

## TO MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

**Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Bromley is to be held in the Council Chamber at Bromley Civic Centre, Stockwell Close, Bromley, BR13UH on Monday 15 July 2024 at 7.00 pm which meeting the Members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend.**

### Prayers

## A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 To confirm the Minutes of the annual meeting of the Council held on 15th May 2024 (Pages 3 - 8)
- 4 Petition - Melvin Hall (Pages 9 - 14)
- 5 Questions (Pages 15 - 22)

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, questions that are not specific to reports on the agenda must have been received in writing 10 working days before the date of the meeting – by 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024.

Questions specifically to clarify reports on the agenda should be received within two working days of the normal publication date of the agenda. Please ensure that these questions are received by the Democratic Services Team by 5pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

(a) Questions from members of the public for oral reply.

(b) Questions from members of the Council for oral reply.

(c) Questions from members of the Council for written reply.

- 6 To consider any statements that may be made by the Leader of the Council, Portfolio Holders or Chairmen of Committees. (Pages 23 - 24)
- 7 Budget Monitoring 2023/24 (Pages 25 - 28)
- 8 Provisional Final Accounts 2023/24 (Pages 29 - 32)
- 9 Treasury Management Annual Report 2023/24 (Pages 33 - 50)
- 10 Provision of Affordable Housing in West Wickham (Pages 51 - 60)

- 11 Local Authority Housing Fund (Pages 61 - 74)
- 12 Crystal Palace Park Regeneration Plan - Proceed to Procurement for Capital Works (Pages 75 - 88)
- 13 Health and Wellbeing Board - Annual Report 2023/24 and Annual Public Health Report 2023 (Pages 89 - 136)
- 14 Annual Scrutiny Report 2023/24 (Pages 137 - 160)
- 15 To consider Motions of which notice has been given. (Pages 161 - 162)
- 16 Announcements

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*Ao Adetosoye*

**Ade Adetosoye CBE**  
**Chief Executive**

**BROMLEY CIVIC CENTRE**  
**STOCKWELL CLOSE**  
**BROMLEY BR1 3UH**  
**Friday 5 July 2024**  
**Vol.61 No.2**

# Agenda Item 3

## LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

### MINUTES

of the proceedings of the annual meeting of the  
Council of the Borough  
held at 6.30 pm on 15 May 2024

Present:

**The Worshipful the Mayor  
Councillor Mike Botting**

**The Deputy Mayor  
Councillor Keith Onslow**

#### Councillors

Jeremy Adams	Dr Sunil Gupta	Chris Price
Jonathan Andrews	FRCP FRCPATH	Chloe-Jane Ross
Jessica Arnold	Colin Hitchins	Will Rowlands
Felicity Bainbridge	Alisa Igoe	Shaun Slator
Kathy Bance MBE	Julie Ireland	Colin Smith
Yvonne Bear	Mike Jack	Diane Smith
Nicholas Bennett J.P.	Simon Jeal	Mark Smith
Kim Botting FRSA	David Jefferys	Melanie Stevens
Mark Brock	Charles Joel	Ryan Thomson
Graeme Casey	Kevin Kennedy-Brooks	Michael Tickner
Josh Coldspring-White	Josh King	Pauline Tunnicliffe
Will Connolly	Jonathan Laidlaw	Gemma Turrell
Peter Dean	Kate Lymer	Thomas Turrell
Sophie Dunbar	Tony Owen	Sam Webber
Robert Evans	Christopher Marlow	Rebecca Wiffen
Simon Fawthrop	Ruth McGregor	
Kira Gabbert	Tony McPartlan	
Adam Jude Grant	Alexa Michael	
Hannah Gray	Angela Page	

Before the start of the meeting Members stood in silence to remember former Councillor John Pritchard and Honorary Alderman Anne Manning, who had died recently.

The meeting was opened with prayers

In the Chair  
The Mayor  
Councillor Mike Botting

**1 To elect the Mayor of the Borough**

It was moved by Councillor Nicholas Bennett, seconded by Councillor Robert Evans and

**RESOLVED that Councillor Dr David Jefferys be elected Mayor of the Borough.**

Councillor Jefferys made and subscribed the Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Mayor and thereupon adjourned from the chamber in company with the retiring Mayor to receive the insignia of office.

**In the chair, Councillor Dr David Jefferys**

On his return to the chamber, the Mayor expressed his thanks for the honour conferred on him.

**2 To record the appointment of the Deputy Mayor signified to the Council in writing**

The Mayor signified orally and in writing his appointment of Councillor Jonathan Andrews as the Deputy Mayor.

The Deputy Mayor was invested by the Mayor with the insignia of his office and expressed appreciation for the honour of his appointment.

**3 The Retiring Mayor**

On a motion by Cllr Diane Smith, seconded by Cllr Kathy Bance MBE, it was

**RESOLVED that at the conclusion of the year of office of Councillor Mike Botting as Mayor of the London Borough of Bromley, the Council places on record its appreciation of the able manner in which Councillor Mike Botting has presided at meetings of the Council and the distinction with which he has discharged the high traditions and responsibilities of the office of Mayor.**

**His objective to visit every ward in the borough was achieved attending events that displayed diversity, equity and inclusion, supporting all residents, different races, ethnicities, religions, abilities, genders and sexual orientations.**

**As the Council's Loneliness Champion, he has been a strong advocate for people experiencing loneliness. Cllr Botting worked tirelessly to highlight one of the largest health concerns facing the UK, affecting mental and physical health, reducing the stigma by discussing it.**

**As the Council's Armed Forces Champion, he worked resolutely to raise awareness of the armed forces community. The signing of the Armed**

**Forces Covenant renewed the Borough's commitment, taking place during Bromley Council's Armed Forces Day ceremony, led by Cllr Botting. This historic event will be the impetus to explore further ways to support this community who do so much for our country.**

**Through his patronage, Bromley has now achieved the Bronze award from the Ministry of Defence Employer Recognition Scheme, being one of only 12 local authorities to achieve this. The veterans' hubs are supported by him, creating a link to support the veteran community and associated charities.**

**As a member of the Bromley Town Twinning Association, he maintained the relationship between the borough and Neuwied, receiving a delegation from Neuwied at the beginning of his year and visiting the town at the end of his year in office.**

Thereupon the Mayor, on behalf of the Council, invested Cllr Mike Botting with a badge in token of the appreciation of his services as Mayor of the Borough. Cllr Mike Botting then awarded a past Mayoress's badge to Cllr Kim Botting.

Cllr Mike Botting expressed his thanks for the terms of the resolution and the presentation, and for the support accorded to him which had contributed so greatly to his year in office as Mayor.

**RESOLVED that the Council records its appreciation of the able and courteous services of Councillor Keith Onslow and Mrs Sara Onslow when, as Deputy Mayor and Mayoress for the year 2023/24, they represented the Mayoralty and the Council, and provides them with an attested copy of this resolution.**

Councillor Onslow expressed his thanks for the terms of the resolution and for the support accorded to him during his year of office as Deputy Mayor.

The retiring Mayor, Cllr Mike Botting, presented a badge and resolution of thanks to his chaplain, Revd. George Rogers.

#### **4 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Felicity Bainbridge, David Cartwright QFSM, Christine Harris, Alison Stammers and Harry Stranger.

#### **5 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**6 To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11th March 2024**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024 be confirmed.

**7 To receive an address from the Leader of the Council if they so elect**

The Leader of the Council, Cllr Colin Smith, made a short statement at the start of the Council year. He stated that local government faced a bleak future due to many years of under-funding, but Bromley Council was punching above its weight, as recent national awards for its work on Homeless Health and the Loneliness Project and recent the Ofsted judgement showed. The Council had worked hard on the Armed Forces Covenant and had the best recycling rates and the highest library book issues in London. However, the Council was not perfect and it was important that, when mistakes were made, as a learning organisation, the Council apologised, got things right the next time and learnt lessons.

The priorities for any incoming national government were unlikely to include local government, despite the crisis developing in housing and the surging cost of temporary accommodation, the demand for SEN services continuing to outstrip supply and the increasing need to serve ageing populations.

Bromley's funding from government had been around £50m a year below the London average for twenty years, and the new government had to listen to the plight of local Councils. The Council's first duty in law was to balance the books and tough decisions would need to be taken. He appealed to all councillors to work together and lobby on behalf of residents after the General Election.

**8 Proportionality and Appointment of Committees**  
Report CSD24049

A schedule of proposed Committee appointments had been circulated. There was one further amendment, with Cllr Chris Price nominated to sit on the Audit and Risk Management Committee rather than Cllr Simon Jeal.

A motion to approve (i) the proportionality of committees, (ii) the membership of committees and (iii) the chairman and vice-chairman of committees was moved by Cllr Simon Fawthrop, seconded by Cllr Colin Smith and **CARRIED**.

**9 Constitution - Scheme of Delegation to Officers**  
Report CSD24050

A motion to receive the Scheme of Delegation to officers in respect of executive functions, approve the Scheme of Delegation to Officers in respect of non-executive functions, approve the amendment of Chapter 3 of the Constitution to clarify that the relevant Portfolio Holder should decide on

reserved matters in the contract documents for the Council's joint housing ventures and agree amended terms of reference for Development Control Committee and Plans Sub-Committees was moved by Cllr Pauline Tunnicliffe, seconded by Cllr Colin Hitchins and **CARRIED**.

## **10 Announcements**

The Mayor confirmed that his Mayoress would be Mrs Anne-Marie Jefferys, and his chaplain would be Revd. Roger Bristow of Holy Trinity Church, Bromley Common. The Mayor's charities would be Alzheimer's Research UK, Bromley Youth Music Trust and Welcare Bromley.

The following events had already been arranged –

- Armed Forces Day at 10.30am on 26<sup>th</sup> June
- The Civic Service at Holy Trinity Church, Bromley Common on 14<sup>th</sup> July
- The Reception for Voluntary Workers on 18<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm
- Remembrance Sunday on 10<sup>th</sup> November
- The Civic Carol Service at St Mary's, Shortlands on 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 6.30pm

The Mayor's Office would be supplying details of all events.

The Meeting ended at 8.28 pm

Mayor

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Report No.  
CSD24078

## London Borough of Bromley

### PART ONE - PUBLIC

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**Decision Maker:**       **COUNCIL**

**Date:**                   **Monday 15 July 2024**

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

**Title:**                   **PETITION – MELVIN HALL**

**Contact Officer:**       Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager  
Tel: 0208 461 7743   E-mail: graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk

**Chief Officer:**        Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

**Ward:**                   Penge and Cator

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1.    Reason for decision/report and options

1.1 Under the Council's Petition Scheme, if petitioners are dissatisfied with the Council's response to their petition they can present their case to full Council, provided that the number of verified signatures exceeds the threshold of 500 signatures for a traditional paper petition, or 4,000 signatures for an online petition. The lead petitioner or their nominee can address the Council for up to five minutes, after which Members can debate the issues raised. The choice before the Council is essentially to either recommend the Executive, or the relevant Portfolio Holder, to take action, or it can note the petition and decide that no further action be taken.

1.2 Council is requested to consider one petition concerning Melvin Hall in Penge.

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2.    **RECOMMENDATION**

**The Council is requested to consider the case made by the lead petitioner and either recommend action to be taken by the Executive or relevant Portfolio Holder, or note the petition and decide that no further action be taken.**

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: Not Applicable
- 

Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
  2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority:  
(5) To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.
- 

Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost
  2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
  3. Budget head/performance centre: Not Applicable
  4. Total current budget for this head: Not Applicable
  5. Source of funding: Not Applicable
- 

Personnel

1. Number of staff (*current and additional*): Not Applicable
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None
  2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Council decisions are not subject to call-in
- 

Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable
- 

Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: Not Applicable
- 

Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: Not Applicable
- 

Impact on the Local Economy

1. Summary of Local Economy Implications: Not Applicable
- 

Impact on Health and Wellbeing

1. Summary of Health and Wellbeing Implications: Not Applicable
- 

Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (*current and projected*):
- 

Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not Applicable

### 3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 The Council's Petition Scheme allows for petitioners to present their case to full Council if they are dissatisfied with the Council's response to their petition, provided that the number of verified signatures exceeds the threshold (for paper petitions) of 500 signatures from people who live, work or study in the borough. The lead petitioner or their nominee can address the Council for up to five minutes – they do not take part in any subsequent debate and must return to the public gallery. Once Members have considered the matter, they can choose whether to recommend any further action, or to agree that no further action should be taken.
- 3.2 The petition to be considered is entitled "Stop the rent hikes at Melvin Hall" and it states –  
"We request the London Borough of Bromley Council to value this building as a Community Centre, value the work done by volunteers support MHCG."
- 3.3 The petition was submitted to the Council on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024. It includes 980 signatures, of from people providing valid addresses in the borough, as well as a further 240 non-qualifying signatures. The number of signatures is therefore above the threshold allowing the lead petitioner to speak at a full Council meeting. A reply was sent to the lead petitioner on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 explaining the Council's position – this is set out at [Appendix A](#).
- 3.4 The lead petitioner, Mr John Clyde, Trustee and Treasurer at Melvin Hall, has indicated that he is not satisfied with the Council's response and would like to take up the opportunity to address full Council in support of his petition.

<b>Non-Applicable Headings:</b>	Impact on vulnerable adults and children/Policy/Finance/Legal/Human Resources/Procurement/Property/Carbon Reduction/Local Economy/health and Wellbeing/Customers/Ward Councillors
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Petition – Melvin Hall

9<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Dear Mr Clyde,

Thank you for the petition received requesting to 'Stop the rent hikes at Melvin Hall'.

The financial background to the new rent charge for Melvin Hall is that the Council is facing a potential budget gap of around £20m in 2025/26, increasing to £38.7m per annum in 2027/28. Bromley has the second lowest level of settlement funding per head of population in London and continues to express serious concerns with the current and previous governments about the fairness of the funding system and to lobby for a fairer deal for our residents. For these reasons, the Council has had to take the decision to ensure that all services and support to all residents can be sustained within budget. In applying the new commercial rent all tenants are being treated fairly.

With regards to the rent increase itself I hope that it is helpful to share the context of the Council's proposal and that it is required by legislation under Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 to achieve best value, on behalf of all Council Taxpayers, when considering its approach to the management of its property assets. Best value is achieved by assessing the open market value of the property at the date of the relevant lease event (renewal or rent review) based on the available comparable evidence. This comparable evidence considers similar properties that are in the locality and have the same use.

The increase in rents on Council owned properties that are leased by voluntary sector organisations has been noted by the Council, and in response to this The Executive on 29th November 2023 agreed the following:

1. The Director of Housing, Planning and Regeneration be authorised, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management, to negotiate Payment Management Plans with Voluntary Sector Organisations whose financial integrity may be significantly impacted by rental increases.
2. A Payment Management Plan be considered where a rental increase of over 30% has occurred following a lease renewal or rent review on a Council owned property let to a Voluntary Sector Organisation.
3. Payment Management Plans provide a stepped rental increase over a period of up to 3 three years with the rent payable on the third anniversary of the lease renewal or rent review being the Open Market Rent as determined at the prior (increased rent) lease event adjusted for subsequent CPI (Consumer Price Index) and with all future rents to be increased annually in line with CPI.
4. It be authorised that a Payment Management Plan is a one-off transitional arrangement to allow a Voluntary Sector Organisation to adjust to the new increased rent.
5. The Director of Housing, Planning and Regeneration be authorised, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management, to negotiate repayment plans or other suitable financial

arrangements with Voluntary Sector Organisations outside of the parameters of a Payment Management Plans as set out in paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3 of the report. These arrangements may be up to a maximum sum of £50,000 or if higher only with the approval of the Executive.

Paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3 of the 29th of November 2023 Executive report are as follows:

2. Authorise that a Payment Management Plan be considered where a rental increase of over 30% has occurred following a lease renewal or rent review on a Council owned property let to a Voluntary Sector Organisation.
3. Authorise that Payment Management Plans provide a stepped rental increase over a period of up to 3 three years with the rent payable on the third anniversary of the lease renewal or rent review being the Open Market Rent as determined at the prior (increased rent) lease event and with all future rents to be increased annually in line with CPI (Consumer Price Index).

A copy of the decision item number 9 – Local Authority & Voluntary Sector Leases is attached for your reference.

Whilst many of the organisations that use Melvin Hall do provide valuable support to local people all, but the Gateway Club, are not directly funded by the Council. For the same reasons as stated above the Council's financial position does not allow us to step in and give support. In the case of the Gateway Club, Officers from the Council's Adult Social Care Department have made direct contact with them and will offer support in finding alternative arrangements should the Melvin Hall Community Group choose not to agree to the terms of the new lease.

When considering a way forward the following actions should be considered:

- If you have not already done so you could contact Bromley's local voluntary and community sector support organisation, Community Links Bromley, who can offer you advice on your business planning, raising funds and finding other community organisations that might also want to share the costs of running Melvin Hall.
- The Council urges all Voluntary Sector Organisations who will benefit from the stepped rent arrangement to utilise the 3-year period to review their occupational property requirements, charging policies and opportunities for additional income generation including sub-letting, more efficient use of the premises and alternative uses such as events, exhibitions and functions during non-operational times.

The Council is in communication with the Melvin Hall Community Group, their solicitors and surveyors, the details of which are confidential, to seek a resolution to this matter.

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(A)

## Council

15 July 2024

### Questions from Members of the Public for Oral Reply

**1. From Carol Denyer to the Chairman of the Executive, Resources and Contracts PDS Committee**

Given the controversy engendered by the ULEZ expansion, the gross mismanagement of GLA finances and Baroness Casey's scathing criticism of Mayor Khan's handling of the Met - does Bromley (along with Bexley) have an appetite to cede from the remit of the GLA and Mayor and become a Unitary Authority?

**2. From Emily Hall to the Portfolio Holder for Environment**

Is the Council aware of the noise problems with low-flying planes entering and leaving Heathrow airport in the evening and early morning - does it monitor the number of planes or the noise between the restricted hours of 23.30-6am? What can the Council do about low-flying planes in our airspace?

**3. From Peter Davis to the Portfolio Holder for Environment**

Animal agriculture produces 17% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions and is a leading factor in ecological damage. Would the Council consider plant-based provision for all internal catering in support of LBB's net-zero targets, especially if reformed catering can achieve a cost-saving?

**4. From Ian Jerome to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing**

I understand that the building containing Bromley Central Library is up for sale and that the Library will be relocating. What provision is being made for the excellent local history archive when this happens? Will the current level of public access be maintained?

**5. From Martin Spence to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing**

I represent Penge History Group, whose members regularly use the Local Studies section, and Historic Collections Archive, at Bromley Central Library. When the Library moves to its new building, will the Local Studies and Archive services move with it, and continue to be fully staffed and accessible?

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**(B)**

**Council**

**15 July 2024**

**Questions from Members of the Council for Oral Reply**

**1. From Cllr Chloe-Jane Ross to the Leader of the Council**

At the Council budget setting meeting earlier this year the Leader agreed to pursue the Liberal Democrat initiative of setting up a Voluntary Fund for donations to support community organisations - grateful for an update on this initiative?

**2. From Cllr Julie Ireland to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety**

After nearly two years' of promises from Bromley Police about resolving the issue of parking on the access road to Waitrose in Bromley South, people with mobility issues continue to struggle to find a safe dropping off point for Bromley South Station, and shoppers for Waitrose have to put up with long queues. Will the Council Leader, and the Portfolio Holder for Transport join with us in demanding that the police stop making excuses and resolve this problem without any further delay?

**3. From Cllr Sam Webber to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing**

To ask the Portfolio Holder about the Council's efforts to save the Bromley Picturehouse, which has recently announced it will close on 1st August. What action has the Portfolio Holder taken in conjunction with Council Officers to avoid this unfortunate decision? How can the Council ensure that another gem in Bromley's Cultural crown can be protected for future generations and ensure this important art deco building in central Bromley is safeguarded?

**4. From Cllr Tony McPartlan to the Chairman of Development Control Committee**

Unfortunately much of UK's EV charging network is inaccessible and difficult to use for disabled people. PAS 1899, sponsored by Motability and the UK Government seeks to fix this. Will the Council commit to placing conditions on all planning applications that include EV charging points, to mandate that the charging points are PAS 1899:2022 compliant?

**5. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Families**

Ofsted inspectors concluded children in the borough receive “exceptionally strong services”. Which of the four inspection areas of Children’s Services, included input from Kinship Carers?

**6. From Cllr Chris Price to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management**

As part of the Council’s Operational Property Review, a significant number of shopping parades have been sold via auction. What protections did you put in place to protect the small businesses renting the premises in the heart of our community from excessive rent and service charge increases?

**7. From Cllr Josh King to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety**

Following an accident on Beck Lane over three years ago the then portfolio holder and officers refused to install bollards or barriers as requested by ward councillors and residents. Instead we were offered additional road markings including 'dragon's teeth'. Why have the Dragon's Teeth not yet been painted?

**8. From Cllr Alisa Igoe to the Portfolio Holder for Environment**

On 05/07/23 £566,000 was added to the initial £1,350,000 cost of Tremendous, whilst reducing the aftercare period for these new trees from three years to one year. In light of the new contracts with multiple arboricultural providers, due for approval 05/07/24, was it ever considered to return to three year aftercare for new trees?

**9. From Cllr Mark Smith to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Families**

What arrangements is the Council putting in place to address all the issues and delays being experienced by parents/carers in respect of children with Special Educational Needs in their dealings with the SEN department?

**10. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety**

On 8th June, one of our residents has reported that she suffered a severe head injury caused by the Civic Centre Car Park Barrier. Could you please confirm that this incident is being fully investigated, and outline what checks are carried out to check the barriers at other car parks across the borough are operating safely?

**11. From Cllr Julie Ireland to the Portfolio Holder for Environment**

Residents who live near Waldo Road Waste and Recycling Centre continue to suffer long queues of traffic blocking their streets as residents queue for the Centre. Acknowledging there are peaks in summer and during good gardening weather, but this is a long term issue which is not improving. Does the Council have any plans to manage this traffic problem, in which case please can they be shared?

**12. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management**

In September last year, the Council's Executive took the decision to dispose of the freeholds of Community House and Beckenham Public Halls - have these transactions been completed?

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**(C)**

**Council**

**15 July 2024**

**Questions from Members of the Council for Written Reply**

**1. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Leader of the Council**

Bromley Council organise several annual service events for example, Armed Forces Day. Why is there a restriction on the number of attendees at these services, particularly the outdoor events?

**2. From Cllr Alisa Igoe to the Portfolio Holder for Traffic, Highways and Road Safety**

At full Council 29/06/23 I was told that (a) APCOA, responsible for running and maintaining our car parks, and (b) the Council's Property Division, did not use Fix My Street. If this is still the case, please explain why, especially as Bromley Council heavily promotes FMS use to our residents.

**3. From Cllr Mark Smith to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education, and Families**

How many times has the Council failed to meet the statutory timeframe of six weeks within which ECHNA requests have to be dealt with - and the results communicated to parents/carers - in the last 12 months?

**4. From Cllr Mark Smith to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education, and Families**

How soon before the start of term in September will the parents/carers of SEN children be advised of the transport arrangements for their children for the 2024/25 education year?

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## COUNCIL

15<sup>th</sup> JULY 2024

### REQUEST FOR A STATEMENT

Request for a statement from the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing, made by Councillors Simon Jeal and Tony McPartlan -

Following press reports that the Council has put the Churchill Theatre and Library building up for sale, to confirm whether the Council has agreed terms with the Trafalgar Group and whether the administration is continuing to seek to secure the future of the Theatre in Bromley, as the Portfolio Holder has previously indicated to be the Council's intentions.

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# Agenda Item 7

Report No.  
CSD24053

London Borough of Bromley

PART ONE - PUBLIC

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**Decision Maker:** COUNCIL

**Date:** Monday 15 July 2024

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

**Title:** BUDGET MONITORING 2023/24

**Contact Officer:** Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager  
Tel: 0208 461 7743 E-mail: graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk

**Chief Officer:** Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

**Ward:** All

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1. Reason for decision/report and options

- 1.1 At its meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024, the Executive considered and approved a report providing the third budget monitoring position for 2023/24 based on expenditure and activity levels up to the end of December 2024. The report also highlighted any significant variations which would impact on future years as well as any early warnings that could impact on the final year end position.
- 1.2 The report contained one recommendation for Council which the Executive approved. This was to set aside a total sum of £2.2m in an earmarked reserve to support the 2025/25 budget, reducing the budget gap for that year.

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2. **RECOMMENDATION**

**Council is requested to agree to the set aside £2.2m into an earmarked reserve to support the revenue budget for 2025/26 as detailed in section 3.8 of the Executive report.**

## Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: Not Applicable
- 

## Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
  2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority: (5) To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.
- 

## Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Not Applicable
  2. Ongoing costs: Recurring Cost
  3. Budget head/performance centre: Council wide 256.1m
  4. Total current budget for this head: £256.1m
  5. Source of funding: See Appendix 1 to Executive report for overall funding of Council's budget
- 

## Personnel

1. Number of staff (*current and additional*): 2,249 fte posts (per 2023/24 Budget) which includes 481 for budgets delegated to schools.
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable
- 

## Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement:
  2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Council decisions are not subject to call-in.
- 

## Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable
- 

## Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: Not Applicable
- 

## Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: Not Applicable
- 

## Impact on the Local Economy

1. Summary of Local Economy Implications: Not Applicable
- 

## Impact on Health and Wellbeing

1. Summary of Health and Wellbeing Implications: Not Applicable
- 

## Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (*current and projected*): See attached report.
- 

## 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 Section 3.8 of the report to the Executive on 27th March 2024 sets out the reasoning for the decision before full Council -

#### “3.8 Homes for Ukraine funding - £2.2m

3.8.1 A sum of £2.5m was set aside to support the Councils 2023/24 budget from the Homes for Ukraine Grant (HFU). £500k was allocated to support Housing and Childrens Social Care. There are clearly ongoing costs for HFU, so it is proposed that the balance that remains is not utilised in the current year but set aside to support the 2025/26 financial year.

3.8.2 The sum of £2m has been identified directly to support services. The equivalent sum from the arising reduction in service spend is proposed to be set aside to support the 2025/26 budget given the financial challenges the Council faces. This is one off funding and the situation relating to 2023/24 will be closely monitored.

3.8.3 There is a further £879k of grant identified in 2023/24, of which £679k will be utilised in 2023/24 and 2024/25 and the balance of £200k could also be used to support the 2025/26 budget and therefore a total sum of £2.2m will be set aside in an earmarked reserve to support the 2025/26 revenue budget, effectively reducing the ‘budget gap’ for that year.”

3.2 The full report can be viewed on the Executive’s agenda for the meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024 –

[Budget Monitoring Report, Executive on 27 March 2024](#)

[Budget Monitoring Appendices 1-6](#)

[Budget Monitoring Appendix 7](#)

<b>Non-Applicable Headings:</b>	Impact on vulnerable adults and children/Policy /Procurement/Property/Carbon Reduction/Local Economy/ Health and Wellbeing/Customers/Ward Councillors
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Report to Executive on 27 March 2024

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# Agenda Item 8

Report No.  
CSD24077

London Borough of Bromley

PART ONE - PUBLIC

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**Decision Maker:**       **COUNCIL**

**Date:**                   **Monday 15 July 2024**

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

**Title:**                   **PROVISIONAL FINAL ACCOUNTS 2023/24**

**Contact Officer:**       Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager  
Tel: 0208 461 7743   E-mail: graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk

**Chief Officer:**        Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

**Ward:**                   All

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1.    Reason for decision/report and options

- 1.1   At its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 the Executive considered and approved a report on the Provisional Final Accounts for 2023/24, setting out the provisional outturn at portfolio level and Council wide as well as financial implications for the Council's financial position in 2024/25.
- 1.2   The Executive approved the recommendations, including two recommendations for full Council, set out below, to agree a drawdown from the Business Rates Risk Reserve and to agree a reduction in contribution from the Collection Fund surplus, as explained in paragraphs 3.9.1 and 3.9.2 of the report to the Executive.
- 

2.    **RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Council are requested to:**

- (1) Agree the drawdown of £2,670k from the Business Rates Risk Reserve as set out in paragraph 3.9.1 of the report to the Executive.**
- (2) Agree the reduction in contribution of £6,319k from the Collection Fund surplus set aside as set out in paragraph 3.9.2. of the report to the Executive.**

## Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: Not Applicable
- 

## Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy:
  2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority: (5) To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.
- 

## Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Not Applicable
  2. Ongoing costs: Recurring Cost
  3. Budget head/performance centre: Council wide
  4. Total current budget for this head: £232.6m
  5. Source of funding: See appendix 1 to the report for overall funding of the Council's budget.
- 

## Personnel

1. Number of staff (*current and additional*): 2,249 fte posts (per 2023/24 Budget) which includes 481 for budgets delegated to schools
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable
- 

## Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement: The statutory duties relating to financial reporting are covered within the Local Government Act 1972, the Local Government Finance Act 1998, the Local Government Act 2000, the Local Government Act 2002 and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.
  2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Full Council decisions are not subject to call-in
- 

## Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable
- 

## Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: Not Applicable
- 

## Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: Not Applicable
- 

## Impact on the Local Economy

1. Summary of Local Economy Implications: Not Applicable
- 

## Impact on Health and Wellbeing

1. Summary of Health and Wellbeing Implications: Not Applicable
- 

## Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (*current and projected*): The 2023/24 budget reflects the financial impact of the Council's strategies and service plans which impact on all of the Council's customers (including council tax payers) and users of our services.
- 

## 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 Sections 3.9.1 and 3.9.2 of the report to the Executive on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 set out the reasoning for the decision before the Council -

#### 3.9 Contribution from Reserves

##### 3.9.1 Business rates risk reserve

A total of sum of £4,200k was set aside in previous years to manage the impact of any unexpected reductions/volatility in retained business rate income. It is recommended that a one-off sum of £2,670k is drawn down from this reserve to cover the net impact of reduced business rates related income accounted for during 2023/24.

##### 3.9.2 Collection Fund surplus set aside

2023/24 assumes a contribution of £9.1m Collection Fund surplus set aside earmarked reserve to support the revenue budget. It is proposed that the savings of £6,319k is utilised to reduce the drawdown of this reserve. It is important to note that the retained reserve will be needed to support the revenue budget in future years.

3.2 The full report can be viewed on the Executive's agenda for the meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 –

[Provisional Final Accounts 2023/24 – Report to the Executive on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024](#)

[Provisional Final Accounts 2023/24 – Appendices to the Executive Report on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024](#)

<b>Non-Applicable Headings:</b>	Impact on children and vulnerable adults/Policy/Personnel/ Legal/Finance/Procurement/Property/Carbon Reduction/Local Economy/Health and Wellbeing/Customers/Ward Councillors
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	See report to the Executive on 22 May 2024

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Report No.  
CSD24085

## London Borough of Bromley

### PART ONE - PUBLIC

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**Decision Maker:**       **COUNCIL**

**Date:**                   **Monday 15 July 2024**

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

**Title:**                   **TREASURY MANAGEMENT - ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24**

**Contact Officer:**     Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager  
Tel: 0208 461 7743   E-mail: graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk

**Chief Officer:**       Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

**Ward:**                   All

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1.   Reason for decision/report and options

- 1.1   At its meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024 the Executive, Resources and Contracts PDS Committee is due to scrutinise the attached Treasury Management report prior to the Portfolio Holder for Contracts, Commissioning and Contract Management approving the recommendations.
- 1.2   The report summarises treasury management activity during the fourth quarter of 2023/24 and includes the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2023/24, which is required to be reported to full Council. The report ensures that the Council is implementing best practice in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management. Investments as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 totalled £326.9m and there was no outstanding external borrowing. For information and comparison, the balance of investments stood at £370.1m as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 and £344.0m as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.
- 

2.   **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1.1.   **Council is requested to -**

- (1) Note the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2023/24.**
- (2) Approve the actual prudential indicators within the report.**

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact:

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Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy: To maintain appropriate levels of risk, particularly security and liquidity, whilst seeking to achieve the highest rate of return on investments.  
2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority:  
(5) To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley’s residents.

