

Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Thursday, 9th November, 2006

Place: Council Chamber, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping

Time: 7.30 pm

Democratic Services Officer: Simon Hill, Senior Democratic Services Officer
email: shill@eppingforestdc.gov.uk Tel: 01992 564249

Members:

Councillors R Morgan (Chairman), Mrs J H Whitehouse (Vice-Chairman), D Bateman, M Cohen, M Colling, R D'Souza, Mrs H Harding, P House, G Mohindra, Mrs P Richardson and M Woollard

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS TO ATTEND

MEMBERS ARE REMINDED TO BRING TO THE MEETING THE REPORTS CIRCULATED WITH THE LAST AGENDA FOR THIS COMMITTEE AND INFORMATION PUBLISHED IN THE MEMBERS BULLETIN CONCERNING THE CHANGES TO SERVICE LEVELS AT WHIPPS CROSS HOSPITAL FOR CONSIDERATION UNDER AGENDA ITEM 5

A PRE – MEETING FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD AT 7.00PM

WEBCASTING NOTICE

Please note: this meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site - at the start of the meeting the Chairman will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed.

You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act. Data collected during this webcast will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy.

Therefore by entering the Chamber and using the lower public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for web casting and/or training purposes. If members of the public do not wish to have their image captured they should sit in the upper council chamber public gallery area

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact the Senior Democratic Services Officer on 01992 564249.

1. WEBCASTING INTRODUCTION

This meeting is to be webcast. Members are reminded to use their microphones when speaking.

The Chairman will read the following announcement:

“I would like to remind everyone present that this meeting will be broadcast live to the Internet and will be capable of repeated viewing.

If you are seated in the lower public seating area it is likely that the recording cameras will capture your image and this will result in the possibility that your image will become part of the broadcast.

This may infringe your human and data protection rights and if you wish to avoid this you should move to the upper public gallery”

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

(Head of Research and Democratic Services). To report the appointment of any substitute members for the meeting.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(Head of Research and Democratic Services). To declare interests in any items on the agenda.

In considering whether to declare a personal or a prejudicial interest under the Code of Conduct, Overview & Scrutiny members are asked pay particular attention to paragraph 11 of the Code in addition to the more familiar requirements.

This requires the declaration of a personal and prejudicial interest in any matter before an OS Committee which relates to a decision of or action by another Committee or Sub Committee of the Council, a Joint Committee or Joint Sub Committee in which the Council is involved and of which the Councillor is also a member.

Paragraph 11 does not refer to Cabinet decisions or attendance at an OS meeting purely for the purpose of answering questions or providing information on such a matter.

5. MINUTES (Pages 7 - 10)

Decisions required:

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 5 October 2006.

6. "FIT FOR THE FUTURE" REVIEW OF NORTH EAST LONDON HEALTH SERVICES

Recommendation:

To receive a presentation from representatives of Waltham Forest Primary Care Trust (PCT) and the West Essex PCT on the "Fit for the Future" review of health services.

(Joint Chief Executive (Community)). At its last meeting the Committee received a report on the public concerns about possible future changes to service levels at Whipps Cross University Hospital. They noted that Kings Georges Hospital, Ilford and Oldchurch Hospital, Romford hospital (which also serves the District) are all now subject to a programme review being led by the North East London Strategic Health Authority.

The "Fit for the Future" review is being undertaken to look at different ways of delivering better health and social care, close to home and at the best value for taxpayers. The North East London Strategic Health Authority has agreed to give a presentation on this to members. James Slater, Director of Primary Care and Deputy Chief Executive of Waltham Forest PCT and lead Director on "Fit for the Future" for Waltham Forest and Redbridge PCT, along with Dr Ken Aswani (a Waltham Forest GP) and Chairman of Waltham Forest PCTs Professional Executive Committee will attend the meeting to give the presentation and answer any questions arising from this.

Representatives from the West Essex PCT have also been invited to attend.

Members are asked to bring along their consultation report that was appended to the last Overview and Scrutiny Committee agenda and the two 'Fit for the Future' newsletters published in the Members Bulletins as background to the presentation.

7. WORK PROGRAMME MONITORING (Pages 11 - 20)

(a) Progress Reports

To receive verbal reports from Scrutiny Panel Chairmen on any significant issues arising from their work.

Panel Chairmen are asked to report on their work only if a significant issue has arisen not reported elsewhere.

(b) Six Monthly Review

(1) That the attached work programme be reviewed at this half year stage; and

(2) That only items requiring urgent consideration be added to the programme.

In accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny procedure rules, the Committee are asked to consider their work programme at this half- year stage.

Members will note that the work programme and available officer support and resources is at full capacity. As a result, it is recommended that scrutiny should concentrate on completing its existing commitments and no new items save those considered urgent be added to the work programme.

8. REVIEW OF CIVIC CEREMONIAL - REPORT OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND MEMBERS SERVICES SUB -GROUP

(Chairman of Constitutional and Members Services Scrutiny Panel). To consider the report of the Sub – Group to follow.

9. CABINET REVIEW

Recommendation:

To consider any items to be raised by the Chairman at the Cabinet meeting on 13 November 2006.

Members are reminded to bring to the meeting their copy of the 13 November 2006 Cabinet agenda.

Any comments raised during this item which the Committee agrees should be considered by the Cabinet will be reported direct to them by the Chairman of this Committee at its next meeting on 13 November 2006.

10. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

Exclusion: To consider whether, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press should be excluded from the meeting for the items of business set out below on grounds that they will involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the following paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended) or are confidential under Section 100(A)(2):

Agenda Item No	Subject	Exempt Information Paragraph Number
Nil	Nil	Nil

The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, which came into effect on 1 March 2006, requires the Council to consider whether maintaining the exemption listed above outweighs the potential public interest in disclosing the information. Any member who considers that this test should be applied to any currently exempted matter on this agenda should contact the proper officer at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Confidential Items Commencement: Paragraph 9 of the Council Procedure Rules contained in the Constitution require:

- (1) All business of the Council requiring to be transacted in the presence of the press and public to be completed by 10.00 p.m. at the latest.
- (2) At the time appointed under (1) above, the Chairman shall permit the completion of debate on any item still under consideration, and at his or her discretion, any other remaining business whereupon the Council shall proceed

to exclude the public and press.

- (3) Any public business remaining to be dealt with shall be deferred until after the completion of the private part of the meeting, including items submitted for report rather than decision.

Background Papers: Paragraph 8 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules of the Constitution define background papers as being documents relating to the subject matter of the report which in the Proper Officer's opinion:

- (a) disclose any facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the report is based; and
- (b) have been relied on to a material extent in preparing the report and does not include published works or those which disclose exempt or confidential information (as defined in Rule 10) and in respect of executive reports, the advice of any political advisor.

Inspection of background papers may be arranged by contacting the officer responsible for the item.