



THE LONDON BOROUGH
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DATE: 02 July 2012

RENEWAL AND RECREATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Meeting to be held on Tuesday 10 July 2012

Please see attached reports which were not circulated with the original agenda.

2.1 APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBER (Pages 3-6)

7b PROVISIONAL OUTTURN 2011/12 (Pages 7-8)
(Appendix 1 - Variances)

12 COUNCIL MOTION - HOUSING NEED (Pages 9-12)
(Marked 'to follow' on the previous agenda)

*Copies of the documents referred to above can be obtained from
www.bromley.gov.uk/meetings*

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Report No.
RES12 119

London Borough of Bromley

PART ONE - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: **Renewal and Recreation PDS Committee**

Date: **10th July 2012**

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: **APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBER**

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
Tel: 020 8461 7743 E-mail: graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Mark Bowen, Director of Resources

Ward: N/A

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 Bromley Youth Council has nominated one of its members for appointment as a (non-voting) co-opted member of this Committee for 2012/13. The Committee is requested to consider making the appointment

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 **That Ross Stanford be appointed as a non-voting co-opted member of the Committee for 2012/13.**

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy: Policy Development and Scrutiny Committees are able to appoint non-voting co-opted members to assist them.
 2. BBB Priority: Vibrant, Thriving Town Centres:
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost:
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Democratic Services
 4. Total current budget for this head: £374,320
 5. Source of funding: 2012/13 Revenue Budget
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): There are 8 posts (7.22 fte) in the Democratic Services Team
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: N/A
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None:
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable: This report does not involve an executive decision
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): N/A
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not applicable

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 PDS Committees may appoint non-voting co-opted members to assist their work and to allow representation from key groups in the community. Co-opted Members bring their own area of interest and expertise to the work of a PDS Committee and broaden the spectrum of involvement in the scrutiny process The Bromley Youth Council (BYC) is keen to nominate its members to PDS Committees, and BYC members have been appointed this year to the Education PDS Committee and the Public Protection and Safety PDS Committee.
- 3.2 A nomination has been made to this Committee from the BYC for one of its members to be a co-opted member, and the Committee is asked to consider this.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Policy/Finance/Legal/Personnel
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	

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Renewal & Recreation - Variations as at 31 March 2012

1. Adult Education Dr £110k

This represents a provision that has been set aside in the R & R redundancy earmarked reserve to meet some of the potential costs that may arise as a result of the staffing reorganisation within the Adult Education Service. Funding from the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) is being reduced by at least 25% between the period of 2012 to 2014. This potential loss of income alongside the Council's significant financial pressures over the coming years, has prompted the radical review of the Adult Education Service. The staffing proposals set out in the consultation document will result in savings of approximately £345k for 2012/13 if implemented from 1st September 2012 and £459k in a full year.

2. Building Control Dr £7k

At the end of the financial year there was a shortfall of income of £277k. This was partly offset by the charging account surplus of £75k carried forward from 2010/11 and partly offset by savings achieved as a direct result of management action taken during the year. Savings of £195k were made by holding 3.5fte posts vacant and by reducing running expenses. Overall there was a net overspend of £7k for building control which has been offset by savings made in other divisions within the Portfolio.

3. Land Charges Cr £6k

A shortfall of income of £18k was more than offset by savings made by a part year vacancy that occurred during the year. The net effect was an underspend of £6 which offset the overspend within building control. It should be noted that £112k was drawn down from the central contingency to offset the full year effect of loss of income as a direct result of the Government withdrawing the statutory personal search fee.

4. Planning Dr £58k

Income from non-major planning applications is £77k below 2010/11 income and is £308k below the 2011/12 budget. The final income variance for non-major applications is £19k more than was projected at the end of January.

Income received for major applications for 2011/12 was £294k, which is £6k below budget and £58k more income than was received in 2010/11. For information, £393k was received for major applications during 2009/10 and £236k for 2010/11. £24k more income was received during February and March than previously projected.

In total, income from planning applications was £314k below budget for 2011/12, compared to the January projection of £357k.

Legal costs relating to planning appeals that have been lost total in 2011/12 total £49k and these costs have been offset by savings made elsewhere in the R & R Portfolio budget rather than rawing down from the central contingency sum held at the centre.

Management action taken during the financial year including holding 8 fte posts vacant totals Cr £277k.

