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- It was noted that two questions had been submitted prior to the meeting and responses provided which had been circulated at the meeting and attached as Appendix 1 to the minutes;
- In respect of Page 282, paragraph 3.15 of the report — it was noted that this would significantly increase the workload and the responsibilities of Elected Members with less resources from Officers of the Council. It was also noted that the Board would need further reports in order to monitor the situation; and
- It was agreed that the Board receive the minutes of the Health and Well Being Board as a standard item on the agenda.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the content of the report and comments raised be noted;
- (2) the draft Terms of Reference set out in Appendix 1 to the report be supported;
- (3) the recommendations for the links to the Health and Well Being Boards for Children's Services as set out in paragraph 3.19 of the report be supported;

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- (4) the next steps as set out in paragraph 3.30 of the report be agreed; and
- (5) the Board receive the minutes of the Health & Well Being Board as a standing item on the agenda.

HEA14 STANDING ORDER 51

The Board was reminded that Standing Order 51 of the Council's constitution stated that meetings should not continue beyond 9 pm

RESOLVED: That Standing Order 51 be waived to allow the meeting continue beyond 9 pm.

HEA15 SAFEGUARDING ADULTS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which gave Members an update on key issues and progression of the agenda for Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults.

The Board was advised that Halton LINK had held an informal 'drop-in' event/coffee morning in February 2011 to mark Dignity Action Day. The aims were to offer LINK's support to the local and national Dignity in Care campaign, to raise awareness of the importance of Dignity in Care and highlight what was taking place locally and to remind society that the dignity of those in their community was not the sole responsibility of health or social care staff. In addition, that everyone had a role to play and to remind the public that staff had a right to be treated with dignity and respect too, and to hear about people's experiences of local health and social care services over the past 12 months.

The Board was further advised that on the 15th February 2011, a shocking report from the Health Service Ombudsman, Ann Abraham, had been published called "Care and Compassion" www.ombudsman.org.uk.

The Board noted the key issues and progressions of the safeguarding agenda set out in paragraphs 3.3 – 3.10 of the report

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- It was noted that the definition of 'Serious Untoward Incident' would be circulated to Members of the

Board;

- Clarity was sought on the change in respect of CRB checks. In response, it was reported that the list of occupations within the CRB check system was comprehensive, with different levels of checks required depending on the occupation i.e. basic, standard and enhanced. However, it had been proposed that this list be extended to incorporate additional occupations at various levels and this had been put on hold; and
- Concern was raised that some agency staff could be operating in the community without a CRB check. In addition, clarity was sought on whether Members could undertake visits to residential/nursing homes in the Borough as part of their safeguarding duties. In response, it was reported that some Members do undertake visits to residential/nursing homes, but it would need to be via an appointment as they were now independent providers, and visits were not an automatic right. However, the Contract Team, who were responsible for the contracts with external providers of care services undertook regular visits and also had various methods of collecting data and focussing on any concerns that had been raised. In addition, it was agreed that a previous report which had been considered last year highlighting a sample of the quality of services that were provided for Halton be circulated to all Members of the Board for information.

RESOLVED: That report and comments raised be noted.

Meeting ended at 9.15 p.m.

Questions and Responses

Item 6A – Performance Monitoring

General Question

1A Any progress with the resolution below?

“11th Jan PPB Extract

A member of the Board highlighted the complexity of the data and how it was reported and felt it would be useful to understand the thinking behind the proposals, whether there was a hierarchy of indicators, whether there were any existing or new objectives and if they had been considered in the light of the spending review. He also suggested that the Board have a half day workshop to share ideas and consider these points. It was noted that some data within the plan also came within the remit of other Policy and Performance Boards. After discussion, it was agreed that officers look at arranging a half day workshop at the end of the financial year to consider the overall framework and key priorities for the coming year.

RESOLVED: That

.(3) A half day workshop be arranged for Members of the Board to review t the Business Plans.”

Response

A report has been presented to the Corporate PPB on 24th May 2011, to consider the future performance management arrangements for the Council in the light of changing regulatory requirements and reduced resources. Corporate Policy and Performance Board will:

1. Oversees the process of developing the new framework; and
2. Receives a further report at its meeting on 6 September 2011, with a view to making a recommendation to the Executive Board as to the future framework for the Authority.

Any comments from elected members are welcomed in all PPBs. Further training events/ workshops are planned as part of this process, which are to be confirmed with Ian Leivesley and Cllr Wharton. (Sue - Ian is back on Tuesday am – I am not sure what he has agreed with Cllr Wharton as Ian was to schedule a further meeting with Cllr Wharton)

1. **Is the Directorate Overview Available?**

Response

Yes, This is available to all elected members via the Members bulletin that is issued six weeks after the quarter end

2 Prevention and Care (Page 37)

The Service Objectives are all achieved. Well Done.

However the Performance Indicator targets will not be achieved. While understanding that final figures will not be available till June, the overall results are known. Is it possible to comment on the implications and the learning points on these missed targets?

After all targets are set to stretch our performance, there would be a problem if all targets were met.

Response

There are a number of issues with the missed targets- some are due to population changes, which will affect the percentages these, will be reviewed when setting targets next year to ensure correct. Also a reduction in overall staff numbers have made some training targets impossible to achieve, again these will be reviewed. At times they are due to administration/process issues which are addressed in performance meetings. On others we will address as part of our overall performance management and look to put action plans in place- to improve performance as required and identify any learning- this is an ongoing process.

3 Complex Services (Page 66)

Ref NI 137- Healthy Life Expectancy at age 65

Is there a recovery plan to measure this indicator in another way ?

Response

This will be further discussed with the PCT, Public Health to confirm if any of them collect any surveys to provide further information or if a local measure could be developed or collected in Halton proposed localised Places Survey in 2011/12

Since the abolition of the Places Survey in August 2010 by the Coalition it is no longer possible to collect this indicator nationally. To date no further national indicators are planned to capture this data by Local Government as announced in the Single Data set. Information is reported on all age mortality rates in the Sustainable Community Strategy report Ni 120, NI121, NI122, and actions taken to support people with a long term condition to be independent and in control of their condition NI124

Item 7(b)-Policy Issue –Quality Accounts 2010/11 – Warrington and Halton (Page 99)

4 Thank you for summary. Can the Improvement indicators for next year be confirmed ?

Responses regarding the Quality Account

Improvement Priorities 2011/12

Infection Control - Our plan for 2011/12 is to have no more than 4 cases MRSA bloodstream infections and 54 cases of Clostridium difficile acquired within the hospital

Pressure Ulcers - Our plan for 2011/12 is to have no more than 29 grade 3 & 4 hospital acquired pressure ulcers

Venous Thromboprophylaxis (VTE) - Our aim for 2011/12 is to continue to maintain the compliance rate of over 90% for VTE risk assessments

Falls - Our aim for 2011/12 is that we will have no more than 50 incidents of fall that caused moderate to severe harm.

Hospital Standardised Mortality Ratio - Our aim is to maintain the reduction of the HSMR over the next year (with the understanding that the figure will change automatically when the data is rebased nationally)

Reducing harm to patients who are critically ill - Our aim for 2011/12 is to achieved a compliance of 95% for completion of care bundles to reduce ventilator acquired pneumonia and 100% for care bundles to reduce urinary catheter infection prevention

Improving the care of the deteriorating patient - Our aim for 2011/12 is to reduce cardiac arrests by 5%

Ensuring Safer Surgery - Our aim for 2011/12 is to achieve 90% compliance in completing the 'safer surgery checklist'

Complaints/PALS

Our aim is to comply fully with the agreed response time rate to complainants.

The Trust will continue to look at ways in which it enables and encourages patients/relatives to provide feedback on their experiences of their care and services.

National Inpatient Survey 2010

There are issues that we need to continue to improve upon, and these will be the focus of our work over the next 12 months. These include:

- Responding to patients when they have used their call bell
- Improved ways of communication with patients about their care

- Reducing the delay in the process of discharge from hospital

Training & Appraisal - The Trust aims to reach its target of 85% compliance within 2011/12

Item 7 (d) JSNA Report

- 5 Page 209 . Is the new Cancer Action Plan available?

Response

'The strategy group are due to meet to complete and will have a finished document in the next 4 weeks and hope to present the H&WBBs. Happy to send to the health policy & performance board meeting at that stage. The Document is owned by the Cancer Strategy Group which has Daniel, Jenny and Anthony at the core.'

Daniel.Seddon@hsthpcnhs.uk
antony.currell@hsthpcnhs.uk
Jennifer.Owen@hsthpcnhs.uk

Item 7 (f) The Cheshire and Merseyside Treatment Centre

- 6 Page 262. What is the position with the covenant, can/will it be removed ? The overall conclusions rely on this point.

Response

Negotiation will need to take place in regard to the covenant. Any change in the covenant is reliant upon an agreement of all parties.

7. I understand that Warrington and Halton Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (WHHFT) proposes to spend £9M building a new Treatment Centre with similar facilities to the existing Treatment Centre. Should this not be factored into this Business Case?

Response

Warrington and Halton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust are exploring a capital programme. We cannot account for this in the business case as the Law dictates that any option we pursue must be through an open and transparent process involving any potential provider.

Item 7 (g) Proposal for the Development of a Health and Well-Being Board

- 8 Page 282. The scrutiny aspect of the HWB is awaiting Government decisions, like a lot of the Health Bill, but if Overview and Scrutiny is included in the HWB's remit, what is proposed for the future of the Health PPB ?

Response

From the initial guidance received overview and scrutiny will not be a function of the HWB remit

- 9 Page 290. Will the LINK /Health Watch Representative have a vote?

Response

In the draft report which we have shared with Lynn Williams - Links/HealthWatch have a place on the Board and as such would have a 'vote'

HEALTH POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Health Policy and Performance Board held on Tuesday, 28 June 2011 at Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors E. Cargill (Chairman), J. Lowe (Vice-Chairman), Austin, S. Baker, Horabin, M Lloyd Jones, Macmanus, C. Plumpton Walsh and G.Zygadlo

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Dennett and C. Loftus

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: S. Wallace-Bonner

Also in attendance: Dr Tom Dent, Cheshire and Merseyside Vascular Review, Simon Banks NHS Halton and St Helens, and Jackie Robinson NHS Knowsley

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

HEA16 REVIEW OF IMPACT OF NON-ARTERIAL CENTRE DESIGNATION ON WARRINGTON HOSPITAL AND THE PEOPLE IT SERVES

Action

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which highlighted the Cheshire and Merseyside Vascular Review of the impact of non-arterial centre designation on Warrington Hospital and the people it serves.

The Board was advised that the Cheshire and Merseyside Vascular Review project board had informed Warrington and Halton Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust that, subject to consultation, they would not be recommending to commissioners the designation of Warrington Hospital as an arterial centre.

The Board was further advised that senior staff at the hospital had shared with Warrington Health Consortium their concerns about the impact of this decision on Warrington Hospital and the people it serves.

It was reported that as lead commissioner for

Warrington and Halton Trust, Warrington Health Consortium had concluded that these issues would require thorough assessment before a final decision was made about the designation of arterial centres. It was convening a team to assess the impact of the proposed changes, and would not make a decision until that assessment was complete.

Furthermore, the assessment would involve the risk to local services that non-designation might pose. This would include consideration of the impact on interventional radiology, trauma, stroke and other services for the people of Warrington and Halton, St Helens and Knowsley. In addition, it was reported that the assessment would not be complete before 30th September 2011.

Dr. Tom Dent, Project Director, Cheshire and Merseyside Vascular Review, a representative of the Cheshire and Merseyside Vascular Review, Board, Mr Simon Banks, Operational Director, NHS Halton and St Helens and Jackie Robinson, NHS Knowsley were present at the meeting to outline the proposals.

Arising from the discussion the following points were noted:

- 2000 responses from the consultation had been received from staff and public;
- The bid from Warrington Hospital did not meet the standards specified in 3 areas as follows:
 - such as not having 6 vascular surgeons and 6 interventional radiologists;
 - that the Carotid Endarterectomy procedure is carried out 100 times per year and Warrington was substantially short of this; and
 - a wider geographical population was assumed for the application than Warrington currently met. In order to reach the required figure, catchment population would need to be sought from Knowsley, Crewe, Leigh and Irlam, and it was felt that people from these areas already attended other hospitals;
- When the results of the review panel revealed that it could not recommend that Warrington could become an arterial centre a team was set up to carry out a risk assessment of the impacts that the proposed changes would have on Halton and

Warrington. This would be completed in the autumn;

- Members asked why it was proposed that there be two arterial centres rather than three. In response it was noted that if there were too many hospitals performing the procedure it would not be as effective as carrying it out in a more focussed centre where the expertise would be higher as it would be carried out more frequently;
- The proposal did not mean the end of vascular care at Warrington;
- The highest respondents from the consultation were people from Halton and Warrington;
- Concerns were raised in relation to transport and Halton residents having difficulties in accessing either the Countess of Chester or The Royal in Liverpool;
- Warrington had applied to be a Trauma unit which was a separate issue from an arterial centre;
- Concerns were raised as Members felt that the majority of residents from Halton and Warrington would attend The Royal Liverpool hospital which could result in that being overloaded and the Countess of Chester may not carry out enough procedures; and
- Members suggested consultants operate on a rota basis, where they could attend Warrington, Chester and Liverpool hospitals, preventing the need to close the facility at Warrington.

Arising from the discussion Members requested that once the risk assessments of the impact had been completed a report be brought back to the Board in November.

The Board also noted that Warrington was in the process of recruiting two more vascular surgeon's and queried whether they could re-submit an application to the Vascular Review Board. In response it was noted that Warrington could re-submit an application to be an arterial centre, however they would have to prove that they met the criteria as effectively as Chester and Liverpool.

The Chair thanked Dr Tom Dent, Mr Simon Banks and Mrs Jackie Robinson for their informative presentation.

RESOLVED: That a report be brought to the November meeting with the results of the risk assessment of impacts of the proposal on Halton and Warrington

Strategic Director,
Communities.

Meeting ended at 8.40 p.m.

SAFER POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Safer Policy and Performance Board on Tuesday, 14 June 2011 at the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Councillors Osborne (Chairman), Wallace (Vice-Chairman), A.Cole, Fraser, J. Gerrard, M Lloyd Jones, N. Plumpton Walsh, M. Ratcliffe, Thompson and Mr Hodson

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Edge

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Andrews, H. Coen, L. Crane, D. Cunliffe, L. Derbyshire, T. Holyhead, H. Moir, P. McWade and S. Walker

Also in attendance: Mr C Heyes – Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service and in accordance with Standing Order 33, Councillor D Cargill, Portfolio Holder – Community Safety.

**ITEM DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
SAF1 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2011 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.</p>	
SAF2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
<p>The Board was advised that two public questions had been received.</p> <p>As the question related to an item on the agenda, it was agreed that the questions would be answered under that item on the agenda (Minute No: SAF4 refers).</p>	
SAF3 SSP MINUTES	
<p>The minutes from the last Safer Halton Partnership (SHP) Meeting held on the 15 February 2011 were presented to the Board for information.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be noted.</p>	

SAF4 PETITION OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSAL FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ALLEYGATES BETWEEN 21 & 23 MONTGOMERY ROAD, WIDNES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which advised Members of the receipt of a petition containing 13 signatures of residents of Somerville Road, Gathurst Court and Standish Court who objected to the proposed installation of alleygates to a pathway between 21 and 23 Montgomery Road, and recommended a proposed course of action.

The Board was advised at its meeting on 21st September 2010, the Board had considered a report which outlined anti-social behaviour which was occurring to the rear of Montgomery Road, Widnes. It was reported that an eleven-point action plan to address the anti social behaviour to the rear of Montgomery Road, which was detailed in the report, was in the process of being implemented and that its impact would be monitored and assessed. The Board resolved that the plan be supported. Furthermore, following discussion in relation to the establishment of an alleygate in the pathway leading from Montgomery Road, the Board resolved that a working group, including Members of the Board, be established to consider how to proceed with alleygating in the future.

The Board was further advised that the Council's Community Safety Department had reported greater Police involvement in this area and the problems, which were being addressed by the action plan, had declined in frequency and intensity. The action plan had already resulted in crime statistics falling.

It was reported that during October 2010, an informal local consultation had been carried out in the area by Halton Borough Council in order to gauge the views of residents in respect of an Alley Gating scheme being introduced at this location. Letters were delivered to approximately 250 houses on each side of the footpath / cycleway. A total of 42 responses were received including 9 objections to the scheme and 33 in support. The attached petition was also received and had been signed by 13 local residents opposing the gating scheme in this area. The signatures on the petition included one original objector who responded to the consultation, bringing the numbers against the scheme to 21 (or 39%) and numbers in favour 33 (61%).

Those respondents opposed to the proposal, argued

that the pathway should remain open, as it provided a valuable, convenient and safe route to school for the children of the area, avoiding the need to cross the very busy Dundalk Road at peak hours.

