

# **Supplementary Council Agenda**



**Epping Forest  
District Council**

## **Council Tuesday, 26th September, 2006**

**Place:** Civic Offices, High Street, Epping

**Room:** Council Chamber

**Time:** 7.30 pm

**Committee Secretary:** Council Secretary: Ian Willett  
Tel: 01992 564243 Email: [iwillett@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:iwillett@eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

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**5. REPORTS FROM THE LEADER, CHAIRMAN OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND ANY MEMBER OF THE CABINET (Pages 3 - 6)**

Reports attached.

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## ***Report to the Council***

**Committee:** Cabinet

**Date:** 26 September 2006

**Subject:** Leader's Portfolio

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Mrs D Collins

**Item:** 5

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### **Recommendation:**

That the report of the Leader of the Council be noted.

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#### **(a) Harlow Area – Sustainable Communities**

As members will know, the Cabinet recently agreed its approach to new housing development in the Harlow area. As agreed, the Council has written to the Government Minister concerned, Ruth Kelly, making clear significant concerns, particularly about employment and the direction in which Harlow should grow.

I have heard from local MPs who have indicated their support for the Council's position. I and the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Economic Development will continue to monitor the position but when changes to the inquiry report are issued in November 2006 that will be time when the Council may have to do battle again to protect the local green belt.

#### **(b) The Budget**

I am sure that the Portfolio Holder for Customer Services, Media, Communications and ICT will be reporting about the waste management but in my role of Leader, I am conscious that the planned waste management procurement exercise is likely to have a profound effect on budget planning.

I intend to adopt a rigorous approach to budget growth and supplementary estimates and carry out a very careful review of our other budget commitments to ensure that the Council's spending plans are realistic and match our resources and our commitments on Council Tax levels.

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# ***Report to the Council***

**Committee:** Cabinet

**Date:** 26 September 2006

**Subject:** Community Wellbeing Portfolio

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Ms S-A Stavrou

**Item:** 5

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## **Recommendation:**

That the report of the Community Wellbeing Portfolio Holder be noted.

## **Group Dispersal Orders**

As Community Well-being Portfolio Holder I have signed three Group Dispersal Orders since inheriting the Portfolio. The first two, back in June, were reinstatements of recently expired orders and covered areas surrounding Loughton and The Broadway, Loughton Underground Stations. Both orders started on 2 June 2006 to run until Friday 1 December 2006.

The latest order covers St John's Road, Epping and includes the Town Centre car parks off Bakers Lane. It was effective from 3.00 p.m. on 11 September 2006 and will run for an initial period of six months until 10 March 2007.

Group Dispersal Orders are requested by the Police, based on accumulated evidence compiled from residents' complaints and police records of incidents. Before authorisation is given, discussion with relevant ward councillors, county councillors and Town or Parish Councils are undertaken. These views are taken into account and only after these discussions does the Order come before the Community Well-being Portfolio Holder for consultation and signing.

These Orders give police the power to move on groups of persons indulging in antisocial behaviour after first having taken note of individual's names and addresses. If individuals do return to the area in breach of the Order, the police have power of arrest that could ultimately lead to the Courts making Anti Social Behaviour Orders against persistent offenders. Police have undertaken to target areas covered by GDOs with officers and PCSOs.

One Anti Social Behaviour Order has been issued to an individual in Loughton, granted by Edmonton County Court on 11 August 2006, following an application by this Council.

Interim arrangements for the areas of responsibility formerly covered by Simon Ford, Crime and Reduction Co-ordinator, and Beth Knight, his assistant will be presented in the next available Members' Bulletin. We are pleased to welcome Paul Gardener, Anti Social Behaviour Co-ordinator into his post and look forward to working with him in the future.

## **Crime and Disorder Staffing**

I have published in the Council Bulletin details of the contact arrangements for crime and disorder matters while the Council files the vacancies created by the departure of the Crime Reduction Co-ordinator and Assistant to new jobs. Interviews for the new Co-ordinator will be held on 25 September 2006. Those for the Assistant post will follow in October.

## **Anti Social Behaviour**

The Council now has a new Anti Social Behaviour Co-ordinator and his current plans and casework are shown in the schedule attached.