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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost  
2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable  
3. Budget head/performance centre: Interest on balances  
4. Total current budget for this head: Net interest earnings of £14.7m achieved against a budget of £9.8m for 2023/24 (a surplus of £4.9m.) The budget for 2024/25 is £12.0m.  
5. Source of funding: Net investment income

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Personnel

1. Number of staff (*current and additional*): 0.25fte  
2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: 9 hours per week

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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-statutory – Government guidance  
2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Council decisions are not subject to call-in

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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable

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Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: Not Applicable

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Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: Not Applicable

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Impact on the Local Economy

1. Summary of Local Economy Implications: Not Applicable

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Impact on Health and Wellbeing

1. Summary of Health and Wellbeing Implications: Not Applicable

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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (*current and projected*): Not Applicable

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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

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<b>Non-Applicable Headings:</b>	Impact on vulnerable Adults and Children/Policy/Finance/ Personnel/Legal/Procurement/Property/Carbon Reduction/ Local Economy/Health & Wellbeing/Customers/Ward Councillors
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	See attached report

**Decision Maker:** Resources, Commissioning and Contracts Management  
Portfolio Holder  
Council

**Date:** For pre-decision scrutiny by Executive, Resources and Contracts PDS  
Committee on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
Council on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024

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

**Title:** TREASURY MANAGEMENT – ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24

**Contact Officer:** Abdul Munim, Principal Accountant  
Tel: 020 8313 4334 E-mail: [Abdul.Munim@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Abdul.Munim@bromley.gov.uk)

**Chief Officer:** Peter Turner, Director of Finance  
Tel: 020 8313 4668 E-mail: [Peter.Turner@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.Turner@bromley.gov.uk)

**Ward:** All

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## 1. Reason for report

- 1.1. This report summarises treasury management activity during the fourth quarter of 2023/24 and includes the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2023/24, which is required to be reported to full Council. The report ensures that the Council is implementing best practice in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management.
  - 1.2. Investments as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 totalled £326.9m and there was no outstanding external borrowing. For information and comparison, the balance of investments stood at £370.1m as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 and £344.0m as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.
- 

## 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1. The Resources, Commissioning and Contracts Management Portfolio Holder is requested to:
  - (a) note the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2023/24; and
  - (b) approve the actual prudential indicators within the report.
- 2.2. Council is requested to:
  - (a) note the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2023/24; and
  - (b) approve the actual prudential indicators within the report.

## Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: None
- 

## Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing policy. To maintain appropriate levels of risk, particularly security and liquidity, whilst seeking to achieve the highest rate of return on investments.
  2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority: To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.
- 

## Financial

1. Cost of proposal: N/A
  2. Ongoing costs: N/A
  3. Budget head/performance centre: Interest on balances
  4. Total current budget for this head: Net interest earnings of £14.7m achieved against a budget of £9.8m for 2023/24 (a surplus of £4.9m.) The budget for 2024/25 is £12.0m.
  5. Source of funding: Net investment income
- 

## Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 0.25 fte
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: 9 hours per week
- 

## Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-statutory - Government guidance.
  2. Call-in: Call-in is applicable
- 

## Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: N/A
- 

## Customer Impact

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

## Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? N/A
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A

### 3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 Under the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management, the Council is required, as a minimum, to approve an annual treasury strategy in advance of the year, a mid-year review report and an annual report following the year comparing actual activity to the strategy. In practice, the Director of Finance has reported quarterly on treasury management activity for many years, as well as reporting the annual strategy before the year and the annual report after the year-end.
- 3.2 This report includes details of investment performance in the final quarter of 2023/24 and the annual report for the whole of the 2023/24 financial year.
- 3.3 The 2023/24 Annual Treasury Strategy, including the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy statement and prudential indicators, was originally approved by Council in February 2023.
- 3.4 Changes in the regulatory environment have placed a much greater onus on Members to undertake the review and scrutiny of treasury management policy and activities. This report is important in that respect as it provides details of the actual position for treasury activities and highlights compliance with the Council's policies previously approved by Members.
- 3.5 The Council has monies available for treasury management investment as a result of the following:
- Positive cash flow;
  - Receipts (mainly from Government) received in advance of payments being made;
  - Capital receipts not yet utilised to fund capital expenditure;
  - Provisions made in the accounts for liabilities e.g. provision for outstanding legal cases which have not yet materialised;
  - General and earmarked reserves retained by the Council.
- 3.6 Some of the monies identified above are short term and investment of these needs to be highly 'liquid', particularly if it relates to a positive cash flow position which can change in the future. Future monies available for treasury management investment will depend on the budget position of the Council and whether the Council needs to substantially run down capital receipts and reserves. Against a backdrop of unprecedented cuts in Government funding which will require the Council to make revenue savings to balance the budget in future years, there is a likelihood that such actions may be required in the medium term, which will reduce the monies available for investment.
- 3.7 The Council has also identified an alternative investment strategy relating to property investment. To date, this has resulted in actual and planned acquisitions which generated a cumulative total of £31.8m between 2016/17 and 2021/22, £4.5m in 22/23 and £6.4m in 2023/24. This is based on a longer-term investment timeframe of at least 3 to 5 years and ensures that the monies available can attract higher yields over the longer term.
- 3.8 A combination of lower risk investment relating to treasury management and a separate investment strategy in the form of property acquisitions (generating higher yields and risks) provides a balanced investment strategy. Any future investment decisions will also need to consider the high likelihood that interest rates will decrease. The available resources for the medium term, given the ongoing reductions in Government funding, will need to be regularly reviewed.

## Treasury performance in the quarter ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

- 3.9 **Borrowing:** The Council's healthy cashflow position continues and, other than some short-term borrowing at the end of 2015/16, no borrowing has been required for a number of years. However, it is highly likely that borrowing will be required for any further capital expenditure not funded by capital receipts or grants unless the financial position of the Council significantly improves in the medium and longer term. This also recognises the limited ability of the Council to increase its reserves compared with previous years. In the context of high interest rates, the timing of any such borrowing will be crucial.
- 3.10 **Investments:** the following table sets out details of investment activity during the fourth quarter and the full financial year:

	Qtr ended 31/03/24		2023/24 full year	
	Deposits £m	Ave Rate %	Deposits £m	Ave Rate %
Balance of "core" investments b/f	220.00	5.76	230.00	2.97
New investments made in period	25.00	5.64	230.00	5.82
Investments redeemed in period	-50.00	5.16	-265.00	3.29
"Core" investments at end of period	195.00	5.90	195.00	5.90
Money Market Funds	18.80	5.26	18.80	5.00
CCLA Property Fund*	40.00	2.44	40.00	1.10
Multi-Asset Income Funds*	40.00	6.44	40.00	4.22
Schroders Diversified Growth Fund	20.00	11.67	20.00	8.33
Project Beckenham Loan	3.08	6.00	3.08	6.00
Sovereign Bonds	10.00	6.61	10.00	6.61
"Alternative" investments at end of period	131.88	5.85	131.88	3.52
<b>Total Investments at end of Period</b>	<b>326.88</b>	<b>5.88</b>	<b>326.88</b>	<b>4.94</b>

\* The rates shown here are the total return (ie. the dividend income plus the change in capital value). A more detailed breakdown of the rates for these investments is shown in the relevant paragraphs

- 3.11 Details of the outstanding investments at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 are shown in maturity date order in Appendix 2 and by individual counterparty in Appendix 3. The return on the new "core" investments placed during the fourth quarter of 2023/24 was 5.90% (5.76% during the third quarter).
- 3.12 Reports to previous meetings have highlighted the fact that options with regards to the reinvestment of maturing deposits have become limited in recent years following bank credit rating downgrades. Changes to lending limits and eligibility criteria, as well as the introduction of pooled funds and housing associations have alleviated this to some extent. Following the succession of increases in the Bank of England base rate to the current rate of 5.25%, counterparty rates were generally in excess of 6% for a one-year deposit during the first half of 2023/24. However, interest rates are expected to start reducing during 2024/25, so one-year rates are around 5% at the time of writing this report.
- 3.13 The chart in Appendix 1 shows total investments at quarter-end dates back to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004 and shows how available funds had increased steadily over the years, peaking in December 2021 and have since started reducing.

## Interest rate forecast (provided by Link Group)

- 3.14 The current Bank of England base rate is 5.25%, following an increase at the September 2023 meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee. The market believes rates will remain at this rate until mid Q2 before decreasing to 4.75%. Link has stated that they expect MPC will keep Bank Rate at 5.25% until the second half of 2024, to combat on-going inflationary and wage pressures, even if they have dampened somewhat of late. They do not think that the MPC will increase Bank Rates above 5.25%.

Link Group Interest Rate View 25.03.24													
	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25	Sep-25	Dec-25	Mar-26	Jun-26	Sep-26	Dec-26	Mar-27
<b>BANK RATE</b>	5.25	5.25	4.75	4.25	3.75	3.25	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
3 month ave earnings	5.30	5.30	4.80	4.30	3.80	3.30	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
6 month ave earnings	5.20	5.10	4.60	4.10	3.70	3.30	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.10
12 month ave earnings	5.00	4.90	4.40	3.90	3.60	3.20	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.10	3.20	3.20
5 yr PWLB	4.50	4.40	4.30	4.20	4.10	4.00	3.80	3.70	3.60	3.60	3.50	3.50	3.50
10 yr PWLB	4.70	4.50	4.40	4.30	4.20	4.10	4.00	3.90	3.80	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.70
25 yr PWLB	5.20	5.10	4.90	4.80	4.60	4.40	4.30	4.20	4.20	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10
50 yr PWLB	5.00	4.90	4.70	4.60	4.40	4.20	4.10	4.00	4.00	3.90	3.90	3.90	3.90

- 3.15 The following table, also provided by Link, is included here for context and shows the scope and timing of the changes in forecast.

Bank Rate	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25	Sep-25	Dec-25	Mar-26	Jun-26	Sep-26	Dec-26	Mar-27
25.03.24	5.25	5.25	4.75	4.25	3.75	3.25	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
08.01.24	5.25	5.25	4.75	4.25	3.75	3.25	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Change	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

## Money Market Funds

- 3.18 The Council currently has five AAA rated Money Market Fund accounts, with Federated Prime Rate, Aberdeen Standard (formerly known as Ignis), Insight, Fidelity and Legal & General, all of which have a maximum investment limit of £15m. The LGIM, Aberdeen Standard and Federated Funds currently offer the best rate at around 5.3%.
- 3.19 The total balance held in Money Market Funds has varied during the year to date moving from £0m as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 to £36.1m as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023, £37.0m as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 and down to £18.8m as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. The Money Market Funds usually offer the lowest interest of all eligible investment vehicles with the exception of the Government Debt Management Account Deposit Facility. However, they are the most liquid, with funds able to be redeemed up until midday for same-day settlement.
- 3.20 Daily balances in the Money Market Funds vary considerably and balances tend to be managed higher during February and March to provide a cashflow buffer when the Council's income from Council Tax and Business Rates is significantly lower than the rest of the year. Occasionally, these balances are inflated to ensure that the Council has sufficient liquidity to cover any 'non-standard' expenditure such as significant capital expenditure.

## Housing Associations

- 3.21 Deposits have previously been made with Housing Associations where they had attracted favourable rates. However at the time of drafting this report, the Council holds no investments in Housing Associations as the rates offered have been less competitive than other fixed term deposit opportunities.

## Loan to Project Beckenham

- 3.22 On 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017, Council approved the inclusion in the strategy of a secured loan to Project Beckenham, relating to the provision of temporary accommodation for the homeless, that had

previously been agreed to be advanced from the Investment Fund. A loan of £2.3m was made in June 2017, at a rate of 6% (increasing to 7.5% if the loan to value ratio exceeds a specified value). £1.0m of this loan was re-paid during 2019/20, leaving a balance of £1.3m as at the end of March 2020. Advances totalling £2.45m were made in 2020/21 and 2021/22 leaving a balance of £3.75m. A further five loan advances totalling £1.2m were made in 2022/23 and repayments of £960k were received in November and December leaving the balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 at £4.0m. In May, September and November 2023, repayments totalling £0.91m were made, leaving the balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 at £3.08m.

### Sovereign bonds

- 3.23 During November 2021, it was agreed that the Council’s treasury management strategy be amended to allow investment in sterling-denominated sovereign bonds, subject to a maximum of duration of 3 years and an exposure limit of £25m. On 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021, an investment of £10m was made for two years at a rate of 1.84% and a further investment of £10m was invested on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023 for two years at a rate of 6.61%.

### Pooled investment schemes

- 3.24 In September 2013, the Portfolio Holder and, subsequently, Council approved the inclusion of collective (pooled) investment schemes as eligible investment vehicles in the Council’s Investment Strategy with an overall limit of £25m and a maximum duration of 5 years. The limit was subsequently increased to £40m by Council in October 2015, £80m in June 2017 and £100m in December 2017. Such investments would require the approval of the Director of Finance in consultation with the Resources Portfolio Holder.
- 3.25 Until March 2018, accounting rules required that the change in capital value of these investments be held in the Available for Sale Financial Assets Reserve, and only recognised in revenue on the sale of the investment. In year projections for interest on balances therefore only reflected the dividends from these investments.
- 3.26 However, from 2018/19 onwards, local authorities have been required to account for financial instruments in accordance with IFRS9. One of the results of this is that changes in the capital value of pooled fund investments are recognised in revenue in-year. Subsequently, MHCLG issued regulations providing a statutory override to reverse the impact of IFRS9 on the Council’s General Fund, which came into force in December 2018 and would apply until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, after which it was intended for movements in value to be recognised in year. Following consultation, DLUHC announced in January that the override would be extended for a further 2 years to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025, after which the standard will be applied fully.
- 3.27 Due to the regulations being time limited and the potentially volatile nature of these investments, interest/dividend earnings above a determined threshold have been set aside in an earmarked Income Equalisation reserve. This will protect the Council against unexpected variations in the capital value of these investments and any timing issues arising from the expiry of the statutory override. Details are shown in the following table:

<b>FY</b>	<b>Threshold %</b>	<b>Bal bfwd £'000</b>	<b>Set aside £'000</b>	<b>Bal cfwd £'000</b>
2017/18	2.5	0	1,085	1,085
2018/19	2.5	1,085	1,509	2,594
2019/20	2.5	2,594	1,196	3,790
2020/21	2.0	3,790	1,520	5,310
2021/22	2.0	5,310	1,676	6,986
2022/23	2.0	6,986	2,044	9,030



2023/24	2.0	9,030	4,211	13,241
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### CCLA Property Fund

3.28 Following consultation between the Director of Finance and the Resources Portfolio Holder, an account was opened in January 2014 with the CCLA Local Authorities' Property Fund and an initial deposit of £5m was made, followed by further deposits of £5m in July 2014, £5m in March 2015, £10m in October 2015, £5m in October 2016 and £10m in October 2017. The investment in the CCLA Fund is viewed as a medium to long-term investment and dividends are paid quarterly. A breakdown of dividends earned and capital growth is provided in the table below.

Annualised net return	Dividend %	Capital gain/(loss) %	Total Return %
01/02/14- 31/03/14	4.29	-29.64	-25.35
01/04/14 - 31/03/15	5.03	3.44	8.47
01/04/15 - 31/03/16	5.02	1.63	6.65
01/04/16 - 31/03/17	4.55	-2.50	2.05
01/04/17 - 31/03/18	4.58	2.41	6.99
01/04/18 - 31/03/19	4.46	1.57	6.03
01/04/19 - 31/03/20	4.45	-3.68	0.77
01/04/20 - 31/03/21	4.30	-0.71	3.60
01/04/21 - 31/03/22	3.82	17.29	21.12
01/04/22 - 31/03/23	4.19	-19.09	-14.90
01/04/23 - 31/03/24	4.86	-3.76	1.10
Cumulative return	4.45	-0.85	3.59

3.29 The annualised fund return for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 was capital decline of -3.76% and dividends paid of 4.86%, resulting in a total return of 1.10%. Since inception, dividends paid have averaged 4.45% per annum and the capital value has decreased by -0.85% per annum resulting in a net annual return of 3.59%.

### Multi-Asset Income Fund

3.30 Following approval by Council in June 2017, the limit for pooled investment schemes was increased to £80m and an investment of £30m was made on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2017 in the Fidelity Multi-Asset Income Fund, following the agreement of the Resources, Commissioning and Contracts Management Portfolio Holder. A subsequent investment of £10m was made on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

Annualised net return	Dividend %	Capital Gain/(Loss) %	Total Return %
12/07/17 - 31/03/18	4.24	-6.02	-1.78
01/04/18 - 31/03/19	4.26	1.38	5.64
01/04/19 - 31/03/20	4.37	-11.81	-7.44
01/04/20 - 31/03/21	4.38	9.52	13.9
01/04/21 - 31/03/22	4.16	-4.98	-0.82
01/04/22 - 31/03/23	4.17	-12.08	-7.92

01/04/23 - 31/03/24	4.88	-0.66	4.22
Cumulative Return	4.36	-3.32	1.04

3.31 The annualised fund return for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 was a capital decline of -0.66% and dividends paid of 4.88%, resulting in a total return of 4.22%. Since inception, dividends paid have averaged 4.36% per annum and the capital value has declined by -3.32% per annum resulting in a net annual return of 1.04%.

### **Global Diversified Income Fund**

3.32 During 2020/21 a new investment was made in the Global Diversified Income Fund managed by Schroders. The aim of this fund is to provide long-term capital growth and income of 3-5% per annum. An initial investment of £10m was made in March 2021, followed by a further £10m in April 2021. A breakdown of dividends earned and capital growth is provided in the table.

Annualised net return	Dividend %	Capital gain/(loss) %	Total Return %
01/03/21 - 31/03/21	2.45	2.43	4.88
01/04/21 - 31/03/22	2.96	-3.15	-0.19
01/04/22 - 31/03/23	3.50	-8.38	-4.88
01/04/23 - 31/03/24	4.04	4.29	8.33
Cumulative return	3.49	-2.34	1.15

3.33 The annualised fund return for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 was a capital increase of 4.29% and dividends paid of 4.04%, resulting in a total return of 8.33%. Since inception, dividends paid have averaged 3.49% per annum and the capital value has declined by -2.34% per annum resulting in a net annual return of 1.15%.

### **Property acquisition scheme (Meadowship Homes)**

3.34 As agreed by the Executive in 2021, the Council has entered into a joint venture with Orchard & Shipman (since acquired by Pinnacle) for a property acquisition scheme. This involved the formation of an LLP between the Council and Orchard & Shipman. As part of this scheme, the Council will make a £20m loan (in tranches) for 50 years. Annual repayments will start from year 3 of 1.6% (£320k) per annum and increasing annually by CPI (collared at 0-4%). As the Effective Interest Rate on the loan is dependent on CPI, it is possible that this will be lower than the rate the Council might achieve through treasury management investments, so there may be a net loss of interest income. Phase 2 of the scheme was approved in July 2022, involving a further loan of £15m on similar repayment terms to the initial scheme. The loans themselves are not counted as treasury management in accordance with the Capital Financing Regulations.

### **Actual prudential indicators for 2023/24**

3.35 The old capital control system was replaced in April 2004 by a prudential system based largely on self-regulation by local authorities themselves. At the heart of the system is The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities, developed by CIPFA. The Code requires the Council to set a number of prudential indicators designed to monitor and control capital expenditure, financing and borrowing. The indicators for 2023/24 were approved by the Executive and the Council in February 2023. Appendix 4 sets out the actual performance in 2023/24 against those indicators.

### **Economic background during 2023/24 (provided by Link Asset Services)**

3.36 Further information on the economic background is included as Appendix 5.

### **Revised Treasury Management and Prudential Codes**

3.37 During December 2021 CIPFA published a revised Prudential Code (Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities) and Treasury Management Code (Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes). The requirements of the revised Codes, to the extent to which they apply to the Council, have been incorporated into the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy as approved by Council in February 2023.

### **Regulatory framework, risk and performance**

3.38 The Council's treasury management activities are regulated by a variety of professional codes, statutes and guidance:

- The Local Government Act 2003 ('the Act') which provides the powers to borrow and invest as well as providing controls and limits on this activity
- The Act permits the Secretary of State to set limits either on the Council or nationally on all local authorities restricting the amount of borrowing that may be undertaken (although no restrictions have been made to date)
- Statutory Instrument (SI) 3146 2003, as amended, develops the controls and powers within the Act
- The SI requires the Council to undertake any borrowing activity with regard to the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities
- The SI also requires the Council to operate the overall treasury function with regard to the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services
- Under the Act, DLUHC has issued Investment Guidance to structure and regulate the Council's investment activities
- Under section 238(2) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the Secretary of State has taken powers to issue guidance on accounting practices. Guidance on Minimum Revenue Provision was issued under this section on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2007.

3.39 The Council has complied with all of the above relevant statutory and regulatory requirements, which limit the levels of risk associated with its treasury management activities. In particular, its adoption and implementation of both the Prudential Code and the Code of Practice for Treasury Management means that its capital expenditure is prudent, affordable and sustainable and its treasury practices demonstrate a low-risk approach.

## **4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 In line with government guidance, the Council's policy is to seek to achieve the highest rate of return on investments whilst maintaining appropriate levels of risk, particularly security and liquidity.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The Council is required to operate a balanced budget, which broadly means that cash raised during the year will meet cash expenditure. Part of the treasury management operation is to ensure that this cash flow is adequately planned, with cash being available when it is needed.

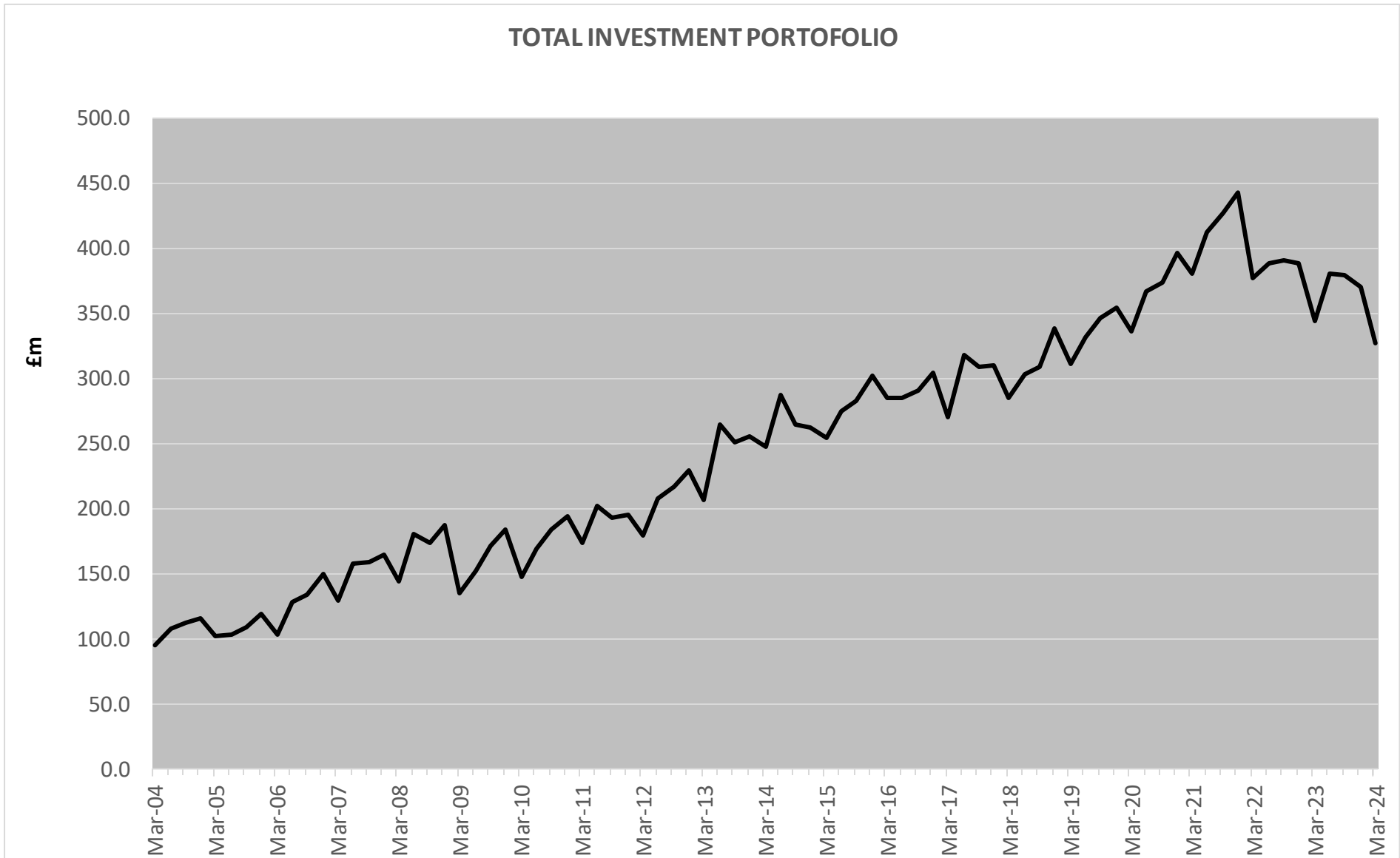
Surplus monies are invested in low-risk counterparties or instruments commensurate with the Council’s low risk appetite, providing adequate liquidity initially before considering investment return.

- 5.2 The provisional outturn for net interest on investments in 2023/24 was £14.7m compared to the budget of £9.8m, due to the continued high Bank of England base rate and high level of balances available for investment resulting in higher level of interest earned on the fixed deposits, money market funds and pooled funds.
- 5.3 The budget for 2023/24 has been set at £12.03m. This reflects an expected reduction in balances available for investment as a result of the utilisation of capital receipts and grants/contributions as well as earmarked revenue reserves. The Bank of England base rate is currently at 5.25% and it is expected to decrease in 2024/25 which will in turn reduce counterparty rates. There is some uncertainty as to how much the rates will reduce meaning we cannot be fully certain on the amount of investment return that will be achieved on the entire portfolio.
- 5.4 The second main function of the treasury management service is the funding of the Council’s capital plans. These capital plans provide a guide to the borrowing need of the Council. Although the Council does not currently borrow to finance its general fund capital spending plans, officers still plan and forecast the longer-term cash flow position in order to ensure that the Council can meet its capital spending obligations and that it maintains balances (working capital) at a prudent and sustainable level.
- 5.5 The Council’s Treasury Management Strategy and day-to-day operations of the treasury function are informed by our professional adviser, Link Group. It advises the Council on counterparties, investment and borrowing options, and risk management.

## 6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Section 151 Officer has statutory duties in relation to the financial administration and stewardship of the authority, including securing effective arrangements for treasury management.
- 6.2 This report fulfils the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy’s Treasury Management and Prudential Codes of Practice and Statutory Guidance on Local Government Investments.

<b>Non-applicable sections:</b>	Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children, Personnel, Legal and Procurement Implications
<b>Background documents: (access via Contact Officer)</b>	CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management 2021 CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities 2021 DLUHC Guidance on Investments External advice from Link Group



Counterparty	Start Date	Maturity Date	Rate of Interest %	Amount £m
<b>FIXED DEPOSITS</b>				
CLOSE BROTHERS	20/04/2023	19/04/2024	5.00000	10.0
GOLDMAN SACHS INTERNATIONAL BANKS	21/04/2023	19/04/2024	4.93000	10.0
NATIONAL BANK OF KUWAIT (INTERNATIONAL) - LONDON	24/05/2023	22/05/2024	5.31000	5.0
NATIONAL BANK OF KUWAIT (INTERNATIONAL) - LONDON	14/07/2023	12/07/2024	6.65000	10.0
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK	19/07/2023	18/07/2024	6.19000	10.0
LANDESBANK HESSEN-THUERINGEN GIROZENTRALE (HELABA)	21/07/2023	19/07/2024	6.20000	15.0
AL RAYAN BANK	26/07/2023	24/07/2024	6.05000	10.0
FIRST ABU DHABI BANK PJSC	27/07/2023	26/07/2024	6.28000	15.0
QATAR NATIONAL BANK SAQ	28/07/2023	26/07/2024	6.37000	5.0
PRINCIPALITY BUILDING SOCIETY- CARDIFF	28/07/2023	26/07/2024	5.95000	10.0
EAST HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL	02/02/2024	02/08/2024	5.70000	5.0
CLOSE BROTHERS	16/08/2023	15/08/2024	6.20000	10.0
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK	24/08/2023	22/08/2024	6.07000	10.0
SANTANDER	24/08/2023	27/08/2024	6.10000	10.0
EAST HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL	29/02/2024	30/08/2024	5.70000	5.0
CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	04/12/2023	04/09/2024	5.65000	10.0
CLOSE BROTHERS	27/10/2023	25/10/2024	5.75000	10.0
AL RAYAN BANK	30/10/2023	30/10/2024	5.90000	10.0
QATAR NATIONAL BANK SAQ	01/12/2023	29/11/2024	5.90000	10.0
ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL	13/02/2024	11/02/2025	5.50000	10.0
DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL	19/02/2024	19/02/2025	5.80000	5.0
<b>TOTAL FIXED INVESTMENTS</b>				<b>195.0</b>
<b>OTHER FUNDS</b>				
FIDELITY MONEY MARKET FUND				0.0
ABERDEEN -STANDARD LIFE (IGNIS) LIQUIDITY FUND				0.0
INSIGHT STERLING LIQUIDITY FUND				0.0
LGIM STERLING LIQUIDITY FUND				13.8
FEDERATED (Hermes) STERLING LIQUIDITY FUND				5.0
CCLA LOCAL AUTHORITY PROPERTY FUND	30/01/2014			40.0
SCHRODERS	12/07/2017			20.0
FIDELITY MULTI-ASSET INCOME FUND	01/03/2021			40.0
SPRING CAPITAL LOAN	09/06/2017			3.1
SOVEREIGN BONDS	01/08/2023	01/08/2025	6.61000	10.0
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS</b>				<b>326.9</b>

Fitch		Moody's		S&P		Fitch		Moody's		S&P	
Long Term	Short Term	Long Term	Short Term	Long Term	Short Term	Long Term	Short Term	Long Term	Short Term	Long Term	Short Term
<b>Ratings at time of Investment</b>						<b>Ratings as at March 2024</b>					
A-	F2	Aa3	P-1								
A+	F1	A1	P-1	A+	A-1	A+	F1	A1	P-1	A+	A-1
A+	F1			A	A-1	A+	F1			A	A-1
A+	F1	A1	P-1	A+	A-1	A+	F1	A1	P-1	A+	A-1
A+	F1+	Aa3	P-1			A+	F1+	Aa2	P-1		
		A1	P-1					A1	P-1		
AA-	F1+	Aa3	P-1	AA-	A-1+	AA-	F1+	Aa3	P-1	AA-	A-1+
A	F1	Aa3	P-1	A+	A-1	A	F1	Aa3	P-1	A+	A-1
BBB+	F2	Baa1	P-2			BBB+	F2	Baa1	P-2		
<b>N/A</b>						<b>N/A</b>					
A-	F2	Aa3	P-1								
A+	F1	A1	P-1	A+	A-1	A+	F1	A1	P-1	A+	A-1
A+	F1	A1	P-1	A	A-1	A+	F1	A1	P-1	A	A-1
<b>N/A</b>						<b>N/A</b>					
<b>N/A</b>						<b>N/A</b>					
A-	F2	Aa3	P-1					A1	P-1		
		A1	P-1								
A	F1	Aa3	P-1	A+	A-1	A	F1	Aa3	P-1	A+	A-1
<b>N/A</b>						<b>N/A</b>					
<b>N/A</b>						<b>N/A</b>					

\*Close Brothers ratings have been downgraded as at February 2024 and therefore removed from Link Group credit rating list.