It was also reported that five of those who responded in support of the scheme had made additional comments requesting the closure of another link onto the footpath / cycleway, from the Chillington / Netherfield estate, or expressed the hope that the proposed gating would resolve problems on the main route entirely. It would appear from these responses that the consultation may have raised the expectation levels of some residents in these respects. However, this gating proposal did not form part of a wider scheme. The gating of all accesses to this part of the cycle network was something the Highway Authority would be opposed to as this could lead to a sustainable transport route that was no longer used for its intended purpose and could lead to an increase in anti-social behaviour due to a reduction in natural surveillance.

The Chairman reported that there had been an original petition of approximately 250 residents in support of the installation of the alleygates. The Board had made a decision previously to support the installation of the alleygates as over the last twelve months there had been a considerable amount of anti social behaviour with numerous incidents being recorded by the Police. Councillors had identified the alley to the greenway by these properties as a key access point for the people who were causing the anti-social behaviour. In addition, it was noted that alleygates had been very successful throughout the Borough in reducing incidents of anti social behaviour.

The Board noted the numerous incidents of anti social behaviour in the area and that the pathway was not a designated safe route to school or a cycle path. In addition, the Board agreed that installing an alleygate was in the best interest of the community.

After considerable discussion, the Board unanimously agreed to support the installation of an alleygate and agreed that the recommendation be presented to the Executive Board for approval.

It was noted that the following public questions had been received:-

- (1) *If the gates do not go ahead this time what is it going to take to get them put up, after having death*

threats made to me, the Police catching thieves in my garden and letting them go with a warning, youths throwing eggs at my windows, glass bottles getting thrown into the dog pen (cutting her paw and resulting in a £180 bill from the vets). Please dont take the next few lines the wrong way, but I remember a man from Warrington called Garry Newlove who was plagued with yobs outside his house he is now six foot under. I have 3 fantastic kids and a fantastic wife and I HONESTLY DON'T WANT TO END UP LIKE GARRY NEWLOVE, especially over an alleyway that could have something done about it to stop all this.

In response, the Board was advised that due to the complexity and late receipt of this question, a written response would be provided to the member of the public directly.

- (2) *I would like to address the meeting again on 14th June 2011 to reiterate my previous concerns and comments and would also like to ask if the Safer Halton Partnership are aware of the cost implications for sending a fire engine to deal with these incidents, sending the street scene team out to clean up the mess made (not just by the fire set but also for the fly tipping that goes on there) and the cost to replace the damaged fencing and replace the wheelie bin that was destroyed. I expect that if you add all those things together it will amount to a pretty penny, but the other cost that cannot be described in pounds, shillings and pence are the social costs, the effect it is having on the health of the residents who live next to that pathway, the fact that they cannot settle because they are constantly worried about what is going to happen next, people should have a right to expect to be safe in their own home and live in peace, not live in fear.*

In response, the Board was advised that Halton Housing Trust estimated the cost of repairs to a damaged fence at £100 following a bin fire reported last week. Their records indicated that there had also been a bin fire in 2003. Each wheelie-bin replacement cost the Council £20 per bin.

In respect of the amount of fly tipping that had been removed, more information on the specific

area concerned was required. Therefore a written response on this matter would be provided when further information has been ascertained.

In respect of Safer Halton Partnership and the cost implications due to the complexity of the question a written response would be provided to the member of the public directly.

In addition, the Board noted the additional letters of support for the alleygates received from residents in the area. A map of the area was also circulated at the meeting for Members information.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) The Board unanimously support the installation of an alleygate on the pathway between 21 and 23 Montgomery Road;
- (2) the Board's recommendation be presented to the Executive Board for approval; and
- (3) the petitioners be informed of the Board's decision.

Strategic Director
– Policy &
Resources

Note: (Councillor Ratcliffe declared a Personal Interest in the following item of business as an employee of Cheshire Fire Service).

SAF5 CHESHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ANNUAL BONFIRE SEASON REPORT 2010

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which presented a report by Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service on the Annual Bonfire Season Report 2010. Mr Colin Heyes, Arson Reduction Manager, Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service attended the meeting to present the report.

The Board was advised that the Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service Annual Bonfire Season Report covered the period from 18th October to 8th November 2010 when activity was increased across the UK for the Service.

The Board was further advised that the report covered the following:-

- Recording of Bonfire Incidents;
- Pre-Planning and Partnership Activity;
- Bonfire Removal Schemes;

- Educational Events and Activities;
- Diversionary Events;
- Response;
- Fire and Rescue Control;
- Media; and
- Incident Data and Performance.

Members were requested to give consideration to the recommendations set out on page 48, paragraphs 13.1 – 13.12 of the report.

It was noted that the annual firework display cost in the region of £30,000 per year and was not contributing to reducing the number of fires / accidents and other incidents on bonfire night. It was also noted that people from all over the surrounding area attended the event which only lasted for approximately 20 minutes. After this, it was acknowledged that the majority of people would then attended private bonfire parties. It was suggested that in conjunction with Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service consideration be given to holding two events, which could be subsidised by mobile catering units such as burger bars etc. This could also result in a financial saving for the Authority.

After considerable discussion, it was agreed that a short term topic group be established (two meetings) to look into the feasibility of holding two such events this year. The topic group, it was agreed, would be Chaired by Councillor Ratcliffe. Councillor Wallace also volunteered to be part of the group and it was agreed that an email would be sent to all Members of the Board requesting nominations to be part of the group.

The topic group would look at examples of good practice and consider alternative sites to hold the bonfire events, one in Runcorn and one in Widnes which could be subsidised by mobile catering units. It was suggested that the membership should include Mr Colin Heyes, Mr Simon Walker and the Housing Association as land owners. It was also agreed that the Board would consider the recommendations from the topic group, which would include any financial savings and then a recommendation be presented to the Executive Board for approval.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) The report and comments made be noted;
- (2) Mr Colin Heyes be thanked for his informative verbal presentation;

- (3) A topic group chaired by Councillor Ratcliffe be established to consider the possibility of two alternative subsidised bonfire events, one in Runcorn and one in Widnes;
- (4) An email be circulated to Members of the Board for nominations to be part of the topic group; and
- (5) the recommendations be presented to the Board for ratification and subsequently to the Executive Board for adoption.

Strategic Director
- Communities

SAF6 PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORTS - QUARTER 4

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources regarding the Fourth Quarter Monitoring Reports for:

- Environment & Regulatory Service – Environmental Health (Extract); and
- Adults and Community – Community Safety, Drug and Alcohol Action and Domestic Violence Teams (Extracts).

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

SAF7 SAFEGUARDING ADULTS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which gave Members an update on key issues and progression of the agenda for Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults.

The Board was advised that Halton LINK had held an informal 'drop-in' event/coffee morning in February 2011 to mark Dignity Action Day. The aims were to offer LINK's support to the local and national Dignity in Care campaign, to raise awareness of the importance of Dignity in Care and highlight what was taking place locally and to remind society that the dignity of those in their community was not the sole responsibility of health or social care staff. In addition, that everyone had a role to play and to remind the public that staff had a right to be treated with dignity and respect too, and to hear about people's experiences of local health and social care services over the past 12 months.

The Board was further advised that on the 15th February 2011, a shocking report from the Health Service Ombudsman, Ann Abraham, had been published called "Care and Compassion" www.ombudsman.org.uk.

The Board noted the key issues and progressions of the safeguarding agenda set out in paragraphs 3.3 – 3.10 of the report.

The Board noted that the increase in the numbers had been as a result of advertising and raising awareness of how to report safeguarding incidents.

The Chairman encouraged the Members to attend the basic Safeguarding Awareness Course highlighting that it would be invaluable to Members particularly with issues raised during surgeries.

RESOLVED: That the report and comments raised be noted.

SAF8 HALTON SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise which sought to inform the Members of the work of the Halton Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB).

The Board was advised that The Children Act 2004 required each Local Authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) by 1st April 2006. Halton Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB) was in place by February 2006.

The Board was advised of progress made by HSCB in respect of the following:-

- Training;
- Recruitment and Supervision;
- Private Fostering;
- Communicating and Raising Awareness;
- Functions relating to child death; and
- Serious Case Reviews.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- It was agreed that a copy of the annual report be sent to all Members of the Board;
- It was agreed that a copy of the Ofsted report be

circulated to all Members of the Board;

- It was noted that Members were Corporate Parents and had a responsibility to scrutinise actions that had been taken to ensure the safety of children in the Borough;
- The numerous activities, events and awareness campaigns that were being undertaken were noted;
- It was noted that consideration was being given to holding a training course to raise Members awareness on abuse etc; and
- It was noted that volunteers were still required for Climbie visits. It was reported that any Member interested in undertaking Climbie visits should contact the officer directly.

RESOLVED: That the report and comments raised be noted.

SAF9 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY 2010 - 11 YEAR-END PROGRESS REPORT

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which provided information on the progress in achieving targets contained within the Sustainable Community Strategy for Halton.

The Board was advised that the Sustainable Community Strategy for Halton, and the performance measures and targets contained within it would remain central to the delivery of community outcomes. It was therefore important that progress was monitored and that Members were satisfied that adequate plans were in place to ensure that the Council and its partners achieved the improvement targets that had been agreed.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- It was noted that there had been a considerable reduction in NI 17 – Reduce the perceptions of anti social behaviour and credit was given to the Safer Halton Partnership for their excellent work in addressing this matter;
- In relation to NI 39 – Reduce the number of alcohol related harm admissions, it was reported

that a two stage competitive tender had been launched for future Tier 2 and 3 drug and alcohol services (as part of an integrated recovery service), in Halton and work to support the tender continued. It was agreed that a report on the outcome of the tender be presented to a future meeting of the Board;

- Page 112 – NI 47 – Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents – it was noted that over a long period of time the overall trend for accidents in the Borough had been significantly reduced. However, concern was raised that this would change and road accidents would increase in the future as a result of the budget cuts by the Government, particularly the Highway budget which addressed road safety matters. After discussion, it was agreed that a letter be written on behalf of the Board to Mr Derek Twigg MP and to Mr Graham Evans MP, highlighting how the budgetary cuts had impacted on Safer Halton's Community Strategy and asking how they proposed this matter could be addressed;
- The excellent work undertaken by the Safer Halton Partnership in reducing anti social behaviour and alcohol abuse in the Borough was noted. It was also agreed that a report outlining how the Partnership would be affected by the budgetary cuts be presented to a future meeting of the Board;
- In conjunction with Licensing, a report be presented to the Board on how safe public transport was in the Borough. In addition, it was agreed that the report should include all forms of public transport, including taxis and buses; and
- Clarity was sought on what checks were in place to address underage drinking in the Borough. In response, it was reported that covert operations were undertaken regularly at weekends and during the week testing public houses in the Borough. There was also a considerable amount of awareness raising undertaken in schools and enforcement in liaison with the Licensing Department. However, it was reported that if information was received on a particular public house then it could be targeted and tested.

RESOLVED: That the report and comments raised be noted.

SAF10 CHILDREN IN CARE FROM OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which gave details of the current numbers of Children in Care of Other Local Authorities (CICOLA) and the possible impact on services within Halton.

The Board was advised that Local Authorities had a statutory duty in determining the most appropriate placement for a looked after child. However for a variety of reasons, a person could be placed outside of the Local Authority that they lived in.

The Board was further advised that Halton had the second highest concentration of one bed homes in the region (St. Helens had the highest with 15). The costs per week ranged from £2600 - £4995. However the average placement cost for local provision equated to £4211 per week – this was substantially higher than the regional average cost which currently was approximately £2750 - £2835 per week.

It was reported that in total there were 116 children's homes with the current OFSTED inspection with the following findings:

- 83 - Good or outstanding;
- 22 – Satisfactory;
- 2 – Inadequate; and
- 7 homes not yet having received their first OFSTED inspection due to being newly opened provision.

In addition, it was highlighted that within Halton there were 63 placements for Independent Fostering Agencies and 37 placements within a residential setting.

Furthermore, it was reported that there were some issues with the quality of the current data and how Halton 'tracked' the young people in Care from other Local Authorities. The current figures showed approximately 266 young people in Halton from other Local Authorities. These young people were aged from 1 to 17 years old and included foster carers approved from other Local Authorities. However, it was highlighted that the data was constantly

changing.

Using the current information and looking at Police data at the amount and type of police contact there had only been 36 separate pieces of intelligence for 16 individuals over the past 12 months mostly around anti-social behaviour and 12 arrests for 7 individuals.

The Board noted the future work being undertaken to address the issues and the Procedures for Notification of Children In Care Placed In Other Local Authorities attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

The following comments arose from the discussion:-

- It was noted that placements from other authorities which resulted in anti social behaviour or arrests reflected on Halton as Corporate Parents;
- The challenges in respect of private companies placing people in establishments with private carers, which the Authority were unaware of was noted;
- The challenges facing the authority in respect of placements from other authorities and the financial and resource implications on the Council was noted;
- It was noted that from April there was a requirement that the placing LA's have a duty to notify Halton and should not place children further than a 20 mile radius from their home address. However, it was also noted that this may reduce the number of children placed in Halton, but it could also result in the children that were placed in the Borough could be more problematic as local placements had not been successful;
- It was noted that if any issues / concerns are raised about a particular home, the Local Authority and the Police would undertake an emergency inspection; and
- the actions taken when Ofsted place an establishment below the standard was noted. It was also noted that Halton would not place a child in any establishment that was below a certain standard on the list.

The Chairman highlighted the excellent work being undertaken by Halton and reported that the Community Safety Team were the link with all the partners. He indicated that it was vitally important that they were retained. In addition, he encouraged Members of the Board to support the Community Safety Team via mainstream funding in the future when considering the future budget.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) The content of the report and comments raised be noted;
- (2) Further work is undertaken to get an accurate picture on how many CICOLA's reside in Halton, ensuring that the procedures around notifications of CICOLA's is clearly in place;
- (3) Work be undertaken with other key agencies, such as the Police, Education and Health to understand the demand and impact of CICOLA's on Halton services and to investigate the avenues for charging other Local Authorities for certain key services; and
- (4) The report be referred to the Children, Young People and Families PPB for further consideration

Strategic Director
Children &
Enterprise

SAF11 HATE CRIME AND HARRASSMENT REDUCTION STRATEGY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities which provided Members with a draft of the Hate Crime Reduction Strategy and Action Plan for Halton.

The Board was advised that Hate crime was a serious issue that could affect the quality of life for people and communities, and reducing the level of hate crime was a key priority for the Safer Halton Partnership. Hate crime could take various forms of either physical or verbal abuse and even the threat of attack.

The Board was further advised that according to the Home Office and Association of Police Chief Constables the definition of hate crime came in five categories: Race, Faith, Homophobic, Transphobic and Disability, with the number of incidents being under reported nationally. This was not,

however, unique to Halton, it was a national problem which is why a Hate Crime Cross-Government Action Plan had been produced.

It was reported that not all reported incidents became a crime. A hate incident may or may not constitute a criminal offence once it had been investigated. However keeping a record of incidents could help build a picture of what was happening within communities.

In Halton, due to the low numbers of reported incidents and the knowledge that there was a smaller diverse community, work had been progressing to include the hate crime matters with the wider safeguarding issues, such as training front line service providers and using existing communication methods to raise awareness of reporting centres.

The strategy and action plan was for the wider Strategic Partnership, as it has been recognised that the Council could not progress this work alone. The Strategy had been shared with a variety of partners, groups and networks. The strategy had also been shared with the Safeguarding Co-ordinator and Manager for Adults and Children and Young People. There had also been 1-2-1 meetings with the two lead officers for the Community Safety Team, along with a large public consultation event held in November 2010 which included service users and providers.

The Board noted that the report highlighted that there had been no reported incidents linked to disability or religion, which was likely to be due to under reporting rather than a tangible success.

RESOLVED: That the Board endorse the Hate Crime Strategy and Action Plan to forward to the Council's Executive Board for adoption.

Strategic Director
- Communities

Meeting ended at 8.35 p.m.

ENVIRONMENT AND URBAN RENEWAL POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board on Wednesday, 15 June 2011 at the Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Hignett (Chairman), J. Gerrard (Vice-Chairman), Baker, E. Cargill, Hodgkinson, A. McInerney, Nolan, Thompson and Zygodillo

Apologies for Absence: Councillor J. Bradshaw and Wainwright

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Noone, G. Ferguson, J. Unsworth, D. Cunliffe, S. Rimmer and H. Coen.

Also in attendance: In accordance with Standing Order 31 Councillors Nelson and Stockton.

**ITEM DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
EUR1 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2011 having been printed and circulated were signed as a correct record.</p>	
EUR2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
<p>It was confirmed that no public questions had been received.</p>	
EUR3 EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES	
<p>The Board considered the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive Board and Executive Board Sub Committee relevant to the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RESOLVED: That the Minutes be received.</p>	
EUR4 SSP MINUTES	
<p>The Board received the draft Minutes of the Urban</p>	

Renewal Specialist Strategic Partnership meeting held on 3rd May 2011.