Income from pre-application planning meetings exceeded the budget by £28k.

Summary of Planning variations	Variation £'000
Effect of holding 8 FTE's vacant within Planning	(246)
Shortfall of income from planning fees	314
Miscellaneous income	(28)
Net underspend on supplies and services	(31)
Appeals and Legal Costs	49
Total variation	58

5. Renewal Cr £206k

The £206k underspend on Renewal is due to a number of variances. The first totals £51k and is due to a part year effect of a member of staff taking early retirement. To offset the shortfall in planning income, spend against the portfolio holder initiatives budget was restricted providing an in year saving of £77k and there were other minor variances totalling £3k. Due to delays in the Government's response to the consultation on it's draft National Planning Policy Framework, officers have not been able to fully implement it's changes to meet the framework and the budget has therefore underspent by £75k. A carry forward request will be submitted to the Executive to carry forward £60k of this underspend in order to continue to meet the requirements of the Local Development Framework (LDF).

The carry forward of £60k of the LDF monies is required to ensure there is a robust evidence base to the plan making process and to undertake the consultation and other activities required by planning legislation and regulations. The Government only published it's planning reforms at the end of March 2012, together with new planning regulations. While the LDF Advisory Panel agreed work in 2011/12 to support any proposed new system as well as the current framework some work was delayed to avoid abortive work and use resources effectively. In 2012/13 technical assessments will be required, alongside detailed work for the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, and the drafting of the Local Plan and viability work to support a borough level Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

6. Culture Cr £34k

There is a £152k underspend on grant funding received for the Field Studies Centre, which is the result of a sundry creditor of £78k for the repayment of the 2010/11 grant not having to be repaid, a provision to repay grant for travel allowances was not fully required resulting in a 66k underspend and a surplus of £8k on the grant received in 2011/12 not being fully spent.

A report was agreed at Executive on the 1 February 2012 to set up an earmarked reserve of £100k which can be used as a contribution towards the costs of the special celebrations in 2012/13.

There is an overspend of £24k on the grant payment to Bromley Mytime. This is as a result of the RPIX applied to the grant being higher than the amount added in to the LBB budget as part of the estimate process.

There is a minor £6k underspend on running expenses.

7. Libraries & Museums Cr £42k

There is a net underspend of £42k within this service area which is mainly due to works that needs to be carried for the shared library service that could not be completed until April. £24k relates to the costs involved in merging three library book stacks into one, and £16k is for IT works that were completed at the the new shared library office in Bexley during April. A request to carry forward £40k of the library underspend will be submitted to Executive in order to meet the outstanding commitments for the shared back office.

8. Town Centre Management & Business Support Cr £18k

There is an underspend £14k on staffing due to an in year vacancy and other minor variations on running expenses budgets of £4k.

Report No.
Res12120

London Borough of Bromley

PART ONE - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: **Renewal & Recreation PDS Committee**
Care Services PDS Committee

Date: 10th July 2012/4th September 2012

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: **COUNCIL MOTION – HOUSING NEED**

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
Tel: 020 8461 7743 E-mail: graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Mark Bowen, Director of Resources

Ward: N/A

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 At the meeting of the Council on 25th June 2012, a motion was approved asking the Care Services and Renewal and Recreation PDS Committees to set up a working group to consider housing need in the borough.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 That a Housing Working Group be set up by the two PDS Committees, and Members from each be appointed to serve on it.

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Not Applicable:
 2. BBB Priority: Supporting Independence:
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost: The Working Group will be supported by officers from within existing resources.
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Democratic Services
 4. Total current budget for this head: £374,320
 5. Source of funding: 2012/13 Revenue budget
-

Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): There are 8 posts (7.22fte) in the Democratic Services Team
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: N/A
-

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None:
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable: This report does not involve an executive decision.
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): N/A
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not applicable

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 At the meeting of the Council a motion, proposed by Councillor Peter Fookes and seconded by Cllr Kathy Bance, was considered concerning housing need in the borough. After amendment the motion was unanimously approved in the following terms –

“This Council resolves that the Care Services PDS Committee and the Renewal and Recreation PDS Committee should set up a Housing Working Party to address the increasing problems of housing need in this borough”

Both Committees are requested to consider this and to nominate a small number of members to make up the Working Group.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Policy/Financial/Legal/Personnel
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	

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