## INVESTMENTS HELD AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Start Date	Maturity Date	Rate of Interest %	Amount £m	Total £m	Limit £m	Remaining £m
<b>UK BANKS</b>							
NATWEST BANK PLC	19/07/2023	18/07/2024	6.19000	10			
NATWEST BANK PLC	24/08/2023	22/08/2024	6.07000	10	20	80	60
SANTANDER PLC UK	24/08/2023	27/08/2024	6.10000	10	10	20	10
CLOSE BROTHERS LTD	20/04/2023	19/04/2024	5.00000	10			
CLOSE BROTHERS LTD	16/08/2023	15/08/2024	6.20000	10			
CLOSE BROTHERS LTD	27/10/2023	25/10/2024	5.75000	10	30	30	0
GOLDMAN SACHS INTERNATIONAL BANK	21/04/2023	19/04/2024	4.93000	10	10	20	10
AL RAYAN BANK PLC - LONDON	26/07/2023	24/07/2024	6.05000	10			
AL RAYAN BANK PLC - LONDON	30/10/2023	30/10/2024	5.90000	10	20	20	0
NATIONAL BANK OF KUWAIT (INTERNATIONAL) - LONDON	24/05/2023	22/05/2024	5.31000	5			
NATIONAL BANK OF KUWAIT (INTERNATIONAL) - LONDON	14/07/2023	12/07/2024	6.65000	10	15	20	5
<b>UK BUILDING SOCIETIES</b>							
PRINCIPALITY BUILDING SOCIETY	28/07/2023	26/07/2024	5.95000	10	10	10	0
<b>OVERSEAS BANKS</b>							
QATAR NATIONAL BANK	28/07/2023	26/07/2024	6.37000	5			
QATAR NATIONAL BANK	01/12/2023	29/11/2024	5.90000	10	15	15	0
FIRST ABU DHABI	21/07/2023	19/07/2024	6.20000	15	15	15	0
LANDESBANK HESSEN-THUERINGEN GIROZENTRALE (HELABA)	21/07/2023	19/07/2024	6.20000	15	15	15	0
<b>LOCAL AUTHORITIES</b>							
ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL	13/02/2024	11/02/2025	5.50000	10	10	15	5
CAMBRIDESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	04/12/2023	04/09/2024	5.65000	10	10	15	5
EAST HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL	02/02/2024	02/08/2024	5.70000	5			
EAST HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL	29/02/2024	30/08/2024	5.70000	5	10	15	5
DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL	19/02/2024	19/02/2025	5.80000	5	5	15	10
<b>OTHER INVESTMENTS</b>							
LGIM STERLING LIQUIDITY FUND				13.8	13.8	15	1.2
FEDERATED (PRIME RATE) STERLING LIQUIDITY FUND				5.0	5.0	15	10.0
CCLA LOCAL AUTHORITY PROPERTY FUND	30/01/2014			40	40		
FIDELITY - MULTI ASSET INCOME FUND	12/07/2017			40	40		
SCHROEDERS	01/03/2021			20	20		
SPRING CAPITAL LOAN	09/06/2017		6.00000	3.1	3.1		
SOVEREIGN BONDS	01/08/2023	01/08/2025	6.61000	10	10		
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS</b>				<b>326.9</b>	<b>326.9</b>		

### Prudential and treasury indicators 2023/24

Prudential and Treasury Indicators are relevant for the purposes of setting an integrated treasury management strategy and require the approval of the Council. The table below shows the actual performance in relation to the indicators in 2023/24 and compares the outturn in 2023/24 with the original estimates approved in February 2023. Further details on capital expenditure outturn will be reported to the Executive in July 2024.

The Council is also required to indicate if it has adopted the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management. The Code (published in 2009 and updated in 2011, 2017 and then again in 2021) was adopted by full Council on 15 February 2010.

<b>Prudential indicators</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2023/24</b>
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Total capital expenditure	£21.0m	£59.8m	£50.2m
Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<i><u>Net borrowing requirement (for Bromley, net investments)</u></i>			
Brought forward as at 1 April	£346.7m	£358.8m	£314.1m
Carried forward as at 31 March	£314.1m	£353.9m	£297.9m
<b>In-year borrowing requirement (for Bromley, movement in net investments)</b>	<b>- £32.6m</b>	<b>- £4.9m</b>	<b>- £16.2m</b>
Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) as at 31 March	£29.9m	£27.8m	£29.0m
	<b>£ p</b>	<b>£ p</b>	<b>£ p</b>
Incremental impact of capital investment decisions - increase in council tax (Band D) per annum	-	-	-

<b>Treasury management indicators</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2023/24</b>
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<i><u>Authorised limit for external debt</u></i>			
Borrowing	£30.0m	£30.0m	£30.0m
Other long-term liabilities	£30.0m	£30.0m	£30.0m
<b>Total</b>	<b>£60.0m</b>	<b>£60.0m</b>	<b>£60.0m</b>
<i><u>Operational boundary for external debt</u></i>			
Borrowing	£10.0m	£10.0m	£10.0m
Other long-term liabilities	£30.0m	£30.0m	£30.0m
<b>Total</b>	<b>£40.0m</b>	<b>£40.0m</b>	<b>£40.0m</b>
Actual external debt	£29.9m	£27.8m	£29.0m
Upper limit for fixed rate interest exposure	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Upper limit for variable rate interest exposure	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
Upper limit for total principal sums invested for more than 364 days beyond year-end dates	£170.0m	£170.0m	£170.0m



## UK Economy

Against a backdrop of stubborn inflationary pressures, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and war in the Middle East, UK interest rates have continued to be volatile right across the curve, from Bank Rate through to 50-year gilt yields, for all of 2023/24.

Markets have sought an end to central banks' on-going phase of keeping restrictive monetary policy in place on at least one occasion during 2023/24 but to date only the Swiss National Bank has cut rates and that was at the end of March 2024.

UK, EZ and US 10-year yields have all stayed stubbornly high throughout 2023/24. The table below provides a snapshot of the conundrum facing central banks: inflation is easing, albeit gradually, but labour markets remain very tight by historical comparisons, making it an issue of fine judgment as to when rates can be cut.

	UK	Eurozone	US
<b>Bank Rate</b>	5.25%	4%	5.25%-5.5%
<b>GDP</b>	-0.3%q/q Q4 (-0.2%y/y)	+0.0%q/q Q4 (0.1%y/y)	2.0% Q1 Annualised
<b>Inflation</b>	3.4%y/y (Feb)	2.4%y/y (Mar)	3.2%y/y (Feb)
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	3.9% (Jan)	6.4% (Feb)	3.9% (Feb)

The Bank of England sprung no surprises in their March meeting, leaving interest rates at 5.25% for the fifth time in a row and, despite no MPC members no longer voting to raise interest rates, it retained its relatively hawkish guidance. The Bank's communications suggest the MPC is gaining confidence that inflation will fall sustainably back to the 2.0% target. However, although the MPC noted that "the restrictive stance of monetary policy is weighing on activity in the real economy, is leading to a looser labour market and is bearing down on inflationary pressures", conversely it noted that key indicators of inflation persistence remain elevated and policy will be "restrictive for sufficiently long" and "restrictive for an extended period".

Of course, the UK economy has started to perform a little better in Q1 2024 but is still recovering from a shallow recession through the second half of 2023. Indeed, Q4 2023 saw negative GDP growth of -0.3% while y/y growth was also negative at -0.2%.

But it was a strange recession. Unemployment is currently sub 4%, against a backdrop of still over 900k of job vacancies, and annual wage inflation is running at above 5%. With gas and electricity price caps falling in April 2024, the CPI measure of inflation - which peaked at 11.1% in October 2022 - is now due to slide below the 2% target rate in April and to remain below that Bank of England benchmark for the next couple of years, according to Capital Economics. The Bank of England still needs some convincing on that score, but upcoming inflation and employment releases will settle that argument shortly. It is noted that core CPI was still a heady 4.5% in February and, ideally, needs to fall further.

Shoppers largely shrugged off the unusually wet weather in February, whilst rising real household incomes should support retail activity throughout 2024. Furthermore, the impact of higher interest rates on household interest payments is getting close to its peak, even though fixed rate mortgage rates on new loans have shifted up a little since falling close to 4.5% in early 2024.

From a fiscal perspective, the further cuts to national insurance tax (from April) announced in the March Budget will boost real household disposable income by 0.5 - 1.0%. After real household disposable income rose by 1.9% in 2023, Capital Economics forecast it will rise by 1.7% in 2024 and by 2.4% in 2025. These rises in real household disposable income, combined with the earlier fading of the drag from previous rises in interest rates, means GDP growth of 0.5% is envisaged in 2024 and 1.5% in

2025. The Bank of England is less optimistic than that, seeing growth struggling to get near 1% over the next two to three years.

As for equity markets, the FTSE 100 has risen to nearly 8,000 and is now only 1% below the all-time high it reached in February 2023. The modest rise in UK equities in February was driven by strong performances in the cyclical industrials and consumer discretionary sectors, whilst communications and basic materials have fared poorly.

Despite its performance, the FTSE 100 is still lagging behind the S&P 500, which has been at an all-time high for several weeks.

### **USA Economy.**

Despite the markets willing the FOMC to cut rates as soon as June 2024, the continued resilience of the economy, married to sticky inflation, is providing a significant headwind to a change in monetary policy. Markets currently anticipate three rate cuts this calendar year, but two or less would not be out of the question. Currently, policy remains flexible but primarily data driven.

In addition, the Fed will want to shrink its swollen \$16 trillion balance sheet at some point. Just because the \$ is the world's foremost reserve currency (China owns over \$1 trillion) does not mean the US can continually run a budget deficit. The mix of stubborn inflation and significant treasury issuance is keeping treasury yields high. The 10 year stands at 4.4%.

As for inflation, it is currently a little above 3%. The market is not expecting a recession, but whether rates staying high for longer is conducive to a soft landing for the economy is uncertain, hence why the consensus is for rate cuts this year and into 2025...but how many and when?

### **EZ Economy.**

Although the Euro-zone inflation rate has fallen to 2.4%, the ECB will still be mindful that it has further work to do to dampen inflation expectations. However, with growth steadfastly in the slow lane (GDP flatlined in 2023), a June rate cut from the current 4% looks probable.

Report No.  
CSD24055

## London Borough of Bromley

### PART ONE - PUBLIC

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**Decision Maker:** COUNCIL

**Date:** Monday 15 July 2024

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

**Title:** PROVISION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN WEST WICKHAM

**Contact Officer:** Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager  
Tel: 0208 461 7743 E-mail: graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk

**Chief Officer:** Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

**Ward:** West Wickham

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1. Reason for decision/report and options

- 1.1 At its meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024, the Executive considered the attached report and approved the recommendations. The report had previously been scrutinised by Renewal, Recreation and Housing PDS Committee on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The report recommends that the West Wickham Housing Scheme is developed and funded as a fully socially rented housing scheme. This amends the previously agreed scheme, which was a mix of affordable and private, approved in February 2023.
- 

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

**Council is requested to approve the Capital Investment for the delivery of 26 new homes, on the basis that all homes will be held for affordable housing, on the assumption the increase of GLA grant is approved. (Noting this requires £4,717k of external borrowing for the Council as detailed in section 6 of the report. If the revised GLA grant is not received, the scheme will remain as was previously agreed.)**

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: Vulnerable children and adults will be supported through the provision of an improved library and the provision of affordable housing

Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy:
2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority:
  - (3) For people to make their homes in Bromley and for business, enterprise and the third sector to prosper.

Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost: £13,600k approved capital budget
2. Ongoing costs: Net savings of £31k per annum
3. Budget head/performance centre: West Wickham capital budget
4. Total current budget for this head: £13,600k
5. Source of funding: GLA grant, Section 106 contributions, long-term external borrowing, capital receipts, earmarked reserves, revenue contribution and UKSPF funding allocation.

Personnel

1. Number of staff (*current and additional*): 1
2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None
2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Council decisions are not subject to call-in

Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable

Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: See attached report

Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: Not Applicable

Impact on the Local Economy

1. Summary of Local Economy Implications: Not Applicable

Impact on Health and Wellbeing

1. Summary of Health and Wellbeing Implications: Not Applicable

Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (*current and projected*): Not Applicable

Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Yes
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Two of the ward Councilors confirmed they were happy with the conversion of the development to fully affordable given the need for more affordable homes.

<b>Non-Applicable Headings:</b>	Vulnerable adults and Children/Policy/Finance/Personnel/ Legal/Procurement/Property/Carbon Reduction/ Local Economy/Health & Wellbeing/Customers/Ward Councillors
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	See attached report

**Decision Maker:** EXECUTIVE AND FULL COUNCIL

For pre-decision scrutiny by the Renewal, Recreation and  
Housing Committee on 14 March 2024

**Date**  
Executive: 27 March 2024  
Full Council: 8 July 2024

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

**Title:** PROVISION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN WEST WICKHAM

**Contact Officer:** Alicia Egan, Head of Regeneration  
Tel: 020 8313 4559 E-mail: Alicia.Egan@bromley.gov.uk

**Chief Officer:** Director of Housing, Planning, Property and Regeneration

**Ward:** West Wickham

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1. Reason for decision/report and options

- 1.1 This report is recommending to the Executive that the West Wickham Housing Scheme is developed and funded as a fully socially rented housing scheme, note that this amends the previously agreed scheme, which was a mix of affordable and private, approved in February 2023 (report no. HPR 2023/009)
- 

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

2.1 **That the Members of the RRH PDS: -**

- 1) **Note the contents of this report and make any comments available to the Executive.**

2.2 **That the Members of the Executive and Full Council: -**

- 1) **Approve the Capital Investment for the delivery of 26 new homes, on the basis that all homes will be held for affordable housing, on the assumption the increase of GLA grant is approved. Noting this requires £4,717k of external borrowing for the Council (as detailed in section 6 of this report). If the revised GLA grant is not received, the scheme will remain as was previously agreed;**
- 2) **Approve an additional revenue contribution of £244k to part-finance the capital costs of the Library element of scheme, as detailed in section 6 of this report. Provision for this sum will be identified in central contingency as part of the 2023/24 revenue budget outturn (see also Q3 2023/24 Revenue budget monitoring report on agenda for this meeting of Executive);**

- 3) Approve required changes to be submitted via a planning variation; and,
- 4) Accept any additional grants in relation to this scheme.

## Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: If this scheme is delivered, vulnerable children and adults will be supported through the provision of an improved library and the provision of affordable housing that is suitable for individuals and families.
- 

## Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy:
  2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority:
    - (1) For children and young People to grow up, thrive and have the best life chances in families who flourish and are happy to call Bromley home.
    - (2) For adults and older people to enjoy fulfilled and successful lives in Bromley, ageing well, retaining independence and making choices.
    - (3) For people to make their homes in Bromley and for business, enterprise and the third sector to prosper.
- 

## Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost: £13,600k approved capital programme budget
  2. Ongoing costs: Net savings of £31k per annum
  3. Budget head/performance centre: West Wickham capital budget
  4. Total current budget for this head:£13,600k
  5. Source of funding: GLA grant, Section 106 contributions, long-term external borrowing, capital receipts, earmarked reserves, revenue contribution and UKSPF funding allocation.
- 

## Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 1
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: n/a
- 

## Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non statutory Requirement.
  2. Call-in: Applicable.
- 

## Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: N/A
- 

## Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: See para 9
- 

## Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: N/A
-

### Customer Impact

1. More affordable homes in Bromley at affordable rent level. Affordable rent is set at the lowest rent level available.
- 

### Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Yes
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Two of the ward Councilors confirmed they were happy with the conversion of the development to fully affordable given the need for more affordable homes.



### **3. COMMENTARY**

- 3.1. Following an options appraisal presented to Members in November 2021 (report no HPR 2021/059) the Council approved the provision of 26 new homes to be built in an underutilised car park in West Wickham to the rear of the library, 14 of which were to be for affordable housing. Following planning permission being sought and granted in April 2022, and a tender for the works contract, an updated report in February 2023, approved funding of £9,641k to the Capital programme for the development of the housing and the library in West Wickham. This approval included a GLA grant of £148k per affordable home. The total capital financing required by the Council was based on 12 of the 26 residential units being sold privately, which were deigned to yield circa £4m towards the costs of the development. Given the ongoing and increasing housing pressures, combined with the rising costs of temporary accommodation to the Council, officers have reviewed this position, and this report sets out proposals to retain the 12 housing units originally to be sold for much needed affordable housing.
- 3.2. Construction on the site commenced in March 2023 and the 26 homes are now being built. There have been some delays on the works; firstly, TFL works that delayed access, a substation requirement as well as additional surveys for the road adoption. Following these delays the homes are now due for completion in January 2025, with handover to the housing team for tenanting by February 2025.
- 3.3. In the time since the scheme was originally approved, housing pressures have increased; combined with the increased costs of temporary accommodation, and like many Councils across the country the shortage of housing is having significant budgetary pressures for the Authority. Therefore, the savings that can be made from retaining the 12 residential homes for affordable housing, is now more favourable than the £4m originally being sought from the private market sales.
- 3.4. Temporary accommodation costs have increased to nearly £10k per annum per household. Given that this scheme is on site, with contracts already in place, there is a considerably lower risk of further costs inflation, and so the opportunity to maximise the savings of TA costs can be realised quickly. It should also be noted that in the current climate the previously estimated private sales may be at risk of now being fully realised. This is set out in more detail in section 6.

### **4. IMPACT ON VULNERABLE ADULTS AND CHILDREN**

- 4.1. Delivery of the scheme supports vulnerable children and adults through the provision of increased affordable housing that is suitable for individuals and families.

### **5. TRANSFORMATION/POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1. The project contributes to the Corporate Strategy to Make Bromley Even Better. It will meet the following objectives:
- For children and young People to grow up, thrive and have the best life chances in families who flourish and are happy to call Bromley home.
  - For adults and older people to enjoy fulfilled and successful lives in Bromley, ageing well, retaining independence and making choices.
  - For people to make their homes in Bromley and for business, enterprise and the third sector to prosper.
  - To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.
- 5.2. The housing element of the project will contribute to the Council and borough housing targets as set out in the Housing Strategy and the new London Plan.

5.3. The project will contribute to delivery of the Regeneration Strategy.

## 6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 This report is recommending to the Executive that the West Wickham scheme is now a fully socially rented housing scheme, with no private sale units. This amends aspects of the scheme previously approved by Executive in February 2023 (report no. HPR 2023/009). The revised scheme will now comprise 26 social housing units, compared to the previous assumption of there being 14 social units and 12 units delivered for private sale.

6.2 The changes to the Financing of the scheme are set out in the table below:

	Report to Exec Feb 2023 (HPR2023/009)				Revised March 2024			
	Library	Private Sale	Social Hsg	Total	Library	Private Sale	Social Hsg	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Total cost</b>	<b>4,813</b>	<b>4,042</b>	<b>4,745</b>	<b>13,600</b>	<b>3,927</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,673</b>	<b>13,600</b>
<b>Financed by</b>	-				-			
GLA grant			1,960	1,960			4,600	4,600
S106			356	356			356	356
External Borrowing			2,429	2,429			4,717	4,717
UKSPF grant	1,226			1,226	1,226			1,226
Private sale receipts	1,130	4,042		5,172	0	0		0
Capital receipts	1,386			1,386	1,386			1,386
Earmarked reserves	1,071			1,071	1,071			1,071
Additional capital contribution (Library)	0			0	244			244
	<b>4,813</b>	<b>4,042</b>	<b>4,745</b>	<b>13,600</b>	<b>3,927</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,673</b>	<b>13,600</b>

6.3 The total cost remains at £13,600k, however the cost of delivering the Library element of the scheme is now expected to be £886k less than estimated in February 2023, with a corresponding increase to the Housing element of the scheme.

6.4 There will now be no financing through private sale income, which was previously forecast to deliver £5,172k of capital receipts. The increased funding requirement is being met by total GLA grant of £4,600k (an increase of £2,640k), External Borrowing of £4,717k (an increase of £2,288k), and an additional capital contribution of £244k towards the Library. The additional capital contribution of £244k will be provided for from central contingency as part of the 2023/24 revenue budget outturn (see also Q3 23/24 Revenue Budget monitoring report on the agenda for 27 March 2024 meeting of Executive).

6.5 The indicative financial appraisal of the revised scheme to deliver 20 x 1 bed and 6 x 3 bed affordable units is set out below:

	£'000
<b>Total cost</b>	<b>9,673</b>
Financed by:	
GLA grant	-4,600
S106	-356
<b>Net borrowing requirement</b>	<b>4,717</b>

- 6.6 With a net borrowing requirement of £4,717k, the scheme would be expected to deliver an initial net cost of £227k per annum. Once factoring in the savings on the current rates being paid for placing households in temporary accommodation, this becomes a net benefit of £31k per annum, which improves in subsequent years. Including savings on temporary accommodation, the revised scheme has an indicative Net Present Value over 40 years of £4,065k. This is subject to any change in assumptions around external financing costs, rental yields, temporary accommodation, and management costs.
- 6.7 As a comparison, if 12 units were still earmarked for private sale, there would be a lower net borrowing requirement (£2,599k) and a lower initial net cost per annum after financing (£121k). However, once temporary accommodation savings are factored in, this produces a lower initial net benefit per annum (£9k) and a lower net Net Present Value over 40 years of £2,021k. This comparison is set out in the table below:

	26 social units	14 social, 12 private sale
	£'000	£'000
Total build costs	£9,673	£9,673
CIL costs	£0	£170
Land appropriation value	£0	£0
GLA grant	-£4,600	-£1,960
S106 & BLRF grant used	-£356	-£356
Private sale income	£0	-£4,928
<b>Capital financing requirement</b>	<b>£4,717</b>	<b>£2,599</b>
<b>Initial net cost after financing</b>	<b>-£227</b>	<b>-£121</b>
<b>Initial net benefit after TA savings</b>	<b>£31</b>	<b>£9</b>
<b>NPV 40 years including TA savings</b>	<b>£4,065</b>	<b>£2,021</b>

- 6.8 It must also be noted that whilst the financial modelling indicates a financial benefit to the Council from making the change to 100% social housing, the Council is foregoing forecast capital receipts of £5,172k on the sale of private rented units (of which £244k would be required to part-finance the library element of the scheme). However, the increased number of social housing units will provide an on-going income to the Council and help to alleviate pressure on the temporary accommodation budget and will enable a higher level of grant funding from the GLA to contribute towards capital costs.

## 7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1. There are additional project management costs within this the regeneration team as a result of the over run of the project, but these will be contained within the budget.

## 8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. This report requests members approve amending the West Wickham Housing Scheme in order that all 26 new homes are provided as fully socially rented accommodation rather than selling 12 of those units for private sale. This is on the basis that there will be an increase in the GLA grant. If the revised GLA grant is not received, the scheme will remain as previously agreed.
- 8.2 The Council has various statutory powers to provide, maintain and improve housing under the Housing Act 1985. There is also a duty under section 193 of the Housing Act 1996 to provide

accommodation to those in the borough who are homeless, eligible for assistance and have a priority need.

## 9. PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. This report seeks approval for all 26 new build homes being delivered as part of the scheme to be Affordable social rent. This is a change from the original intention of 12 new build homes being for private sale. The proposals for the library remain unaffected. The decision to change the tenure of the 12 private sale to affordable is being driven by the escalating costs to the Council of Temporary Accommodation and a lack of supply of affordable homes to mitigate this.
- 9.2. Construction on site commenced in March 2023 and the Council will need to satisfy itself that the design and layout of what were intended to be private homes can be adapted as necessary to meet the Councils Affordable Housing requirements as well as those of the GLA from a funding perspective.
- 9.3. The properties will be handed over to the Councils Housing Management Agent at completion. The financial appraisal takes into consideration management costs which have increased since last reported.
- 9.4. Strategic Property will work with the Councils Housing Management Agent and the wider Council to develop/implement Asset Management Strategy, subject to the necessary approvals. There will also need to be future consideration given to resource implications as part of the agreement of the Asset Management Strategy

## 10. CUSTOMER IMPACT

- 10.1. The delivery of affordable housing will benefit Bromley households that are currently in temporary accommodation. The change in proposed mix, will provide a direct and positive impact for residents given that there will be 12 more properties available at affordable rent for local people.
- 10.2. The adoption of the service road will improve access for new and existing residents, as well as local businesses which utilise the road.

## 11. WARD COUNCILLOR VIEWS

- 11.1. Ward Cllrs were consulted on the proposals in this report, and given the additional affordable homes combined with the longer term savings to the general fund through Temporary Accommodation were supportive.

<b>Non-Applicable Headings:</b>	Procurement implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	HPR2021/059, PROVISION OF HOUSING AND LIBRARY IMPROVEMENT WORKS IN WEST WICKHAM TOWN CENTRE, November 2021  HPR2022/057, UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND (UKSPF) – BOROUGH ALLOCATION, November 2022

Report No.  
CSD24056

## London Borough of Bromley

### PART ONE - PUBLIC

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**Decision Maker:** COUNCIL

**Date:** Monday 15 July 2024

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

**Title:** LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING FUND

**Contact Officer:** Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager  
Tel: 0208 461 7743 E-mail: graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk

**Chief Officer:** Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

**Ward:** All

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#### 1. Reason for decision/report and options

- 1.1 At its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024 the Executive considered the attached report and approved the recommendations, subject to full Council agreement to the changes to the capital programme. The report was also scrutinised by the Renewal, Recreation and Housing PDS Committee on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024. The Council has been earmarked an indicative allocation of £13.9m towards housing schemes, subject to a compliant grant application, from the Department of Levelling up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) for Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) Round 3. The report summarises how the grant will be allocated to meet the Council's needs, whilst also being compliant within the grant agreement. In addition the report sets out how additional funding could be utilised if funding applied for beyond the earmarked allocation is secured through DLUHC.
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#### 2. RECOMMENDATION

**Council is recommended by the Executive to approve**

- (1) The acceptance of DLUHC LAHF Round 3 funding estimated at up to £27.4m (made up of an indicative allocation of £13.9m and a request for a further £13.5m) for the schemes set out in paragraph 3.5 of the Executive's report, noting some schemes will require further reports; and authorise the Assistant Director of Legal Services to sign and execute all relevant legal documents arising in connection with acceptance of the LAHF.**
- (2) The addition of Manorfields to the capital programme at a value of £5.2m and approve the acceptance of DLUHC LAHF Round 3 funding estimated at up to £27.4m (made up of an indicative allocation of £13.9m and a request for a further £13.5m) for the schemes set out in paragraph 3.5 of the report, noting some schemes will require further reports.**

- (3) Approve an increase in the Council's capital programme budget of £638k towards the purchase of a four-bed settlement unit. This will be funded through £284k of LAHF grant, with the balance of £354k to be met from capital programme resources. Note that this purchase is required to meet the grant requirements, and none of the grant can be secured without meeting this DLUHC requirement. And subject to this, approve the purchase of this property, delegating any related decisions to the Director of Housing, Planning, Property and Regeneration in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing.**

1. Summary of Impact: See attached report

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#### Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority:  
(5) To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.

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#### Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost: Up to £27.4m grant funding, plus £888k from the existing OPR capital budget, and £354k of capital programme resources
2. Ongoing costs: Non-Recurring Cost
3. Budget head/performance centre: Not Applicable
4. Total current budget for this head: Not Applicable
5. Source of funding: DLUHC, OPR capital budget, capital programme resources

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#### Personnel

1. Number of staff (*current and additional*): 2
2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable

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#### Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-Statutory - Government Guidance
2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Council decisions are not subject to call-in

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#### Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable

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#### Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: Property will support the purchase of units as required by the grant conditions.

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#### Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: Not Applicable

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#### Impact on the Local Economy

1. Summary of Local Economy Implications: Not Applicable

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#### Impact on Health and Wellbeing

1. Summary of Health and Wellbeing Implications: Not Applicable

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#### Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (*current and projected*): Not Applicable

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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

<b>Non-Applicable Headings:</b>	Impact on vulnerable adults and children/Policy/Finance/Personnel/Legal/Procurement/Property/Carbon Reduction/Local Economy/Health & Wellbeing/Customers/Ward Councillors
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	See attached report

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<b>Decision Maker:</b>	<b>FULL COUNCIL / EXECUTIVE</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>For Pre-Decision Scrutiny by the Renewal, Recreation and Housing PDS Committee on Wednesday 17 April 2024</b>
<b>Decision Type:</b>	Non-Urgent                      Executive                      Key
<b>Title:</b>	<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING FUND</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Alicia Egan, Head of Regeneration Tel: 020 8313 4559    E-mail: Alicia.Egan@bromley.gov.uk
<b>Chief Officer:</b>	Director of Housing, Planning, Property and Regeneration
<b>Ward:</b>	All Wards

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1. Reason for decision/report and options

- 1.1 The Council has been earmarked an indicative allocation of £13.9m towards housing schemes, subject to a compliant grant application, from the Department of Levelling up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) for Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) Round 3. This report summarises how the grant will be allocated to meet the Council's needs, whilst also being compliant within the grant agreement. In addition the report sets out how additional funding could be utilised if funding applied for beyond the earmarked allocation is secured through DLUHC.

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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 **Members of the Renewal Recreation and Housing PDS Committee are asked to consider and comment on this report.**
- 2.2 **The Executive is asked to propose to Full Council the addition of Manorfields to the capital programme as detailed in Recommendation 2, and to agree as follows:**
- 1) **Approve the acceptance of DLUHC LAHF Round 3 funding estimated at up to £27.4m (made up of an indicative allocation of £13.9m and a request for a further £13.5m) for the schemes set out in para 3.5, noting some schemes will require further reports; and authorise the Assistant Director of Legal Services to sign and execute all relevant legal documents arising in connection with acceptance of the LAHF.**

**Based on the Council's request for funding being approved, as detailed in para 3.5:**

- 2) Approve the addition of Manorfields to the Capital Programme at a value of £5.2m; officers will then proceed to procurement via an officer gateway for a multidisciplinary team to design the major repair and refurbishment of Manorfields into Transitional Accommodation. The funding for the Manorfields scheme will be met by LAHF grant of £4.313k, with the balance of £888k to come from the existing OPR capital programme budget.**
- 3) Approve the appointment of two Senior Project Managers to support the delivery of the schemes set out for a fixed term of two years. These posts will be financed by the Revenue funding in the grant of £111k supplemented by capitalised funding allocated to the relevant schemes.**
- 4) Approve an increase in the Council's capital programme budget of £638k towards the purchase of a four-bed settlement unit. This will be funded through £284k of LAHF grant, with the balance of £354k to be met from capital programme resources. Note that this purchase is required to meet the grant requirements, and none of the grant can be secured without meeting this DLUHC requirement. And subject to this, approve the purchase of this property, delegating any related decisions to the Director of Housing, Planning, Property and Regeneration in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing.**

### Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: More affordable housing and quality transitional accommodation will have a positive impact on many Bromley families currently waiting for suitable affordable housing.
- 

### Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
  2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority:
    - (1) For children and young people to grow up, thrive and have the best life chances in families who flourish and are happy to call Bromley home.
    - (2) For adults and older people to enjoy fulfilled and successful lives in Bromley, ageing well, retaining independence and making choices.
    - (3) For people to make their homes in Bromley and for business, enterprise and the third sector to prosper.
    - (5) To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.
- 

### Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost up to £27.4m grant funding, plus £888k from the existing OPR capital budget, and £354k of capital programme resources
  2. Ongoing costs: Non-Recurring Cost
  3. Budget head/performance centre: N/A
  4. Total current budget for this head: £N/A
  5. Source of funding: DLUHC, OPR capital budget, capital programme resources
- 

### Personnel

1. Number of staff (*current and additional*): 2
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours:
- 

### Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-Statutory - Government Guidance
  2. Call-in: Applicable
- 

### Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: There are no procurement decisions in this report.
- 

### Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: Property will support the purchase of units as required by the grant conditions.
- 

### Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: N/A
- 

### Impact on the Local Economy

1. Summary of Local Economy Implications: N/A
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### Impact on Health and Wellbeing

1. Summary of Health and Wellbeing Implications: N/A
-

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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (*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:

### 3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1. The Department of Levelling up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) has announced Round three of the Local Authorities Housing Fund. The first two rounds were targeted towards supporting resettlement housing for those arriving in the UK from Ukraine and Afghanistan – this third round is targeted towards helping local authorities meeting the needs of Temporary Accommodation (TA) through the supply of housing.
- 3.2. DLUHC for this round have given local authorities facing the highest TA pressures an indicative allocation. Bromley has received an indicative allocation of £13.912m. To receive this funding Bromley must meet two key criteria over the next two years (by March 2026):
- 3.2.1. Support the delivery of 55 temporary accommodation units (note these do not have to be TA but can be permanent housing if reducing the need for TA).
  - 3.2.2. Acquire four homes, one of which must be at least a 4-bedroom property for the resettlement programme.
  - 3.2.3. There is an expectation that 40% of the homes acquired or built will be new homes, and there is a 10% grant uplift applied to such homes.
- 3.3. Bromley received their indicative allocation on 7 March and were required to submit the bid by 28 March. Officers held a meeting with DLUHC to discuss the bid criteria to inform the schemes listed in para 3.5.
- 3.4. Given the tight timescales, and the significant sum available, in liaison with the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing, officers submitted an application focussed on schemes that were already under consideration from Members. This was done because they are the most deliverable in the required timescale, and Members have already had some input into discussions. Although the allocation was for £13.912m, local authorities were encouraged to request additional funding if they could demonstrate need, as well as deliverable schemes.
- 3.5. Given the need for housing in Bromley and the continuing growing pressures on the revenue budget, officers therefore made the request for a total of £27.4m of funding and this request was broken down into six workstreams, and priority areas as follows:

	<b>Indicative Grant Element</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Amount of Grant</b>	<b>Required Funding from Council</b>
1	TA Element	To allow the council to retain Manorfields, and refurbish the facilities deliver 40 Transitional Accommodation Units	£4.313m	£888k from current OPR capital programme
2	New Builds, which include resettlement x3	Transfer the 37 units due for delivery at Bromley North Housing development for private sale to be retained for affordable homes. 3 of these new homes will be earmarked for the resettlement programme as required by the Grant Condition	£8.54m + 10% on grant rate	In existing capital programme
3	Resettlement x1 larger unit	To support the acquisition of 1 x 4 bedroom units for the resettlement programme.	£0.284m	£354k to support purchase price works, legal and conveyancing costs together with works that may be needed to the property.
	<b>Total against allocation</b>		<b>£13.9m</b>	

<b>The schemes below relate to the additional grant funding applied for above the earmarked allocation.</b>				
4	New Builds Homes	To pay a grant of £231k per unit towards 15 of the homes under consideration for Beckenham car park site. This is a total of 35 homes, and the remaining 20 will be part funded by the GLA Affordable Housing programme.	£3.465m + 10% on grant rate	In existing capital programme
5	Empty Homes/ Acquisition from the market	To support the delivering of purchasing up 20 homes, that are on the Empty Homes list for use as Temporary or permanent accommodation.	£4.620m	£6.78m. Note that this will be subject to a further report and approvals.
6	New Build	To support the delivery of 20 new homes at the Adult Education site at Poverest	£4.64m + 10% on grant rate	Subject to further viability and assessment, as well as a further report and approvals.
7	Revenue	Towards the cost of Project Officer posts to enable delivery.	£0.111m	To be supplemented by individual schemes as per normal practice.
	<b>Total</b>		<b>£27.4m</b>	

- 3.6. It should be noted that 1-3 in the table above, is what would be delivered in the indicative allocation of funding that the Council should receive, lines 4-7 list the sites officers have bid for above Bromley's earmarked allocation.
- 3.7. The grant scheme requires match funding however, as set out in the table, in many cases the Council has already agreed the funding of schemes and this match funding is therefore already in place. In relation to Manorfields the funding is currently held in the OPR budget and the amount required is less than it would cost the Council to repair the building through the OPR, therefore undertaking the scheme through the LAHF scheme is better value for money.
- 3.8. To progress the Manorfields scheme officers will proceed to procurement via an officer gateway report to bring on board a multi-disciplinary team as the anticipated value is under £500k. A detailed procurement strategy will be included in this gateway report.
- 3.9. In relation to the purchase of the four bed resettlement home, the exact property has not yet been identified, however officers are confident a property can be secured within the total budget of £638k, which is part funded by the grant. This purchase is required to be able to access the rest of the grant monies.
- 3.10. Lines 5 and 6 would both require financial contributions from the Council that have not yet been agreed and are subject to further work. If these programmes are considered viable reports will be brought back to members to approve progressing with these and the match funding needed.
- 3.11. The Council has already approved a new housing development in Bromley North. This scheme was added to the capital programme in September 2023 (report No HPR2023/051) and was granted planning permission in October 2023. The enabling works contract commenced in March 2024, and the scheme is due to start on site in June 2024, with an estimated completion date of January 2026. The enabling works had to commence on site in March 2024 to secure the £740k Brown Field Release funding this development secured.
- 3.12. The scheme will deliver 75 new homes, 38 of which are currently set to be affordable homes, and 37 for private sale. By attributing funding from the LAHF this will support more homes to be

retained as social rent rather than private sale. This will be subject to a further details report in July, following a contract award of the main works.