RESOLVED: That the draft Minutes be noted.

EUR5 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Policy and Resources which provided information on the progress in achieving targets contained within the sustainable community strategy for Halton.

It was reported that the Sustainable Community Strategy was a central document for the Council and its partners, which provided an evidenced-based framework through which actions and shared performance targets could be developed and communicated.

It was noted that following extensive research and analysis and consultation with all stakeholder groups included Elected Members, partners and the local community and representative groups, a new sustainable community strategy (SCS) 2011 – 2026 was approved by Council on the 20th April 2011.

The Board was advised that the Sustainable Community Strategy for Halton, and the performance measures and targets contained within it would remain central to the delivery of community outcomes. It was therefore important that progress was monitored and that Members were satisfied that adequate plans were in place to ensure that the Council and its partners achieved the improvement targets that had been agreed.

The Board noted that Councillor Hodgkinson had submitted the following questions:

Why is NI5 'Overall satisfaction with local area' no longer used? Also what difference will the Ineos incinerator and associated traffic movements, which are currently approved, make to the CO2 levels?

In response the Board was advised that NI 5 was part of the nationally prescribed places survey which the coalition government abolished from April 2011. However Management Team had agreed that a Halton Residents Survey would be undertaken in order to gather public perception data and the methodology was currently being developed with a view to undertaking the survey by the end of this calendar year. Although the final set of questions was

still to be determined they would be based on previous place survey type questions and our local priorities. On this basis it was almost certain that overall satisfaction would be a feature of the new survey.

With regard to the Ineos incinerator and associated traffic movements, the Board was advised that the indicator was measured by Defra and provided to the Council on an annual basis and it was not possible for officers to determine what difference a single operation, such as the Incinerator, would make to it. The definition of the indicator could be provided and some idea of the sorts of measures an authority could use to address CO2 emissions could be provided. Debbie Houghton in the Council's Policy and Strategy Division could be contacted if required.

RESOLVED: That the report and comments raised be noted.

EUR6 QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORTS

The Board received a report of the Chief Executive which detailed the fourth quarter management reports on progress against service plan objectives and performance targets, performance trends/comparisons and factors affecting the services for –

- Employment, Economic Regeneration and Business Development (Business Development and Regional Affairs)
- Highways, Transportation and Logistics
- Environment and Regulatory Services
- Prevention and Commissioning (Housing Strategy)

In receiving the fourth quarterly monitoring reports, Councillor Hodgkinson submitted the following questions:

1. What other activity in town centres has benefited from the reduction in improved business premises?

In response the Board was advised that during the last twelve months a number of improvements have been completed to improve the public realm within the town centres. Such improvements have included installation of new litter bins and benches within both Runcorn and Widnes town centres; re-painting of street furniture within Runcorn town centre; new gateway signage in Runcorn town centre; new temporary car park off High Street in Runcorn; and the demolition of 57 High Street property and landscaping works

to create urban green space.

Orientation signage to assist visitors to navigate between the shopping areas within the central retail area of Widnes town centre would be installed later this summer. The signage would be clear and colourful and each sign is easy to follow, incorporating the "Try Widnes" branding and a "Did you know" feature which would enhance civic pride for the town. The bandstand (between Widnes Road and Albert Road) in Widnes has been re-painted using the "Try Widnes" branding colours. There were also plans to install lighting on the bandstand to upgrade this town centre facility.

Within Travis Street (off Widnes Road) plans were advanced to provide an area of pavement which will be used as an al fresco dining area. This would help to further develop this location as an area where restaurants and cafes were operating and help them become more economically sustainable.

2. Which Playbuilder project was cut?

A written response would be provided.

3. What are the ongoing issues around experienced administrative support to the Development Control team?

In relation to the above question the Board was advised that these issues included: the capacity available in Admin section to provide the necessary resources; the need for those staff involved to be trained (as there has been a complete change in personnel); and there were issues around the more limited range of tasks that were now undertaken by the admin section.

4. Could the prosecution of fly-posters partly cover the cost of removing fly-posted material?

With regard to the above question, legislation does allow the Council to take action against those who fly-post. This included the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices or prosecution and any monies received from successfully prosecuting offenders could be used to off-set costs incurred from clearing fly-posted materials.

5. Why is the average number of days taken to repair street light increasing?

The street lighting repair time for DNO (Distribution Network Operator – Scottish Power) faults has increased due to a

change in response time in their agreement. This type of fault was totally outside our control and the faults were repaired by Scottish Power at their expense. Faults within in our control were still being repaired within 5 days.

RESOLVED: That the fourth quarter performance management reports be received.

EUR7 PETITION CONCERNING HEAVY INDUSTRIAL TRAFFIC ON SOUTH PARADE, WESTON POINT, RUNCORN

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director Policy and Resources, which informed Members of a petition requesting that steps be taken to reduce the volume and weight of heavy industrial traffic travelling along South Parade, Weston Point, Runcorn. The petition had been signed by 21 residents and cites damage to properties, dangers to pedestrians, obstruction, increasing volumes of traffic, noise and pollution.

Members were advised that the sites generating the highest traffic movements affecting South Parade were Ineos Salt Works and the Energy From Waste (EfW) construction site, together with the Merseyside Gateway Port (previously Weston Docks), which was now operated by Stobart's.

Traditionally, these sites had been accessed from South Parade via either Picow Farm Road and Sandy Lane or Bankes Lane junctions on the Weston Point Expressway. This had resulted in industrial traffic travelling down both Sandy Lane and Bankes Lane/South Parade. However, Ineos had constructed a new access road, Barlow Way from Picow Farm Road which together with a new internal site roadway system provided access to both the Salt Works and the EfW sites from Picow Farm Road. Temporary signing for the EfW site had been erected on the Weston Point Expressway on both the north and south bound approaches.

In addition Ineos had also approached the Council with a view to funding replacement permanent signing on the Weston Point Expressway, to direct both Salt Works and EfW traffic to use the Picow Farm Road junction, thus avoiding travelling via either Sandy Lane or Bankes Lane/South Parade. However, HGV traffic continued to access these sites via Bankes Lane and South Parade as it was not prohibited to do so. The roads could physically accommodate this traffic and SatNav systems show Bankes Lane as the shortest route, particularly for vehicles approaching from M56.

With regard to access to Mersey Gateway Port, this would need to remain off the junction of South Parade and Sandy Lane for the foreseeable future. A possible solution to reduce traffic on these roads was to extend Barlow Way so that it could provide a new connection to the Port. However, no funding had been identified for this proposal and until this was found traffic for the Port would need to continue to use South Parade and/or Sandy Lane. The Council was continuing to facilitate meetings between all parties (Ineos and Stobart's) involved to try to find a solution.

It was noted that both Ineos and Stobart's had issued instructions to drivers to use the signed routes and in the case of Stobart's they had requested drivers not to arrive before the Port opened at 7.00 a.m. In addition, Ineos had issued maps to their hauliers and reported drivers to their employers if they do not follow the correct routes. Further, a sign had been erected on South Road (former access to Salt Works) advising that there was no access to the Salt Works. Ineos had also installed temporary blocks to deter traffic from turning right towards Sandy Lane.

It had been suggested that traffic leaving the Port be signed along Sandy Lane, to discourage use of South Parade. It was recognised that this was an option but this would not be enforceable and could result in objections from the residents of Sandy Lane; and may not be followed due to drivers following SatNav rather than direction signs. This needed to be investigated further together with possible amendments to the carriageway markings to encourage drivers to take the most appropriate route.

It was reported that the possibility of reducing the speed limit in the vicinity of the residential properties had also been suggested, but this would require the support of the Police. The Police had previously confirmed that they would not enforce 20 mph limits as they should, in their view, be self enforcing through design of the horizontal and vertical alignment. This option could not be progressed further at the present time.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the re-signing of routes to the industrial sites from the Weston Point Expressway, both existing and planned, be endorsed;
- 2) a time limited weight restriction on South Parade and Sandy Lane between Bankes Lane and

Strategic Director
Corporate and
Policy

Picow Farm Road be deferred to allow a review of the other measures to be deployed;

3) the existing waiting restrictions on South Parade and Sandy Lane be reviewed to discourage parking of HGVs near the houses together with the direction signs and carriageway markings for traffic leaving the Mersey Gateway Port;

4) the Council arranges for discussions to resume between Ineos and Stobart's regarding alternative accesses to Mersey Gateway Port; and

5) the petition be noted and the lead petitioner be informed of the decisions of the Policy and Performance Board.

(NB: Councillor Nelson declared a Personal Interest in the following item of business as he is a Council representative on Halton Housing Trust.)

EUR8 RECEIPT OF PETITION - RUSSELL COURT, FARNWORTH, WIDNES. PARKING ISSUES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which informed Members of a petition from residents of Russell Court, in relation to car parking problems in the area. Residents had reported problems with car parking in the area for several years. On street parking was very restricted due to the layout of Russell Court which was little more than a short access way and turning head, but it was adopted highway. Although a sign had been erected in the past stating parking for residents in Russell Court only this had no legal standing and could not be enforced. Therefore the carriageway was open to all highway users, for access and for considerate parking, and any enforcement of traffic obstruction issues etc. would rest with the Police.

It was reported that nearby Farnworth Street was narrow with "no waiting at any time" restrictions and many properties had no off-street parking provision of their own. As a result, Russell Court and the adjacent private street and garage court became congested with parked vehicles, making access and turning for residents of Russell Court difficult.

Both the Locality Area Forum and Halton Housing Trust (HHT) had agreed to allocate funding to try to resolve parking problems through the construction of additional

parking areas and to control inappropriate and unauthorised parking. HHT Housing Officers prepared an Options Report which formed the basis for discussion with Council Officers, Ward Councillors and residents. A series of meetings had been held to discuss the feasibility of various options which were as follows –

- Option A – Demolition of bin store and provision of around 8 car parking spaces and footpath, accessed from private street;
- Option B – Provision of around 10 car parking spaces on part of land currently used as “drying area”. Spaces would form part of garage court accessed from private street;
- Option C – Prevention of parking on highway verges in Russell Court and provision of marked/allocated car parking bays. This option would not be legally acceptable, however vehicle access crossings and driveway parking could be investigated as an alternative;
- Option D – Demolition of garages and additional car parking spaces provided within garage court accessed by new road off Russell Court. This option had not been progressed as neither HHT nor the residents were supportive.

Members were advised that following discussions between HHT and Council Officers, Option B would be subject to consultation with local residents.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) Council Officers, on conjunction with HHT continue their efforts to resolve the reported parking problems in Russell Court through the development of new parking provision and the control of inappropriate parking; and
- 2) the residents of Russell Court be consulted on any proposals developed to resolve the parking problems.

Strategic Director
Corporate and
Policy

EUR9 PETITION REQUESTING PARTIAL REMOVAL OF WAITING RESTRICTIONS ON HALE BANK ROAD

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which informed Members of

a petition requesting partial removal of the “At Any Time” waiting restrictions on Hale Bank Road, Hale Bank, Widnes in order to provide more on-highway parking space for local residents. The petition had been signed by 19 residents from 11 out of 16 properties on Hale Bank Road. At present, the “At Any Time” waiting restrictions extend from the junction of Hale Road for a distance of 62 metres in a westerly direction along Hale Bank Road on both sides. The petition requested that the length of the waiting restriction lines on the south side of Hale Bank Road be reduced by 23 metres, so as to provide additional on-highways parking for local residents.

Members were advised that having evaluated the situation it was proposed that the majority of the south side restrictions could be removed to further help residents, but leaving 15 metres of “At Any Time” waiting restrictions adjacent to the Hale Road junction in order to provide space for vehicles entering Hale Bank Road to wait whilst oncoming traffic cleared the area further west where parking would be permitted.

In addition, it was noted that permitting parking adjacent to Frederick Terrace effectively limited vehicles to one running lane at a time past these properties. However, in recent years the speed limit had been reduced to 30 mph on Hale Bank Road and a vehicle weight restriction introduced. Taken together, these measures had reduced the speed, volume and average weight/size of vehicles using this route.

Following consultation with Cheshire Police and Ward Councillors, no objections to the proposed amendments had been received.

RESOLVED: That the request for the partial removal of “At Any Time” waiting restriction on Hale Bank Road, Hale Bank be accepted and the lead Petitioner be informed accordingly, with the exact extent of waiting restrictions to be removed being advertised through the normal procedure for Traffic Regulation Orders.

Strategic Director
Corporate and
Policy

EUR10 PRELIMINARY FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT

The Board was advised that as part of its new duties as a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) the Council must undertake a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA). This was a high level screening exercise, to determine whether there was a local flood risk within the LLFA boundary based on historic and potential future flood risk data. This screening and any identified risk was contained

within a preliminary assessment report (PAR) a copy of which had been previously circulated to Members.

The Board received a presentation on the key findings of the PAR which set out how the assessment had been undertaken and provided a robust evidence base to help support preparation of a Local Flood Risk strategy. The PAR was based on data held by a wide variety of sources but primarily, the Environment Agency, United Utilities and from within the Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessments (SFRA1 and SFRA2).

It was noted that the outcome of the first two stages of flood risk assessment required by the Regulations was that no Flood Risk Area was proposed for Halton. Consequently the next two stages, the production of Flood Risk Maps and preparation of a Flood Risk Management Plan for FRAs were not triggered.

However, as LLFA, the Council still had to produce a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for the area. Although currently there was no prescribed timetable for the production of the Strategy, the data used in, and the information produced by the PFRA, together with the results of the soon to be completed Surface Water Management Study, would put the Authority in a good position to commence preparation of a comprehensive strategy later this year, once the national strategy had been approved.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the findings of the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment for Halton be noted and the draft Preliminary Assessment Report be recommended to the Executive Board for approval; and
- 2) the submission of the draft Preliminary report to the Environment Agency by the 22nd June 2011, in order to comply with DEFRA's timetable for review and approval be supported.

Strategic Director
Corporate and
Policy

EUR11 ANNUAL REPORT ENVIRONMENT AND URBAN RENEWAL POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD 2010-11

The Board considered a copy of the Annual Report from the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board 2010/11. The full Board met five times during the year and the worked on a variety of initiatives during the year which included:-

- Consideration of a draft Household Waste Collection Policy which was subsequently recommended and a Waste Management Topic Group was established to scrutinise the process;
- Proposed recommendations in respect of the adoption of an Abandoned Shopping Trolley Policy;
- Consideration of the current practice relating to the provision of grit storage bins and manual gritting of footpaths and proposed improvements for the delivery of the service in the future.

The Chairman thanked all the Councillors and Officers for their support during the year.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Report be received for the purpose of its adoption at a forthcoming meeting of Full Council.

Strategic Director
Corporate and
Policy

EUR12 POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which sought to develop a work programme of topics for the Board to examine in 2011/12.

The Board had previously agreed that the Waste Management Topic Group needed to be re-established and a Topic Working Group had been set up. The Group had met on 1st June 2011 and Members received a verbal update on the work undertaken by the Topic Group to date. The Group had examined the alternative bin collection pilot schemes and the following had been noted.

- The pilot scheme had been rolled out to 2,500 properties and very few issues or concerns had been reported;
- More residents had been recycling as a result of the pilot;
- There had been more requests for larger blue recycling bins;

- Although a small number of complaints had been received, these had been prior to the introduction of the scheme and no complaints had been received since the scheme had been implemented;
- It was proposed to extend the pilot into four other ward areas (Birchfield, Farnworth, Daresbury and Norton North);
- Weekly bin collections would take place during the Christmas period;
- The alternate bin collection scheme would not be viable for those properties with sack collections.

Arising from the discussion, it was agreed that a Cemeteries Working Party be established and the Operational Director Policy, Planning and Transportation in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board agree the Topic Brief. This brief was to include a timeline indicating when the Group intended to reach its conclusions by.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) a Cemeteries Working Party be established for 2011/12 with the following Membership:

Councillors Thompson (Chair), J. Bradshaw, E. Cargill, A. McInerney and Zygadlo; and

- 2) the Operational Director Policy, Planning and Transportation in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board agree the Topic Brief; and

- 3) the Waste Management Topic Group continue as previously established.

Strategic Director
Corporate and
Policy

EUR13 NOMINATIONS OF MEMBERS TO THE CONSULTATION REVIEW PANEL

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Environment and Economy which requested nomination of two Members to represent the Board on the Consultation Review Panel.

RESOLVED: That the Chair and Vice Chair of the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board sit on the Consultation Review Panel as may be required from time to time.

