

Report to Council

Date of meeting: 28 July 2011

Subject: Overview and Scrutiny report to Council – July 2011

Contact for further information: Cllr R Bassett

Committee Secretary: Adrian Hendry, ext.4246



Recommendation:

That the Overview and Scrutiny progress report from June 2011 to the present be noted.

Report

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting – 12 July 2011.

1. The Committee at their meeting on Tuesday, 12 July 2011 received a presentation from Peter Tollington, the General Manager of the Central Line, and Michael Grade the local section of the Central Line manager from London Underground Limited (LUL). They gave a presentation covering their current plans for refurbishment of the stations and tracks in the district and an outline of their plans for the upcoming Olympic Games. They told us the line handles 650,000 people a day and is at capacity in the rush hour with 79 of their 85 trains being used. They hope to have “refurbished” the trains with new seats and windows by May 2012.

2. The meeting was then opened out to a long session of questions from the members. The questions ranged from the capacity on trains, engineering works, oyster cards, security at unmanned stations and parking issues outside the stations. Peter Tollington confirmed that at present there were no plans to increase capacity of parking at any station at present but members proposed several possible improvements to parking at the stations in our area which he agreed to investigate. The LUL representative’s answers proved to be very helpful and informative and he also promised to get back to members with some extra information on questions where he needed to check the details.

3. The meeting next considered a report on the Lea Valley Regional Park Authority and the Olympic and Paralympics Games and the legacy benefits for the district. This would be increased sports participation, volunteering, tourism and cultural opportunities. One of the main contractors had offered a number of apprenticeships to young people. The White Water Centre, uniquely, had already been opened to the public and was proving very successful. We noted a multi partnership Olympic Legacy Board had been established with a temporary two year Olympic Officer post to maximise the legacy potential and development opportunities. A consultants report has been prepared for the Legacy board on development and regeneration opportunities and we are waiting for an official copy.

4. The Committee next received three reports from the Constitution and Member Services Standing Panel. The first was a review of the referendum and District and Parish / Town Council elections held in May. This was a round up of the problems faced and the

solutions put in place in the running of the elections. There were no significant problems encountered this year and the Committee were happy with the outcomes. The second report was on the Member Complaints Panel and the revision of the council's constitution in regards to the limits of jurisdiction of the Panel. The last report was on changing the member substitution rules, allowing for last minute substitutions up to 60 minutes prior to the meeting. Both these reports are on the Council agenda for this meeting for consideration and agreement.