- 3.13. This scheme will also provide the further three resettlement homes required under the grant conditions, as well as a further 37 homes towards the 55 target (exceeding the target by 19 units).
- 3.14. The following paragraphs set out where additional funding would be allocated if the bid for a higher grant is successful:
- 3.15. The regeneration team have advanced proposals for a housing development in Beckenham delivering 35 residential units. £15.2m was added to the Capital Programme for this scheme in September 2023 (Report No HPR2023/051). By securing LAHF grant towards this scheme, more homes will be retained as social housing rather than private sale. This will be subject to a further report in September 2024.
- 3.16. There is demand for larger properties, that are just not currently being built, and there are no significant plans from developers or the Council to bring forward larger homes. This is partly as a result of costs, but also the requirement of new builds to meet minimum space standards, which can be onerous for the larger properties often making developing unviable. Therefore the grant would be used to acquire larger empty homes/ homes from the open market. The acquisition of existing homes is only required to meet decent home standards, and not minimum space standards, although many existing properties would meet the needs of families. This work stream is subject to further work and a further report will be brought back to members.
- 3.17. The Regeneration team have outline proposals for the development of the Adult Education site in Orpington and therefore funding for this scheme has been included in the grant request. This scheme will be subject to a future report.
- 3.18. Members should note that a decision not to continue with at least the first three projects listed in para 3.5 will result in the earmarked funding not being secured from DLUHC and may affect the Council's ability to apply for and receive further LAHF grants.

#### **4. IMPACT ON VULNERABLE ADULTS AND CHILDREN**

- 4.1. Improving the quality and quantity of housing in Bromley both in permanent homes and through Temporary/Transition Accommodation will support the most vulnerable in the community.

#### **5. TRANSFORMATION/POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1. The LAHF and programmes identified on this report, contributes to the Corporate Strategy to Make Bromley Even Better. It will meet the following objectives:
  - 5.1.1. For children and young people to grow up, thrive and have the best life outcomes in families who flourish and are happy to call Bromley home.
  - 5.1.2. To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley residents.

#### **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 This report recommends that Council approves the acceptance of DLUHC LAHF Round 3 funding estimated at up to £27.4m (made up of an indicative allocation of £13.9m and a request for a further £13.5m) for the schemes set out in para 3.5, noting some schemes will require

further reports; and authorise the Assistant Director of Legal Services to sign and execute all relevant legal documents arising in connection with acceptance of the LAHF.

- 6.2 This report further recommends, based on the Council's request for funding being approved, as detailed in para 3.5, that Council approves the addition of Manorfields to the Capital Programme at a value of £5.2m; and approve officers proceeding to procurement for a multidisciplinary team to design the major repair and refurbishment of Manorfields into Transitional Accommodation. This will comprise LAHF grant funding of £4.313m, and a contribution from the Council's existing OPR capital programme budget of £888k.
- 6.3 This report also recommends Council to approve the appointment of two Senior Project Managers to support the delivery of the schemes set out in this report for a fixed term of two years. These posts will be funded from the Revenue element of the LAHF Round 3 funding grant of £111k, supplemented by capitalised funding allocated to the relevant schemes where appropriate.
- 6.4 This report also recommends that Council approves an increase in the Council's capital programme budget of £638k towards the purchase of a four bed settlement unit. This will be funded through £284k of LAHF grant, with the balance of £354k to be met from capital programme resources.

#### HRA Financial implications

- 6.5 In July 2020, Council approved the setting up of a Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for the provision of affordable housing. The Council currently has an exemption from the Secretary of State to hold up to 199 properties in the General Fund rather than in the HRA, which has meant that the Council has not yet had to re-open the HRA. The Council cannot budget for a deficit in the HRA for any financial year, and the General Fund cannot subsidise the HRA without a Secretary of State Direction. This means that a decision to approve any schemes, or amendments to any schemes which would result in the Council holding more than 199 housing units (other than for temporary accommodation), would need to consider the detailed implications of such a decision upon the HRA in future reports.

## **7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1. Two Senior Project managers will be required to support the development of this programme. These posts will be funded from the revenue funding, but also from the capitalisation of the schemes themselves.

## **8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1. This report seeks Executive approval to approve the recommendations set out in paragraph 2.
- 8.2. S1(1) of the Localism Act 2011 gives the council a general power of competence.
- 8.3. In respect of the properties to be acquired by the council, under the terms of the LAHF the council has power pursuant to section 120 the Local Government Act 1972 to acquire land for the purposes of its functions.
- 8.4. Furthermore the Council has the implied legal power under section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of its functions and accordingly therefore pursuant to this power there is no impediment to the proposals set out in this report.



- 8.5. Procurement of these works and services may fall within the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 or Procurement Act 2023 (once in force) and will require a further detailed analysis as to the recommended procurement approach.
- 8.6. Each procurement will need to ensure it complies with the Councils Contract Procedure Rules and internal decision-making under the Councils' Constitution. Officers should seek specific procurement and legal advice on any procurement arising from this report.
- 8.7. The Council will need to adhere to and comply with the requirements of the grant funding agreements.

**9. PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 There are no immediate procurement recommendations within this report. However, it is noted that procurement exercises will be needed to support the recommendations in due course. These will be subject to separate Proceeding to Procurement reports with approval from Officers or Members, depending on the value. The procurement strategies will comply with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the relevant legislation in force.

**10. PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 The Property Team will support the acquisitions by managing the agents appointed to seek and secure the properties including arranging for advice on condition, legal status, suitability for long term use and instructing solicitors to manage the purchase. Appropriate fees for the process will need to be allocated from the capital budget.

<b>Non-Applicable Headings:</b>	Public health, Local economy, Social Impact, Ward Councillor views.
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	[List any documents used in preparation of this report - Title of document and date]

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Report No.  
CSD24057

## London Borough of Bromley

### PART ONE - PUBLIC

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**Decision Maker:**      **COUNCIL**

**Date:**                      **Monday 15 July 2024**

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

**Title:**                      **CRYSTAL PALACE PARK REGENERATION PLAN - PROCEED TO PROCUREMENT FOR CAPITAL WORKS**

**Contact Officer:**      Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager  
Tel: 0208 461 7743      E-mail: graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk

**Chief Officer:**              Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

**Ward:**                      Crystal Palace & Anerley

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1.      Reason for decision/report and options

- 1.1      At its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024 the Executive considered that attached report and approved the recommendations. The report was also scrutinised by the Renewal, Recreation and Housing PDS Committee on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024. The report provides Members with an update on the delivery of the Crystal Palace Park Regeneration Plan and asks for approval to proceed to procurement for a main contractor to deliver the capital works of the next phase of the Plan.
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2.      **RECOMMENDATION**

**Council is recommended by the Executive to increase the budget of the Crystal Palace Park Regeneration Plan already on the Capital Programme by £19.096m; the scheme will be funded through a £5m grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the capital receipts from the sale of the two areas of parkland which are estimated to achieve £19.36m.**

### Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: The park is visited by 1.4m visitors per annum. The majority of these visitors are from the communities that surround the park, some of which are within the 20% most deprived in the UK.

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### Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Not Applicable Existing Policy
2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority:  
(5) To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.

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### Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost: £23.9m estimated cost for Phase 1a of the Crystal Palace Park Regeneration Plan
2. Ongoing costs: Non-Recurring Cost: Capital costs
3. Budget head/performance centre: Crystal Palace Park Regeneration Plan
4. Total current budget for this head: ££4.5m forward funding on the capital programme to progress the project and £304k development grant from the NLHF totalling £4.804m
5. Source of funding: Capital receipts, grants, and forward funding

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### Personnel

1. Number of staff (*current and additional*): 1FTE
2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable

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### Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-Statutory - Government Guidance
2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Full Council decisions are not subject to call-in

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### Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: See attached report

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### Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: See attached report

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### Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: See attached report

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### Impact on the Local Economy

1. Summary of Local Economy Implications: See attached report

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### Impact on Health and Wellbeing

1. Summary of Health and Wellbeing Implications: See attached report

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### Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (*current and projected*): See attached report

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### Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Yes
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Ward Councillors continue to support the Crystal Palace Park Regeneration Plan.

<b>Non-Applicable Headings:</b>	Impact on children and vulnerable adults/Policy/Finance/Personnel/Legal/Procurement/Property/Carbon Reduction/Local Economy/Health & Wellbeing/Customer/Ward Councillors
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	See attached report

**Decision Maker:** FULL COUNCIL / EXECUTIVE

**Date:** For Pre-Decision Scrutiny by the Renewal, Recreation and Housing PDS Committee on Wednesday 17 April 2024

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

**Title:** CRYSTAL PALACE PARK REGENERATION PLAN - PROCEED TO PROCUREMENT FOR CAPITAL WORKS

**Contact Officer:** Alicia Egan, Head of Regeneration  
Email: Alicia.Egan@bromley.gov.uk

Tom Bevan, Heritage Capital Project Manager  
E-mail: Tom.Bevan@bromley.gov.uk

**Chief Officer:** Director of Housing, Planning, Property and Regeneration

**Ward:** Crystal Palace & Anerley

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1. Reason for decision/report and options

1.1 This report provides Members with an update on the delivery of the Crystal Palace Park Regeneration Plan and asks for approval to proceed to procurement for a main contractor to deliver the capital works of the next phase of the Plan.

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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

2.1 That Members of the RRH PDS note the contents of this report and make any comments available to the Executive.

2.2 That Members of the Executive approve proceeding to procurement, as set out in paragraphs 3.12 to 3.26, for a main contractor to deliver the capital works at a total estimated contract cost of £17.7m.

2.3 That Members of the Executive and Full Council increase the budget of the Crystal Palace Park Regeneration Plan already on the Capital Programme by £19.096m. The scheme will be funded through a £5m grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the capital receipts from the sale of the two areas of parkland which are estimated to achieve £19.36m.

### Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: The park is visited by 1.4m visitors per annum. The majority of these visitors are from the communities that surround the park, some of which are within the 20% most deprived in the UK.
- 

### Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
  2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority:
    - (1) For children and young people to grow up, thrive and have the best life chances in families who flourish and are happy to call Bromley home.
    - (2) For adults and older people to enjoy fulfilled and successful lives in Bromley, ageing well, retaining independence and making choices.
    - (4) For residents to live responsibly and prosper in a safe, clean and green environment great for today and a sustainable future.
    - (5) To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.
- 

### Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost: £23.9m estimated cost for Phase 1a of the Crystal Palace Park Regeneration Plan
  2. Ongoing costs: Non-Recurring Cost: Capital costs
  3. Budget head/performance centre: Crystal Palace Park Regeneration Plan
  4. Total current budget for this head: £4.5m forward funding on the capital programme to progress the project and £304k development grant from the NLHF totalling £4.804m
  5. Source of funding: Capital receipts, grants, and forward funding
- 

### Personnel

1. Number of staff (*current and additional*): 1 FTE
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours:
- 

### Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-Statutory - Government Guidance
  2. Call-in: Applicable
- 

### Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: A tender will be undertaken in compliance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015, but if the tender timetable runs over the tender will need to be undertaken in compliance with the Procurement Act 2023.
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### Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: The Property Team support the procurement of a main contractor to deliver the capital works. The sale of the Parkland requires a number of Pre Conditions to be satisfied.
- 

### Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: The Regeneration Plan will improve and expand open space across the Park by around 2.7ha and the quality of the open space will be greatly enhanced through new character areas, improved infrastructure and better accessibility.

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### Impact on the Local Economy

1. Summary of Local Economy Implications: The Crystal Palace Park Regeneration Plan will increase footfall to the area by 326,500. Once complete the interventions are estimated to generate 46 net jobs in the Greater London area.

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### Impact on Health and Wellbeing

1. Summary of Health and Wellbeing Implications: Improved access to green spaces and an enhanced community activity programme will have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of park users.

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### Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (*current and projected*): The park is currently visited by approximately 1.4m people each year. Following these works visitor numbers are expected to increase to 1.72m.

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### Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Yes
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Ward Councillors continue to support plans for the Crystal Palace Park Regeneration Plan.

### 3. COMMENTARY

3.1 The Crystal Palace Park Regeneration Plan is an updated, scaled back and achievable version of the London Development Agency's 2007 masterplan for Crystal Palace Park which gained outline planning permission in 2010. It is a holistic scheme that will deliver benefits to the park through:

- The physical regeneration – capital works
- A new form of governance – the Crystal Palace Park Trust
- A new business model – enabled through the capital works and new governance.

The Regeneration Plan received outline planning consent in 2021. The legal agreements with the Local Planning Authority and the GLA were finalised in 2023. The new form of governance for the park and the new business model have been established, with the Crystal Palace Park Trust taking a 125 year lease in September 2023, which leaves the capital works to be implemented in order to secure a long-term sustainable future for the park.

3.2 The next steps for the Crystal Palace Park Regeneration Plan were set out in report HPR2022/022 which went to the Executive in July 2022. As set out in this report the scheme is expected to be funded from the sale of the housing land (enabling development), with the remaining generated through grants. This approach was previously approved in 2017 (Report No. DRR17/029). It has been agreed with the Planning Authority that in order for the housing developments at either Rockhills or Sydenham Villas to commence, key milestones related to the heritage restoration must first be achieved. A new community centre by the Rockhills housing development must also be built to replace the demolished One O'clock Club position on the current Sydenham Villas site. Development of these proposals will shortly commence.

3.3 The following must be secured prior to commencement of the Rockhills enabling residential development as part of the shadow s106 agreement:

- Italian Terraces: A contract has been awarded for the carrying out of all stonework in the Italian Terraces and 30% of such stonework has been completed.
- Tidal Lakes: Either a contract has been awarded for the carrying out of all historic landscaping works at the Tidal Lakes and 30% of such works have been completed or a contract has been awarded for the restoration of all the dinosaurs at the Tidal Lakes and restoration of three of those dinosaurs has been completed; and
- Statues: A contract has been awarded for the restoration of at least four statues in the Park Land and restoration of the Paxton Bust in the Park Land has been completed but not necessarily moved into position.

3.4 The following must be secured prior to commencement of the Sydenham Villas enabling residential development as part of the shadow s106 agreement:

- Italian Terraces: A contract has been awarded for the carrying out of all stonework in the Italian Terraces and 10% of such stonework has been completed.
- Tidal Lakes: Either a contract has been awarded for the carrying out of all historic landscaping works at the Tidal Lakes and 10% of such works have been completed or a contract has been awarded for the restoration of all the dinosaurs at the Tidal Lakes and restoration of three of those dinosaurs has been completed; and
- Statues: A contract has been awarded for the restoration of at least four statues in the Park Land and restoration of the Paxton Bust in the Park Land has been completed but not necessarily moved into position.



- 3.5 In July 2022 (report no. HPR2022/022) the Executive approved the commencement of the forwarded funded heritage restoration capital works, limited to £4.5m (expected housing receipt £19.36m) noting that the Capital Programme will regularly be updated to reflect the impact of this on total scheme expenditure.
- 3.6 In March 2023 (report no. HPR2023/023) the Executive approved to accept a Development Grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) to move forward with the capital works to the lower end of the park, namely the dinosaurs and wider landscape, the information centre and the playground. In March 2024, at the mid-development phase point of the grant, the NLHF formally approved the project to submit the Round 2 application in May 2024 to secure the full £5m grant. This approval is confirmation that the NLHF consider the project to meet all approved purposes and it is therefore strong indication that we will meet the requirement for the second stage application. A decision on this application will be made in September 2024.
- 3.7 In May 2023 (report no. HPR2023/026) the Executive approved the award of contract for a multi-disciplinary team to develop proposals for the lottery funded area of the park (dinosaurs – site A) as well as the Grade II listed Italian Terraces (Site B) being funded through the housing land capital receipt. The planned works on these sites include:

Site A:

- Renovating the Grade I listed dinosaurs and their setting, including the Tidal Lakes.
- Creating a vehicle entrance and exit gateway into Penge Gate car park which is separate from the pedestrian entrance;
- Creating a new dinosaur themed play area visible adjacent to the Tidal Lakes. Removing and grassing over existing play area; ng
- Creating a new-look Information Centre to form the hub of information for the park;
- Improving on-site maintenance facilities by replacing existing facilities with a new purpose-built maintenance depot;
- Renovating Penge Gate car park to maximise the usable area and including disabled bays, electrical charging points and secure cycle parking;
- Widening Penge Gate and installing a gateway feature to announce the entrance into park within the local neighbourhood.

Site B:

- Conserving and repairing the terrace walls and replacing missing balustrades and copings to redefine the Upper and Lower Italian Terraces;
- Creating viewing areas on each terrace to maximise expansive views over the Park to the east.

- 3.8 The total scheme cost for this phase is estimated at £24.3m. Income is expected as:

<b>Source</b>	<b>Total (£)</b>
Sale of land	19,360,000
NLHF grant	4,999,999
Additional fundraised income	403,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,762,999</b>

Expenditure is estimated as:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Total (£)</b>
Enabling works	650,500
Professional fees	2,500,124
Site A capital works	9,060,000
Site B capital works	8,640,000
NLHF-funded activities	609,831
Other costs	100,210
S106 contributions	755,226
Sale of land	117,150
Rockhills community centre	1,500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£23,933,041</b>

- 3.9 In February 2024, a reserved matters application was submitted to the Local Planning Authority providing more detailed proposals for Sites A and B. This application is expected to be determined in June 2024. Prior to this submission, two public information days were held in the park to update users on plans. Feedback forms were made available and all returned forms indicated support for the scheme. Historic England have also been closely engaged through the planning process and have formally provided support for the proposals during the planning consultation period.
- 3.10 The property consultants Montagu Evans have been appointed by the Property team, to market the housing land for sale. The value of the land is currently estimated at £19.36m. This opportunity will be released to the market once the appropriate pre-conditions to the disposal have been satisfied. The development opportunity was also included in the Opportunity London Investment Prospectus, which indicates the high-level interest the sale is expected to generate.
- 3.11 As the shadow S106 requires a level of heritage restoration to be completed before the housing developments can commence, it is therefore important for potential purchasers to see progress made on these capital works to secure the sale. The procurement of a main contractor will be an important step in providing potential purchasers with this confidence. Without this the land sale is likely to be adversely affected.

#### Capital works – main contractor procurement

- 3.12 The value of the works contract is estimated at £17.7m.
- 3.13 Following procurement workshops with the multi-disciplinary team and LBB officers, a single-stage, traditional, restricted (SQ/PQQ), procurement route with CDP packages is recommended to meet the project objectives. Quality and cost have been identified as the priority objectives for the successful delivery of this project for the following reasons:
- Quality: to specifically ensure that the restoration and landscaping works are detailed and constructed to the highest standard to ensure that they are robust and long-lasting; that historic elements can be removed from the Heritage at Risk Register; and to create a high-quality destination.
  - Cost: priorities are to ensure that the project is delivered to a fixed budget and that there is cost certainty for London Borough of Bromley as the project needs to be fully funded through raised income and capital receipts.

- 3.14 A traditional procurement process will benefit the scheme by providing greater control over quality, cost certainty via a lump sum, and a fixed end date. It is recommended that all aspects of the project – landscaping, new build, conservation, and works to services/utilities – are procured under one single contract so that there is one single point of contact responsible for programming, managing the works, managing site logistics, and the responsibility for health and safety in the occupied park. A traditional route separates design from construction. It allows the Council, to retain control over decisions relating to design and quality of the project with the appointed project team.
- 3.15 In this approach, the construction contract would include Sectional Completion – a contractual obligation for the Contractor to complete a defined part of the Works or ‘Section’ by a prescribed date. This would allow LBB to take over, or occupy, the works on a phased basis whilst construction continues on other Sections. It also allows for liquidated damages to be applied to each defined Section in the event of late completion. It is recommended that the defined Sections would be:
- Section 1: Maintenance Yard and Buildings
  - Section 2: Information Centre
  - Section 3: Dinosaur area, playground, and Italian Terraces
- 3.16 The option to procure multiple, smaller construction contracts – rather than a single, main contractor - has been considered as this could garner greater interest from across the market and can reduce timescales as separate work packages can begin earlier. However, this is a complex approach for the client to manage and reduces the certainty of the total capital budget before works begin. It is also felt that this approach can incur greater prelim costs, increased contract liability issues, and more risk in procurement and is therefore not recommended for this project.
- 3.17 It is proposed that the project is tendered through a restricted procedure, with an initial Selection Questionnaire (SQ) issued to the open market and returns narrowed down to five principal contractors for tender. The SQ process would improve the quality of the bids and ensure that we have the correct contractors bidding at the tender stage.
- 3.18 An open procurement process – rather than a restricted process – has also been considered as this can also increase competition. This approach, however, has not been recommended as it has high resource implications, can result in low quality bids, and increases the likelihood of challenges.
- 3.19 The following frameworks could also be considered: Southern Construction Framework, Lot 3; London Construction Framework – Major Works, Lot 2/2.3/2.4; Scape Framework; CCS Framework, Lot 3.2. However, each of these frameworks are geared towards a two-stage tendering process which is not recommended for this project, as outlined below. Framework procurement may also be subject to a Framework Access Arrangement fee(s).
- 3.20 A single stage procurement process has also been recommended. This requires a full set of tender documents and accompanying design to be tendered to several Contractors within a pre-agreed tender period. Each contractor returns a tender price and any accompanying documents requested, which is used for evaluation and award. This route does not allow early Contractor involvement and requires that all Contractors expend time and cost preparing their price, which is not recoverable should they be unsuccessful.
- 3.21 A two-stage procurement process allows a competitive first-stage element, where Contractors compete on their preliminaries and overheads and profits provision, and costs required for the second-stage element, the Pre-Construction Service Agreement. This approach can improve

quality as the Contractor is involved at an earlier stage however the cost of works is not known until later in the process when the process completes the second stage. As this project needs to deliver value for money, particularly for grant funders, it is important that we have cost certainty from the outset and so this approach has not been recommended.

3.22 Due to the complex nature of the project and the importance for a high-quality restoration of the heritage assets, LPM have undertaken early market engagement to test the approach of a single-stage, traditional, restricted (SQ), procurement route with potential bidders. On learning more about the project and proposed approach through a short presentation, all those engaged indicated that they are interested in bidding when the tender opens.

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Relevant experience</b>	<b>Interest level</b>
Coniston	Building contractor, with specialism in conservation and restoration works. Projects include: National Gallery, British Museum.	Interested in bidding
Blakedown	Landscape contractor and civil engineer expert, including restoration of large-scale parks. Projects include: Boston Manor Park, Natural History Museum	Interested in bidding
Maylim	Public realm and landscaping contractor. Projects include: Battersea Power Station, Exchange Square.	Interested in bidding
Elite	Landscape contractor (principally residential)	Interested in bidding
Sir Robert McAlpine	Heritage restoration and signature new build projects. Projects include: Maggie Cander Care Centres, and heritage work at Royal Albert Hall and The Courtauld Institute of Art	Interested in bidding

3.23 It is planned, subject to the recommendations in this report being approved, that bids will be evaluated 60% on quality and 40% on price. Whilst this is a deviation away from the Council's usual process, market engagement has indicated the likelihood of a failed tender without doing this, as many heritage contractors have a policy of not bidding on works that favour price over quality. Therefore this is recommended due to the importance of the heritage involved and the need for a contractor who has the relevant experience to meet the quality priority for the project. It is an important output of the project that the heritage assets are removed from the Heritage at Risk Register on completion. The project will also be fully funded through raised income or from the capital receipts which are ringfenced solely for the Regeneration Plan. Members should be reassured that this approach has successfully been taken on other projects including the Subway. Not taking this risk of moving to 60 quality and 40 price, and having a failed tender process, would delay the works on site, delaying the land sale(s).

3.24 The ITT documents will include a detailed preliminaries document which outlines the requirements for heritage restoration noted in the shadow S106 agreement, alongside the need to work with the Crystal Palace Park Trust's events programme, and to consider the use of the park by the public. It will be a requirement that the heritage restoration is prioritised in the works programme, along with the building of a new maintenance building, as these are required to enable commencement of the housing developments.

3.25 The tender will include a mandatory question requiring explanations around the added value that bidders can provide to assist the Council in securing economic, social and environmental improvements. Through the quality questions, the bidders will be asked to submit a method statement on the provision of Quality Apprenticeships/Trainee opportunities.

## Proposed procurement programme

<b><u>Activity</u></b>	<b><u>Timeline</u></b>
Early market engagement	Mid-March 2024
Preparation of prelims and pricing documents	May-June 2024
Finalise ITT documents	Early July 2024
Issue PQQ	Mid-July 2024
Evaluation of PQQ responses	Early September 2024
Issue tender documents	Early-September – early November 2024
Evaluation of bids	Mid-November 2024
Contract award	December 2024

3.26 The contract award will not be finalised until confirmation of the full NLHF grant is received in September 2024 and a housing developer has been secured. A report will come back to Members to approve the award of the works contract.

#### **4. IMPACT ON VULNERABLE ADULTS AND CHILDREN**

4.1 The Regeneration Plan will have a positive impact on vulnerable adults and children. The park is an unrestricted public space and leisure facility which is easily accessible by public transport and car.

4.2 The Park is designed for public enjoyment and education and includes the popular dinosaurs which are a unique London attraction. The Regeneration Plan will improve access and public enjoyment, and will increase the amount of high quality, freely accessible public land within the park. The Park provides green space for many local families who do not have access to gardens of their own.

#### **5. TRANSFORMATION/POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The Regeneration Plan has been a long-term strategic solution for the Park which has a significant conservation deficit. Progressing this scheme will ultimately lead to a restored and sustainable park as well as eventual revenue savings.

5.2 The project will contribute to the Corporate Strategy to Make Bromley Even Better. It will meet the following objectives:

- For residents to live responsibly and prosper in a safe, clean and green environment great for today and a sustainable future.
- To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.

#### **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 The report requests Members of the RRH PDS to note the contents of the report and make any comments to executive.

6.2 The report also requests members of executive to approve a budget increase to the CPP Regeneration Plan by £19m to £24m, this will be funded via the already secured National Heritage Lottery fund and capital receipts from sale of two pieces of Parkland.

- 6.3 Finally executive are also requested to approve the procurement of a main contractor to deliver the capital works at a total contract cost of £17.7m.
- 6.4 Given the increase to the capital programme required this report will also need to go to full council for approval.
- 6.5 To secure the sale of the parklands, there is a requirement to have the restoration works commenced and delivered to a certain standard to show progress of works, this will be a requirement of any developer looking to purchase the land and therefore it is important for the main contractor procurement to be approved, see paragraph 3.11 for further details.
- 6.6 Although the contract value for the main contractor is £17.7m, there is an estimation of circa £2.2m of works will be required before the sale can finalise, this cost can be contained and managed out of the £4.5m forward funding already agreed.
- 6.7 There should be no additional cost pressure to the council's capital budget to implement the requests above and the entire restoration costs can be contained within the funding outlined in the table in section 3.8 above.
- 6.8 Members should be made aware that any and all costs incurred to date could become a revenue cost pressure if the project does not achieve the milestones required to secure the sale of the land, this will impact on the additional grant funding and the existing grant funding already secured is at risk of being required to be paid back if the restoration is halted.

## **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The Council has the legal power to hold, maintain and develop its landholdings and buildings in connection with its functions and general powers and in connection with its leisure and recreation powers under section 19 Local Government Act (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. Section 1(1) of the Localism Act 2011 gives the Council the power to do anything that individuals may do and under Section 111 Local Government Act 1972 the Council has power to do anything calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of its functions. In furtherance of these statutory powers, the Council may proceed to procure through a contract, the intended works as more fully set out in this report.
- 7.2 The procurement of these works is a public works contract in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and due to the proposed value of the contract being above threshold the procurement will need to comply with the Regulations. Under Regulation 65 a restricted procedure can be restricted to a minimum of 5 bidders. As outlined in the report, early market engagement has been undertaken with an expected tender response from 5 bidders.
- 7.3 The procurement will need to be conducted in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules (CPRs). Specific requirements in relation to proceeding to procurement and relevant authorisations are set out in the Procurement implications.
- 7.4 Ongoing Legal advice should be sought in relation to the procurement and on the appropriate form of contract to utilise for this tender.

## **8. PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 This report seeks approval to proceed to procurement using the Open tender procedure for a suitable main contractor to deliver the Crystal Palace Capital Works Project at a total contract cost of £17.7m commencing December 2024.

- 8.2 This is an above threshold works contract and the procedure must be conducted in line set out in Part 2 of the Public Contract Regulations.
- 8.3 The Council's specific requirements for authorising proceeding to procurement are covered in the Rules 1 and 5 of the Council's with the need to obtain the approval of Executive following agreement of the Portfolio Holder, Assistant Director Governance & Contracts, the Director of Corporate Services
- 8.4 In accordance with Contract Procedure Rules 2.1, Officers must take all necessary professional advice.
- 8.5 As per 8.2.1 of the Council Contract Procedure Rules, this procurement must make use of public advertisement, and therefore must also be advertised on Contracts Finder and Find a Tender. The relevant award notices must be published.
- 8.6 The procurement must comply with the principles of transparency and equal treatment. Any time limits imposed, such as for responding to adverts and tenders, must be reasonable and proportionate.
- 8.7 Executive should note that should there be a delay with the tender timetable beyond the 31<sup>st</sup> September 2024, the Council will be required to undertake this action under Procurement Act 2023 and ensure that the relevant contract process and notices are published in compliance with any updates to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.
- 8.8 The actions identified in this report are provided for within the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, and the proposed actions can be completed in compliance with their content.