EUR14 NOMINATIONS OF MEMBERS TO THE HALTON PUBLIC TRANSPORT ADVISORY PANEL - MUNICIPAL YEAR 2011/12

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Environment and Economy, which requested Members to agree nominations to sit on the Council's Public Transport Advisory Panel for the Municipal Year 2011/12.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the nominations for Halton Public Transport Advisory Panel for 2011/12 be as follows: Councillors Hignett, Gerrard, Stockton and Hodgkinson;
- 2) the key issues discussed by the Panel during the Municipal Year 2010/11 be noted.

Meeting ended at 7.53 p.m.

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CORPORATE POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

*At a meeting of the Corporate Policy and Performance Board on Tuesday, 24 May 2011
in the Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn*

Present: Councillors A. Lowe (Chairman), Roberts (Vice-Chairman), Browne, Dennett, Wainwright, C. Loftus, A.McInerney, N.Plumpton Walsh and Redhead

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Gilligan and Philbin

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney, A. Jones, I. Leivesley and T. Dean

Also in attendance: Councillors Wharton and McDermott

**ITEM DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
CS1 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes from the meeting held on 22 February 2011 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.</p>	
CS2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
<p>It was reported that no public questions had been received.</p>	
CS3 EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES	
<p>The minutes of the Executive Board and the Executive Board Sub-Committee relating to the work of the Corporate Policy and Performance Board since its last meeting, were submitted for information.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes be noted.</p>	
CS4 SSP MINUTES	
<p>It was reported that the SSP minutes from the Halton Strategic Partnership (HSP) Board meeting held on 2 March 2011 would be approved at the next meeting of the HSP, being held on 1 June 2011. Members requested that the</p>	

approved minutes be forwarded to them following the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

CS5 CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Board received the Annual Report of the Corporate Policy and Performance Board for 2010/11.

Members requested information on the Widnes Vikings and it was agreed that this would return as an item on a future agenda.

It was noted that following a change in membership of the Board for 2011-12, Councillor Roberts would take the lead on the Halton Strategic Partnership topic group for 2011-12.

RESOLVED: That the report be approved.

CS6 REVIEW OF THE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

The Board received a report from the Strategic Director Policy and Resources, asking them to consider the future performance management arrangements for the Council in light of the changing regulatory requirements and reduced resources.

It was reported that the purpose of a performance framework was to help the Council to improve the quality of life in Halton by prioritising and delivering improvements in outcomes for the community. It was therefore, imperative that the Council maintained a planning and performance framework that allowed the identification and ongoing monitoring of key activities and performance measures.

It was noted that the existing performance management framework was developed primarily as a result of Audit Commission findings from the pre-existing Corporate Assessment process and had served the Council well. This best practice was seen and widely promoted as a means of securing step change improvement within the sector. The coalition had signalled an intended shift from the central performance management of local councils toward greater 'local accountability'. As a result a number of changes had been made to the national performance framework and these included the abolition of: The Comprehensive Area Assessment; The Audit commission;

Local Area Agreements; the National Indicator Set and Annual scored ratings for Children's and Adults' Services. In their place the coalition proposed:

- A single list of all the data councils had to provide to central Government;
- A Quality of Outcomes Data Set (QODS) for Adult Social Care;
- Continued inspections of schools, Children's Services, Adults Services etc; and
- That councils would publish up to date performance data in an easily accessible form to enable local citizens to performance manage their local authority.

It was further noted that funding for local public services was being significantly reduced but it remained vitally important for the council to be clear about what it wanted to change/improve most.

Appendix 1 (*Principles for developing a new performance framework*) was referred to and Members gave their initial views. It was noted that the Board would oversee the process of developing the new framework and would have the opportunity to discuss this over the coming months. A further report would be presented at the September meeting with a view to making a recommendation to the Executive Board as to the future framework for the Authority.

RESOLVED: That the Board notes the content of the report and endorses:

- 1) The set of principles for a new performance management framework as outlined in section 3.3 and Appendix 1 to the report; and
- 2) The next steps as outlined in paragraph 3.5.

CS7 QUARTER 4 MONITORING REPORTS

The Board received the Performance Management Reports for quarter 4 of 2010/11 (January to March).

Members were requested to consider and raise any questions or points of clarification in respect of the 4th quarter performance management reports on progress against service plan objectives and performance targets, performance trends/comparisons, factors affecting the services for:

- Policy and Performance;

- Legal and Democratic Services;
- Financial Services;
- ICT and Support Services;
- Human Resources;
- Property Services;
- Catering and Stadium; and
- Halton Direct Links.

The following points were noted from the discussions:

Policy & Performance

2.0 – Key Developments - Members requested to see the methods of marketing and evidence of the Q4 marketing activities for Widnes market; this would be reported at the next meeting in September.

PPLI 1 – The HSP underspend for 2010-11 was reallocated to the delivery of projects within 2011-12. A list of these projects was requested and would be sent to all Board members.

PPLI 11 – It was commented that the website working group consisting of several Members, was concentrating on improvements and enhancements to the website.

Legal & Democratic Services

LDSL 10, 11 & 12 – Targets missed in part due to a high volume of cases, however, customer satisfaction surveys were positive. Child Care performance data would be fed back to the Children and Young People's Policy and Performance Board.

Finance

3.0 Emerging Issues – Concerns were raised over proposed reforms to welfare rights. A report had previously been circulated that showed the impact in Halton of the recent changes in Housing Benefit Regulations. It was agreed that this be circulated to the new Members of the Council.

Environment & Economy

3.0 Emerging Issues – The amount of maintenance and basic need works that was required in 2011-12 within schools would be confirmed.

PYSLI 3 – Statistics regarding the vacation levels and new occupancy levels of Industrial Units would be provided to the

Board.

RESOLVED: That the quarter 4 Performance Management Reports and comments made be noted.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

CS8 STAFF ACCIDENT/VIOLENT INCIDENT STATISTICS

The Board received a report submitted by the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, containing the accident statistics for the year 2010/11.

The report highlighted that there had been the same number of 'over 3 day' accidents as the previous year and there had been an increase in significant accidents. The report continued to outline through a series of recommendations, the actions that were being taken in the light of the information and trends contained in the report.

The following points were also highlighted:

- The total days lost was 257, a reduction when compared with last year's figure of 318;
- The total cost of accidents to the Authority was £150,000 which was the same as last year's figure; but a reduction from £650,000 two years ago;
- There was an increase overall on all accident categories for 2010/11 from the previous year. Again the majority were from the slips, trips and falls category, due in part to poor housekeeping issues, and from lifting and carrying of people accidents, mainly from within the Communities Directorate;
- Nationally it had been proposed to extend reporting from 'over 3 day accidents' to 'over 7 days' to fit in with sickness reporting, this was under consultation at the moment;
- Mark Reaney had been appointed as the Lead Health and Safety Officer at Board level, as required by guidance under the 'Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007';
- Electronic accident and violent incident reporting systems had been implemented and had improved the recording of incidents;
- The Corporate Risk Assessment portal would be ready for testing at the end of May when it would be

piloted by Waste Management, with an expected roll out date of September 2011; and

- It was noted that the situation regarding library staff was being closely monitored.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

CS9 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY - YEAR END

The Board considered a report from the Strategic Director Policy and Resources, which contained information on the progress in achieving targets contained within the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for Halton for the year end 2010-11.

Members were advised that the purpose of the report was to consolidate information on all measures and targets relevant to this PPB in order to provide a clear picture of progress. Furthermore, as the requirement to undertake a centrally prescribed Place Survey had now ceased, the development of a localised perception based methodology was currently underway with a likely implementation date of autumn 2011.

It was noted that the SCS for Halton, and the performance measures and targets contained within it would remain central to the delivery of community outcomes. Furthermore it was important that progress was monitored and that Members were satisfied that adequate plans were in place to ensure that the Council and its partners achieved the improvement targets that had been agreed.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

Meeting ended at 8.05 p.m.

BUSINESS EFFICIENCY BOARD

At a meeting of the Business Efficiency Board held on Wednesday, 29 June 2011 at the Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Leadbetter (Chairman), M Lloyd Jones (Vice-Chairman), Balmer, Browne, A. Lowe, Macmanus, Philbin, Roberts and Rowe

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Howard

Absence declared on Council business: Councillor McDermott

Officers present: I. Leivesley, M. Murphy, M. Simpson, C. Williams and M. Thomas

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

BEB1 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2011, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

BEB2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

BEB3 BUSINESS EFFICIENCY BOARD - WORKPLAN 2011/12

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which provided the indicative core workplan for the Business Efficiency Board for 2011/12. The workplan was set out in the report for information and outlined areas for consideration by the Board at each of its meetings over the financial year to help ensure that it met its responsibilities. Areas for consideration were noted as follows:-

- Internal Audit;
- Financial Reporting;
- External Audit;
- Governance;
- Risk Management;
- Anti Fraud and Corruption;

Action

- Other Audit Committee Matters;
- Procurement; and
- Efficiency

It was further noted that the workplan had been prepared taking into account a practical spread of issues across the year allowing for specific items that were determined by statutory or other prescribed timescales. It was also noted that it was possible any issues may arise throughout the year that would require additional reports to be added.

The Board wished to place on record their thanks to Collette Williams and Mike Thomas for their suggestion of developing a work plan.

RESOLVED: That the workplan for 2011/12 be approved.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

(NB: Councillor Macmanus declared a personal interest in the following item due to being employed for a company carrying out work for the audit commission)

BEB4 ANNUAL AUDIT FEE LETTER 2011/12

The Board received the report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which presented the Audit Commission's Audit Fee Letter for 2011/12.

Detailed in the letter was an outline of the work programme and confirmation of the proposed fee for the 2011/12 Audit of Halton Borough Council. It was further noted that the fee reflected the risk based approach to audit planning set out in the Code of Audit Practice and work mandated by the Commission for 2011/12. The audit fee covered the audit of financial statements, value for money conclusion and the whole of Government accounts.

Members were advised that the audit for 2010/11 was not yet completed therefore the audit planning process for 2011/12 including the risk assessment would continue as the year progressed.

It was reported that the scale fee for Halton Borough Council was £232,205 and there was a 10% reduction in the fee. The scale fee was based on the planned 2010/11 fee, adjusted for the proposals summarised in the report and detailed in a table for Members' consideration. It was noted that variations from the scale fee would only occur where

assessments of audit risk and complexity were significantly different from those identified and reflected in the 2010/11 fee.

RESOLVED: That the Audit Commissions Audit Fee Letter for 2011/12 be noted.

BEB5 FUTURE OF LOCAL PUBLIC AUDIT

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance which informed Members of a consultation by Communities and Local Government (DCLG) of the Future of Local Public Audit which may result in changes to the role and membership of Audit Committees.

It was noted that on the 30th March 2011 DCLG issued a consultation document entitled The Future of Local Public Audit, with a deadline for responses of 30th June 2011. It was further noted this was a consequence of the abolition of the Audit Commission and set out proposals for arrangements in relation to the appointment of external auditors and the role of audit committees.

Members were advised that Halton had contributed to a response to the consultation by the Liverpool City Region's Directors of Finance, a copy of which was appended to the report for information.

The Board also considered a letter received from Sir Bob Kerslake, which provided an update on the future of the Audit Commission and their local public audit work.

A summary of the consultation was detailed in the report for consideration and set out the following:-

- Consultation Principles;
- Regulation of Local Public Audit;
- Commissioning Local Audit Services; and
- Scope of Public Audit.

Members raised concerns regarding the proposed requirements for an independent Chair and Vice Chair plus independent members on the new board, freedom of information costs, and the issue of no longer being able to challenge the accounts.

The Board agreed that it was happy with way the Councils current Audit Committee arrangements operated and noted that there was no explanation provided as to why current arrangements needed to change.

Tabled at the meeting were additional concerns and a suggestion that the Board was not aware of any evidence nationally that Audit Committees in local government were not currently undertaking their role effectively, or that having Independent Membership, with little background knowledge of the Council would increase that effectiveness.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the report including the response to the consultation from the Liverpool City Region's Director of Finance be supported;
- 2) the following additional comments be sent to the DCLG for information:
 - Elected Council Members currently form the membership of Audit Committees and undertake this role, in accordance with guidance from CiPFA, in a very objective and robust manner. The operation of the Audit Committee is also regularly reviewed by each Council's external auditors;
 - Part of an Elected Member's role on any Council Board or Committee is to scrutinise, challenge and be objective, which therefore lends itself to their role on an Audit Committee;
 - The role of the Audit Committee in Halton is provided by the Business Efficiency Board, who provide very robust scrutiny of all matters. This is particularly aided by Elected Member's extensive knowledge of the Council's operations and the differing backgrounds of the individuals on that Board;
 - The Council's external auditors consider that the Business Efficiency Board operate as a very effective Audit Committee;
 - The Board is not aware of any evidence nationally that Audit Committees are not currently undertaking their role effectively, or that having Independent Membership, with little background knowledge of the Council, will increase that effectiveness.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

(NB: Councillor M. Lloyd Jones declared a personal interest in the following item due to being a Governor at St Edwards and Councillor Browne declared a personal interest in the following item due to being the Chair of Governors at Ditton Nursery School)

BEB6 INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT 2010/11

The Board received a report of the Operational Director, Finance which set out the Head of Internal Audit's annual opinion of the adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's control environment. Members were informed that the control environment was the collective term used to describe the Council's risk management, control and governance processes. Members were also advised that the CIPFA Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government required the Head of Internal Audit to provide a written report to the Council Audit Committee timed to inform the Council's Annual Governance Statement.

The report informed Members of the internal audit work undertaken during the year, which provides the basis of the overall opinion of the Council's control environment. It was the view of the Head of Internal Audit that the Council's control environment remained effective. Where weaknesses in controls had been identified through the work of internal audit, management had responded positively to address the issues identified.

It was further reported that the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011 provided a requirement for local authorities to conduct a review of the effectiveness of its internal audit at least once each year. This review was intended to provide Members with a basis for determining the extent to which reliance could be placed in the Internal Audit opinion.

The Board wished to place on record its thanks to the Internal Audit team for the work carried out over the year.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Head of Internal Audit's opinion on the Council's control environment be noted; and
- 2) the findings of the review of the effectiveness of internal audit be noted.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

BEB7 COUNTER FRAUD MEASURES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which provided an update of the measures that the Council had established to counter the risk of fraud, the counter-fraud activity undertaken in 2010/11 and the Council's response to the UK Bribery Act 2010.

It was reported that the Council had a well-established framework of policies, procedures and functions that collectively helped to manage the risk of fraud and corruption. Key elements of the framework were detailed in the report for information.

It was further reported that during 2010/11, a number of measures were undertaken to further develop the Council's counter fraud measures details of which were set out in the report for Members' consideration.

Members were informed that the biggest risk of fraud facing local authorities continued to be in respect of claims for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit. Members were advised of the important role that the Benefits Investigation Unit had to play in the Council's overall counter fraud arrangements.

It was reported that the Council had recently received the results from the Audit Commissions National Fraud Initiative which was a data matching exercise that took place every two years. It was further noted that the data matching results were currently being investigated and that the outcomes would be reported to the Board at a later date. The datasets that were examined as part of the National Fraud initiative were set out in the report for information.

It was reported that the UK Bribery Act 2010 was a new piece of legislation designed to help combat bribery and corruption, which simplified the existing law on bribery, enabling the Courts to deal with it more effectively. The four offences that were covered under the Act were set out in the report in addition to the key principles to follow to determine what adequate procedures equated to in any one organisation depending on its exposure to risk.

Members were advised that the Anti Fraud and Corruption Strategy and Fraud Plan and documentation associated with the procurement process would be reviewed and updated as necessary.

The Board discussed fraud awareness training that had been rolled out across the authority and the excellent

job the benefit fraud investigation team have achieved.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the update on the Council's counter fraud activity be noted; and
- 2) the Board endorse the further developments proposed.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

BEB8 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2010/11

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which enabled Members to consider and approve the Annual Governance Statement for 2010/11.

It was reported that under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011 the Council had to produce an Annual Governance Statement (AGS) in a format recommended by CIPA/SOLACE, to accompany the Statement of Accounts. It was reported that this was a change from previous years where the AGS was an integral part of the Statement of Accounts. This change was to emphasise that the AGS was separate from the accounts for the purpose of external audit.

It was noted that the AGS was intended to identify any areas where the Council's governance arrangements were not in line with best practice or were not working effectively, together with action plans for improvement. Members were informed that CIPFA advised that the AGS should be drafted in order for it to accompany the signed and dated Statement of Accounts by end of June.

The report further set out the process followed in preparing the 2010/11 Annual Governance Statement and the outcome of the review of the Council's governance arrangements. It was noted that no significant governance issues had been identified through the 2010/11 review of the Council's governance framework that required disclosure in the AGS. Appended to the report for consideration was the draft AGS for 2010/11.

RESOLVED: That the Council's Annual Governance Statement be approved.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

BEB9 EFFICIENCY PROGRAMME UPDATE

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which provided an update of

progress made to date with the Efficiency Programme.

It was reported that wave 3 of the programme was in process with some wave 2 workstreams continuing and others closing. Each workstream was bringing in its own challenges and a summary of progress to date against each workstream was set out covering areas as follows:-

- Review of Open Spaces (Wave 1);
- Review of Property Services (Wave 1);
- Review of Revenues and Benefits and Halton Direct Link (Wave 2);
- ICT Support Services Review (Wave 2);
- Review of Contracted Services Schools (Wave 2);
- Review of Operational Fleet and Client Transport (Wave 2);
- Transactional/Non Transactional: Process Review (Wave 2);
- Libraries Service Review (Wave 2 – Directorate Led);
- Review of Income and Charging (Wave 3);
- Review of the Contact Centre (Wave 3);
- Review of Business Development and Regeneration (Wave 3);
- Review of Development Control/Building Control (Wave 3)';
- Review of Adults and Children's Social Care Commissioning (Wave 3);
- Review of Community Services (Wave 3);
- Traded Services Workstream (Wave 3);
- Wave 1 Savings; and
- Wave 2 Savings to date.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

BEB10 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- (1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered,

exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and

- (2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it is likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information will be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

BEB11 INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director Finance which provided a summary of internal audit work completed since the last progress report.

The report set out key issues and recommendations arising from the audits completed details of other work completed by Internal Audit in the quarter and the results of the work undertaken following the implementation of previous Internal Audit recommendations.

RESOLVED: That the Internal Audit work completed for the quarter be noted.

Meeting ended at 8.00 p.m.

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DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Development Control Committee on Tuesday, 19 April 2011 at Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Nolan (Chairman), Thompson (Vice-Chairman), J. Bradshaw, E. Cargill, Hignett, Hodgkinson, Leadbetter, McInerney, Morley and Redhead

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Osborne

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: A. Jones, J. Tully, T. Gibbs, M. Noone and A. Plant

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

DEV69 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2011, having been printed and circulated, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

DEV70 PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee considered the following applications for planning permission and, in accordance with its powers and duties, made the decisions described below.

DEV71 - 10/00180/S73, 10/00181/S73 & 10/00182/S73

10/00180/S73 – APPLICATION TO EXTEND TIME LIMIT OF EXANT PLANNING PERMISSION 98/00253/OUT BY A FURTHER 10 YEARS (OUTLINE APPLICATION (WITH ALL MATTERS RESERVED) FOR USE OF LAND FOR EMPLOYMENT PURPOSES (CLASSES B1 (a) AND (b) ON PLOTS 6 – 10 (INCLUSIVE) AND RETAIL PURPOSES ANCILLARY TO THE BUSINESS PARK ON PLOT 2a);

10/00181/S73 – APPLICATION TO EXTEND TIME LIMIT

OF EXTANT PLANNING PERMISSION 01/00356/OUT BY A FURTHER 10 YEARS (OUTLINE APPLICATION (WITH ALL MATTERS RESERVED) FOR 2/3 STOREY OFFICE BUILDINGS (40,000 SQM) AND OFFICE PARK AMENITY/CAFE BUILDING); AND

10/00182/S73 – APPLICATION TO EXTEND TIME LIMIT OF EXTANT PLANNING PERMISSION 02/00054/OUT BY A FURTHER 10 YEARS (OUTLINE APPLICATION (WITH ALL MATTERS RESERVED) FOR USE FOR USE OF LAND FOR EMPLOYMENT PURPOSES (USE CLASSES B1(a) AND B1(b) WITH ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPING AND PARKING) ALL AT LAND AT DARESURY PARK, OFF CHESTER ROAD, RUNCORN.

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

Planning Application 10/00180/S73

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to conditions relating to the following:

1. Reserved matters condition, for the submission of and approval prior to the commencement of development;
2. Time limit for the submission of reserved matters;
3. Time limit for the commencement of development;
4. Reserved matters to be submitted and carried out as approved;
5. Restricting development density (E1);
6. Requiring provision of bus stops, bus lay-bys and cycle paths to the internal road layout (TP15);
7. Restricting floor space completion subject to off-site highway works (BE1);
8. Conditions relating to restriction of access to and protection of the M56 motorway (BE1);
9. Requiring development to satisfy the standards and guidance of the Local Planning Authority (BE1);
10. Materials condition, requiring the submission and approval of the materials to be used (BE2);
11. Drainage conditions, requiring the submission and approval of drainage details/oil interceptors (BE1);
12. Restricting use to class B1a and B1b and ancillary amenity or retail floorspace to 1000 sqm (E1);
13. Requiring agreement of construction traffic routes (BE1);
14. Requiring the development be in accordance with the recommendations of the submitted or any

- superseding ecological survey (GE21);
- 15. Landscaping condition, requiring the submission of both hard and soft landscaping (BE2);
- 16. Requiring a full tree and hedgerow survey and protection/enhancement plan (BE1);
- 17. Boundary treatments including retaining walls to be submitted and approved in writing (BE2);
- 18. Wheel cleansing facilities to be submitted and approved in writing (BE1);
- 19. Restricted external storage (BE1);
- 20. Details of disabled access and parking to be submitted and approved in writing (BE2);
- 21. Construction and delivery hours to be adhered to through out the course of the development (BE1);
- 22. Vehicle access, parking, servicing etc to be constructed prior to occupation of properties/commencement of use (BE1);
- 23. Agreement and implementation of cycle parking provision (TP6);
- 24. Submission and agreement of finished floor and site levels (BE1);
- 25. Restricting external lighting (PR4); and
- 26. Site investigation, including mitigation to be submitted and approved in writing (PR14).

Planning Application 10/00181/S73

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to:

- (a) The entering into of a Legal Agreement for the provision of a financial contribution towards rail crossing or other non vehicular rights of way improvement, greenspace provision and development density restriction; and
- (b) Conditions relating to the following:
 - 1. Reserved matters condition, for the submission of and approval prior to the commencement of development;
 - 2. Time limit for the submission of reserved matters;
 - 3. Time limit for the commencement of development;
 - 4. Reserved matters to be submitted and carried out as approved;
 - 5. Requiring development to satisfy the standards and guidance of the Local Planning Authority (BE1);

6. Materials condition, requiring the submission and approval of the materials to be used (BE2);
 7. Drainage condition, requiring the submission and approval of drainage details (BE1);
 8. Restricting use to class B1a and B1b and ancillary amenity or retail floorspace to 1000 sqm (E1);
 9. Requiring agreement of construction traffic routes (BE1);
 10. Requiring the development be in accordance with the recommendations of the submitted or any superseding ecological survey (GE21);
 11. Landscaping condition, requiring the submission of both hard and soft landscaping (BE2);
 12. Restricting external storage (BE1);
 13. Requiring a full tree and hedgerow survey and protection/enhancement plan (BE1);
 14. Boundary treatments including retaining walls to be submitted and approved in writing (BE2);
 15. Wheel cleansing facilities to be submitted and approved in writing (BE1);
 16. Details of disabled access and parking to be submitted and approved in writing (BE2);
 17. Construction and delivery hours to be adhered to throughout the course of the development (BE1);
 18. Vehicle access, parking, servicing etc to be constructed prior to occupation of properties/commencement of use (BE1);
 19. Agreement and implementation of cycle parking provision (TP6);
 20. Submission and agreement of finished floor and site levels (BE1);
 21. Restricting external lighting (PR4): and
- (c) That if the S106 Agreement or alternative arrangement was not executed within a reasonable period of time, authority be delegated to the Operational Director – Policy, Planning and Transportation, in consultation with the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Committee to refuse the application on the grounds that it failed to comply with Policy S25 (Planning Obligations).

Planning Application 10/00182/S73

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to:

- a) The entering into of a Legal Agreement for the provision of a financial contribution towards rail

crossing or other non-vehicular rights of way improvement, greenspace provision and development density restriction; and

b) Conditions relating to the following:

1. Reserved matters condition, for the submission of and approval prior to the commencement of development;
2. Time limit for the submission of reserved matters;
3. Time limit for the commencement of development;
4. Reserved matters to be submitted and carried out as approved;
5. Requiring development to satisfy the standards and guidance of the Local Planning Authority (BE1);
6. Materials condition, requiring the submission and approval of the materials to be used (BE2);
7. Drainage condition, requiring the submission and approval of drainage details (BE1);
8. Restricting use to class B1a and B1b and ancillary amenity or retail floorspace to 1000sq.m (E1);
9. Requiring agreement of construction traffic routes (BE1);
10. Requiring the development be in accordance with the recommendations of the submitted or any superseding ecological survey (GE21);
11. Landscaping condition, requiring the submission of both hard and soft landscaping (BE2);
12. Requiring a full tree and hedgerow survey and protection/ enhancement plan (BE1);
13. Boundary treatments including retaining walls to be submitted and approved in writing (BE2);
14. Wheel cleansing facilities to be submitted and approved in writing (BE1);
15. Restricting external storage (BE1);
16. Details of disabled access and parking to be submitted and approved in writing (BE2);
17. Construction and delivery hours to be adhered to throughout the course of the development (BE1);
18. Vehicle access, parking, servicing etc to be constructed prior to occupation of properties/ commencement of use (BE1);
19. Agreement and implementation of cycle parking provision (TP6);
20. Submission and agreement of finished floor and site levels (BE1);
21. Restricting external lighting (PR4); and
22. Site investigation, including mitigation to be submitted and approved in writing (PR14).

- (c) That if the S106 Agreement or alternative arrangement was not executed within a reasonable period of time, authority be delegated to the Operational Director – Policy, Planning and Transportation in consultation with the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Committee to refuse the application on the grounds that it failed to comply with Policy S25 (Planning Obligations).

DEV72 - 10/00316/S73 - RENEWAL OF PLANNING PERMISSION
07/00072/FUL - 79-83 HIGH STREET, RUNCORN

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

It was reported that the Health and Safety Executive's initial comments advising against the application would be removed, as the original Tessengerlo facility referred to had since been demolished to make way for 3MG developments, so this was no longer considered to be a critical issue. A request was made to delegate the decision to the Operational Director, subject to the application not being called in by the Health and Safety Executive.

In response to Members queries, it was noted that since the original application was made, legislation had changed with regards to the renewal of building applications. It was confirmed that applicants would now be allowed only one renewal. This information would be conveyed to the developer. Issues of vandalism and the neglect of the site were raised. It was confirmed that other legislation dealt with these issues so it was agreed that this would be referred to the relevant departments.

RESOLVED: That Authority be delegated to Operational Director in consultation with the Chair/Vice Chair, subject to further consultation with the Health and Safety Executive:

The application be approved subject to:

- a) The applicant entering into a legal agreement in relation to the payment of a commuted sum for the:
1. Provision and improvement of off-site open space;
 2. Provision for Bridgewater Way towpath improvement scheme;
 3. Provision of off-site local tree planting scheme;
and

4. Provision of off-site highway and streetscape works.

There will also be a requirement by means of a legal agreement to secure the removal, repair, storage and subsequent relocation of the La Scala cupola.

b) Conditions relating to the following:

1. Condition specifying amended plans (BE1);
2. Materials condition, requiring submission and approval of materials to be used (BE2);
3. Provision of appropriate waste and recycling bins for use by the occupiers and facilitation of recycling through the provision of recycling separation bins within every kitchen (BE1);
4. Submission and agreement of both a hard and soft landscaping scheme including replacement trees (BE2);
5. Submission and agreement of an external lighting scheme (BE2);
6. No development to take place until a noise survey shall be submitted with appropriate remediation measures and approved by the Council (BE1);
7. No installation of satellite dishes or other antenna without further approval (BE2);
8. Vehicular entrance gates must be set back at least 5.5 metres from the carriageway edge and electrically operated by remote control (TP17);
9. Construction traffic wheel cleansing facilities to be submitted and approved in writing (BE1);
10. Reconstruction of main highway following drainage and utilities connection to satisfaction of the Council (TP17);
11. Dropped crossings with tactile paving should be installed at all appropriate desire line points to the satisfaction of the Council (TP17);
12. Submission and agreement of shop front façade, including standardised advertisement design, and incorporation of internal see-through lath shutters (BE2);
13. Boundary Treatments will be submitted and approved in writing (BE22);
14. No development to take place until details of structural elements of the scheme which may have an implication for the integrity of the Highway is subject to HBC's formal process for the technical approval of highways structures (TP17);
15. No development to take place until the Council has sight of and opportunities to comment on, the

- protective measures to be undertaken by the developer in respect of the canal and its towpath during demolition and construction and in the longer term (GE29);
16. No development undertaken until details of secure cycle parking have been submitted and approved in writing (TP6);
 17. No development undertaken until details of existing and finished site levels, finished floor and ridge levels of building and finished external surface levels have been submitted and approved in writing (BE1 and BE2);
 18. Restriction of Retail (A1) to sale of non-food goods only (TC10 and TP17);
 19. Restriction of Business (B1) to B1a only (BE1);
 20. Construction and delivery hours to be adhered to throughout the course of the development (BE1);
 21. Submission and approval of a sustainable design and construction method statement demonstrating how the Sustainability Statement set out with Appendix A of the Design and Access Statement has been incorporated at the detailed design stage (BE2);
 22. No development to take place until details of construction and delivery route to be agreed with the Local Planning Authority (BE1);
 23. Residential car parking to be provided on an allocated basis, one per dwelling, and the dwellings marketed as such (TP12);
 24. No development to take place until a scheme of building recording of 79 High Street is undertaken to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority (BE1);
 25. Site investigation for contamination, including mitigation to be submitted and approved in writing by the Council (PR14);
 26. Surface water drainage from car park areas shall pass through a suitable oil interceptor. Roof water shall not pass through the interceptor (GE29);
 27. No development to take place until submission and approval of a scheme for the disposal of foul and surface water (BE1);
 28. Laying out of vehicle access, service and parking areas to the satisfaction of the Council (T11 and TP17);
 29. Restricted commercial units opening times between 08.00 and 21.00 hrs Mon to Sun including Public and Bank Holidays (BE1); and
 30. Restricted commercial units receipt of deliveries not outside 08.00 and 21.00 hrs Mon to Sun

including Public and Bank Holidays (BE1).

- (c) That if the S106 Agreement or alternative arrangement was not executed within a reasonable period of time, authority be delegated to the Operational Director – Policy, Planning and Transportation in consultation with the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Committee to refuse the application on the grounds that it failed to comply with Policy S25 (Planning Obligations).

DEV73 - 11/00030/FUL - PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF NEW PORTAL FRAMED BUILDING TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL STORAGE AT HOWDEN JOINERY LTD, ASTMOOR ROAD, ASTMOOR INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, RUNCORN, WA7 1PQ

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

RESOLVED: Approve subject to conditions relating to the following:

1. Standard condition for time limits of commencement (BE1);
2. Condition listing the approved plans;
3. Condition specifying that this is a phased development, and that any pre-commencement conditions shall be met prior to the commencement of either stage;
4. Restrict use to ancillary with the existing factory (E1);
5. Materials condition, requiring the submission and approval of the materials to be used (BE2);
6. Submission, agreement and implementation of site and finished floor levels (BE1);
7. Requiring submission and implementation of an updated Travel Plan (TP16);
8. Site investigation, including mitigation to be submitted and approved in writing (PR14); and
9. Conditions relating to the submission of foul and surface water drainage, to be submitted and approved in writing prior to commencement.

DEV74 - 11/00038/FUL - APPLICATION FOR A NEW PLANNING PERMISSION TO REPLACE AN EXTANT PLANNING PERMISSION IN ORDER TO EXTEND TIME LIMIT FOR IMPLEMENTATION ON 07/00923/FUL AT 21-25 HALE ROAD, WIDNES, CHESHIRE

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

It was noted that an objection had been received from the resident of number 27 Hale Road, citing the same objections he did when the original application was made.

It was further noted that an additional condition would be added stating that demolition must commence within 12 months of this decision.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to the following:

- a) The entering into a Legal Agreement for the provision of a financial contribution towards off-site public open space, and demolition of the existing building within 12 months of the decision.
- b) Conditions relating to the following:
 1. Standard condition relating to timescale and duration of the permission;
 2. Condition relating listing plans and amended plans (BE1 and BE2);
 3. Condition stating shall be carried out in accordance with approved materials (BE2);
 4. Provision of recycling separation inside each apartment (BE1);
 5. Access and parking/layout, cycle parking provision (BE1);
 6. Condition stating shall be carried out in accordance with site investigations and remediation plan (PR14);
 7. Condition stating shall be carried out in accordance with details of drainage (BE1);
 8. Condition stating shall be carried out in accordance with details of landscaping scheme (BE1);
 9. Conditions specifying construction hours and hours of deliveries for building materials (BE1);
 10. Condition stating shall be carried out in accordance with approved details of wheel wash facilities (BE1);
 11. Grampian off-site highways condition (BE1);
 12. Condition stating shall be carried out in accordance with final site levels (BE1);
 13. Provision of bin storage and bin provision (BE1);
 14. Condition relating to cycle storage; and
 15. Condition in relation to boundary treatment and

pedestrian visibility (BE1 and BE2).