## **9. PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The Property Team support the procurement of a main contractor to deliver the capital works. The sale of the Parkland requires a number of Pre Conditions to be satisfied.

## **10. CARBON REDUCTION/SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS**

- 10.1 The Regeneration Plan was assessed against the existing socio-economic baseline conditions as part of the outline planning application. Different socio-economic baseline conditions were considered to assess effects at a local, borough and regional level. The socio-economic baseline conditions were established using nationally recognised data and research, including (but not limited to) the 2011 Census, Office for National Statistics employment data, and statistics released by the Department for Education and National Health Service. Once complete and in operation, the Regeneration Plan interventions will generate 46 net jobs in the Greater London area through a variety of means.
- 10.2 The future occupants of the new residential developments within the Regeneration Plan are estimated to spend approximately £3.6 million per annum in Greater London each year. The 210 additional dwellings will account for 3.3% of the total housing target set for Bromley in the London Plan between 2015 and 2025.
- 10.3 Primary healthcare facilities within 1km of the Site currently have an average of 1,863 patients per GP, which is broadly in line with the standard of one GP per 1,800 registered patients. The residential elements of the Regeneration Plan will increase this ratio to 1,875 patients per GP, but this is still in line with the set target for the UK. These healthcare facilities fall in two five different London boroughs, including Bromley.

- 10.4 The landscaping works within the Regeneration Plan will improve and expand open space across the Park by around 2.7ha and the quality of the open space will be greatly enhanced through new character areas, improved infrastructure and better accessibility. The works aim to re-establish the Park's cultural significance and identity.
- 10.5 The Regeneration Plan will provide 2,730m<sup>2</sup> of publicly accessible play space across three separate areas. This space will be accessible from the residential units within the Regeneration Plan and will cater for the needs of children of all ages within these units. In addition, the over-provision provided by the Regeneration Plan will improve the provision of local play space and will be accessible to visitors and the community.
- 10.6 The assessment for the outline planning application identified no potential significant adverse effects relating to socio-economics within either the construction/demolition or operational phase hence there is no requirement for mitigation. Significant beneficial effects are anticipated during operation as a result of the provision of open space in the local area (major beneficial) and the provision of open space locally (moderate beneficial).

## 11. IMPACT ON THE LOCAL ECONOMY

- 11.1 The impact on the regeneration of Crystal Palace Park will be positive for residents and users of Crystal Palace Park, as well as wider Borough residents as there will be less financial pressure on other capital grants. Once complete and in operation, the Regeneration Plan interventions are estimated to generate 46 net jobs in the Greater London area through a variety of means.

## 12. IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- 12.1 Improved access to green spaces and an enhanced community activity programme will have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of park users.

## 13. CUSTOMER IMPACT

- 13.1 The number of visitors to the park is expected to increase by 15% as a result of this regeneration.
- 13.2 The activity programme funded by the NLHF is expected to reach at least 37,000 people over two years.

## 14. WARD COUNCILLOR VIEWS

- 14.1 Ward Councillors have supported the regeneration plan and the grant application to date.

<b>Non-Applicable Headings:</b>	Personnel implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Report No HPR2022/22 Report No HPR2023/026 Report No HPR2023/023 Report No. DRR20/018 Report No. DRR19/058 Report No. HPOR2021/033 Report No. HPR2022/015



Report No.  
CSD24058

## London Borough of Bromley

### PART ONE - PUBLIC

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**Decision Maker:** COUNCIL

**Date:** Monday 15 July 2024

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

**Title:** HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD - ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24 AND ANNUAL PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT 2023

**Contact Officer:** Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager  
Tel: 0208 461 7743 E-mail: graham.walton@bromley.gov.uk

**Chief Officer:** Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

**Ward:** All

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1. Reason for decision/report and options

- 1.1 At its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024 the Health and Wellbeing Board received an annual report for 2023/24 from Cllr David Jefferys, the chairman, and noted that the report (attached) would be passed to full Council for information. At the same meeting, the Health and Wellbeing Board also received the Annual Public Health Report 2023, which takes an in-depth look at the 23 years of work carried out in Bromley on the prevention, early detection and management of risk factors for cardiovascular disease (CVD) and other non-communicable diseases, culminating in the NHS Health Checks programme, and requested that this too be passed on to full Council for information. The report and the covering report are also attached.
- 

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

**Council is recommended to receive and note the Health and Wellbeing Board's Annual Report for 2023/24 and the Annual Public Health Report 2023.**

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: See attached reports

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Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority (*delete as appropriate*):  
(2) For adults and older people to enjoy fulfilled and successful lives in Bromley, ageing well, retaining independence and making choices.

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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost
2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable
3. Budget head/performance centre: Public Health
4. Total current budget for this head: Not Applicable
5. Source of funding: Not Applicable

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Personnel

1. Number of staff (*current and additional*): Not Applicable
2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable

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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None
2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Council decisions are not subject to call-in

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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable

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Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: Not Applicable

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Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: Not Applicable

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Impact on the Local Economy

1. Summary of Local Economy Implications:

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Impact on Health and Wellbeing

1. Summary of Health and Wellbeing Implications: Not Applicable

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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (*current and projected*): Not Applicable

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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

<b>Non-Applicable Headings:</b>	Impact on vulnerable adults and children/Policy/Finance/Personnel/Legal/Procurement/Property/Carbon Reduction/Local Economy/Health & Wellbeing/Customers/Ward Councillors
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	See attached report

## **Health and Wellbeing Board Chairman's Annual Report 2023/24**

**Chairman:** Cllr. Dr David Jefferys  
**Vice-Chairman:** Cllr. Robert Evans

The Health and Wellbeing Board met five times in 2023/24.

The Board discussed a wide range of issues during the Civic Year as the health challenges of the pandemic have receded. The major task and achievement was the completion and publication of the new 5-year Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Bromley. This Strategy has been fully aligned with the strategy set out by the SE London ICB. It has been a pleasure to work with ICB colleagues in the new manner set out in the updated legislation and guidance notes. This work was undertaken in addition to fulfilling the statutory responsibilities of Board.

The Board has considered a wide range of health and wellbeing issues during the last year. Mental health has occupied a lot of our discussions and especially reviewing preventative programmes across the age spectrum including a Working Group on Brain Health. Adolescent mental health has been a particular focus. Many of the issues the Board has considered are cross cutting themes such as Suicide Prevention and Self-Harm, combating Drug and alcohol addiction and updates on the Councils programme on combatting Loneliness and Social Isolation. A special focus has been on the complex issue of smoking cessation and the issues around vaping.

The Board works closely with other Council Committees such as the Adult Care and Health Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee, the Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee, and the Children, Education and Families Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee.

The Board has a range of Statutory Responsibilities set out in the Health Care Act, including reviewing the quarterly reports on both the Integrated Care Fund (BCF) and the Improved Better Care Fund (the IBCF) receiving regular reports from Healthwatch Bromley, reviewing the Pharmaceutical Needs assessment for Bromley and receiving the report from the Childrens and Adults Safeguarding Boards. In Bromley we have a regular meeting of the Board Chairs which ensures close working and the HWB Chairman sits as a member of the Adults Safeguarding Board. During the year the Board took over the responsibility and oversight for the Bromley Health Protection Board.

The Board was pleased to note the national recognition for the Bromley Loneliness Strategy and the Homelessness Prevention Strategy. Both received prestigious national awards. Health issues cross Borough Boundaries and this was addressed through the regular meetings of the London HWB Chairs which the Chairman attends for Bromley.

Having been Vice Chairman and then Chairman of the Board since 2014, it is pleasing to see how the work and the role of the Board have developed. This will be my last report as Chairman since I will be stepping down to take on another role in

the Council. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with such a wonderful group of stakeholders in the Borough, all focussed on improving health and wellbeing for residents.

The areas of work that have been explored include:

#### June 2023

- South East London ICB Joint Forward Plan and One Bromley 5 Year Strategy
  - Signed Off
- Update on the Bromley Health and Wellbeing Centre
- Better Care Fund Plan 2023-2025
- Suicide Prevention Workstream: Update and Plans
- Update on the Brain Health Task and Finish Group
- Combating Drugs and Alcohol Partnership Update
- Healthwatch Bromley Patient Experience Report

#### September 2023

- Health and Wellbeing Strategy Implementation Plan
- Winter Plan 2023-24
- Integrated Commissioning Board Update
- Update on the Health Protection Function
- Update on Right Care, Right Person
- Alcohol Needs Assessment

#### November 2023

- Update on Children and Young People's Mental Health
- HIV Infections Audit
- Bromley Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report
- Better Care Fund and Improved Better Care Fund Quarterly Performance Update
- Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) procurement

#### February 2024

- Bromley Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2022-23
- Presentation from Mytime Active on their Community Action Programmes
- Homeless Health Project
- HIV Infections Audit
- Smoking Cessation Report
- Health And Wellbeing Strategy - Update on Implementation Plan
- Better Care Fund and Improved Better Care Fund Performance Quarterly Update
- Healthwatch Bromley Patient Experience Report

#### April 2024

- Update on the Post-Covid Syndrome Service
- Suicide & Self-harm: a review and analysis of the data and trends over time
- Review of Stoma advice
- Integrated Commissioning Board Update
- Annual Public Health Report
- Chairman's Annual Report
- Update on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

**Councillor Dr. David Jefferys**  
**Chairman, Health and Wellbeing Board**

**Decision Maker:** HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

**Date:** 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024

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

**Title:** Publication of the Annual Public Health Report 2023

**Contact Officer:** Katherine Dunlop, Specialty Registrar in Public Health  
E-mail : Katherine.Dunlop@bromley.gov.uk

**Chief Officer:** Dr Nada Lemic, Director of Public Health

**Ward:** All

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**1. Reason for decision/report and options**

- 1.1 To promote the publication of the Director of Public Health Annual Public Health Report 2023 and present next steps for NHS Health Checks
- 

**2. RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked:

- 2.1 To acknowledge publication of the report, and promote with relevant stakeholders.

### Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: Not Applicable
- 

### Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Not Applicable
  2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority:
    - (2) For adults and older people to enjoy fulfilled and successful lives in Bromley, ageing well, retaining independence and making choices.
- 

### Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Not Applicable
  2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable
  3. Budget head/performance centre: Not Applicable
  4. Total current budget for this head: £Not Applicable
  5. Source of funding: Not Applicable
- 

### Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): Not Applicable
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable
- 

### Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement
  2. Call-in: Not Applicable
- 

### Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable
- 

### Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: Not Applicable
- 

### Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: Not Applicable
- 

### Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (current and projected): Not Applicable
- 

### Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not Applicable

### 3 COMMENTARY

- 3.1 Each year, the Director of Public Health has a statutory duty to produce an Annual Public Health Report looking at the health and wellbeing of the community.
- 3.2 This year, the Annual Public Health Report is titled [The Prevention Journey through NHS Health Checks and Beyond](#). The report takes an in-depth look at the 23 years of work carried out in Bromley in the prevention, early detection and management of risk factors for cardiovascular disease (CVD) and other non-communicable diseases, culminating in the NHS Health Checks programme.
- 3.3 This year's report highlights the impressive work of GP surgeries and partners across the Borough, who have delivered more than 56,000 NHS Health Checks over the last 10 years. Of note is the impressive post-pandemic recovery of the NHS Health Checks programme. Last year Bromley more than tripled the proportion of eligible people invited for Checks, reaching pre-pandemic levels of invitation. At the same time the absolute number of health checks more than doubled, from 1933 checks in 2021/22 to 4966 checks in 2022/23.
- 3.4 The data in the report aims to support partners across Bromley to continue delivering a high-quality health programme to residents, learn from best practices, and find new ways to innovate and improve, such as digital health checks and improved 'call and recall'.

### 4 IMPACT ON VULNERABLE ADULTS AND CHILDREN

Cardiovascular disease causes 1 in 4 deaths in England and is one of the top causes of illness and health inequalities. Each year, approximately 1.3 million NHS health checks are delivered in England, identifying 315,00 people living with obesity and 33,000 cases of hypertension, preventing over 400 heart attacks and strokes. The focus on NHS Health Checks in this year's APHR reflects the health and wellbeing priorities of the Council in [Making Bromley Even Better](#), and the significant positive impact that disease prevention can have for residents.

### 5 TRANSFORMATION/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The APHR forms a vital element of accountability and reporting linked to key strategies at Bromley. The NHS Health Checks programme is a key contributor to Ambition 2 in the Making Bromley Even Better strategy. Relevant outcomes from the Health & Wellbeing Strategy are mapped against the Ambition 2 below:

**Making Bromley Even Better Ambition 2:** For adults and older people to enjoy fulfilled and successful lives in Bromley, ageing well, retaining independence and making choices.

#### Health and Wellbeing Strategy Priority 2: Improving Health and Wellbeing of Adults

- Reducing the prevalence of overweight and obesity in adults
- Slowdown the rise in the number of new cases of diabetes
- Raise awareness on the links to obesity, diabetes and hypertension

#### Health and Wellbeing Strategy Priority 3: Disease Prevention and Helping People to Stay Well

- Long term conditions are prevented and further complications prevented – focus on the vital five (smoking, obesity, hypertension, alcohol and mental health), and physical activity

### 6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

## 7 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

## 8 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The Director of Public Health has a statutory duty to produce an Annual Public Health Report looking at the health and wellbeing of the community, making it one of the key documents produced by the Public Health Department.

## 9 PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

## 10 PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

## 11 CARBON REDUCTION/SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

The London Borough of Bromley Net Zero policy aims to achieve net zero by 2027, underlining the council's commitment to the environment. At the same time, the Green NHS 'Delivering a 'Net Zero' National Health Service' report sets out a clear path for how to decarbonise the NHS, including specific recommendations for primary healthcare. The report supports reducing travel through digital care pathway redesign (for example through Digital NHS Health Checks) and prevention of disease and health inequality. Increasing access to the NHS Health Check through digitisation of the pathway with not only provide protective health effects, but also deliver significant environmental benefits too.

## 12 CUSTOMER IMPACT

Not applicable

## 13 WARD COUNCILLOR VIEWS

Not applicable

<b>Non-Applicable Headings:</b>	<b>6,7,9,10,12,13</b>
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Not applicable





THE LONDON BOROUGH

# The Prevention Journey through NHS Health Checks and Beyond

Annual Public  
Health Report 2023

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# Welcome to Bromley's Annual Public Health Report 2023

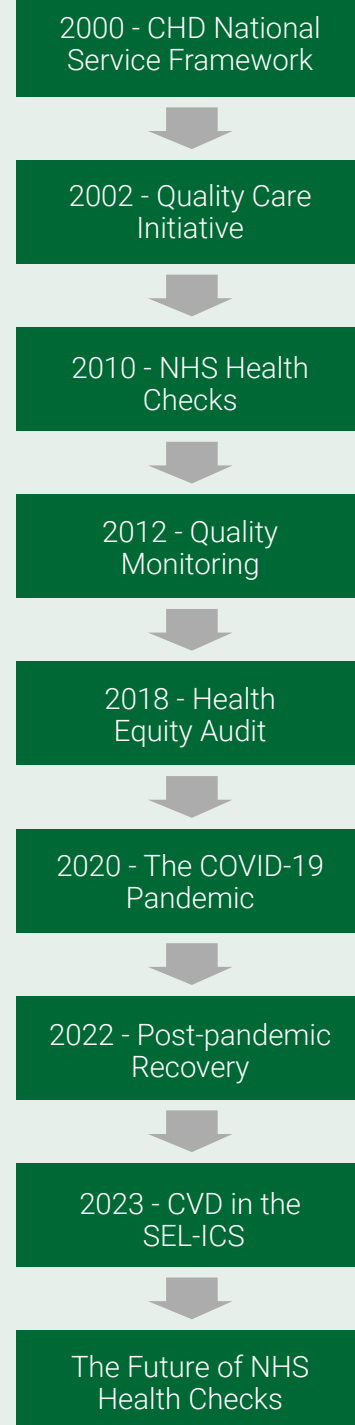
This year's report will look at the progress of the NHS Health Checks programme in Bromley looking at their predecessors, inception, achievements to date and beyond.

**Dr Nada Lemic**  
Director of Public Health London Borough of Bromley

Each year, approximately 1.3 million NHS health checks are delivered in England, identifying 315,00 people living with obesity and 33,000 cases of hypertension, preventing over 400 heart attacks and strokes.

The report will span the 23 years of impressive work carried out by GP surgeries and partners in Bromley, in the prevention, early detection and management of risk factors for cardiovascular disease (CVD) and other non-communicable diseases.

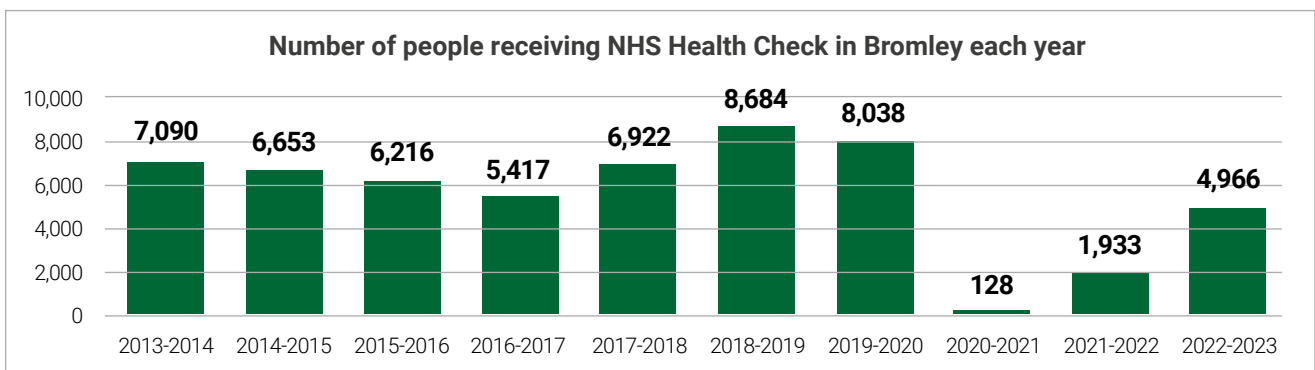
Our journey begins in the year 2000 with the Coronary Heart Disease National Service Framework and ends with the current position and a look to the future. The report aims to document the journey of prevention efforts in Bromley, while providing evidence and action for GP surgeries to celebrate successes and to continue to increase the scale and quality of NHS Health Checks, with targeted recommendations which can be implemented now, and in the future.



**Figure 1: Time line of the prevention journey in Bromley**

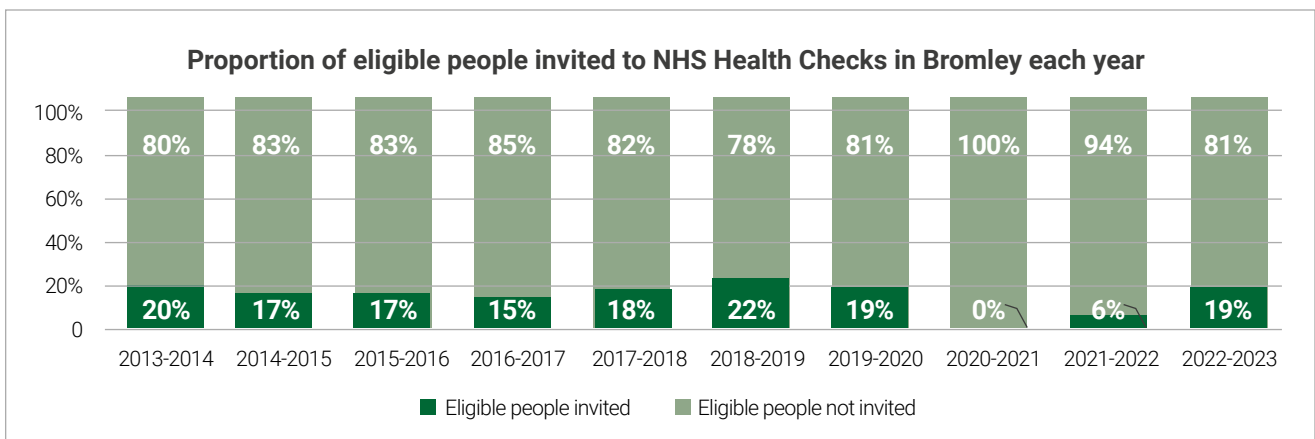
# NHS Health Checks in the last decade: Achieving targets for offers completion and uptake.

Over the last 10 years, Bromley GP practices and the GP Alliance have delivered 56,057 health checks:



**Chart 1: Number of people receiving NHS Health Checks 2013-2023**

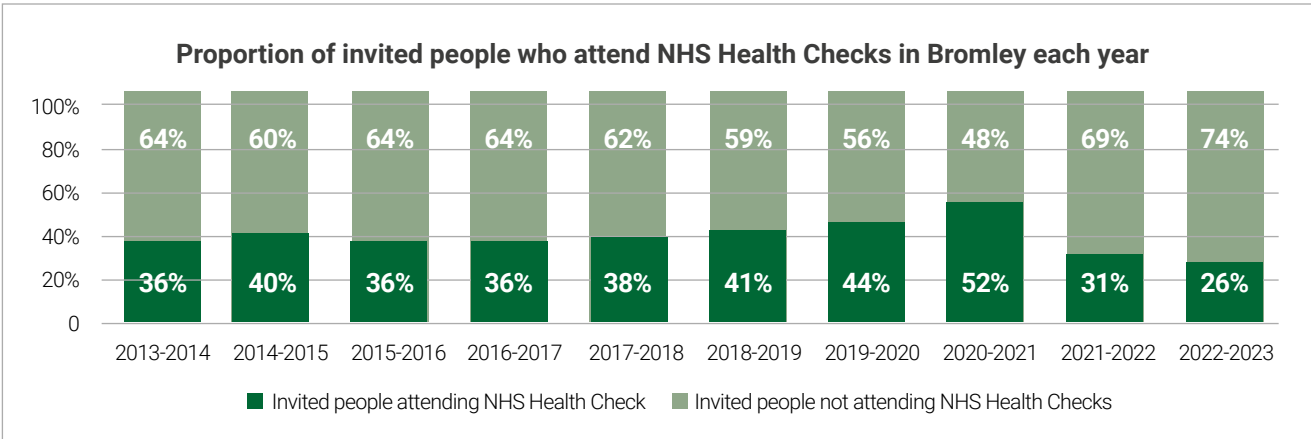
The annual target is to invite 20% of the eligible population for NHS Health Checks each year. Bromley GPs showed impressive post-pandemic recovery in 2022/23, inviting 4966 people for a Check. **This more than triples the proportion of eligible people invited for Checks, reaching pre-pandemic levels of invitation.**



**Chart 2: Percentage of eligible population invited each year 2013-2023 compared with annual 20% target.**



The aim is that 50% of invited eligible people attend their NHS Health Check each year. Pre-pandemic, Bromley had shown consistent progress to reaching this target. **In 2022/23, one quarter of invited people attended their NHS Health Check.**



**Chart 3: Percentage of eligible population invited each year 2013 -2023 compared with 50% target.**

# Year 2000 – Back to the beginning with the Coronary Heart Disease National Service Framework (CHD NSF)

To better understand NHS health checks today, we need to look back at how Bromley has tackled health improvement in the past.

The Coronary Heart Disease National Service Framework (CHD NSF) laid out the first national plan to systematically help manage patients with cardiovascular disease to high quality standards. Chapter two of the framework was particularly aimed at primary care, with the inclusion of standards three and four (see Figure 2).

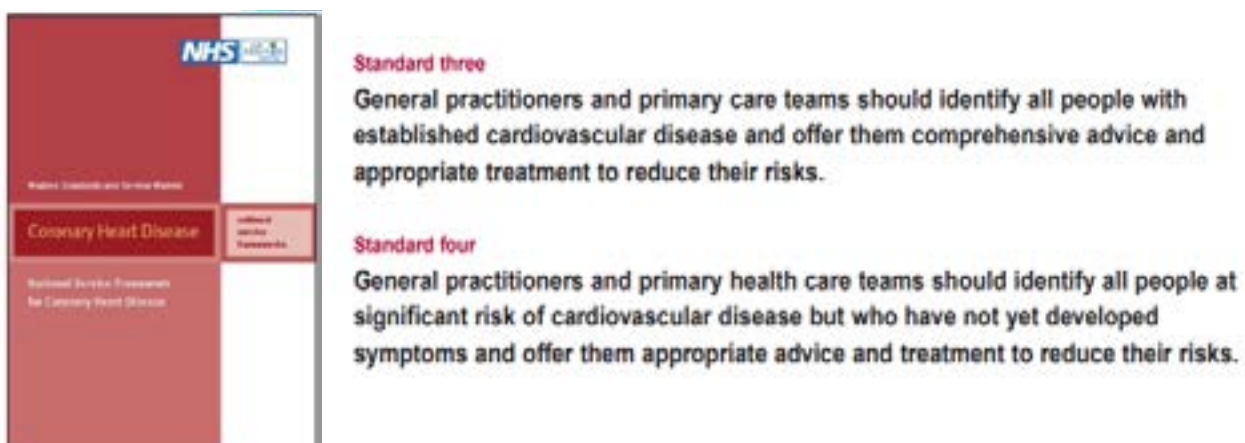


Figure 2: Standards three and four of the Coronary Heart Disease National Service Framework.

The first step was to achieve standard three for people with established disease, through:

- Developing their Coronary Heart Disease National Service Framework (CHD NSF) and stroke registers.
- Establishing clinics for follow up and review, to ensure patients with CVD were on the correct medication, plus given appropriate lifestyle advice.

The next step was to achieve Standard four, through the identification of people without diagnosed CVD who were at increased risk and offer preventative interventions. This standard was the precursor to the NHS Health Check programme.

Other Chapters of the NSF relevant to primary care included quality standards to achieve for the identification and management of atrial fibrillation, heart failure, angina, heart attack, cardiac rehabilitation.

The Coronary Heart Disease National Service Framework (CHD NSF) required some significant system and clinical change in Primary Care. A cardiovascular disease nurse specialist for each Primary Care Group, to support that group of Practices as required.

Bromley GP Practices embraced these standards and worked hard to achieve them. Progress against the Coronary Heart Disease National Service Framework (CHD NSF) was assessed each year through annual audits demonstrating achievements and identifying areas for improvement to focus on.

# Year 2002 – Introducing the Quality Care Initiative

In March 2001, Bromley Primary Care Trust (PCT) introduced The Quality Care Initiative (QCI), a framework for “encouraging quality improvement and evidence based clinical practice across General Practice, with the ultimate goal of improving health across key disease areas”.

The initiative used small incentive payments to encourage the development of chronic disease registers, and the achievement of quality targets for six health outcomes:



The methodology included an organisational development approach, with a range of support provided to the three clusters of Practices from the Primary Care Trust (PCT) Practice Educators. Further expert clinical support was provided to GP Practices by three cardiovascular nurse specialists, and three prescribing advisors. Regular meetings and audit were able to target the supportive resources to areas in need of development.

The scheme’s effectiveness quickly became clear, through a 2003 evaluation using estimates of attributable risk of the six risk factors to calculate the impact the initiative was having on the incidence of coronary heart disease and stroke.

**The results were impressive, with significant estimated reductions in disease incidence.**



	ESTIMATED REDUCTION IN CHD INDINCENCE	ESTIMATED REDUCTION IN STROKE INCIDENCE
Hypertension	16%	32%
Cholesterol	25%	-
Diabetes	4%	5%
Atrial Fibrillaton	-	8%

**Table 1: Estimated reduction in CHD and stroke incidence in Bromley as a result of QCI, using estimates of attributable risk.**

Participating practices continued with the scheme until it was superseded by the Quality and Outcomes Framework. At the time, there was a strong recognition of the success of the scheme, which was **locally developed, flexible and provided significant support** to improve evidence-based practice.

# Year 2010 - The NHS Health Checks Programme is Born

In 2009-2010, the Government launched the NHS Health Checks Programme, a national public health programme aimed at helping people live longer healthier lives.

The programme focuses on the prevention early detection and management of risk factors driving **heart disease, stroke, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, some dementia** but will have impact on reducing risk of **cancer** and **wider long-term conditions**. NHS Health Checks look at many aspects of a person's life (Figure 3):

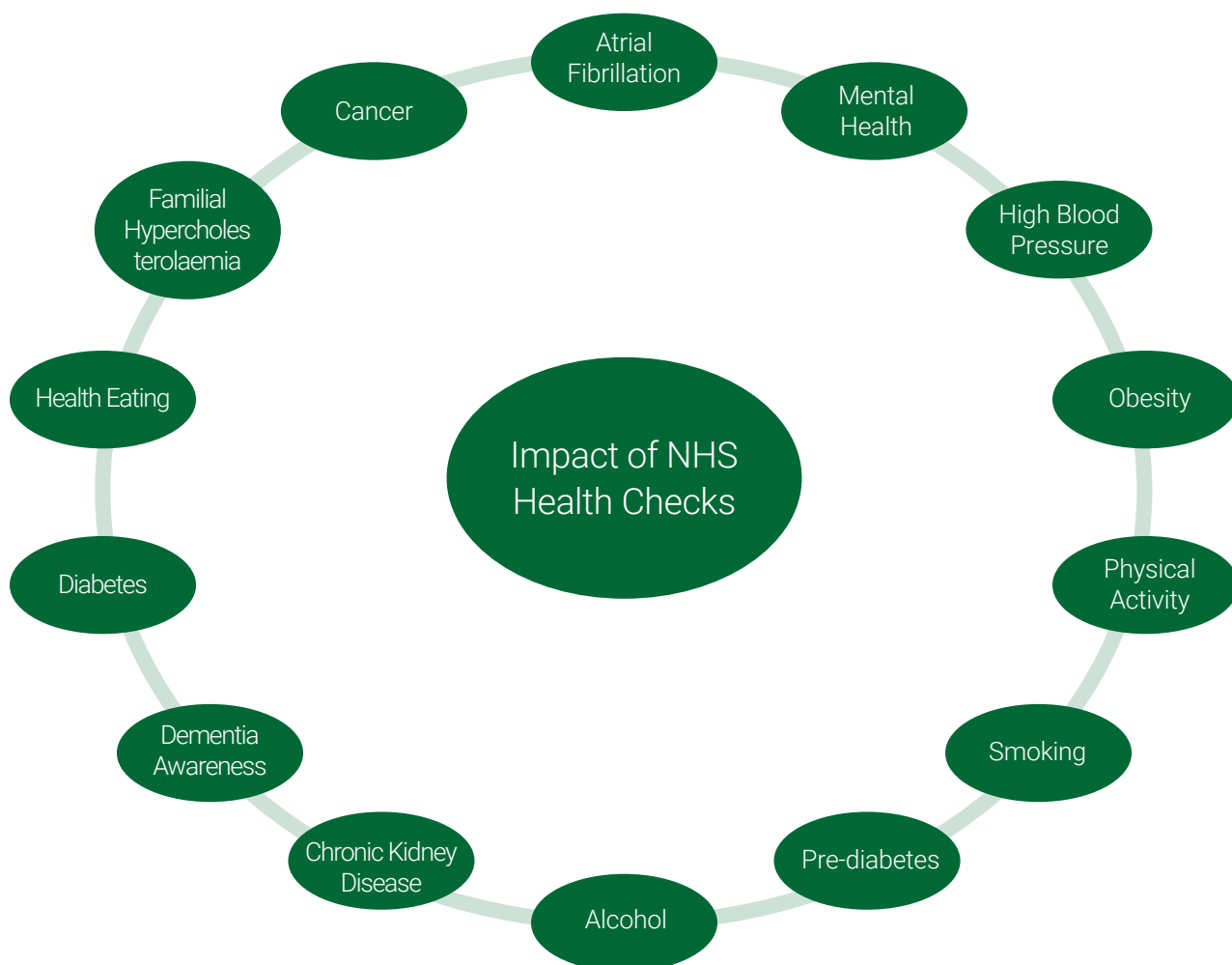


Figure 3: Diagram illustrates the varied aspects of an individual's life that can be impacted as a result of the NHS health check.

Under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, local authorities have a statutory responsibility for making sure that eligible people have an NHS Health Check once every five years. This is a major opportunity to tackle public health issues by helping individuals to take responsibility for their own health and reducing health inequalities arising from the conditions and lifestyle risks covered by the programme.

Our approach in Bromley is for GP Practices to be the main provider of NHS Health Checks. When planning the programme in 2009, our Director of Public Health presented options to GPs at an Academic Half Day.

'Would you like primary care to provide these NHS Health Checks, or would you like Public Health to arrange alternative arrangements?'. There was an overwhelming positive response from GP Practices at the time that they wished to provide the NHS Health Checks.

GP Practices (including those supported by the Bromley GP Alliance) have an important role in the NHS Health Checks programme, as they;

- ✓ hold the register for patient NHS Health Checks.
- ✓ manage the call recall element of the programme.
- ✓ provide, signpost, and refer to appropriate behavioural interventions to support healthy lifestyle change.
- ✓ ensure ongoing management of those at high risk of vascular disease and/or detection of previously undiagnosed conditions.

# Ensuring Quality in the NHS Health Checks programme

Completing NHS Health Checks well is so important to us. Quality is at the core of all aspects, and we continue to promote, monitor, and inspire quality in everyone that is involved. We believe excellence should happen at every level and our programme is structured in such a way to achieve this see figure 4.

More detail on the quality of the award-winning Bromley NHS Health Checks programme is still available to read in the Annual Public Health report 2016. It is still very relevant today: NHS Health Checks ([bromley.gov.uk](http://bromley.gov.uk)). You can also watch our video created for our Annual Public Health Report in 2016.



Figure 4: Structure supporting the quality of Bromley's NHS Health Check Programme



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jXvS\\_VhRJ78](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jXvS_VhRJ78)

# Years 2012 to 2017 – Introducing quality standards Bromley NHS Health Checks

The year of 2013 brought about national changes to the NHS structure with the dissolution of Primary Care Trusts. Public Health responsibilities were split across local authorities, NHS England, and Public Health England. The NHS Health Checks programme became a statutory requirement for Public Health in local authorities to ensure the eligible population were offered and could receive an NHS Health Check. <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2013/351/contents/made> This ensured the continuation of this important public health programme within the new structural arrangements. Public Health England reviewed the structure, monitoring and guidance for NHS Health Checks. It developed a new Best Practice Guidance document and provided support to local authority commissioners and providers of NHS Health Checks through regional networks <https://www.healthcheck.nhs.uk/commissioners-and-providers/>

In 2015, when the first five-year cycle of NHS Health Checks were complete, the Bromley Public Health team, together with colleagues from the London NHS Health Check Network, developed and piloted a set of nine quality standards (Appendix 1). This London standards tool was used to perform a quality audit to “assess the follow up outcomes of patients identified through the programme”. The audit objectives were to:

1. Identify how well a model practice is meeting the data collection criteria and how successful interventional efforts have been.
2. Identify any areas where the model practice is not meeting requirements.
3. Develop an audit ready for implementing in other practices in the clinical commissioning group (CCG).

The audit tool set out nine standard outcome measures for service specification and quality and measured compliance in a model practice. The results were particularly impressive for outcomes relating to diabetes, as can be seen on example from Table 2.

STANDARD	DEFINITION	COMPLIANCE
1.1	80% of patients identified with a raised BMI at the time of the NHS Health Check should have a documented lifestyle intervention and measurement of HbA1c within 3 months of the NHS Health Check.	79%
1.2	A follow up review should include further monitoring of height, weight and BMI recorded and achieve a weight reduction of 5%.	Data not available
1.3	If BMI $\geq 35$ , then 100% patients should be offered a referral to a tier 2 weight management service.	61%
2.1	80% patients identified as meeting the NHS Health Check diabetes filter criteria should have assessment of diabetes risk by measurement of HbA1c or fasting plasma glucose.	83%
2.2	100% of patients with a raised HbA1c of between 42 - 48mmols/mol (6.0-6.4%) or FPG $\geq 5.5$ - $\leq 6.9$ mmol/l, they should be coded with an appropriate READ code indicating level of risk of diabetes and/or diagnostic code of pre diabetic state e.g. At high risk of diabetes.	55%
2.3	Patients identified as 'high risk of diabetes' should have intensive lifestyle intervention and a repeat blood test HbA1c or FPG at 12months achieving a reduction in glucose and therefore diabetes risk.	100%
3.1	At least 80% of patients with sustained systolic blood pressure $\geq 140$ and/or diastolic blood pressure and/or $\geq 90$ should be coded with an appropriate READ code indicating hypertension. This may occur subsequently following the Health Check.	Unable to confirm
3.2	Patients with hypertension should be treated with lifestyle advice and evidence of antihypertensive prescribing and further monitoring and reduction in blood pressure to $<140/90$ mmHg.	Pass
4.1	At least 80% of patients with screening total cholesterol of $\geq 7.5$ mmol/L should have the use of the familial hypercholesterolemia filter.	40%

**Table 2: Compliance rate of one audited GP practice against quality standards, 2015**

The audit also highlighted several opportunities for improved follow up and management of diagnoses, specifically regarding data coding with hypertension and obesity, and subsequent testing and referral. In addition, the audit highlighted patients with a QRISK2 score over 20% (high risk) 27% were commenced on a statin, an area where there was a significant focus on improvement.

In 2017, a follow up quality audit was conducted to see if the management of those with a very high or high QRISK2 score had been enhanced. All health checks with the relevant data conducted across the borough in 2015/16 period were analysed (n=370). Against, we saw that challenges remained with coding of people at high risk of CVD, and a slight decrease in statin prescribing (Table 3).

STANDARD	DEFINITION	COMPLIANCE
CVD1	Patients with a QRISK2 $\geq$ 20% should be offered lifestyle advice and interventions where appropriate – 100%	69%
CVD2	Patients with a QRISK2 $\geq$ 20% should be offered a statin unless contraindicated – 100%	24%
CVD3	Patients with a QRISK2 $\geq$ 20% should be coded as being at high risk of cardiovascular disease, to enable annual follow up – 100%	0%

**Table 3: Compliance rate of NHS health checks against quality standards (n=370)**

With a continued emphasis on quality improvement the report suggested that all practices aim for the following standards in the future:

- CVD. 1 – Patients with a QRISK2  $\geq$  20% should be offered lifestyle advice and interventions where appropriate – 80%
- CVD. 2 – Patients with a QRISK2  $\geq$  20% should be offered a statin unless contraindicated - 100%
- CVD. 3 - Patients with a QRISK2  $\geq$  20% should have a date for annual follow up recorded – 90%
- CVD. 4 - Patients with a QRISK2  $\geq$  20% should have a lipid profile measured prior to commencement of statin – 100%

- CVD. 5 - Patients with a QRISK2  $\geq$  20% should be offered a statin within 6 months of undergoing health check – 80%

The London standards document was superseded by the publication of National Programme Standards a year later

**<https://www.healthcheck.nhs.uk/commissioners-and-providers/national-guidance/>**



# Year 2018 - Auditing Health Equity

The NHS Health Checks went from strength to strength throughout the 2010's so as part of the routine audit cycle, a Health Equity Audit was conducted. The Audit examined how health determinants, access to relevant health services, and related outcomes affected point of identification, invitation and take up of the NHS Health Check programme in Bromley.

Despite small variations in invitation across age, gender, ethnicity and deprivation, the commitment of Bromley GPs to health equity shone through, with results showing **largely equitable distribution of invitation and uptake across the Borough.**

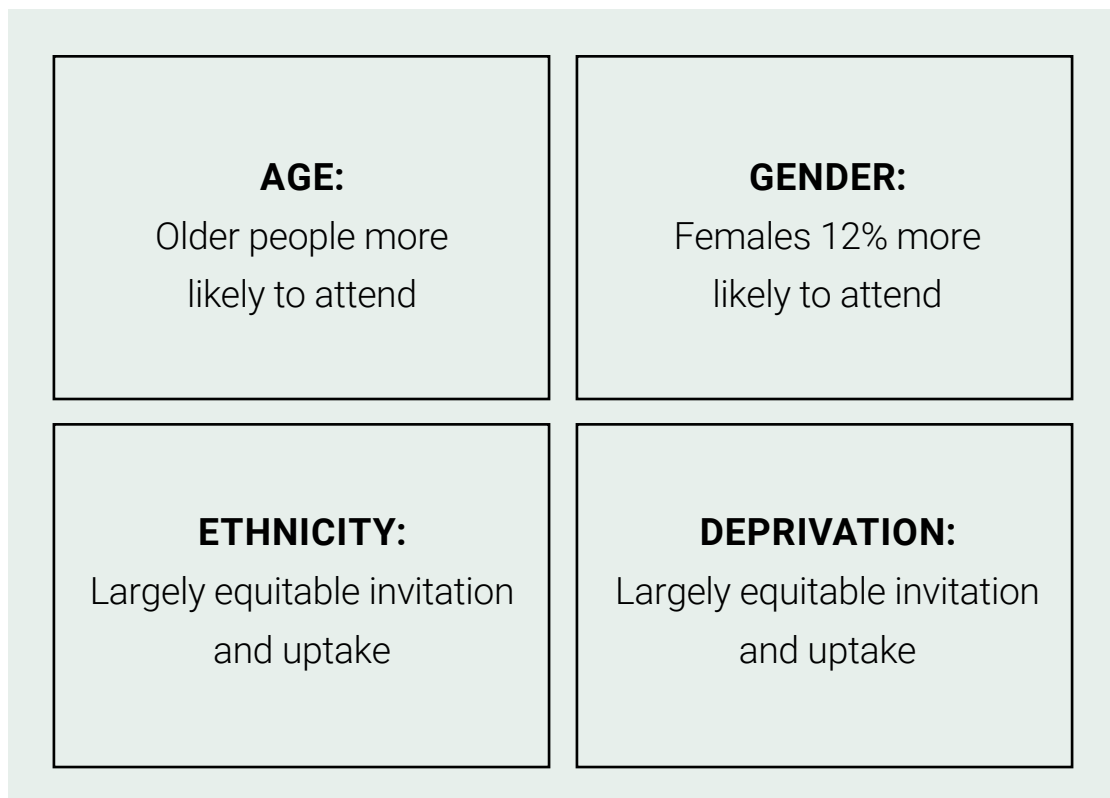


Figure 5: Summary of findings from Bromley NHS Health Checks equity audit

Importantly, the Audit highlighted the key role the GP Practices play in uptake, with the GP practice itself having the greatest influence on the increasing the number of invitations, and the successful conversion of those invited to attending their NHS health check. For example, **60% more invited residents attended their health check in the highest achieving GP Practice.**

	GP WITH LOWEST PROPORTION	GP WITH HIGHEST PROPORTION
Invitation of eligible residents (target 20%)	5%	41%
Uptake of invited residents (target 50%)	22%	80%

**Table 4: Comparison of GP surgery with highest and lowest proportion of residents invited to and attending NHS health Checks in 2018.**

# Year 2020 - 21 – The Impact of Covid-19 on the NHS Health Check programme

Understandably, Covid-19 had a significant impact on the delivery of NHS Health Checks, which reduced from 8038 health checks in 2019/20 to 128 in 2020/21 as Primary Care were instructed by NHS England to stop providing non-essential work.

**In 2021/22 against difficult odds, 8 of the 42 GP practices met the target of 20% of eligible population offered a check, and three managed to invite more than 30% of eligible people.**

Unfortunately, no practices met the 10% target for NHS Health Checks delivered, though some were close with 9.1% achieved. The report largely mirrored the results from 2018, finding that any inequity in access across the Borough was small and not usually statistically significant.

Nevertheless, the report highlighted key areas of focus, to ensure the burden of cardiovascular disease and diabetes does not increase as a result of inequities which may have been widened by the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **Focus populations identified from the 2018 and 2022 Health Equity Audits:**

- **Young:** Those aged 40-44 years are most likely to benefit from early detection and prevention advice. Targeting invitations at milestone birthdays can increase uptake.
- **Men:** Men have a higher risk of cardiovascular disease than women, and therefore additional efforts to encourage their attendance at NHS Health Checks should be made.
- **Ethnicity:** People of Asian and Black heritage have a higher risk of cardiovascular disease, and therefore targeting this group is appropriate. However other groups should also be encouraged to attend to ensure they are not overlooked.

# Year 2022 - Post-Pandemic Recovery of Health Checks

After a few extremely difficult years recovering from the pandemic, it is encouraging to start seeing the first positive signs of recovery of the NHS Health Checks programme.

In the 2022-23 reporting period, increases in delivery were seen each quarter, with the final figures for the period being significantly higher than the previous two years.

NATIONAL TARGETS		BROMLEY 2019-20	BROMLEY 2020-21	BROMLEY 2021-22	BROMLEY 2022-23
Total eligible population *(PHE estimated Bromley residents)		97,495	97,495	99,247	100,074
	TARGET %				
The number and percentage of eligible population aged 40-74 eligible for an NHS Health Check who were offered an NHS Health Check	20%	18,271 (18.7%)	246 (0.3%)	6,271 (6%)	19,009 (19%)
The number and percentage of eligible population aged 40-74 years who received an NHS Health Check	10%	8,038 (8.2%)	128 (0.1%)	1,933 (2%)	4,966 (5%)
The percentage of eligible population aged 40-74 years offered an NHS Health Check, who received an NHS Check	50%	8,038 (44%)	128 (52%)	1,933 (31%)	4,966 (26%)

**Table 5: Trends in invitation to and uptake of NHS health checks from 2019-2023.**

**The Borough reached 19% of the eligible population with an invitation for a Health Check (almost reaching the 20% target) and 26% uptake from those invited.** While this leaves room to continue to grow, it represents a significant recovery towards pre-pandemic levels.

**In 2022/23 - 42 GP Practices (11 using the Bromley GP Alliance) provided 4966 NHS Health Checks in Bromley.**

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Prevention of the onset of long-term conditions such as cardiovascular disease and related conditions is a priority for NHS Health checks. By identifying risk factors for these conditions early, working with individuals to support and refer to services for lifestyle behaviour change and further investigation and treatment where needed to address the risk factors is key to maximising the benefits of the NHS Health Check programme. Bromley's NHS Health Checks programme identified significant numbers of adverse risk factors in 2022-23, as shown in Table 6.

Type, number, and percentage of adverse Risk factors identified through an NHS Health Check	No. Patients	%
Irregular Pulse	78	1.6%
Raised Blood Pressure (BP), greater than or equal to 140/90mmHg	1108	22.3%
Body Mass Index greater than or equal to 30 (27.5 in BAME population)	1504	30.3%
Current Smokers	601	12.1%
Alcohol assessment scores		
AUDIT score 8-15 indicating - Increased Risk	463	9.3%
AUDIT score 16-19 indicating - Higher Risk	39	0.8%
AUDIT score 20 or more indicating Dependency	18	0.4%
Inactive - GP Physical Activity Questionnaire (GPPAQ)	1088	21.9%
Increased risk of diabetes due to raised Qdiabetes score, raised BMI or raised BP	2347	47.3%
Qrisk 2 cardiovascular raised 10-year risk score:		
10-19.9%	976	19.7%
20% or greater	276	5.6%
Cholesterol greater than 7.5mmol/l	77	1.6%

**Table 6: Type, number and percentage of adverse Risk factors identified through an NHS Health Check 2022-23**

**Ensuring follow up investigation and management of people with adverse risk factors.** In Bromley, staff providing the NHS Health Check are trained in when to act supported by a written Clinical Filter Guide (See Appendix 2). In addition, prompts for action are included in the Bromley NHS Health Check template on the computerised EMIS Patients medical record. GP Practices are encouraged to make this pathway as smooth and robust as possible. However, there is an element of patient choice here, so although provided with the information the patient may choose not to attend for further investigation.

**Sensitive and appropriate communication of risk is essential to maximise the patient uptake of follow up and the uptake of behavioural lifestyle services.** Staff providing NHS Health Checks receive training in how to communicate risk as core training. Additional motivational interviewing training is also recommended. Early diagnosis of the associated high-risk conditions is beneficial in reducing progression to more severe cardiovascular disease, such as heart attacks, stroke, and vascular dementia.

**One of the great achievements of last year's checks, is that several individuals were diagnosed with these conditions following their NHS Health Check,** patients can now receive treatment to reduce cardiovascular risk, manage their condition and prevent disease progression. Please note due to the timing of data submission for NHS Health Checks, many of those identified with risk factors may still be undergoing further investigation and would be too soon to see the diagnosis on record therefore, the numbers in Table 7, will be an underestimation.

Conditions diagnosed following an NHS Health Check	No. Patients	%
Atrial fibrillation	0	0.0%
Hypertension	126	2.5%
Chronic Kidney Disease	21	0.4%
Non-diabetic Hyperglycaemia (pre-diabetes)	193	3.9%
Type 2 Diabetes	34	0.7%

**Table 7: Number of patients diagnosed with key conditions follow NHS health checks, as a percentage of the population of Bromley.**

Statin therapy is another important management measure for prevention of cardiovascular disease. South East London Integrated Care System (ICS) has developed comprehensive guidance for primary care regarding statins in the Lipid Management: Medicines Optimisation Pathways (selondonics.org)

**Of patients with elevated QRisk2 scores of 10-19.9%, almost 10% are on statin therapy. This number increases for those with a QRisk2 score more than 20%, to 15% on statin therapy. For patients with a cholesterol of 7.5mmol/l, 23% are on statin therapy.**

## Key Areas of Focus for 2023/24:

- Increasing invitation and uptake numbers: Ensuring an effective call and recall system with consideration to the recommendations from the health equity audit section on age, gender, ethnicity, and deprivation to ensure equitable provision.
- Support training for all staff on the NHS Health Checks Programme, with an emphasis on the complexity of referral pathways (see Figure 7 below).
- Continuing to support improvements in follow up, investigation and appropriate management of those with adverse risk factors Ensure robust Develop closer links between NHS Health Checks and wider CVD prevention work in the SEL ICS, to maximise beneficial patient outcomes.

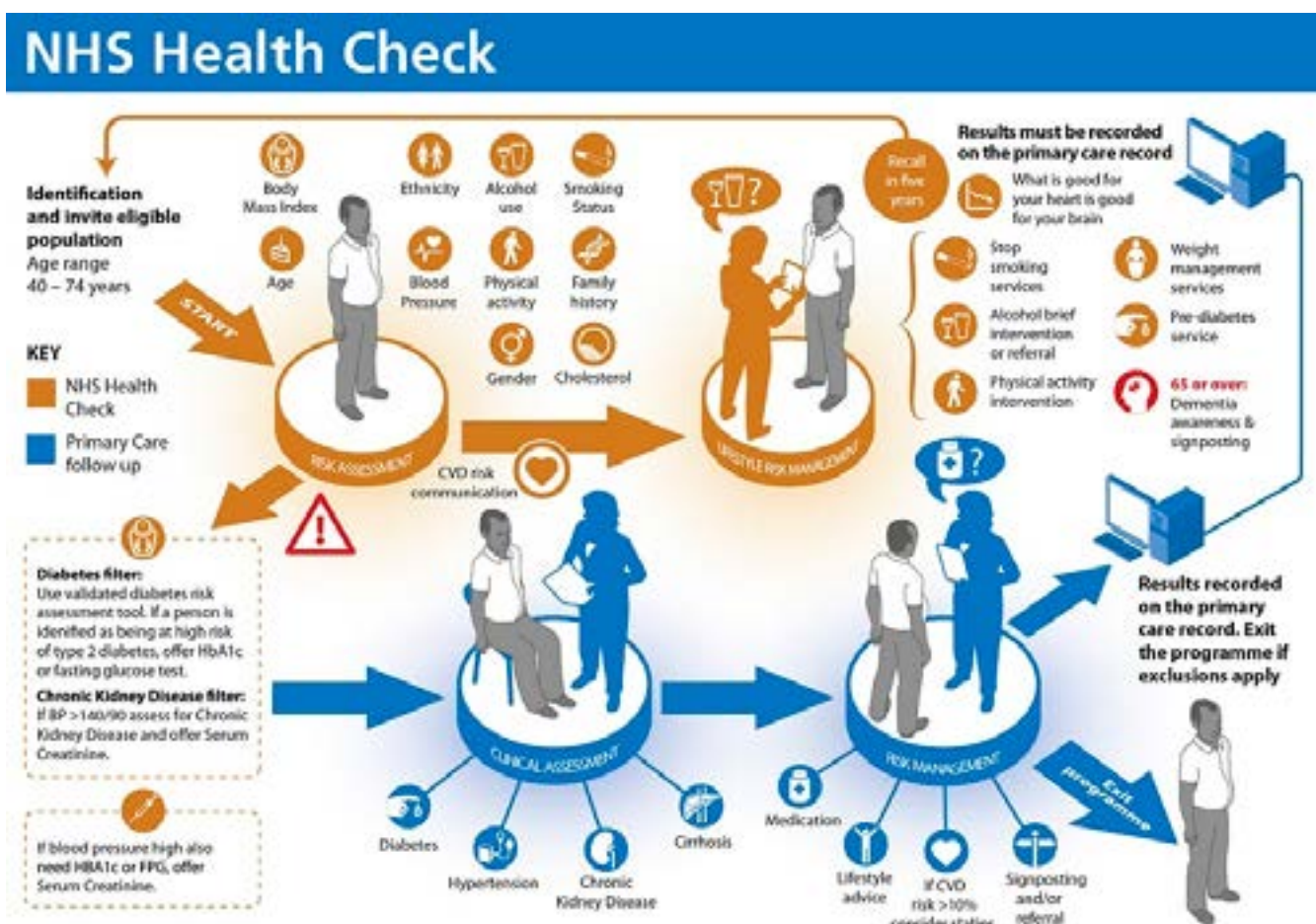


Figure 7: Infographic of care pathway through the NHS Health Check programme

# Year 2023 – Linking with wider Cardiovascular Disease Prevention priorities

The NHS Long Term Plan (2019) sets out a roadmap to redesign patient care and future-proof the NHS for the decade ahead. Chapter Two of the Plan sets out how to take action to prevent disease and ensure health equity.

- Cardiovascular disease (CVD) being one of the priority conditions highlighted.
- Improving and increasing early detection and treatment of CVD, in particular **A**trial Fibrillation, High **B**lood Pressure and High **C**holesterol (A, B and C) are key elements of this.

This work has obvious overlapped with the NHS Health Check which will focus on the identification. However, there is of course the wider population including those diagnosed with CVD who need these risk factors managed appropriately. See Figure 8.

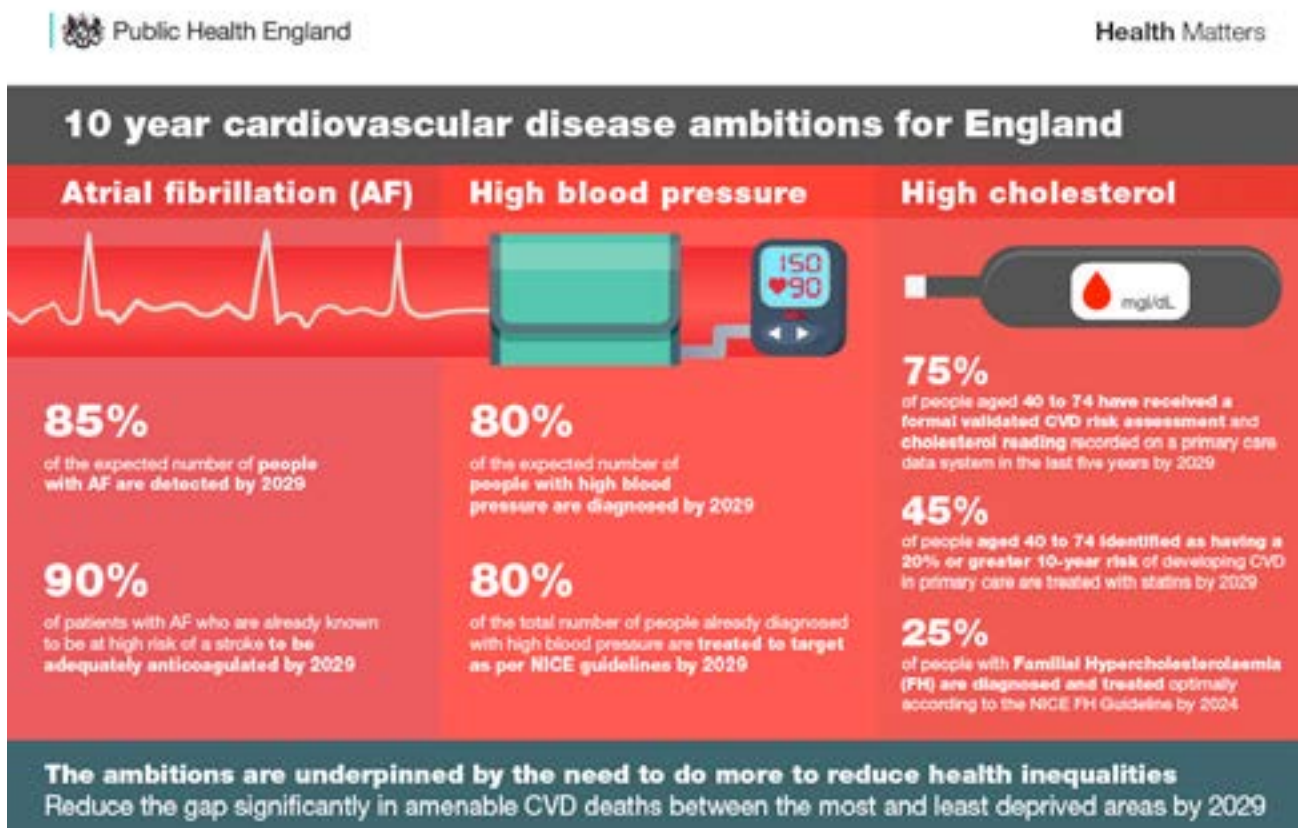
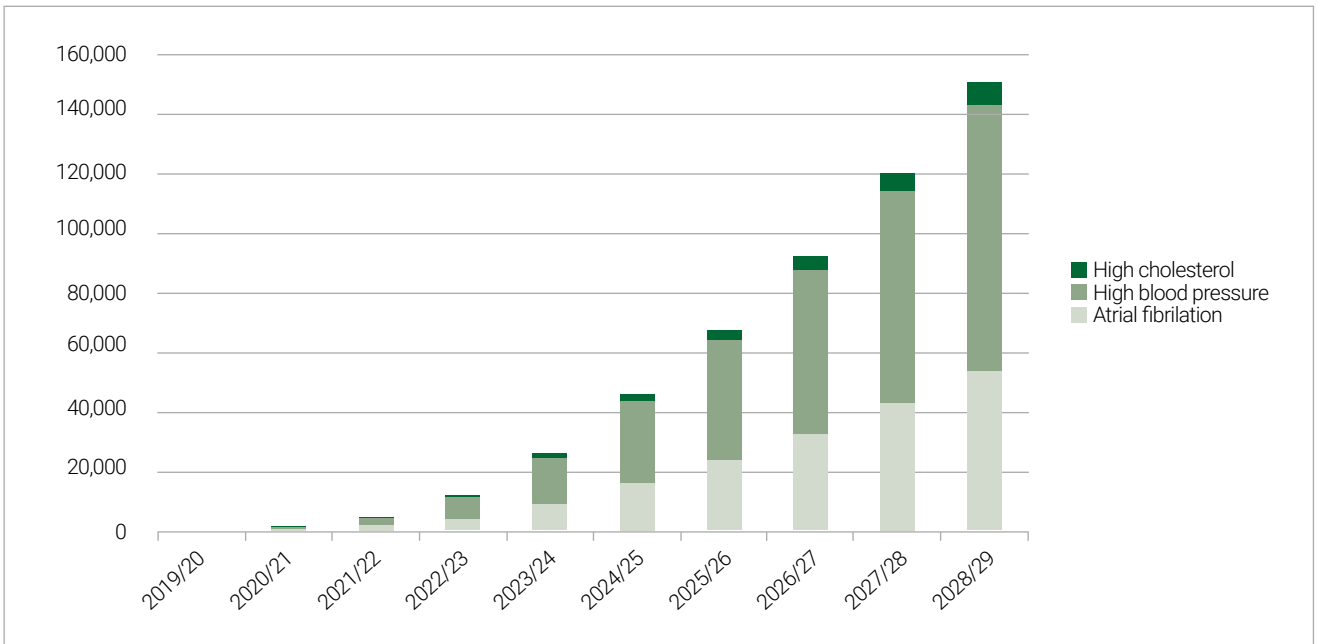


Figure 8: Infographic from PHE England setting out ambitions for the Long-Term Plan

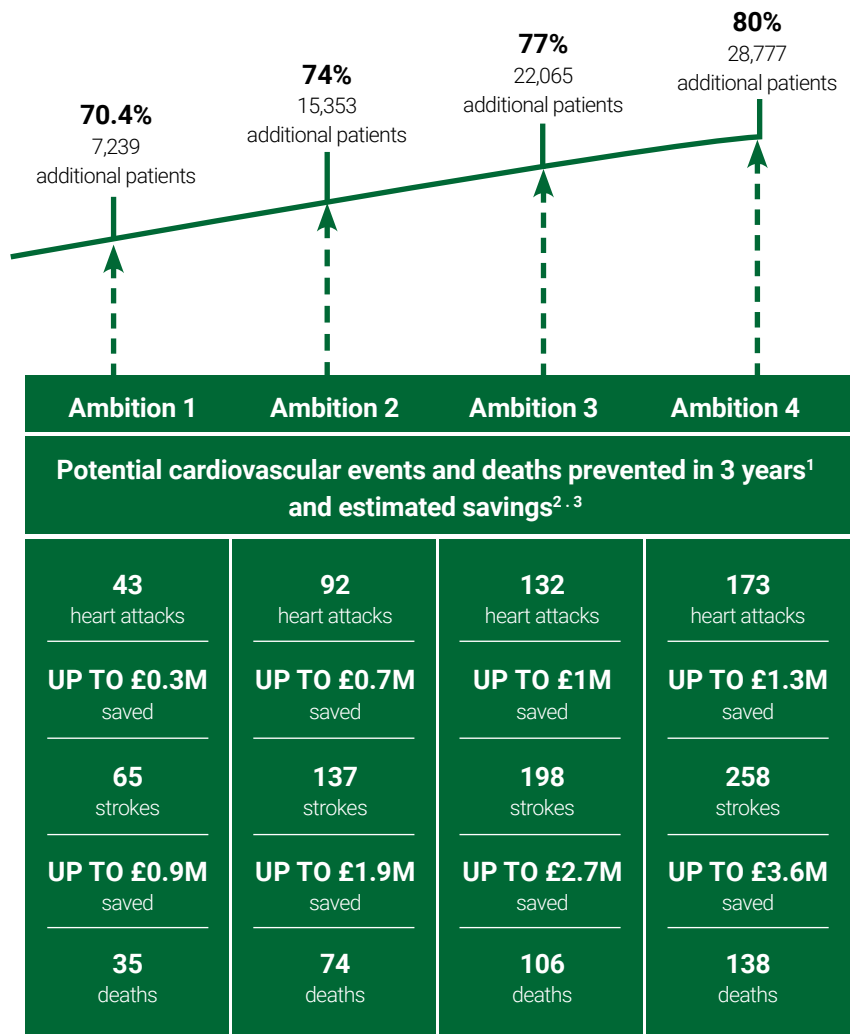
If these ambitions can be achieved, it is estimated that more than 140,000 cardiovascular events can be prevented by 2029.



**Figure 9: Shows projected cumulative number of heart attacks, strokes and dementia cases in England prevented by 2029.**

The priority area being addressed is High Blood Pressure for people diagnosed with hypertension to achieve a blood pressure of 140/90mmHg or less. As part of the plan, NHS England sets out a target to ‘increase the percentage of people treated to The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) blood pressure targets to 77% by March 2024.

The ambitions of NHS England are for each ICS to work towards achieving the targets represented in Figure 10 below, which illustrate much like QCI in 2002, the significant reduction in cardiovascular events and subsequent savings to be realised from scaling up NHS Health Checks.



**Figure 10: Potential number of cardiovascular events and death prevented through scaling up of CVD preventive work including prompt follow up of people post NHS Health Checks.**



In addition, key stakeholders across South-East London Health Economy are working together to improve systems for blood pressure management. GP Practices and Community Pharmacies are key to improving patients' blood pressure management and self-management initiatives such as home blood pressure monitoring. In addition to the role of NHS Health Checks in identifying people with undiagnosed hypertension, wider Public Health Campaigns, including Know Your Numbers Blood Pressure Awareness, can successfully increase knowledge and understanding of the risks of high blood pressure in the wider population.