- c) That if the S106 Agreement or alternative arrangement was not executed within a reasonable period of time, authority be delegated to the Operational Director – Policy, Planning and Transportation in consultation with the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Committee to refuse the application on the grounds that it failed to comply with Policy S25 (Planning Obligations).

DEV75 - 11/00067/FUL - APPLICATION FOR A NEW PLANNING PERMISSION TO REPLACE EXTANT PLANNING PERMISSION 08/00220/FUL, PROPOSED TWO STOREY DATA CENTRE EXTENSION AT THE BABBAGE CENTRE, THE HEATH, RUNCORN

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to conditions relating to the following:

1. Standard condition relating to timescale and duration of the permission;
2. Landscaping condition, requiring the submission of both hard and soft landscaping (BE2);
3. Materials to be submitted and approved in writing (BE2);
4. Boundary treatments to be submitted and approved in writing (BE1);
5. Wheel cleansing facilities to be submitted and approved in writing (BE1);
6. Parking conditions to ensure parking and servicing areas is provided and maintained at all times. The use of the premises shall not commence until the vehicle access and parking has been laid out (TP12);
7. Construction hours to be adhered to throughout the course of the development (BE1);
8. Restriction of the use (BE1);
9. Details of proposed noise and the details of noise attenuation (PR2);
10. Details of screening around external compound areas (BE1);
11. Delivery hours to be adhered to throughout the life of the permission. (BE1);
12. Subject to a travel plan being submitted and approved in writing (TP16);
13. No lighting to be installed within the site or on the

- building without further approval from the Local Planning Authority (Policy BE1 and PR4); and
14. Restricting the hours of testing of back up generators (PR2).

Meeting ended at 6.45 p.m.

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Development Control Committee on Monday, 16 May 2011 at Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Nolan (Chairman), E. Cargill, Hignett, Leadbetter, McInerney, Morley and Osborne

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Thompson, J. Bradshaw, Hodgkinson and Redhead

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: A. Jones, J. Tully, T. Gibbs, M. Noone and A. Plant

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

DEV76 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2011, having been printed and circulated, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

DEV77 PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee considered the following applications for planning permission and, in accordance with its powers and duties, made the decisions described below.

DEV78 - 11/00051/HBC - PROPOSED ERECTION OF A 2M TALL PEDESTRIAN ACCESS GATE TO BLOCK OFF THE ALLEY AT THE SIDE OF 25 DEAN STREET, WIDNES

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to the following conditions:

Action

1. Standards time limit for implementation; and
2. Requiring colour coating Dark Green BE22.

DEV79 - 11/00082/HBCFUL - THE ERECTION OF A 2M TALL GREEN VEHICULAR ACCESS GATE TO THE TOP OF THE ALLEY BEHIND CHRISTIE STREET AND A 2 M TALL METAL FENCE TO BLOCK OFF THE OPEN LAND FROM THE ALLEY TO THE WEST OF 2A - 10 CHRISTIE STREET AND 70 HALTON VIEW ROAD, WIDNES

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. Standard time limit for implementation; and
2. Requiring colour coating Dark Green BE22.

DEV80 - 11/00139/FUL - PROPOSED SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION AT 29 SPRINGFIELD ROAD, WIDNES

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to the following:

1. Standard time limits for implementation; and
2. Requiring materials to match the existing dwelling (H6).

DEV81 - 11/00140/HBCFUL - PROPOSED TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION ACCESS AT THE GRANGE SCHOOL, LATHAM AVENUE, RUNCORN, WA7 5DX

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

It was reported that the construction of a temporary second access road which was withdrawn following residents objections, was in fact now needed. It was noted that noise and disturbance would be minimised through adherence to the Considerate Construction Scheme relating

to construction and delivery hours.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. Conditions relating to temporary permission (2 years unless otherwise agreed) and requiring land restoration in accordance with and agreed scheme including finished levels boundary treatments and landscaping (BE1);
2. Conditions relating to amended plans/listing relevant submitted plans and information;
3. Requiring development and use be carried out in accordance with listed plans and documents including mitigation measures and recommendation unless otherwise agreed (BE1);
4. Requiring agreement of/compliance with a construction and environmental management plan including dust and noise mitigation, vehicle access routes and construction car parking (BE1);
5. Wheel cleansing facilities to be submitted and approved in writing (BE1);
6. Construction and delivery hours to be adhered to throughout the course of the development (BE1);
7. Site investigation, including mitigation to be submitted and approved in writing (PR14);
8. Conditions relating to drainage/surface water management (BE1); and
9. An additional condition for the submission and agreement of construction levels and construction details.

DEV82 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The following applications had been withdrawn :-

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 11/00103/TEL | Prior notification of proposed telecommunications development consisting of 15m dual use replica telegraph pole with equipment cabinet and ancillary development at Corner Of Deacon Road And Appleton Village Widnes, Cheshire. |
| 11/00070/FUL | Proposed conservatory to rear at 68 Lynton Crescent, Widnes Cheshire. |

10/00495/FUL

Proposed two storey side and single storey rear extensions at 7 Ladypool, Hale Liverpool.

Planning Appeal Decisions:-

10/00176/TEL

Prior notification of telecommunications development for the installation of a radio base station consisting of a 12.5m high streetworks monopole housing 3 No. O2 antennas, 3 No. Vodaphone antennas and 2 No. ground based equipment cabinets on Footpath at Junction of Hale Road and Crossway, Widnes, Cheshire.

APPEAL ALLOWED

0/00193/TPO

Proposed crown thinning/lifting of 2 No. Sycamore trees at 18A Hough Green Road, Widnes, Cheshire

APPEAL DISMISSED

Meeting ended at 6.40 p.m.

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Development Control Committee on Monday, 6 June 2011 at Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Nolan (Chairman), J. Bradshaw, Hignett, McInerney, Osborne, Gilligan, Balmer and A.Cole

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Thompson, Hodgkinson and Leadbetter

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: A. Jones, J. Tully, T. Gibbs, M. Noone, A. Plant and J. Farmer

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

Action

DEV1 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 16 May 2011, having been printed and circulated, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

DEV2 PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee considered the following applications for planning permission and, in accordance with its powers and duties, made the decisions described below;

DEV3 - 10/00254/FUL - REDEVELOPMENT OF SITE FOR THE ERECTION OF AN A1FOOD STORE (1710 SQM GEA), 2 NO A1 NON-FOOD RETAIL UNITS (1784 SQM GEA) AND AN A4 FAMILY PUB/RESTAURANT (697 SQM GEA), WITH ASSOCIATED PARKING, RECONFIGURES VEHICULAR SITE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS AND LANDSCAPING AT VESTRIC HOUSE, WEST LANE, HALTON LEA, RUNCORN, WA7 2PE

It was reported to the Committee that this application had been withdrawn from this meeting, and that it would be considered at a future meeting of the Development Control Committee.

DEV4 - 1/00113/OUT - OUTLINE APPLICATION FOR UP TO 84 DWELLINGS (ACCESS, APPEARANCE, LANDSCAPING, LAYOUT, SCALE RESERVED MATTERS) ON LAND AT KILNAMARTYRA STABLES, NORLANDS LANE, WIDNES

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

It was reported that an additional objection had been received from a resident who raised the same concerns as already mentioned from 3 other local residents.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to:-

- a) The entering into a Legal Agreement for the provision of a financial contribution towards off-site public open space as necessary, off-site highway improvements; transport sustainability; and
- b) Conditions relating to the following:-
 1. Standard Outline conditions (BE1);
 2. Reserved matters to incorporate highway linkage directly into the developed site to the south of the site (BE1);
 3. Reserved matters to comply with the New Residential Development Guidance and the Designing for Community Safety SPD (BE1, BE2 and BE22);
 4. No development shall begin until written details of a construction management plan has been approved in writing (BE1);
 5. Materials condition, requiring the submission and approval of the materials to be used (BE2);
 6. Landscaping condition, requiring the submission of both hard and soft landscaping to include replacement tree and hedgerow planting (BE2);
 7. Boundary treatments including retaining walls to be submitted and approved in writing (BE2);
 8. Wheel cleansing facilities to be submitted and approved in writing (BE1);
 9. Construction and delivery hours to be adhered to throughout the course of the development (BE1);
 10. Conditions relating to the agreement and implementation of bin stores provision (BE1);
 11. Conditions relating to the agreement and implementation of cycle storage provision (TP6);

12. Submission and agreement of finished floor and site levels (BE1);
13. Site investigation, including mitigation to be submitted and approved in writing (PR14);
14. Conditions relating to tree and hedgerow protection during construction (BE1);
15. Conditions relating to the enhancement of the hedgerow along the north boundary and the hedge and trees to the east boundary (BE1);
16. Conditions relating to surface water management (PR16);
17. Submission and agreement of details of management of overland flow (PR16);
18. Prior to commencement a survey for ground nesting birds to be submitted and approved; (BE1 and GE21);
19. Submission and agreement of biodiversity plan including native planting and wildlife refuge features and bird boxes (BE1 and GE21);
20. Submission of details of equipped children's play provision (H3); and
21. Submission of maintenance management plan for children's play provision (H3).

- c) That if the S106 Agreement or alternative arrangement was not executed within a reasonable period of time, authority be delegated to the Operational Director – Policy, Planning and Transportation, Environment and Regulatory Services, in consultation with the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Committee to refuse the application on the grounds that it failed to comply with Policy S25 (Planning Obligations).

To avoid any allegation of predetermination or bias (as the applicant was a Ward Member colleague) Councillor Cole took no part in the debate and did not vote on the following item.

DEV5 - 11/00174/FUL - PROPOSED SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION AT 3 PRIORY CLOSE, RUNCORN

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to conditions relating to the following:

1. Standard time limits for implementation; and

2. Requiring materials to match the existing dwelling (H6).

DEV6 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The following applications had been withdrawn :-

08/00274/HSC Application for continuation of consent under Planning (Hazardous Substances Consent) Regulations 1992, as amended 1999, following change of control of part of the land at Ineos Chlor Ltd Runcorn Site HQ, Runcorn, Cheshire.

08/00275/HSC Application for continuation of consent under Planning (Hazardous Substances Consent) Regulations 1992, as amended 1999, following change of control of part of the land at Ineos Chlor Ltd Runcorn H Q, Runcorn, Cheshire.

11/00104/FUL Proposed two storey extension to existing unit to provide reception and offices at Midas Engineering Supplies Ltd Faraday Road, Runcorn, Cheshire.

The following application had gone to appeal:-

10/00385/FUL Proposed two storey and single storey rear extension at 16 Main Street, Runcorn, Cheshire

Planning Appeal Decisions: - None

Meeting ended at 7.10 p.m.

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Development Control Committee on Monday, 4 July 2011 at Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Nolan (Chairman), Thompson (Vice-Chairman), J. Bradshaw, A.Cole, Gilligan, Hignett, Hodgkinson, Leadbetter, McInerney and Osborne

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Balmer

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: A. Jones, G. Cook, J. Tully, T. Gibbs, M. Noone, G. Henry, A. Plant, J. Farmer, R. Wakefield and R. Cooper

Also in attendance: Councillors Rowe and Gerrard and 76 Members of the Public.

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

		<i>Action</i>
DEV7	MINUTES The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2011, having been printed and circulated, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.	
DEV8	PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE COMMITTEE The Committee considered the following applications for planning permission and, in accordance with its powers and duties, made the decisions described below.	
DEV9	- 11/00078/FUL - PROPOSED EXTENSION TO EXISTING PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING FACILITY (USE CLASS B2) WITH ANCILLARY WAREHOUSE AND DISTRIBUTION, EXTENDED LOADING AREA AND HARD STANDING AT TEVA PHARMACEUTICALS RUNCORN, ASTON LANE NORTH, RUNCORN The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.	

It was reported that in response to the additional drainage details requested, the Environment Agency had confirmed that the two pre-commencement conditions for surface water regulation and management of overland flow were no longer required, subject to a condition relating to the development being carried out in accordance with the submitted drainage details.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to conditions relating to the following:

1. Specifying amended plans (BE1);
2. Restrict use to pharmaceutical manufacture, storage and distribution (E3);
3. Materials condition, requiring materials to match existing/ accord with submitted details unless otherwise approved (BE2);
4. Submission and agreement of detailed noise attenuation scheme (PR2);
5. Submission, agreement and implementation of scheme for regulation of surface water (PR16);
6. Submission, agreement and implementation of scheme for management of overland flow (PR16);
7. Wheel cleansing facilities to be submitted and approved in writing and used during construction (BE1);
8. Submission, agreement and implementation of site and finished floor levels and requiring minimum floor levels (BE1/ PR16);
9. Construction and delivery hours to be adhered to throughout the course of the development. (BE1);
10. Vehicle access, parking, servicing etc to be constructed prior to occupation/ commencement of use (BE1);
11. Requiring submission / agreement / implementation of Travel Plan (TP16);
12. Restricting external lighting (BE1); and
13. Submission and agreement of additional details relating to location and screening to refuse and recycling areas.

DEV10 - 11/00122/HBCFUL - PROPOSED ERECTION OF 2M HIGH ALLEY GATES AND 2.4M HIGH FENCING AT ALLEYWAY BOUNDED BY 17 AND 19 BATHERTON CLOSE, WIDNES (11/00122/HBCFUL)

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

It was reported that an additional letter had been received from the resident of number 11 Batherton. They stated that they had concerns about the possible gating of Barherton Close and that they understood why it had been requested but believed that this was a policing issue and that this should not mean social isolation by the gating.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. Standard time limit for implementation; and
2. Required colour coating Dark Green BE22.

DEV11 - 11/00186/COND - APPLICATION PURSUANT TO CONDITION 57 (PERMISSION GRANTED BY SECRETARY OF STATE) ASKING HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR AGREEMENT IN WRITING, TO INCREASE THE QUANTITY OF REFUSE DERIVED FUEL DELIVERED TO THE ENERGY FROM WASTE POWER STATION BY ROAD FROM 85,000 TONNES TO 480,000 TONNES PER ANNUM AT LAND OFF PICOW FARM ROAD AT INEOS CHLOR

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

Clarification was made in relation to the statement on page 19 of the agenda, as set out in the update list.

The update list also included correspondence relevant to the agenda which was either not included in the printed agenda or which had arisen after the preparation of the printed agenda.

Objections had been received from Cheshire West and Chester Council. The objections were:

- They objected to the relaxation of the limits placed upon road transportation of RDF;
- They felt that sustainability principles or policies should not be abandoned for perceived fuel shortages or potential transportation difficulties; and
- They felt that the Carbon Transport Assessment used a set of flawed assumptions.

It was noted that the above issues were covered in the report which stated that the supporting information did not demonstrate that by agreeing to the changes this would lead to a reduction in green house gas emissions.

Further objections had been received from GVA on behalf of Covanta Energy Ltd, raising the following issues:

- They questioned whether the Council had jurisdiction to determine the application;
- They claimed that the application was deficient as the likely significant effects of a material change to an EIA development had not been fully assessed or presented;
- They stated that the application was not sufficiently justified;
- Stated that caution must be applied when considering carbon savings;
- That there was no restriction to source the fuel from within the North West region; and
- The relevant policy framework had not been taken into consideration;

It was noted that these issues were addressed in the report and in response, the Council considered that it was in a position to determine the request. Responses to GVA's letters had been provided to Members.

A further objection had been received from The Wildlife Trusts, Cheshire. They objected to the application on the grounds that it would impact on the heathland on Runcorn Hill. It was noted that following receipt of this letter the Nature Conservation Officer that had dealt with the original consultation had stated that the issue raised by Cheshire Wildlife Trust should be addressed through monitoring the effects on the Heathland on Runcorn Hill, and a management plan to address any issues should be funded through the environmental fund. It was also stated that the Mersey Gateway project was likely to reduce emissions of NOx in the area, through the more efficient movement of traffic and through the use of the central expressway.

It was reported that further discussion had taken place with Cheshire Wildlife Trust since they made their objection and they had now withdrawn their objection on the basis that the environmental fund was used to monitor and manage the heathland. Underlining this was that the Mersey Gateway would decrease the traffic flow in this area.

Further to the above objections, the following comments were also noted:

- Natural England had confirmed that it was unlikely to have a significant affect on the natural environment;
- Graham Evans MP had objected on the grounds that

the proposal would be highly detrimental to local residents and impact on the local highway infrastructure;

- The Highways Agency had no objection to the proposal; and
- The following Councillors had objected on the grounds already outlined in the report and in addition, that the traffic counter installed on Picow Farm Road was not being used correctly: Councillors Ellen Cargill, Kath Loftus, Martha Lloyd Jones, Peter Lloyd Jones and Margaret Ratcliffe.

It was reported that Ineos Chlor had provided their response to the issues raised by Cheshire West and Chester Council and Covanta Energy Ltd in a letter dated 20 June 2011. A copy of this was provided to the Committee together with the letters of objection from Cheshire West and Chester Council, GVA and the Wildlife Trust Cheshire, as mentioned above.

Officers reported that since the publication of the update list, a further 17 letters of objection had been received from local residents and a further three Councillors; Carlin, Zygadlo and C Plumpton Walsh, had also submitted their objections.

It was also reported that the applicant had, immediately prior to the meeting, submitted a unilateral 106 relating to routing. The specific undertakings were explained to the Committee.

The Committee was then addressed by Mr Jeff Meehan, who spoke against the application.

Mr Chris Tane, a representative of the applicant, then addressed the Committee in support of the application.

Councillors Rowe and Gerrard then addressed the Committee opposing the application.

Members debated the issues presented before them and raised a number of queries including:

- The level of carbon emissions implied from the application;
- Doubts over the scenarios referred to;
- The lack of information supplied by Ineos with regard to their investigations on the use of rail as a means of transportation; and

- The lack of any information from Network Rail on the issue.

Following debate it was concluded that there was insufficient information presented to the Committee to enable them to make an informed decision on the application.

RESOLVED: That the item be deferred to the August meeting of the Development Control Committee to enable additional information to be provided.

Meeting ended at 8.15 p.m.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Standards Committee Wednesday, 25 May 2011 Committee Room 1, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Mr B. Badrock (Chairman), Parish Councillor Mr B Allen, Mr A. Luxton, Mrs A. Morris, and Councillors Browne, Parker, Redhead, Swain and Wainwright

Apologies for Absence: Mr R. Garner

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney and A. Scott

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

	<i>Action</i>
STC1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR 2011/12	
<p>The Operational Director, Legal and Democratic Services, Mr Reaney, opened the meeting and invited nominations for the appointment of chair and deputy chair for the municipal year 2011/12.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Mr W Badrock be appointed chair and Mr A Luxton be appointed deputy chair of the Standards Committee for the 2011/12 municipal year.</p> <p>MR BADROCK IN THE CHAIR</p>	
STC2 MINUTES	
<p>The minutes of the meeting held on 5 January 2011, having been printed and circulated, were signed as a correct record.</p>	
STC3 STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT	
<p>The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which summarised the work of the Committee in the last municipal year.</p>	

The Committee noted that there had been four meetings in 2010/11. Details of membership and the role of the Committee were outlined in the report. During the year, Members had received a report on the local application of the systems for Declaration of Interests by Members in order to maintain the values of good governance and acceptable behaviour. In addition, the Committee received and considered guidance from Standards for England on the benefits and disadvantages of social networking and blogging and on the role of Members of more than one authority in relation to the Code.

In addition, the Committee had received regular updates of information from Standards for England and digests of cases that had been heard in other authorities.

It was noted that a revised version of the Members Code of Conduct had been expected during the year. However, following the outcome of the General Election in May 2010, the new Government had indicated its intention to do away with a Statutory Code of Conduct and the need for local Standards Committees. No complaints had been received during the year which required the consideration of the Assessment Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and referred to Council for information.

Operational
Director, Legal
and Democratic
Services

STC4 RECENT CASE SUMMARIES FROM STANDARDS FOR ENGLAND

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which outlined recent decisions in cases where a breach of the Code of Conduct had been alleged in other authorities.

The Committee noted and discussed the contents of cases from Cheshire East Council, Broughton and Dalby Parish Council, Basingstoke and Dean Borough Council and Wyre Borough Council. Of particular note, and based on the information provided, the Committee commented on the apparent inconsistency of decisions in each of the cases presented.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

STC5 REPORT ON DECLARATION OF INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources on the local application of the systems for declarations of interests by Members in order to maintain the values of good governance and ethical behaviour.

Members were reminded that the second annual report on Declarations of Interest by Members was considered at the meeting on 26 May 2010. This highlighted the importance of integrity in local government and provided guidance on the definition of both personal and personal and prejudicial interests. It was noted that the Council had a challenging culture of declaration of interests for which prime responsibility rested with individual Members. However, the report outlined how the practical expression of the culture operated, which included a reminder at the start of each meeting, guidance available from the Monitoring Officer, the annual opportunity to update a Declaration form as well as engaged involvement by the Standards Committee.

The Committee also noted that all newly elected Members received advice on this requirement as part of the Council's Member Induction Programme which took place on 11 May 2011.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

STC6 THE FUTURE OF STANDARDS

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources on the future of the Standards regime.

At its meeting on 5 January 2011, the Committee was advised that Standards for England, the National Code of Conduct and the requirement to have Standards Committees, were to be abolished by the Localism Bill. The Bill was due to have its Report stage and third reading in the House of Commons in May 2011 although at the time of the meeting, the outcome was not known.

The Bill contained a new general duty for relevant Authorities to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Members and voting Co-opted Members. Authorities could adopt, change and withdraw voluntary Codes of Conduct and publicise them if they wished.

However, it was noted that there would be no requirement for an authority to maintain a Standards Committee or Code of Conduct. To this end, the Monitoring Officer advised Members that a paper dealing with options would be prepared for consideration by Council.

In discussions the Committee considered the following:

- a cross-boundary local authority approach to the Standards regime and Code of Conduct;
- the importance of the promotion of ethical standards by all those in public service;
- the valuable contribution to the work of the Committee made by Independent Members; and
- the need for consultation with Parish Councils on any future Standards regime or Code of Conduct which the Borough Council may adopt.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

Meeting ended at 4.10 p.m.

REGULATORY COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Regulatory Committee on Wednesday, 27 April 2011 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Philbin (Chairman), Loftus (Vice-Chairman), Bryant, Fry, A. Lowe, McDermott, E. Ratcliffe and Wallace

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Howard and Inch

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: G. Ferguson, L. Capper, K. Cleary, J. Tully, I. Mason, Y. Sung and S. Rimmer

Also in attendance: Cheshire Police – 4 representatives, Applicant 4 representatives, Members of the Public 4; and Councillors M Bradshaw, J Bradshaw and Jones.

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

REG17 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st March 2011 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

REG18 APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE ON LAND AT DARESBUY

The Committee met to consider an application which had been made under section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003 for a premises licence in relation to the above premises.

The hearing was held in accordance with the provisions of section 18 Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Act (Hearings) Regulations 2005.

Following an introduction by the chairman the Council's legal representative outlined the procedures to be followed and summarised the content of the printed agenda together with information which had been received after the agenda had been printed.

Action

At the commencement of the hearing the Committee were advised that certain proposed conditions as set out in the agenda were invalid or would have to be amended (if the substance of the conditions were approved) to improve clarity and to avoid duplication and other errors. Alternative wording was also proposed by the applicant in respect of conditions which had been proposed by Cheshire Constabulary.

The Council's legal representative also advised the Committee that in addition to the list of interested parties set out at page 23 of the agenda a further letter received from the Foster family as interested parties was initially dealt with as a late representation. On further investigation it was found that this letter was received on time and was therefore dealt with as a relevant representation. A copy of this letter was forwarded to the applicant and the Committee prior to the hearing.

Letters making representations had been received from 19 interested parties (total 24 people). The Committee had been provided with copies of all representations prior to the hearing and were advised that the precise calculation of numbers was irrelevant: there was a range of methods of calculation available. The vicinity of the site had been determined to be the area enclosed within a radius of 1.5 miles from the site (or just over 7 square miles). The representations had been placed on the application file and copies had been forwarded to the applicant and to members of the Committee prior to the hearing. Only relevant representations were taken into account by the Committee (the Committee having determined what constituted a relevant representation from an interested party). Where a representation contained both relevant and irrelevant material only the relevant elements of the representation were taken into account. In some cases no evidence/information had been put forward to substantiate the reasons expressed and in some cases objections have been raised which were not related to the licensing objectives (for example, traffic congestion)

Representations had been made by the following responsible authorities: Cheshire Constabulary, Halton Borough Council and Warrington Borough Council.

The Committee heard representations in person on behalf of:

The Applicant C I (Events) Ltd who were represented by Simon Taylor of Freeth Cartwright LLP Solicitors who

was accompanied by Jim King, Warren King (Vanguardia Acoustic Consultant) and Adam Oliver (Designated Premises Supervisor)

Cheshire Constabulary who were represented by Chief Superintendent Guy Hindle, Ian Seville Cheshire Constabulary Licensing Officer, PC Paul Mace and Nicola Linder

Halton Borough Council's Environmental Health, Public Health and Health Protection Division who were represented by Yeemay Sung Divisional Manager Regulatory Services, Isobel Mason Lead Environmental Health Officer. Stephen Rimmer, Divisional Manager Traffic, also assisted in answering questions put during the hearing.

Warrington Borough Council who were represented by Philip Ramsden Community Safety and Enforcement Team Leader and Paul Johnson

Parish Councillor Hilary Greaves on behalf of Daresbury Parish Council and Councillor Paul Kennedy Hatton Stretton and Walton Ward as interested parties

The Applicant began by outlining the nature and background to the application. The two fundamental objections raised by Cheshire Constabulary had been resolved. Specifically: (1) the security development plan and the traffic management plan had been agreed; and (2) the issue regarding special Cheshire Constabulary services was to be agreed within the next 28 days. [Since Cheshire Constabulary did not pursue the second fundamental objection its status as a relevant representation was not examined at the hearing and did not form part of the determination].

The applicant confirmed that part of the application was to be amended. The application to have bars within 15 of the campsite areas was amended to have bars within two campsite areas: these were the campsite areas within field number 8205 and field number 1801.

The applicant confirmed that both of the "Elemental Objections" raised by Cheshire Constabulary remained in dispute but that there was no objection to the other conditions proposed by Cheshire Constabulary. The first "Elemental Objection" related to the supply of alcohol from bars within the campsite areas and the second related to the timing of the opening of the campsite areas to the public on Friday mornings of each event.

Cheshire Constabulary confirmed that the “Elemental Objections” remained and elaborated on the reasons for their objections. Cheshire Constabulary later clarified their position on the second “Elemental Objection” by confirming that it related to the opening of the arena areas as well as the campsites.

Halton Borough Council’s Environmental Health, Public Health and Health Protection Division proposed a number of conditions should a licence be granted. These included new and a reworded condition to those set out in the agenda to take into account proposals made by Warrington Borough Council. Mr. Ramsden confirmed on behalf of Warrington Borough Council that the revised set of conditions was agreed.

Parish Councillor Mrs Greaves elaborated the points raised in the Daresbury Parish Council written representation (letter reference number 17).

Councillor Kennedy elaborated on the points raised in his written representation (letter reference number 9).

The speakers were invited to sum up their cases but only Cheshire Constabulary and the applicant (Parish Councillor Mrs Greaves having left by this time) summed up their cases. The applicant confirmed that the existing premises licence [reference number LPA 0308] issued in 2010 would be surrendered if the current application were granted.

The Committee raised a number of questions which were put to the parties throughout the hearing.

The Committee considered all of the written relevant representations from interested parties that had been made.

At the conclusion of the hearing the Committee retired to consider the application

RESOLVED: That

Having considered the application in accordance with section 4 Licensing Act 2003 and all other relevant considerations the committee resolved that in accordance with the application and operating schedule (including the documents incorporated therewith) and subject to the conditions set out below a premises licence be granted for 3 years provided that licensable activities shall during this period take place only during the following periods:

Chief Executive

- first, for the period commencing on Friday 26 August 2011 and ending on Monday 30 August 2011;
- secondly, for the period commencing on Friday 24 August 2012 and ending on Monday 27 August 2012; and
- thirdly, for the period commencing on Friday 23 August 2013 and ending on Monday 26 August 2013.

The reason for the determination was that the Committee felt that the application was consistent with the Licensing Objectives provided that the conditions set out below were imposed. Note that a number of detailed conditions and matters are set out in the Notice of Determination but are not set out in full in this minute. These include for example mandatory conditions and conditions consistent with the operating schedule.

CONDITIONS

The following conditions shall be attached to the Premises Licence

F MISCELLANEOUS CONDITIONS

Conditions relating to public safety and prevention of crime and disorder

The retail sale of alcohol on the campsite area.

1. There shall be no retail supply or sale of alcohol within the campsite areas except from one bar in field number 8205 and one bar in field number 1801. For the avoidance of doubt, the operating procedures relating to bars set out in Annexe 1 to these conditions shall apply to these bars.

The opening of the campsite and arena areas at 12.00hrs on Fridays.

2. The campsite and arena areas shall not be open to the public prior to 12.00 on the Friday of any event authorised by the Premises Licence.

Challenge 21

3. The Challenge 21 Proof of Age Scheme shall be adopted as a Condition of entry. A tent or other structure shall be provided, immediately adjacent to the entry gates, where checks can be carried out by event and Cheshire Constabulary staff. The operating procedures are set out in Annexe 1 to these conditions and constitute part of this Condition.

CCTV

4. All CCTV must comply with the recommendations of Cheshire Constabulary.

SIA Registered Staff

5. The numbers of SIA registered staff and stewards and their deployment areas and times of duty shall be set by Cheshire Constabulary.

Meetings

6. An appointed representative of the Premises Licence Holder shall attend meetings arranged between the Cheshire Constabulary and the SIA.

7. An appointed representative of the Premises Licence Holder shall attend advisory briefings with senior Cheshire Constabulary staff appointed by Cheshire Constabulary when arranged prior to any event.

Public Footpaths

8. No licensable activities shall take place unless all Public Footpaths running across the premises have been temporarily closed and suitable alternative routes that may have been identified have been displayed.

Fencing

9. The 'Steelshield/T-Shield' fencing around the designated camping areas shall not be reduced in size or altered in any other specification what-so-ever without prior consultation with and approval of Cheshire Constabulary.

Key Dates

10. The time-table set out in the Key Dates below shall be complied with by the Premises Licence Holder in each year that the Premises Licence remains in force:-

Key Date 1 - 29 March – The Premises Licence Holder shall submit the draft Security and Stewarding Plan to Cheshire Constabulary for consultation.

Key Date 2 - 29 March – The Premises Licence Holder shall consult with Halton Borough Council, Cheshire Constabulary and the Highways Agency on traffic management and traffic management plans.

Key Date 3 - 24 April – The Premises Licence Holder shall supply to Halton Borough Council the first draft of the Traffic Management Plan (on CD in PDF format or paper copies) drawn up by the appointed traffic management company.

Key Date 4 - 24 April – The Premises Licence Holder shall advise Halton Borough Council of any temporary traffic orders they seek to be imposed.

Key Date 5 - 12 July – The Premises Licence Holder shall

supply the final Traffic Management Plan that has been agreed by Halton Borough Council & the Highways Agency & Cheshire Constabulary.

Key Date 6 – 9 August – The Premises Licence Holder shall submit to Cheshire Constabulary the detailed security plan for the duration of the event.

NOTE: In respect of the 2011 event the Premises Licence Holder has complied with all Key Date requirements which pre-date the issue of the Premises Licence.

Reasons for conditions 1 to 10 - The prevention of crime and disorder and Public safety.

**Annexe 1
(Conditions 1 and 3 refer to this Annexe)**

Creamfields – Challenge 21

This document sets out the procedure that will be used for enforcing Challenge 21 policy whereby persons who appear to be under the age of 21 are challenged to produce ID to prove their age.

Persons who are challenged as they look under the age of 21 but who can prove they are over the age of 18 will be issued with a plastic, non-transferable wristband which they can wear throughout the event.

Operating Procedure

1. The event is promoted for 18s and over on all literature.
2. All event goers are urged to bring ID with them.
3. At the event entrances the Terms and Conditions state that only 18's and over may enter.
4. By each of the event entrances, staff will be identifying people who appear under the age of 21 and will advise them that they need to show ID proving their age so that they can enter the show. Upon showing their ID to the Challenge 21 member of staff, the customer will receive a wristband directly from that member of staff and will be able to proceed into the event. The wristband will show the bar staff that they are of legal age to purchase alcohol.
5. If someone is denied entry on the grounds of

appearing under 21 without having ID to prove otherwise they will have their ticket confiscated and be advised they will not be allowed into the show.

6. If this person is under the age of 16 they will be escorted to a Welfare Facility from where their parents can be called to advise them that their child is at the event and needs collecting.

7. All staff will be briefed to continually look out for persons who appear to be under the age of 21.

8. If someone appears to be under the age of 21 and does have ID on them, they will be allowed into the event having first been advised of the principles of Challenge 21. They will be advised to always carry ID with them for future events and they will be issued with a coloured plastic, non-transferable wristband that they can produce when purchasing alcohol.

9. At each bar there will be signs and Challenge 21 literature explaining the need for ID if you look under 21.

10. Each Bar Manager will brief staff before the event starts about the Guidelines of Challenge 21 and the rules that are being implemented at the event.