## Key Actions recommended by SEL ICS for blood pressure control:

- Appoint a **clinical champion** and **admin lead**
- Embed robust **call and recall** systems
  - Make every contact count
  - Invite patients early to beat the winter pressures
  - Utilise the community pharmacy BP checks programme
  - Optimise BP@home
- Engage with **Clinical Effectiveness South-East London (CESEL)** for in-practice support
- Follow **CESEL / NICE guidance**
  - Utilise the wider workforce to support lifestyle / behaviour change
  - Intensify medicines in a timely manner
  - Offer early follow up to assess effectiveness
  - Support adherence and persistence to therapy
- **Review progress monthly** and feedback to staff

# Looking forward – What comes next?

With such clear benefits to be gained from prevention and early identification of risk factors, the desire to increase access to health checks lends itself well to a digital transformation.

In June 2023, the Government announced the introduction of Digital NHS Health Checks. The new digital check will be commissioned nationally to be delivered alongside the existing in-person NHS Health Check. The digital NHS Health Check has been piloted and developments of the national check are in progress. The detail is yet to be confirmed but it is anticipated the digital NHS Health Check will be accessible via mobile phone, tablet, or computer via an online questionnaire where patients will enter their height, weight, blood pressure and blood test results. It will link with the NHS App.

**Digital NHS Health Checks are expected to deliver an additional one million checks over 4 years, while easing pressure on GP surgeries.**

It is estimated that each digital could save 20 minutes of NHS time - potentially freeing up hundreds of thousands of appointments in primary care, relieving pressure on GP surgeries, and helping reduce waiting times. Health and Social Care Secretary Steve Barclay said:

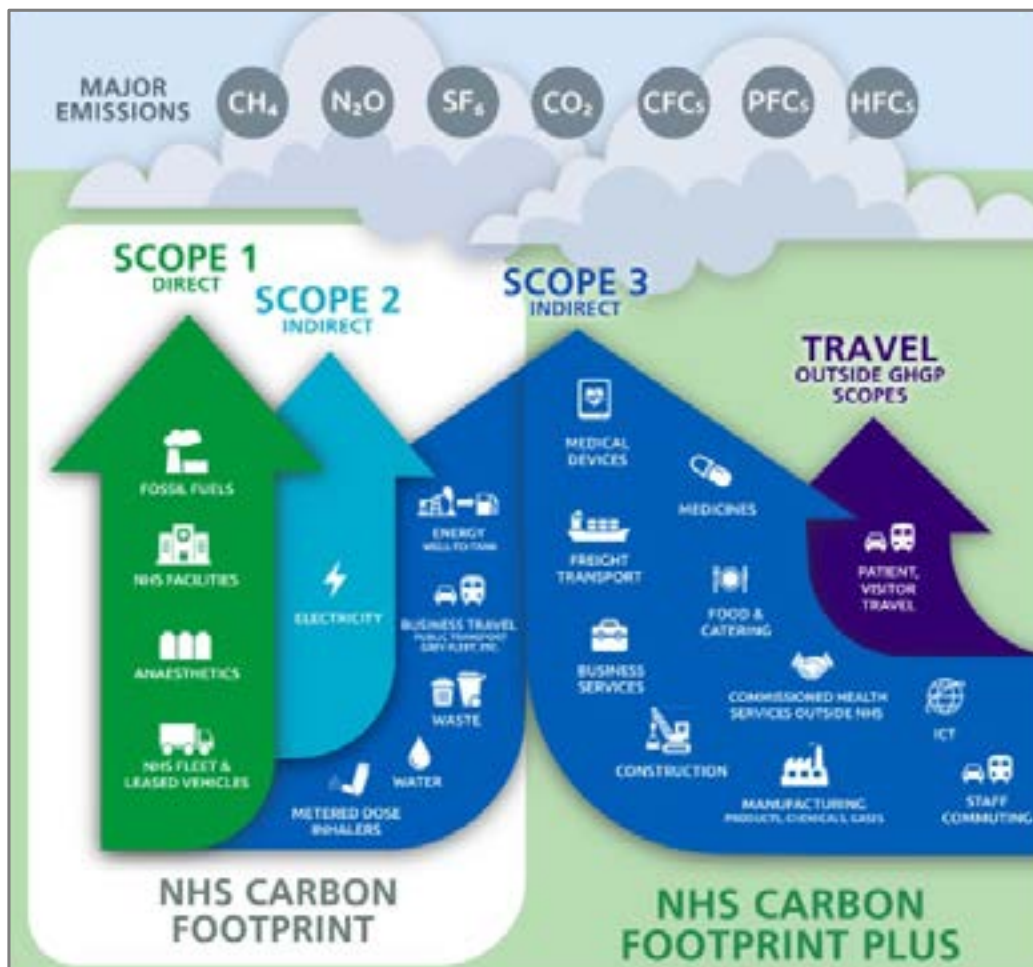
*“Thousands of heart attacks and strokes could be prevented every year through simple health checks, which would save lives and ease pressure on the NHS... This programme is the latest example of how we are using technology to cut waiting times, one of the government’s 5 priorities, improve diagnosis and treatment.”*

The development of a new digital NHS Health Check to complement the face-to-face NHS Health Check is excellent news. Whilst it won’t be appropriate for all, it will provide the additional capacity needed to reach all those who are eligible. We eagerly await more information to see how this will work in practice, in particular how the digital and

face to face NHS Health Check programmes link together. It is expected this digital NHS Health Check will be available in 2024.

## Digital NHS Health Checks: A move towards sustainability

The NHS is responsible for 5% of all UK environmental emissions, with some estimates citing as many as 1 in 20 journeys on UK roads are healthcare related. Patient travel alone makes up about 5% of NHS emissions, with primary healthcare visits being one of the major contributors to this. Green NHS sets out the organisations ambitious target to reach net zero emissions for the care provided by 2040.



Box Figure 1: Shows the NHS carbon footprint, and significant contribution of travel to greenhouse gas emissions.

The Green NHS 'Delivering a 'Net Zero' National Health Service' report sets out a clear path for how to decarbonise the NHS, including specific recommendations for primary healthcare.

The report estimates that by reducing travel through digital care pathway redesign (for example through Digital NHS Health Checks) and prevention of disease and health inequality, the system can reduce carbon by 221 kilotonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (ktCO<sub>2</sub>e) – **together that is the same as reducing travel of petrol cars by more than 566,000 miles in a year.**

This in turn reduces air pollution, supporting further improvement in air quality, to support prevention of respiratory diseases which cause approximately 38,000 premature deaths per year.

**Clearly, increasing access to the NHS Health Check through digitisation of the pathway with not only provide protective health effects, but also deliver significant environmental benefits too.**

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Explore how starting Digital NHS Health Checks can support your practice's Net Zero targets and integrate into decarbonisation planning.

# Support for Lifestyle Behaviour Change – keeping up to date with available services

The role of lifestyle behaviour change is incredibly important and is an integral part of the NHS Health Check and wider CVD prevention. However, we do acknowledge that the services available to support patients with lifestyle changes come and ensure quality.

**2024 is a good year for behavioural support lifestyle services with newly the commissioned Slimming World programme as an additional Tier 2 weight management programme and Smokefree Bromley which is a new local stop smoking service.**

To ensure up to date information, GP Practices should use the ROP on their computer system, there are additional services and information on the Bromley pages of the Make Every Contact Count website for health care professionals

**<https://www.mecclink.co.uk/location?location=bromley>**

General public can find information on the Bromley Council Health and Wellbeing pages. **<https://www.bromley.gov.uk/health-wellbeing>**

As we all know making and maintaining healthy lifestyle behaviours is often difficult. Using motivational interviewing techniques and making every contact count can help enhance success. There is guidance on speaking to people about weight which can be a very emotive subject Let's Talk About Weight – step by step guide

**[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5b8d54d2e5274a0bd7d11928/weight\\_management\\_toolkit\\_Let\\_s\\_talk\\_about\\_weight.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5b8d54d2e5274a0bd7d11928/weight_management_toolkit_Let_s_talk_about_weight.pdf)**

It is also recommended that everyone in Primary Care and the wider health economy that have the opportunities to speak to Smokers about their smoking undertake at least some Very Brief Advice Training. This is available via the NCSCT website or will be part of some webinars from the new local Stop Smoking Service during 2024.

**<https://www.ncsct.co.uk/>**

## Commercial Weight Loss programmes

*(meetings and/or online – fees apply)*

Further examples of some of the lifestyle support services are shown below.

With so many diet options to choose from, it can be hard to find a weight loss plan to suit you. The following are available in the Bromley area:

### **Weight Watchers:**

Telephone: 0345 345 1500 <https://www.weightwatchers.com/uk/>

### **Slimming World:**

Telephone: 0344 897 8000 <https://www.slimmingworld.co.uk/>

MAN v FAT Football:

Based at Bromley Football Club. For men with BMI of 27.5 or over.

<https://manvfatfootball.org>

**Mytime Active - Healthy Habits course:** A 12 week fully supported weight management programme that aims to give the skills to change the way you think and feel and lead to a fitter, healthier, happier you. <https://www.mytimeactive.co.uk/activities/healthy-habits>

For additional commercial weight loss plans endorsed by the NHS visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/better-health/lose-weight>

## Leisure Centres in Bromley

### **Mytime Active**

run local leisure centres across the borough with activities and classes for all ages and programmes for different types of physical activity ranging from swimming, dance, yoga and aerobic classes to golf, tennis and much more. Fees apply. For more information visit: [www.mytimeactive.co.uk](http://www.mytimeactive.co.uk) or call: 07714 077408

### **Primetime**

is a programme of events and exercise sessions for the over 60s run in many of the Mytime Active leisure centres. A buddy system is available for those new to exercise.

Email: [primetime@mytimeactive.co.uk](mailto:primetime@mytimeactive.co.uk)

## Football Activities

### **Bromley Football Club**

have a range of football-based activities for all ages and abilities. Opportunities for men and women – (fees apply).

### **Walking Football group**

@ Bromley FC – Come and be a part of an all-new Walking football group at Bromley FC! Predominantly aimed at over 50s but all are welcome! Fees apply. For more information <https://www.bromleyfc.org/walking-football/>

### **Bromley Belles FC**

is a women's recreational football team for ladies aged 30 to over 60. No experience required. See link for more information: <https://www.bromleyfc.org/womens-over-30s-recreational/>

**Football for absolute beginners (FAB)** for females aged 18+. Have fun while learning to play football <https://www.bromleyfc.org/football-for-absolute-beginners/>

### **Palace for Life Foundation**

runs a variety of programmes to inspire adults to get fit: Fitter Fans (football), Walking Football (men's and women's opportunities), Some based at Crystal Palace training ground in Beckenham - (fees apply). For further information: <https://www.palaceforlife.org/whats-on/family-health-well-being/>

## Other emotional, practical, and social support

### **Bromley Well**

provide support and activities for local people with specific circumstances to prevent them from falling into a crisis and improve their health, wellbeing, and independence. Website: <https://www.bromleywell.org.uk/> Email: [spa@bromleywell.org.uk](mailto:spa@bromleywell.org.uk); Telephone: 0808 278 7898

### **Bromley Mind Recovery Works service**

offers bespoke 1:1 support, including physical health to support good mental health wellbeing. Website: [www.blgmind.org.uk/bromley/recovery-works/](http://www.blgmind.org.uk/bromley/recovery-works/)





# Key Actions Checklist

Here you can find the key actions from this report summarised in one place.

- Increase invitation and uptake numbers: In doing so, consider the recommendations from the health equity audit section on age, gender, ethnicity, and deprivation to ensure equitable provision.
- Support training for all staff on the NHS Health Checks Programme, with an emphasis on the complexity of referral pathways (See below diagram)
- Continuing to support improvements in follow up, investigation and appropriate management of those with adverse risk factors.
- Prescription of statin therapy for those at increased CVD risk (Qrisk) and high cholesterol according to South-East London Guidelines
- Appoint a clinical champion and admin lead.
- Embed robust call and recall systems.
- Make every contact count.
- Invite patients early to beat the winter pressures.
- Utilise the community pharmacy BP checks programme.
- Optimise BP@home.
- Engage with CESEL for in-practice support.
- Follow CESEL / NICE guidance.
- Utilise the wider workforce to support lifestyle / behaviour change.
- Intensify medicines in a timely manner.
- Offer early follow up to assess effectiveness.
- Support adherence and persistence to therapy
- Review progress monthly and feedback to staff
- Explore how starting Digital NHS Health Checks can support your practice's Net Zero targets and integrate into decarbonisation planning.

# Appendix 1

## Pan London NHS Health Checks Minimum Standards

These Pan London Consensus NHS Health Checks Minimum Standards are endorsed by HEART UK, and are intended to ensure comparable and robust commissioning and delivery of NHS Health Checks. It is envisaged that these standards will be incorporated into local service specifications as part of the commissioning process. They do not describe the entire process, however they are touch points within the service where quality can be measured to determine a successful programme. Commissioners may want to consider other elements as part of the service specification for example, training and qualifications for staff in the competencies they must have.

These standards are a precursor to National Quality Assurance Standards, currently being developed by Public Health England and due for release early 2014. The London NHS Health Check working group have helped inform this national work. Once released, this national guidance will supersede these standards.

	CRITERIA	MINIMUM STANDARD	ACHIEVABLE STANDARD	HOW TO MEASURE
<b>Objective 1:</b> To ensure NHS Health Checks have local leadership	1. Named person responsible for the commissioning of the NHS Health Check Programme within local authority	To be in post	To be in post	Name and role submitted in Annual Report
<b>Objective 2:</b> To invite all eligible persons to attend a NHS Health Check	1. Percentage of the eligible population invited for an NHS Health Check Eligible population: a. 40-74 Years And does not have a diagnosis or documentation of: b. Coronary heart disease c. Chronic kidney disease (CKD stages 3-5) d. Diabetes e. Previous stroke f. Hypertension g. Atrial Fibrillation h. Transient Ischaemic Attack (TIA) i. Heart Failure j. Peripheral Arterial Disease or k. Prescribed a statin l. Found to have 20% or greater CVD Risk in a previous NHS Health Check	20% of eligible population annually	20% of eligible population annually  Eligible age criteria can be extended to 30-74 (or other locally agreed range) years for certain South Asian ethnicities for example: a. Indian b. Pakistani c. Bangladeshi d. Sri Lankan e. Tamil	
<b>Objective 3</b> Maximise uptake	The proportion of those offered (verbal or written) who have an NHS Health Check	50% of those who receive an offer of an NHS Health Check take up the offer	75% of those who receive an offer of an NHS Health Check take up the offer	Quarterly Data Returns submitted to the Commissioner and PHE
<b>Objective 4</b> Provision of the NHS Health Check	1. The NHS Health Check/CV risk assessment must include (at least) all elements outlined in the Best Practice Guidance. Using a validated risk engine such as QRisk2 or Framingham based tool a. Blood pressure b. Height/Weight/BMI c. GPPAQ d. Audit C (alcohol) e. TC:HDL (either Point of Care or if venous sample within the last 6 months)	100% of NHS Health Checks have 100% completed data 100% of all NHS Health Checks delivered	100% of NHS Health Checks have 100% completed data.  100% of all NHS Health Checks delivered	Quarterly Data Returns to the Commissioner (Each item should be included within an NHS Health Check template)  To be included within NHS Health Check template and captured as part of Quarterly Data Returns

	CRITERIA	MINIMUM STANDARD	ACHIEVABLE STANDARD	HOW TO MEASURE
	<p>f. Smoking status g. Demographics h. Dementia awareness (65-74yrs) i. Diabetes &amp; CKD if filters activated</p> <p><i>Agreed data fields must form part of the Commissioning of NHS Health Checks. Completeness of NHS Health Check will be determined through payment process</i></p> <p>2. The results of the NHS Health Check, particularly the 10 year risk must be communicated faceto face and recorded.</p>			
<p><b>Objective 5</b> Additional activity following NHS Health Check</p>	<p>1. Use of diabetes filter when indicated by either : a. BP &gt;140/90 mmHg b. BMI &gt; 30 or 27.5 if individuals from the Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Other Asian and Chinese ethnicity categories</p> <p>2. Use of hypertension filter when indicated by: a. BP &gt;140/90 mmHg</p> <p>3. Use of chronic kidney disease filter when indicated by: a. BP &gt;140/90 mmHg</p> <p>4. Use of Familial Hypercholesterolemia filter when indicated by: a. Total cholesterol &gt;7.5 mmol/L</p> <p>5. Use of Audit C filter when indicated by: a. Score &gt;=5</p> <p>6. People with &gt;20% CVD Risk to: a. Be assessed for treatment with statins b. Receive an annual review</p> <p>7. Referral into lifestyle services for: a. Smoking cessation b. Weight management c. Physical Activity d. Alcohol use</p>	<p>If any filter activated then investigations and outcome recorded in 80% of people</p> <p>100% of all people with CVD Risk &gt;20%</p> <p>80% of lifestyle advice offered and referrals made to be recorded (irrespective of level of risk)</p>	<p>If any filter activated then investigations and outcome recorded in 100% of people</p> <p>100% of all people with CVD Risk &gt;20%</p> <p>100% of lifestyle advice offered and referrals made to be recorded (irrespective of level of risk)</p>	<p>Quarterly Data Returns to the Commissioner and annual audit reviewing:</p> <p>1. Any change in disease prevalence</p> <p>and</p> <p>2. Proportion of people identified as</p> <p>1. Pre diabetic / Diabetic 2. Hypertensive 3. CKD 4. Familial Hypercholesterolemia 5. Audit C &gt;=5 6. CVD Risk &gt;=20</p>
<p><b>Objective 6</b> Monitoring of quality within programme</p>	<p>1. Robust commissioning, contract monitoring and reporting mechanism</p> <p>2. If used, all point of care devices must demonstrate and comply with Quality Control.</p>	<p>4 monthly monitoring/ reporting</p> <p>100% of devices have QA programme</p>	<p>Quarterly monthly monitoring/reporting</p> <p>100% of devices have QA programme</p>	<p>Recorded</p> <p>Quarterly performance reports and issue log sent to Commissioner</p>

### NHS Health Check Pan London Leads working group:

**Chair: Dr Nada Lemic (Bromley)**

Michaela Nuttall (Bromley)  
Lindsey Sills (Havering)  
Sue Levi (Barking and Dagenham)  
Julie Boyd (Enfield)  
Chima Olughu (Greenwich)  
Rachel Fluke (Croydon)  
Imran Choudhury (Brent)  
Sundus Hashim (Kingston)  
Anne-Marie Liew (Merton)

Dr. Muhammad Usman Khan and team (Richmond)  
Yogini Patel (Brent)  
Gemma Lyons and Marta Calonge-Contreras (Camden & Islington)  
Patroklos Sesis (Hillingdon)

# Appendix 2

## NHS Health Check Clinical Filter Guide

	NORMAL	RAISED/HIGH	ACTION	VERY HIGH	ACTION
<b>Blood Pressure</b>	Below 140/90 Below 135/85 (HBPM)	140/90 - 179/119 135/85 or higher (HBPM)	blood tests for HbA1c U&Es, eGFR plus Refer for ABPM or Home BP monitoring	180/120 or higher	Recheck x2 if still the same or higher to see GP same day or if out of hours refer to A&E
<b>BMI</b>	18.5-24.9 (White british/Other)  Below 23 Black African/ Caribbean South Asian/Chinese	25-29.9 (White British/Other)  23 or higher Black African/ Caribbean South Asian/Chinese	Give weight reduction advice (weblinks on results sheet)	30 or higher (White British/Other)  27.5 or higher Black African/Caribbean South Asian/Chinese	Bloods for HbA1c or Fasting Glucose for patients with haemoglobinopathies.  Discuss signposting to weight loss programmes if BMI 30 or higher for White British/Other or if 27.5 or higher for Black African/Caribbean/Asian/Chinese. Refer to weblinks on results sheet.
<b>Waist Circumference * 4 cm less for male Asian patients</b>	Men: Below 94cm  (South Asian men: Up to 90cm)  All women: below 80cm	Men: 94-101cm  (South Asian Men: Over 90cm or higher)  All Women: 80-88cm	At risk of developing diabetes and heart problems, give advice on diet & exercise (weblinks on results sheet)	Men: *102cm or higher (South Asian Men: 98cm or higher)  All women 88cm or higher	Explain at high risk of diabetes and heart disease. Give advice on diet and exercise and refer to weblinks on results sheet.
	<b>NORMAL</b>	<b>ABNORMAL</b>	<b>ACTION</b>		
<b>Pulse</b>	Regular beat	Irregular beat *	If pulse irregular, possible Atrial Fibrillation, refer to GP/ANP/PN (Patient may need an ECG) Without symptoms = Standard appointment With symptoms = Same day GP appointment (A&E if out of hours) *Possible symptoms may include dizziness shortness of breath or feeling ill.		
<b>QDiabetes Risk Tool</b>	5.6% or less	Greater than 5.6%	Requires blood test for HbA1c		
	<b>NORMAL</b>	<b>HIGH RISK OF DIABETES</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>POSSIBLE TYPE 2 DIABETES</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>Hba1C (mmol/mol)</b>	41 or less	42-47	Give lifestyle advice and lab-test form for Hba1C. 42-47 - Will require referral to NHS Diabetes Prevention Programme.	48 or higher	Repeat test using venous sample Standard appointment if no Symptoms present. Same day appointment if Symptoms of Diabetes Present.

	NORMAL	HIGH	ACTION	VERY HIGH	ACTION
<b>Serum Cholesterol (Total cholesterol)</b>	Below 5	5 – 7.4 mmol/L	Give advice on lowering cholesterol. Provide a diet sheet.	7.5 or higher	Give advice on lowering cholesterol – provide a diet sheet or refer to weblinks on results sheet PLUS bloods for Fasting lipid profile, HbA1c, U&E's & eGFR, Thyroid Function (TFT) Liver Function Test (LFT), and a routine appointment.
	NORMAL	ABNORMAL	ACTION		
<b>HDL</b>	Women: Above 1.2 mmol/L Men: Above 1.0 mmol/L	Women: Low less than 1.2 Men: Low less than 1.0	Advice on how to improve the HDL (diet and exercise; weblinks on results sheet) NB – a HDL of less than 0.8 may be an inaccurate reading. Repeat test if client willing. If HDL remains less than 0.8 with repeat testing, refer for random lipids blood test.		
<b>TC/HDL Ratio</b>	4.5 mmols/L or below	Greater than 4.5mmols/L	If ratio is 4.5 or higher – below 6 give advice as above about reducing total cholesterol and raising HDL. If ratio is 6 or higher Refer for fasting lipids blood test.		
<b>Alcohol 'regularly drinking'</b> **	Up to 1-2 units/day (Max 14 units/week)	Above 1-2 units/day (Over 14 units/week)	**Regularly means drinking every day or most days of the week. Give Brief Intervention Advice on reducing alcohol intake (weblinks on results sheet).		
<b>Audit-C/Alcohol Audit Score</b>	Score of 4 or less on audit c – lower risk.	Score 5 or more on Audit C - complete full Audit questionnaire adding score from Audit C to full Audit score	Full AUDIT score: 0-7 – Lower risk 8-15 - Increasing risk, 16-20 - Higher risk, 20+ - possible dependence. Give brief intervention on alcohol using brief intervention tool. Refer to GP/ANP/PN if score is 16-20 if needed. Refer to GP/ANP/NP and or BDAS (020 8289 1999) for scores 20+ and above.		
	LOW RISK	MODERATE RISK	ACTION	HIGH RISK	ACTION
<b>Qrisk2 10 year Cardiovascular Risk Score</b>	Below 10% Recall for NHS Health check: in 5 years	10-19.9% RECALL: 5 years	Advise trial of lifestyle modification for 3-12 months. Request blood test in 5 months for Lipid profile, HbA1c, U&E's, eGFR, Thyroid Function (TFT) & Liver function test (LFT) and re-assessment of Qrisk following lifestyle changes.	20% or higher	Blood test for non-fasting Lipid profile, HbA1c, U&E's, eGFR, Thyroid Function (TFT) & Liver function test (LFT). Set Lifestyle goals and refer to GP/NP or PN for discussion about statin therapy following blood tests.  RECALL: No further NHS Health checks – will need annual review of CVD risk.

**Appointment Type Routine** - To see GP/PN 2-3 weeks for non-urgent appointment,

**Standard** – To see GP/PN within the next week.







THE LONDON BOROUGH

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Report No.  
CSD24040

London Borough of Bromley

PART ONE - PUBLIC

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**Decision Maker:** EXECUTIVE, RESOURCES AND CONTRACTS PDS COMMITTEE  
COUNCIL

**Date:** 25 March 2024  
15 July 2024

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

**Title:** ANNUAL SCRUTINY REPORT 2023/24

**Contact Officer:** Philippa Gibbs, Deputy Democratic Services Manager  
Tel: 020 8461 7638 E-mail: Philippa.Gibbs@bromley.gov.uk

**Chief Officer:** Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

**Ward:** (All Wards);

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1. Reason for report

The Council's Constitution (Article 6.03 (d)) requires that a report is made each year to full Council which summarises work carried out by Policy Development and Scrutiny (PDS) Committees. The 2023/24 report (attached), including contributions from PDS Chairmen summarising the work of their committees, is due to be considered and approved by Executive, Resources and Contracts PDS Committee on 25 March 2024 and received and noted by Full Council.

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2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the Executive, Resources and Contracts PDS Committee consider the Annual Scrutiny Report 2023/24.

2.2 That Full Council receive and note the Annual Scrutiny Report 2023/24.

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: None
- 

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy:
  2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council:
- 

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: £366,000
  5. Source of funding: Revenue Budget
- 

Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 7 posts (6.67fte)
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: 2 hours
- 

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None:
  2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Full Council decisions are not subject to call-in
- 

Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: None
- 

Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): All Members of the Council and interested members of the public.
- 

Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable

<b>Non-Applicable Sections:</b>	Policy/Financial/Legal/Personnel
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Constitution of the London Borough of Bromley (Article 6) 2022/23 Annual PDS Report



THE LONDON BOROUGH

# **Policy Development & Scrutiny Annual Report 2023/24**

**For submission to Full Council on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

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# 1. Foreword

1. On behalf of all my colleagues who are engaged in Policy Development and Scrutiny Committees in the London Borough of Bromley, I have great pleasure in presenting our Annual Report for 2023/2024, which summarises the work that has been carried out by the Committees during the Council year.
2. The economy has been through a turbulent time, with inflation impacting heavily on the Council's financial performance. A spike in the CPI inflation measures added to the ongoing cost pressures faced by Bromley Council over the fiscal year just ending. The consequence of the challenges faced, around the revenue budget constraints and the capital and maintenance programme challenges leaves a funding gap in the medium to long term which has to be settled. The 2024/25 budget has been balanced, however for future years the gap as follows; £16.6M for 2025/26 and £34.2M for 2026/27 and £38.7M for 2027/28. These figures allow for growth pressures (net of mitigation) of £24.9M in 2025/6 rising to £36.5M in 2027/8. As part of the budgeting process growth must be contained to ensure that future years budget gaps are met. £10M growth saved in the coming year will reduce the budget gap and reduce the pressure on 2025/6 budget. Early savings will reduce the need to eat into reserves and maintain the income from treasury management. The Council has a legal obligation to set a balanced budget, so effort is needed to generate income and find additional savings over the next 3 year period. Innovation and initiatives, joint procurement, cost initiatives and good contract management over the next few years will be really important in driving down the budget gap for future years. This will mean investing in IT including AI and following through on the accommodation strategy to ensure the Council is fit for the future. But this strategy is even more important in meeting the net zero carbon dioxide target for direct Council activities by 2027. Over the next year more invest to save and efficiency measures should come forward to help promote these ambitions.
3. Against this tough background 2023/24 has come in on budget subject to the use of some contingency and additional income from interest on balances. Over recent years the Council has set balanced budgets, without significantly impairing the delivery of frontline services. However, in light of the challenges ahead, the Council will increase Council Tax this coming year by a Bromley element of 4.99%, including the 2% increase to fund social care. In addition the Labour London Mayor and GLA also increased their precept by a whopping 8.6% when the current CPI rate is 4% making a net overall increase of 5.8% for Bromley residents. Current assumptions indicate a 2.99% increase in Bromley's Council Tax share in 2025/6, although this level could be reviewed up to 4.99%. Bromley Council will as a result of the changes could sacrifice its debt free status, meaning that residents will now contribute towards debt interest rather than benefitting from interest on reserves.
4. The Council continues to promote significant change, both in organizational terms and in its ability to continue to provide services expected by residents. The Council has over 1300 statutory obligations to discharge, which cost several millions of pounds per annum. These take priority over discretionary spending. The funding gap can't be closed without taking some difficult decisions and halting some services all together. Due to prudent financial management, Bromley Council is able to deal with these challenges but needs to ensure that early decisions are taken and adequate reserves are retained and where appropriate invested to maintain sustainable finances.
5. In addition to the financial challenges ahead and the need to become a different organisation with fewer resources, the Council should grasp opportunities for wider integration across public services including health and local government and look at cooperation with other Local Authorities to drive efficiencies. The Council will need to identify new investment opportunities to help protect key services. This might need a new look with an investment and revenue generation sub-committee, to help grow revenue outside the usual call on tax payer funds. Scrutiny will remain key to ensure that there is adequate control and stability. In the context of these challenges, the Council should review its current structures including the PDS function to ensure that scrutiny can drill down to an appropriate level when looking at opportunities for value for money.

6. The PDS Committees will continue to have an important role over the coming years to formulate acceptable solutions for the reduction in service provision, which has to come, whilst continuing to deliver quality services to the residents of Bromley.
7. Finally, I would like to thank all Committee Chairmen, members, and the dedicated Council officers for their diligence and hard work during last year in finding practical solutions, which have ensured that Bromley Council could formulate a balanced budget and is able to continue to provide essential services next year, which are important to our residents.

**Cllr. Simon Fawthrop**

**Chairman, Executive Resources and Contracts PDS Committee**

## 2. Policy Development and Scrutiny Chairmen 2023/24



Cllr Simon Fawthrop  
Executive, Resources & Contracts



Cllr Mark Brock  
Adult Care & Health Services



Cllr Kira Gabbert  
Children, Education & Families



Cllr Adam Grant  
Environment and Community Services



Cllr David Cartwright  
Public Protection and Enforcement



Cllr Tony Owen  
Renewal, Recreation & Housing

## 3. Policy Development and Scrutiny in Bromley

### Introduction

- 2.1 Six Policy Development and Scrutiny (PDS) Committees at Bromley discharge the overview and scrutiny functions conferred by sections 21 and 32 of the Local Government Act 2000 and successive legislation. The Executive and Resources PDS Committee has an over-arching, co-ordinating role on behalf of the other five PDS Committees and is required by the Council's Constitution to present Full Council with an Annual Report "on the Policy Development and Scrutiny functions and PDS budget, and amended working methods if appropriate" (Article 6, Section 6.03 (d) of the Constitution).
- 2.2 The PDS Committees mirror the Council's executive portfolios:
- Executive, Resources & Contracts (covering both the Resources, Contracts and Commissioning Portfolio and the Executive)
  - Adult Care & Health Services
  - Children, Education & Families
  - Environment & Community Services
  - Public Protection and Enforcement
  - Renewal, Recreation & Housing
- 2.3 In addition to these Committees there is one PDS Sub-Committees:
- Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee (Adult Care and Health)
- 2.4 Although they have no decision-making powers, PDS Committees and Sub-Committees have key roles in contributing to policy development and scrutinising the decisions of the Executive and individual Portfolio Holders.

### Policy Reviews

- 2.5 PDS Committees advise Portfolio Holders, the Executive and Full Council on policies, budgets and service delivery. PDS Committees can commission groups of Councillors to review an issue or policy, so assisting a Portfolio Holder or the Executive to improve a service or function affecting local people. This can be linked to a forthcoming decision by a Portfolio Holder or the Executive or to assist in formulating fresh, new policy. In each case detailed, evidence-based assessments are carried out and recommendations made in a report. In the process, Councillors can speak to a broad range of people to help gather information for their evidence-based reports.

### One-Off Reviews

- 2.6 In addition to in-depth policy reviews, PDS Committees can also review a topical issue at Committee with comments and recommendations referred on to the Portfolio Holder. These reviews are often based around a presentation or an evidence-giving session with expert witnesses.



## Performance and Budget Monitoring

- 2.7 PDS Committees monitor the performance of services, functions and contracts within their remit, assessing performance against key performance indicators and policy objectives. Concerns are reported to a Portfolio Holder who can then, if necessary, be called to a PDS Committee meeting to account for the performance of his or her Portfolio.
- 2.8 PDS Committees are also involved in the budget setting process and provide considered comments and recommendations for the Executive to take account of when formulating the Council's annual budget. Similarly, PDS Committees also monitor in-year spend of budgets and raise concerns where there is any possibility of overspend or other issues affecting spending priorities.