11. All Security at each bar area will also be briefed to prevent those looking under the age of 21 who do not have a wristband from entering into the bar queuing lanes.

Conditions relating to public safety and the prevention of public nuisance

Noise

11. The Premises Licence Holder shall appoint a suitably qualified and experienced Noise Control Consultant who shall be required to advise the Premises Licence Holder on managing noise generated during the licensed events and to liaise with all relevant parties: i.e. the Premises Licence Holder, the Divisional Manager (Environmental Health, Public Health & Health Protection) Halton Borough Council and Warrington Borough Council, event promoters, sound system suppliers, sound engineers and performers prior to and during the licensed event.

12. The Music Noise Level (MNL) shall not exceed 65dB LAeq (15 min) 1 metre from the façade of any noise sensitive premises prior to 23:00 hours when the two main stages are operational.

13. After 23:00 hours music noise levels 10m from the mixer desk in each marquee including any concessionary marquees shall not exceed 95dB(A)eq (15 min).

14. The sound systems associated with each ride on the fairground shall not be operated after 23:00 hours.

15. Music noise levels from the main stages shall not exceed 98dB(A)eq (15 min) at a position 40 metres from the main speakers.

16. The use of main stages shall finish at 23:00 hours.

17. No speakers shall be operated on the premises (excluding the campsite areas) prior to 12.00 hours on the Saturday of the event or after 23.00 hours on the Sunday

18. No speakers shall be permitted on the campsites at any time.

19. The Premises Licence Holder shall ensure that the appointed Noise Control Consultant shall regularly undertake tests of noise levels at the sound mixer positions to ensure compliance with the Licence conditions. A written record of these assessments shall be kept and available to any Officer appointed by the Environmental Health, Public Health and Health Protection Division of Halton Borough Council, upon request. This shall include any remedial action taken.

20. The Premises Licence Holder shall ensure that the appointed Noise Consultant shall carry out one or more noise propagation tests prior to the event. During the test, the sound system shall be configured and operated in a similar manner as that intended for the licensed events. The sound test shall utilize a sound source as similar as possible to that intended to be used during the licensed events. Any such test shall be carried out between 11:00 and 16:00 hours on the day prior to the event and after 10:00 hours on each day of the event. An Officer appointed by the Environmental Health, Public Health and Health Protection Division shall be informed of the tests at least one hour prior to commencement.

21. There shall be no construction of the set or any other structure associated with the event within the hours of 20.00 – 08.00 unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Divisional Manager (Environmental Health, Public Health and Health Protection).

22. If, in the opinion of any Officer appointed by the Environmental Health, Public Health and Health Protection Division of Halton Borough Council, or the Noise Control Consultant noise levels become unacceptable, and a significant disturbance is being, or is likely to be caused during the operation of the licence the Premises Licence Holder shall take appropriate steps to avoid or abate any such disturbance as directed by such Officer or the appointed Noise Control Consultant. This is without prejudice to any other noise condition.

23. The Premises Licence Holder shall ensure that the any sound system supplier, sound engineer, sound equipment operator or performer is informed of these noise conditions of licence and that they will be required to comply with any instructions given to them by the Premises Licence Holder or the Premises Licence Holder's Noise Control Consultant.

24. The Premises Licence Holder shall submit a copy of the noise assessment containing a detailed appraisal of the ambient noise levels together with details of predicted noise levels during the event at residential locations (taking into account all amplified noise sources) to Halton Borough Council and Warrington Borough Council by or on 20th May in each year for which the licence is in force.

25. Within 28 days of the conclusion of each festival event the Premises Licence Holder shall provide a noise report from their commissioned consultants to both Warrington and Halton Borough Councils.

Reason for conditions 11 to 25-The Prevention of Public Nuisance

Health and Safety and Food Safety

26. All stage and tower structures shall be supplied by competent contractors.

27. The Premises Licence Holder has overall responsibility for health and safety on the premises. The Premises Licence Holder is therefore responsible for ensuring that all contractors, sub-contractors and any other person connected to the events, comply with all health and safety legislation.

28. The site build and construction shall not commence before a period of 21 days prior to the event taking place

without prior written approval of the licensing authority. During this period the area shall be classed as a working area with all relevant health and safety procedures in place.

29. The Premises Licence Holder shall ensure that Halton Borough Council's Environmental Health, Public Health and Health Protection Division are informed of the times and dates of the following events on site:

- start of event set up,
- final safety checks prior to opening
- the main arena is ready for public access.

30. A representative of Halton Council's Environmental Health and Building Control Services shall be advised in reasonable time when the main arena is deemed by the Premises Licence Holder to be ready to be opened to the public.

31. Specific risk assessments shall be carried out for pyrotechnics, lasers, 'bomb tanks', smoke machines, strobes or firework displays and any other special effects as deemed necessary by Halton Borough Council.

32. The Premises Licence Holder shall not permit such activities from stalls or by vendors who have not been registered with the council or another local authority and comply with the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 Part VIII. Each individual person engaged in the practice of ear piercing, tattooing or skin piercing must be registered with the council or another local authority. Documentary evidence of registrations should be received by the council 4 weeks prior to the event. All persons engaged in skin piercing, tattooing and body piercing will be required upon request by an officer of the council to provide photographic identification e.g. passport or driving license to enable the officer to confirm their identity.

33. The Premises Licence Holder shall provide a copy of the event health and safety risk assessment to the Council. The Council shall be informed of any subsequent changes to the assessment.

Food Safety

34. All mobile food vendors shall be legally registered with the local authority in which the mobile unit is based. No unregistered food vendor will be permitted to trade on site.

35. A list of all registered mobile food vendors who will be

trading shall be forwarded to the Halton Borough Council Food Safety team in the Environmental Health, Public Health and Health Protection Environmental Health Division at least 4 weeks prior to the event.

Reason for conditions 26 to 35 - Public Safety

36. No licensable activity shall take place in any field except within the area on the site plan as designated for such activity.

Reason for condition 36 - All licensing objectives

Clarification of Premises Licence to be employed.

37 The Premises Licence Holder has undertaken to surrender the Premises Licence granted by Halton Borough Council reference number LPA 0308 issued in 2010 ("Licence A"). Pending the surrender of Licence A the Premises Licence Holder shall be deemed to hold any event held at the premises under the Premises Licence granted following this notice of determination and not under Licence A.

Reason for condition 37 - All licensing objectives

Time that the licence shall take effect

The licence shall commence on 27 April 2011

Following the announcement of the Committee decision the Chairman of the Committee advised that the concerns raised by the Police regarding the safety aspect in the two fields where alcohol would be sold would be addressed by Health & Safety matters relating to lighting. He also advised that car parking attendants should be in place from 07.00 on the Friday of each event to deal with any possible problems relating to event persons arriving early.

Meeting ended at 7.25 p.m.

REGULATORY COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Regulatory Committee on Thursday, 19 May 2011 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Philbin (Chairman), Loftus (Vice-Chairman), Fry, A. Lowe and Wallace

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Howard and McDermott

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: K. Cleary and J. Tully

Also in attendance: 11 Members of the public

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

REG19 APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE -
MORRISONS QUEENSBURY WAY WIDNES

Action

The Committee met to consider an application which had been made under Section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003 to vary the above premises licence.

The hearing was held in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.

The meeting was held as a hearing relating to an application made in respect of Morrison's Queensbury Way Widnes for a premises licence to sell alcohol off the premises. The application requested the supply of alcohol off the premises between the hours of 06.00 and Midnight each day.

The chairman introduced the members of the Committee and the Council's officers who were present.

The Council's legal adviser, John Tully, summarised the procedure to be followed and outlined the nature of the application. He also advised on the relevance of some of the documentation before the Committee.

At the hearing, the Committee were addressed by the applicant's Legal representative Clare Johnson from Gosschalks Solicitors who was accompanied by Kelly Nichols Morrison's Licensing Manager, Chris Williams Morrison's Store Operations Manager and Miles Foster.

Helen Carlin, Steve Price and Anna McDonald also addressed the members as interested parties.

At the hearing Ms Carlin produced 4 additional pieces of information which had been forwarded to the applicant prior to the hearing. A research article from the BMC Public Health, Minute Number 16 of Halton Councils Safer Policy and Performance Board dated 21 September 2010, Minute No 25 of Halton Councils Safer Policy and Performance Board dated 16 November 2010 and Minute Number 101 of Halton Councils Executive Board dated 8 April 2010.

The Committee asked a number of questions of the parties and retired to consider the matter.

RESOLVED: That

having considered the application in accordance with section 4 Licensing Act 2003 and all other relevant considerations the Committee decided that the application be granted as requested.

Chief Executive

The reason for the determination was that the Committee felt that the application was consistent with the Licensing Objectives.

Time that the licence shall take effect

Immediately

NOTE: The premises to which the licence relates did not exist at the date of the hearing. Consequently, although the premises licence technically has immediate effect no licensable activity can take place under the premises licence until the premises have been completed in accordance with the plan submitted by the applicant.

Following the announcement of the Committee decision the Chairman of the Committee advised the local residents at the hearing that the path for them to follow now is to concentrate on applications made to the development control committee who can apply different criteria to applications which the Licensing Act 2003 cannot.

Meeting ended at 8.45 p.m.

REGULATORY COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Regulatory Committee on Wednesday, 8 June 2011 in the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Councillors Philbin (Chairman), K. Loftus (Vice-Chairman), Browne, Fraser, Fry, Howard, A. Lowe, M. Ratcliffe and Wallace

Apologies for Absence: Councillors McDermott and Wainwright

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: K. Cleary, J. Tully and A. Jones

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

Action

REG20 APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE - HALE NEWS
8 IVY FARM COURT, HALE VILLAGE, LIVERPOOL

The Committee met to consider an application which had been made under Section 17 Licensing Act 2003, for a premises licence.

The hearing was held in accordance with the 2003 Act and the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.

Representation had been made in response to an application made by Mr G S Wright, for a premises licence in respect of Hale News, 8 Ivy Farm Court, Hale village, Liverpool. The application relates to the supply of alcohol off the premises between the hours of 0700 and 2100 hours each day.

The chairman opened the hearing and introduced the members of the Committee and the Council's officers' who were present.

The Council's Legal Adviser, John Tully, summarised the procedure to be followed and outlined the nature of the application. He also advised on the relevance of some of the documentation before the Committee.

The applicant, Mr Wright, presented his case to the Committee.

Relevant representations had been made by Cheshire Constabulary who had requested conditions be attached to the premises licence, it was noted that the applicant had confirmed acceptance of all these conditions.

Four letters containing representations had been received from the following interested parties: Residents' at 10, 12, 14 and 18 Town Lane, Hale Village, Liverpool. These had been placed on the application file and copies had been forwarded to the applicant and to the Members of the Committee. None of the interested parties who made representations attended the hearing.

The Committee asked a number of questions of the applicant and then the applicant left the Council Chamber for Members to consider the matter.

RESOLVED: That

Having considered the application in accordance with section 4 Licensing Act 2003 and all other relevant considerations the Committee decided that the application be granted as requested subject to the conditions requested by (and previously agreed by the applicant with) Cheshire Constabulary.

The applicant was also advised that the mandatory conditions would also be imposed.

The applicant was also advised that it was not considered necessary to include in the premises licence a condition relating to external advertisements which had been proposed by the applicant.

The reason for the determination was that the Committee felt that the application was consistent with the Licensing Objectives.

Meeting ended at 5.05 p.m.

REGULATORY COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Regulatory Committee on Tuesday, 28 June 2011 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Philbin (Chairman), Browne, Fry, A. Lowe, M. Ratcliffe and Wainwright

Apologies for Absence: Councillors K. Loftus, Fraser, Howard, McDermott and Wallace

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: L. Capper, K. Cleary and J. Tully

Also in attendance: 11 Members of the public and Councillor Swain.

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

REG21 KPT FOOD AND WINE, 36A LANGDALE ROAD,
RUNCORN

Action

The Committee met to consider an application which had been made under Section 17 Licensing Act 2003, for a premises licence.

The hearing was held in accordance with the 2003 Act and the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.

Representation had been made in response to an application made by Gowshaliya Jeyanathan for a premises licence in respect of KPT Food & Wine, 36a Langdale Road Runcorn. The application relates to the supply of alcohol off the premises between the hours of 0800 and 2300 hours each day,

The chairman introduced the members of the Committee and the Council's officers who were present.

The Council's legal adviser, John Tully, summarised the procedure to be followed and outlined the nature of the application.

At the hearing, the Committee were addressed by the applicant's representative Mr R Jordan who was accompanied by the applicant Gowshaliya Jeyanathan. As part of his representation Mr Jordan volunteered the following conditions on behalf of his client:

- The Premises Licence Holder shall ensure that there are a minimum of 2 members of staff on duty at the premises between the hours of 7.00 p.m. and 11.00 p.m. each day
- The Premises Licence Holder shall make reasonable endeavours to keep the side gates adjacent to the premises closed between the hours of 7.00 p.m. and 11.00 p.m. each day

The Committee were addressed by Mr Kennedy, Mrs Bell, Mrs Carter, Mrs Ward and Mr Dhillon as interested parties who had made representations. Cllr John Swain the Ward Councillor also addressed the Committee on behalf of the local residents who had made representations.

The Committee members asked a number of questions of the applicant and the interested parties.

The main thrust of the objections from local residents was that they feared a repetition of public nuisance and crime and disorder which they stated had been associated with the premises when under the previous premises licence holder. The Committee explained that the rules under which the Committee operated did not enable them to take the previous history into account. However, should problems arise in the future the premises licence could be reviewed.

The Committee then retired to consider the matter.

RESOLVED: That

Having considered the application in accordance with section 4 Licensing Act 2003 and all other relevant considerations the Committee decided that the application be granted as requested subject to the conditions requested by (and previously agreed by the applicant with) Cheshire Constabulary and the two conditions volunteered by the applicant set out above.

The applicant was also advised that the mandatory conditions would also be imposed.

The reason for the determination was that the Committee felt that the application was consistent with the Licensing Objectives.

Meeting ended at 8.17 p.m.

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APPEALS PANEL

At a meeting of the Appeals Panel held on 25 May 2011 in the Stobart Stadium, Widnes

Present: Councillors Wainwright (Chairman), J Lowe and Osborne.

Apologies for absence: None.

Absence declared on Council business: None.

Officers present: K Lunt

In attendance: Appellants.

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE PANEL**

Action

**AP1 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION)
ACT 1985**

The Panel considered:

- (1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Panel during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- (2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it is

likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information will be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

AP2 HOUSING DISCRETIONARY AWARD APPEAL Case no 207

The Panel considered information submitted in respect of the above appeal and heard representations from the appellant and the presenting officer.

RESOLVED: That the Housing Discretionary Payment Appeal be awarded as follows:

Decision revised – 12 weeks awarded from 18 July 2011, £2.00 per week housing payment.

AP3 HOUSING DISCRETIONARY AWARD APPEAL Case no 208

The Panel was advised that this appeal had been withdrawn.

APPEALS PANEL

At a meeting of the Appeals Panel held on 28 June 2011 at Stobart Stadium, Lowerhouse Lane, Widnes.

Present: Councillors Wainwright (Chairman), Osborne and Wallace.

Apologies for absence: None.

Absence declared on Council business: None.

Officers present: A Scott, D Forster, C Patino

In attendance: Appellant and supporter.

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE PANEL**

Action

**AP4 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION)
ACT 1985**

The Panel considered:

- (1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Panel during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- (2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it is

likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information will be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

AP5 CAPABILITY APPEAL HEARING

The Panel considered information submitted in respect of the above appeal and heard representations from the appellant and the presenting officer.

RESOLVED: That the capability appeal hearing be disallowed.

Meeting ended at 11.40 a.m.

MAYORAL COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Mayoral Committee on Tuesday, 10 May 2011 at 2.00pm in the Marketing Suite, Municipal Building

Present: Councillors Wright (Chairman), Hignett, Hodgkinson, Browne and Gilligan

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on: None

Officers present: I Leivesley and A Scott

**ITEM DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
<p>MYR1 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985</p> <p>The Committee considered:</p> <p>(1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Committee during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and</p> <p>(2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following</p>	

item of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it is likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information will be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

MYR2 ARRANGEMENTS FOR APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director – Policy and Resources which requested the Committee to make a revised recommendation to the Council with regard to the appointment of the Mayor for the 2011/12 Municipal year. This had become necessary following the Municipal Elections on 5 May 2011 and the failure of the Mayor- elect to secure a seat on the Borough Council.

As per the Council's Mayoral Selection Guidelines it was recommended that Councillor K Morley be appointed as Mayor for the 2011/12 Municipal year.

RESOLVED: That it be recommended to Council that Councillor K Morley be appointed as the Mayor for the 2011/12 Municipal year.

Meeting ended at 2.10 p.m.