## Call-in

- 2.9 The call-in process is a key means by which PDS Committees can hold the Executive to account. Any five Councillors can call in a decision and prevent it from taking immediate effect until it has been re-considered by a PDS Committee. The Committee can then interview the Portfolio Holder and officers and consider whether the decision is appropriate, within the Council's policy framework, and whether it should be reconsidered. If the Committee feels that the decision should be reversed or altered, it can make a recommendation to the Executive, which then has to reconsider the matter.
- 2.10 At the time of writing, no call-ins have been made. The continued low level of call-in reflects an emphasis given to pre-decision scrutiny leading to better and more robust decisions which are less likely to be challenged.

# 4. Report from Executive, Resources & Contracts PDS Committee

**Chairman: Cllr. Simon Fawthrop**  
**Vice-Chairman: Cllr. Robert Evans**

## 1. Introduction

In 2023/24 the Committee held 9 scheduled meetings. The regular meetings included the scrutiny of items to be decided at the Executive's meetings, in addition to matters reported to the directly to the Committee. I would also like to thank the members of the committee for their contributions and thank the Officer team, for their support across the year, including call overs and agenda setting as well as numerous adhoc meetings and briefings. I'd also like to thank Cllr Evans for Chairing the meeting whilst I had covid.

## 2. Policy Development

This has been an interesting year for policy development as the Council has developed and progressed its ground-breaking free speech policy. This gives additional protection to our employees, allowing them to speak out without unintended consequences. Being able to respect, understand and debate other views even if not agreeing with them is fundamental to a healthy democratic society, and to the good functioning of local Government. The Policy has been approved also by the Constitutional Improvement Working Party as well as by the General Purposes and Licensing Committee. There will be more work to do going forward, but a great start has been made.

## 3. Scrutiny of the Executive and the Resources Portfolio Holder

The Committee's principal role is to scrutinize the decisions of the Executive, The Resources Portfolio Holder and to hold the Leader of the Council, the Chief Executive Officer and the Resources Portfolio Holder to account. This Committee has discharged its responsibilities diligently and competently during the year. I would like to thank all the above for their valuable contributions.

## 4. Review of Council Activities

The Committee has been very conscious of the need to reduce costs and has diligently scrutinized budget and capital programme reports and measures to bring costs under control, including overspends across some budget headings. The contracts register and the disposal of various surplus assets, the performance of the Council Tax support scheme and issues concerning homelessness and temporary accommodation, Treasury Management performance which continues in the top 10% of Local authority performances, the various invest-to-save projects, as well as details on the growth fund and investment fund initiatives and the risk register were also considered. The committee also considered the best use of assets and had a major report on the capital assets and the future HQ including the potential Library re-location. Lastly the Council is undergoing a transformation programme to help shape the Council's future and change the way it does business, at every stage the programme needs to have the ability to roll back if the transformation leads to degradation in service to our residents, however it should be recognised that ultimately the financial imperative will be over-riding service standards. That does not mean to say that services cannot or should not be delivered differently to how they are delivered today, but value for money has to be extracted for every penny of tax-payer funds.

## 5. Scrutiny of Contracts.

The Committee also reviewed the work of key supplier contracts including the IT Services contract provided by BT. We also reviewed the work of Liberata, whilst it has been good to see the Liberata contract performing well and showing both good value for money and a good level of service, we have also looked at the ways in which they can add more value to their services. We will be looking at both contractors and consultants in the near future to help the drive towards permanent employees which help provide a more consistent service for Bromley's residents.

## **6. Outlook**

The Government's cost reductions have continued to impact on the Council's finances. The task to find the savings necessary to balance the Council's budget has been a major factor across this year. By keeping on top of the cost pressures which include additional growth items, this year will be crucial in delivering a balanced budget in future years. The main challenge is closing the funding gap of £38.7 million by 2027/28, a lot of hard work remains to ensure the Council continues to set legal budgets over the coming years. On a positive note at the time of writing, business confidence is at an all time high, inflation is falling and there are positive signs for the economy on the horizon.

## **7. Conclusions**

The Council is about to enter a new transformation phase, undergoing significant organizational and estate changes, whilst maintaining its ability to continue to provide services expected by residents. The era of streamlining, re-organizing and efficiencies, whilst continuing to provide services "as usual" is becoming harder and difficult decisions will now have to be taken about service provision. Statutory obligations will have to take precedence over providing discretionary support, but innovation and technologies including AI might be able to help contain growth pressures.

The challenges for Bromley Council in the coming years are the need to make the wider public fully aware of the Council's financial position of balancing on-going service pressures against a backdrop of challenging central Tax payer support to ensure that planning is in place for dealing with the budget gap in future years. This will include both cost reductions and revenue generation within the policies of managing resources well, the 2027 zero carbon target and the clean and green approach adopted by the Conservative administration.

**Councillor Simon Fawthrop**  
**Chairman, Executive & Resources PDS Committee**

# 5. Report from Adult Care and Health PDS Committee

**Chairman: Cllr. Mark Brock**

**Vice-Chairman: Cllr. Felicity Bainbridge**

## Introduction

The Committee has met 4 times so far this municipal year with a further meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> March. Alongside the elected Members on the Committee we also have co-opted members representing Bromley Carers, Lived Experience and Safeguarding and Special Educational Needs.

## Policy Development & Scrutiny

During the year the Committee reviewed various services and initiatives as well as decisions for the Executive and the Adults, Care and Health Portfolio Holder.

Key areas scrutinised by the Committee this year were:

- The Portfolio Plan
- Budget Monitoring, Capital Programme and Contracts Register
- Integrated Provision of Mental Health Services
- Tackling Loneliness Strategy
- Housing With Care Strategy
- Carers Plan 2023-2025
- Contract Extension Bromley Healthwatch Service
- Adult Social Care Strategy
- Draft Budget 2024-2025
- Vibrance Direct Payments Support and Payroll Service Provider
- Residents Voice Project and Working Group
- Adult Care Transformation Programme
- Co-Occurring Conditions of Mental Health and Substance Misuse
- Additional Learning Disabilities Funding

Updates were received on the following:

- Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board 2022-2023
- Adult Social Care Reform
- Members Visits
- Tackling Loneliness Action Plan
- Engagement Framework
- Social Care Institute of Excellence and Assistive Technology
- Extra Care Housing Scheme
- Dementia Hub

Information Briefings were received on:

- Risk Register
- Bromley Local Account 2022-2023
- Complaints & Compliments Annual Report 2022-2023
- Capital Program
- Contracts Register
- Minutes from Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee Meetings

**Key Areas Scrutinised:**

**Adult Social Care Strategy**

The Council has developed a new Adult Social Care Strategy for the period 2023 to 2028 to take account of developments across the social care market, changing government policy and wider technological, demographic and economic changes.

The strategy considers the key challenges of increased service demand and rising costs pressures in relation to supporting vulnerable older residents and working age adults with a disability and/or a long-term health condition.

The previous draft of the strategy had been provided to the Adult Care and Health PDS Committee in March 2023. Further consultation had taken place and key changes have been made to the document.

**Tackling Loneliness Strategy**

The Committee received two further updates this municipal year on the progress of the Tackling Loneliness Strategy Action Plan 2022-2026 which was launched in at the end of 2021. The Principal Loneliness Champion informed Members that a bespoke London Borough of Bromley Tackling Loneliness Workshops had commenced in March 2023. The workshops had received fantastic feedback with 95% of participants having found it to be ‘useful’ or ‘extremely useful’, over 250 people have now participated in these workshops. A reminder to members who have not participated in this workshop to please make time to attend one of the on-line sessions. A Tackling Loneliness Summit had been held at Bromley Civic Centre on Friday 16th June 2023 which had been attended by over 100 people. A number of events had taken place across the Borough for “Silver Sunday” and “Befriending Week” had taken place at the start of November 2023

**Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board 2022/23 Annual Report**

The Committee welcomed the Independent Chairman of the Bromley Safeguarding Adult Board, and the Bromley Safeguarding Adult Board Manager, who presented a video providing an overview of the Annual Report. Members noted the tremendous volume of work completed by the BSAB.

It was explained that an area of focus for the Board was to ensure that there was no disruption to care arising from transition from Child to Adult. In addition, for the past year the Council had been operating a 0-25 Service which sat within Children’s Services. This helped to facilitate better management of transition and in terms of transition, there was also flexibility within Health Services to ensure services to young adults were not disrupted by transition.

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Lastly, I would like to thank all officers, members and co-opted members of the Committee for their hard work and excellent input during this municipal year to the meetings.

**Councillor Mark Brock**  
**Chairman, Adult Care & Health PDS and Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee**

# 6. Report from Children, Education & Families PDS Committee

**Chairman: Cllr. Kira Gabbert**

**Vice-Chairman: Cllr. Jonathan Andrews**

## **Introduction**

The Committee has considered reports across a range of services including early intervention and family support, education planned maintenance programme, procurement for the Family Group Conference service, the refreshed Engagement Framework, spending by Primary, Secondary and Special maintained schools, award of contract for capital works at Oaklands Primary School, Castlecombe Youth Centre and Mottingham Community Support Centre, Ofsted Inspection of Children's Services, 2024/25 Dedicated Schools Grant and the Children, Education and Families Portfolio Draft Budget 2024/25.

The Committee also has a statutory responsibility to conduct annual reviews of key services including the provision of transport services for all client groups, progress of the 0-25 service, private fostering, adoption, Corporate Parenting, the Youth Justice Service, school place planning and the work of the Bromley Safeguarding Children's Partnership (BSCP), Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and Independent Reviewing Officer.

Deep Dives were undertaken on the areas of mental health services for children and young people, Education, Health and Care plans, Youth Support and NEET (young people not in education, employment or training).

## **Our role as corporate parents**

This year's Children Looked After Celebration of Achievement Awards Ceremony took place in February 2024 at The Warren. This annual event is very popular and recognises various achievements of our children in academic, sporting or artistic fields.

For the first time, Celebrating Bromley SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability) Stars took place in September 2023. It was a wonderful and hugely popular event with the Mayor of Bromley present at the celebrations. After the huge inaugural success, this event will now be happening on an annual basis.

Every summer, our Corporate Parenting Fun Day is taking place, and this year it will be held on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July.

## **SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability)**

Our SEND services remain crucial. SEND transport transformation programme is under way. Work is continuing to establish a new Special Free School in the Borough which will provide a much needed in-borough offer to Bromley children whilst reducing the number of costly out-of-borough placements and associated costs such as transport.

Woodlodge is an independent living skills centre in Bickley and Sundridge Ward that supports the development of independence and social skills for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. Funding of this vital service has been agreed during the reporting period.

## **Education and schools**

Figures from this year's National Secondary Offer Day (as published on 01 March) reveal that just under 92% of Bromley's school children will be attending one of their top four choices of

secondary school, with just under 69% offered their first preference. The figures demonstrate that our continued collaborative working with the Borough's schools has ensured a sufficiency of places. Since 2020, the Borough has seen provision increased by 150 places, equivalent to 5 forms.

## **Budget**

### Budget 2024/25

Members are aware that there is a clear need to make savings in current and future years. Service transformation is a key mechanism to deliver the required savings. Recruitment and retention of in-house social workers remains an area of primary focus of the department. Recruiting more of the in-house foster carers is also a priority as relying on external agencies creates additional cost pressures. Following a recent fostering recruitment campaign, there are encouraging developments with more candidates expressing the interest in becoming Bromley foster carers.

### Dedicated Schools Grant

There is a significant Government funding deficit, particularly within High Needs Block, which reflects the experience of other local authorities across the country and in London. The officers have developed a Dedicated Schools Grant Recovery Management Plan in consultation with the Department for Education to mitigate the overspend as far as practicable. This remains an area of focus and a huge challenge for the Department and the Committee.

## **Ofsted**

In November 2023 the Ofsted Inspection of Bromley's Children's Services took place and concluded that children in the Borough received "exceptionally strong services". The outstanding rating across all 5 areas was the highest rating that Ofsted could give and Bromley was only the third local authority to have received a judgement of outstanding in all areas since the introduction of the new Ofsted Inspection framework in 2022, which included a new judgement for experiences and progress of care leavers. The outcome of the inspection is a testament to Bromley's position as one of the best boroughs in the country to raise a family, delivering exceptional support to children and young people and their families and carers.

## **Final comments**

I would like to thank the Committee Clerk, Vice-Chairman and all Members of the CEF PDS Committee for their support and input. All Members work in a collegiate way, with new ideas and innovative suggestions often brought up for a discussion. The Members are mindful of both the increasing demand and enormous cost pressures on the services and understand the need to innovate and improve. It is important to acknowledge that representatives of Bromley Youth Council, Church representatives and Parent Governor members provide vital insights and unique perspective to the Committee.

Children and families are at the very heart of what we do in Bromley. I would like to thank every person working in the department for their hard work and dedication. In the face of the enormous challenges and limited funding, the officers and department directors, the Council's senior leadership team and the Portfolio Holder deliver excellence and demonstrate their absolute commitment to achieving the best outcomes for children of our Borough.

**Councillor Kira Gabbert**  
**Chairman, Children, Education and Families PDS Committee**

## 7. Report from Environment and Community Services PDS Committee

**Chairman: Cllr. Adam Grant**

**Vice-Chairman: Cllr. Felicity Bainbridge**

It has been a great honour serving for the past several months as the Chairman to the Environment & Community Services PDS. Members of the committee have robustly and on occasion fiercely scrutinised the reports that have been presented. The year has seen some unexpected changes in the management structure of the committee with Cllr Cuthbert being selected to stand as a parliamentary candidate for Sittingbourne & Sheppey. Cllr Cuthbert has served the portfolio with outstanding dedication throughout her term and our loss is hopefully her new constituencies gain. A fitting and able successor was found in Cllr Rowlands and he took on the role as Environment Portfolio Holder. Cllr Bennett remained in post as Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways & Road Safety.

As I am sure you are all only too aware Bromley is London's Greenest Borough with over 60,400 trees. Our parks & open spaces are our unique selling point attracting young families and downsizers alike to the area. We have seen considerable growth in the local population owing to excellent infrastructure to central London whilst being largely green and relatively undervalued compared to parts of West London.

As with any organisation there are functions that perform well but there is always room for improvement. This report will hopefully give an overview as to some of what has been achieved.

In the last year we have seen Churchfields Depot shut for four months due to emergency works being undertaken, with a successful reopening in December 2022.

We have had a plethora of storms including Storm Kathleen, Ciaran & Henk all of which the council have weathered well.

We have sadly seen some crime within portfolios scrutinised by the committee, the deplorable and callous removal of 113 trees in Cator Park and the wrongful destruction of ULEZ cameras. Both items the committee strongly condemns. It is hoped that the protagonists are apprehended and face the consequences of their ill judged actions.

The Portfolio Holders and I were fortunate enough to be invited by Veolia for a tour of their recycling facilities where Bromley waste is taken. We first visited the incinerator in Bermondsey where none recyclable refuse is burned and produces power and hot water to the surrounding housing estates. We went on to see the new fleet of electric bin lorries that are being used in and around Westminster. Its hoped we will be able to trail one to assess how they perform on Bromleys expansive road network. Finally we saw the integrated waste management centre in Southwark. This state of the art facility is responsible for sorting and collating all the material that is sent from Bromley to be recycled. It is worth highlighting that Bromley sends virtually zero waste to landfill. I have agreed with officers and the Portfolio Holder that this tour will be made available to committee members as I believe it is vital to see the scale of the operation that exists. Upon writing this report all members on the committee have agreed to attend.

We have also seen the completion of the Council's switch over to LED street lighting saving around £1m per year.



## June Committee Scrutiny Comprehensive Review of Road Safety

As part of June's PDS the Committee looked at a report that reflected on our current approach to road safety. The borough has finite resources and it is imperative that resources are directed to sites where the impact of schemes will achieve best value. From the 2005/09 baseline Bromley has seen a 50% reduction in serious and fatal road casualties. Bromley has set an ambitious target of 65% in the LIP3 document and continues to work hard to achieve this figure through the implementation of data lead road safety improvement schemes.

## September Committee Scrutiny of Glendale Contract

Glendale began their contract in 2019 for an 8 year term. The Portfolio Holder and officers have worked extremely hard to improve the performance levels of the contractor. It is fair to say that the contractor has had significant performance issues in relation to completion of jobs resulting in a backlog. Performance over the year averaged 50% with a target of 75%.

A corrective action plan was scrutinised in June 2023 and implemented in August. A strategic partnership board was also set up that included senior managers from both LBB and Glendale to meet bi-annually to oversee the contract management.

The executive agreed procurement of additional suppliers to help clear existing backlogs and to provide additional on-going resilience. Glendale also provided a service improvement plan to improve their capacity for future years. This plan included additional recruitment, investment, training, and development.

## September Committee Scrutiny of Veolia - Environmental Services Contract

The Veolia contract was awarded in April 2019. The contract covers disposal of residual waste and management of closed landfill, management of recyclable materials, collection of household and bulky waste, management of recyclable materials, collection of household and business waste, administration of functions with regard to collections of trade, bulky and garden waste, management of recycling centres and waste transfer stations. In addition Veolia are also responsible for street cleaning, graffiti removal, abandoned and surrendered vehicle removal and park security.

This is year four of the eight-year environmental services contract held by Veolia. The contract sees around 138,000 tonnes of material collected from 143,000 properties and also s responsible for 500 miles of carriageway and 850 miles of footway.

The Veolia contract continues to perform strongly with expert oversight from officers and the portfolio holder. Surveys have been undertaken with 88% of respondents being satisfied with their non-recyclable refuse and 85% being satisfied with recycling collections.

For the first time ever 0% of residual black sack waste went to land fill. Veolia saw a 10% reduction in residual waste - this was put down to effects of the cost of living and residents returning to their workplaces following the pandemic. Bromley had no paper rejected for being wet and non-recyclable following the repair works to central depot. Per 100,000 collections Veolia were targeted with missed collection rate of 120, however the actual

amount was 140, this shows how high the bar is set and shows the outstanding performance by Veolia and Bromley officers who manage the contract.

Over the 12-month period Veolia serviced footway and carriageway assets 340,000 times. Veolia supported 23 litter pick events and we have seen a 25% increase in street friend activity. In a borough with over 64,000 trees leafing poses a significant challenge. Despite this favourable responses were received and resident satisfaction stands at 73%.

### September Committee Scrutiny of Tremendous Scheme

In July 2021 the Executive approved a four-year program to plant an additional 5000 street trees. The committee reviewed the progress of the “tremendous” tree planting program which entered its second year. 2500 of the proposed 5000 trees have now been planted and the QR codes were now live. The contractor that was approved was Gristwood & Toms. In May 2023 the aftercare program commenced with new trees receiving 50 litres of water on a weekly basis for 15 weeks.

The Council also undertook a communications campaign to encourage residents to supplement the watering of the newly planted trees. Of the trees that have been planted the mortality rate is around 10% however the Forestry Commission states the national average is closer to 30% and the report highlighted the promising statistics in Bromley. In the third year there are to be a further 1486 trees to be planted and which will be of high resilience. The council continue to welcome suggestions for new tree locations.

### November PDS Committee Scrutiny of APCOA

The Committee scrutinised the APCOA contract as part of the November PDS. The contract is a fixed term of 10 years and was awarded for ten years. At the time of the report APCOA employed 44 CEO (Civil Enforcement Officers). The work undertaken is demanding and which results in high turnover of CEOs. Over the year over 69,000 PCNs were issued. The highest since the contract began. This equates to an issue rate of 1.34. The error rate in PCN issue is extremely low at 0.8% with a target of 2%. The error rate has come down over the last few years with a peak in year 1 at 2.31%.

The Council has invested in 18 cameras to aid in enforcement outside of schools with 1020 PCNs being issued. In 2021 the council began enforcing yellow box stopping traffic violations. Officers have worked with APCOA to re-configure the cameras to ensure efficiency. As a result over 30,000 PCNs have been issued. It is important to note that the stopping in yellow boxes does cause problems with traffic flow and therefore the high rate is justifiable. Following the decision taken in November 2023 Bromley became a cashless only parking provider. The decision whilst difficult has saved the council just under £1m and given the financial challenges ahead savings on this scale are much needed. APCOA worked with the council to facilitate the change to Ringo with removal of the machines, installation of new signage and took feedback from motorists. The Council continues to monitor the long term trends as a result of swapping to Ringo but on the data available the statistics show parking figures were higher than in the previous year.

### November PDS Committee Scrutiny of Fly Tipping Action Plan

As part of the Council’s Public Protection and Enforcement Portfolio Plan, targets have been set to reduce the number of fly tipping incidents to less than 3000. This is to be achieved by targeting hotspots and utilization of CCTV at seven locations to secure vital evidence. Officers have as a result of their hard work secured 22 successful prosecutions, 8 vehicle seizures, and 88 fixed penalty notices.

### November PDS Committee Scrutiny of Chinese Round about Road Safety Scheme

Officers work tirelessly to ensure that all that can be done is done with regards to making the road network as safe as possible. Schemes that are put forward are data lead. One of the road safety schemes proposed was at the Chinese Roundabout which sees 30,000 vehicle entries per day. The data showed a higher than expected number of casualties particularly with regard to cyclists who represented 42% of the 21 serious collisions reported. The scheme proposed to narrow the flow onto the roundabout and increase deflection to discourage speeding into the roundabout.

### November PDS Committee Scrutiny of Idverde Contract

Bromley is London's greenest borough with 121 parks, 45 heathlands, meadows, or woodland sites, it also has 52 allotments, and 17 cemeteries. These sites are managed by Idverde who were awarded an 8 year contract in 2019. The contract performs relatively well with KPIs in excess of the 75% target.

Idverde undertook a parks survey as part of the contract to assess user satisfaction. The survey had 1024 respondents with 65% indicating satisfaction within the boroughs parks and green spaces. This is down from 77% in the 2022 survey. There is much room for improvement especially around cleanliness (30% satisfaction) and facilities (47% satisfaction) with Kelsey Park management featuring heavily with poor playground equipment and toilets.

The Council understands the value of the parks and green spaces to residents and has committed spending £2.4m on projects to improve Kelsey Park. The Platinum Jubilee Parks Fund has awarded £252k to playground implement schemes and a further £400k from the Parks & Infrastructure Fund. Idverde are also reviewing the management plan for Kelsey park and we hope to see improvements over the next year.

### January PDS Committee Scrutiny of EV Charging update

In the last year 14% of all new car sales were electric, this is a significant increase from 9% in 2021 and less than 5% in 2020. Bromley as a borough is fortunate in that approximately 65% of residents have off road parking and are able to install chargers should they decide to purchase an electric vehicle. The Committee reviewed a report following the successful pilot scheme for both Gul-E and on street EV charge points to continue with the scheme with Connected Kerb who was approved as the preferred supplier and for charging points to be installed at the locations set out within the report.

### March PDS Committee Scrutiny of Anerley Hill Road Safety Improvement Scheme

The Committee were presented with a report outlining a scheme to improve the road layout for pedestrians and bus priority. The Committee is especially concerned with matters that contribute to net zero. The bus action plan aims to deliver 25km of new bus lanes by 2025 and the Anerley Hill scheme contributes to that. A public consultation took place with overall support for the new bus lanes (56%) and continuous pavements (73%). It is hoped the scheme will be implemented by the end of 2024.

### March PDS Committee Scrutiny of Vehicle Crossover Policy

The Committee voted unanimously to create a working group to review the current policies that pertain to the construction of new vehicle crossovers. Cllr Bennett will be arraigning a

date for the working group to meet.

In conclusion the Committee has performed well and the commitment of members to ensure that Bromley is getting value for money has been excellent.

Some of the upcoming items for the next year include the scrutiny of:

- Future highway maintenance contracts (June 2024)
- Veolia contract extension (June 2024)
- Annual air quality status report (Sept 2024)
- Riney Contract performance (Nov 2024)
- Nature friendly verges and sustainable planting trail update (Jan 2025)

Finally I would like to thank all the officers and committee members for all their tireless work and look forward to working with them in the coming year.

**Councillor Adam Grant**  
**Chairman, Environment and Community Services PDS Committee**

# 8. Report from Public Protection and Enforcement PDS Committee

**Chairman: Cllr David Cartwright**  
**Vice-Chairman: Cllr Kim Botting**

The PP&E PDS has had a busy year scrutinising both the local authority and its partners' work in "Making Bromley Even Better". It has worked closely with council officers, the police, fire brigade and other partners within the Safer Bromley Partnership, to keep Bromley safe by protecting consumers and residents, supporting, and regulating businesses, and protecting and improving our environment. By utilising an approach of support for our businesses and residents, along with assertive enforcement where necessary, Bromley continues to be one of the safest London Boroughs in which to live, work and visit. The breadth of the Committee's scrutiny work over the last year is wide and includes:

**Safer Bromley Partnership (SBP) & Community Safety:** It has been a demanding but exciting year for our community and the different partners within the SBP. Crime increased across London, including Bromley in 2023 when compared to 2022, however, at 5.5% this was lower than the London increase of 6.5%. However, it's important to highlight that with an offence rate of 82.4 offences per 1,000 population in Bromley, compared to the 115.4 rate across London, people are over 28% less likely to be a victim of crime in Bromley. The PDS has worked closely with Bromley's new Superintendent for Neighbourhood Policing, continuing to scrutinise the Police with particular emphasis around the reporting of their performance and priorities. Further, the London Fire Brigade provided its Annual Update which enables members to discuss their key priorities and consider the LFB's Risk Management Strategy and how it applies to Bromley. The PP&E PDS has scrutinised other specific partners including 'Change Grow Live', Bromley's drug and alcohol service. The PDS also scrutinised the MOPAC spending plan for projects which support community safety in the borough. Over the past year there have been 12 successful Community Impact Days which have been well attended by a range of partners, including relevant Council departments, The Police, the Fire Brigade, Clarion, Veolia, IdVerde, DVLA and Living Well. As well as providing valuable community engagement opportunities, where property has been marked and crime prevention has been shared, they have also facilitated the removal of waste and graffiti, dealt with unlawful vehicles, and checked areas for hidden weapons.

**Statutory Noise Nuisance Out of Hours Service:** This project was successfully launched and refocused to cover times of most need. Since then, over 905 site inspections have been conducted made up of 156 response complaints, 77 inspections of events licensed by Temporary Events Notices, and 616 programmed inspections to check compliance on those where notices have already been served. This activity has resulted in 26 formal warnings and 2 enforcement notices.

**Emergency Planning & Corporate Resilience.** Another busy year for the team, who recently organised the Local Authority's response during London's annual Counter Terrorism exercise for the blue light services, which was based upon a terrorist attack in the Glades Shopping Centre. From an incident perspective, the team dealt with 29 emergencies affecting our residents over the year. The largest being a response at 3AM to a flat fire in Orchard Grove Penge that saw all the occupants of 10 flats displaced. The team also assisted Environment colleagues in the planning and delivery of the response to Storms Ciaran and Henk. A full range of training was delivered to staff and volunteers, resulting in a significant increase in our emergency response capability. The team oversaw the update of the Council's business Continuity plans during the year and delivered a full testing and exercising programme across all Directorates, better preparing us for any disruption to the provision of our services. Finally, the team were successful in a joint funding bid to the GLA to deliver a project to co-produce new approaches to local community resilience in Bromley.

**Food Safety & Hygiene Programme:** With over 1,283 food rating inspections completed last year the number of outstanding inspections in 22/23 has fallen from 2,450 to 1,877 in 23/24 and now to 825 for next year. There is a new contract and programme in place to address the last covid related backlog within the Food Inspection Programme. Bromley is responsible for ensuring appropriate and safe food provision of these establishments. The problems associated with the Covid Pandemic caused the cessation of food safety inspections of food businesses. The resulting backlog of existing food businesses requiring inspection

and the number of new food businesses registering during this period grew significantly, as it did across London and indeed the country. Bromley's food safety officers have worked closely with the Food Standards Agency (FSA) to develop an achievable and acceptable plan to reduce this backlog. This has been particularly difficult as there is, currently, a national shortage of available accredited and experienced food safety officers and recruitment to overcome this backlog has been a serious problem. The FSA are fully aware of, and acknowledge, this continuing issue.

**Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs):** With an increasing demand over recent years for HMOs in Bromley, the PDS fully supported the recent strengthening of planning control for HMOs. Further assessment of HMO's was scrutinised by the PDS ensuring the most robust measures are in place and in full use. This has continued to improve the Council's ability to ensure HMOs are of satisfactory quality and not a nuisance to their neighbours. There are 312 licenced HMOs in Bromley, with a further 33 applications currently being processed. HMOs operating before the recent changes in planning regulations do not require retrospective planning permission.

**Trading Standards:** This is an important area of the Council's responsibility. Trading Standards Officers have continued their highly regarded work over the past year. Through regular updates to local residents, warning of ongoing 'scams' such as cold calling, telephone and doorstep sales etc., they continue to support all Bromley residents and in particular the elderly and most vulnerable. The end of February saw the outcome of prosecutions against two doorstep traders, with one receiving a 21 month imprisonment (suspended for 2 years) with unpaid work and rehabilitation activity, and the other imprisoned for 12 months; [Rogue traders receive prison sentences in Trading Standards prosecutions – London Borough of Bromley](#). Trading standards work is wide and varied and, by way of example, nearly 5000 illicit vapes were seized in 2023 and 1800 already in 2024.

**Environmental Enforcement & the Fly tipping Action Plan:** The Committee has continued to support the Neighbourhood Management Team's commitment to keep the borough's streets clean and green, to reduce litter, fly tipping and dog fouling. In the past 12 months funds have been utilised to procure Artificial Intelligence CCTV, which has aided the team by capturing evidence of fly tipping at two sites within the Borough. Further resource has also been added via expansion of the contract held by Parking Services with APCOA. The contract amendment, of January 2024, provides three dedicated Neighbourhood Enforcement Officers whose role is to patrol the borough engaging with residents and issuing fixed penalty notices for low level environmental crimes.

**Parking Enforcement:** Parking enforcement activities are undertaken in accordance with the Bromley Parking Strategy. This covers the management of public car parks, on-street parking, and civil parking enforcement. It also includes Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) issued by CCTV for school zigzag lines, bus stops and moving traffic contraventions, as well as enforcing 'blue badge' fraud. When a PCN is issued, the registered keeper has a minimum of 2 chances to appeal and a formal representation can be made directly to the Council. In 22/23 112,750 PCNs were issued, 30,478 appeals were processed by the Council with only 226 cases heard by an independent adjudicator, of which only 45 were upheld.

This is but a small sample of the work of the PP&E PDS. Other areas of scrutiny undertaken over the past year include planning enforcement, extension of the Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) for ASB and Dog Control & Fouling Enforcement Power, the valuable work of the Bromley Youth Council and the performance of the South London and Maudsley NHS Trust in respect of public and community safety.

I would like to take this opportunity to, firstly, thank the Portfolio Holder for Public Protection and Enforcement for all her support and guidance over the past year. Secondly, I would thank all members who have served on the PP&E PDS for their enthusiastic and positive contribution and wise counsel, which has ensured the continued safety of Bromley borough, its communities, and its local residents. Finally, I would like to place on record my sincere thanks and appreciation for the sterling work of all Council officers who have not only supported the PP&E PDS in carrying out its scrutiny function, but who continue to serve and support all those who live, work and visit our borough.

**Councillor David Cartwright**  
**Chairman, Public Protection & Enforcement PDS Committee**

# 9. Report from Renewal, Recreation and Housing PDS Committee

**Chairman: Cllr Tony Owen**

**Vice-Chairman: Cllr Thomas Turrell**

The Renewal, Recreation & Housing Portfolio is one of the most wide ranging in the Council and is one of the major cost drivers. Temporary Housing demand is increasing as accommodation costs rocket, but supply is limited. Staff continue to be innovative in controlling costs and finding grant funding for various projects.

A new Local Plan is in the pipeline.

Subjects that have been scrutinised in the last year are listed below in (mainly) chronological order. Detail is available in committee papers and minutes.

- Refurbishment of St Paul's Cray library
- Bromley North housing
- Crystal Palace Trust
- Full fibre roll out
- Coronation street parties
- Housing Information Technology
- Asset Management Strategy
- Tenancy Strategy and Management
- National Planning Policy Framework
- Building Control Service
- Housing - Meadowship scheme and building own
- Housing revenue account
- Lawn Tennis Association grant for tennis court renovation
- Orpington supplementary planning document
- Urban design guide
- Homelessness prevention grant
- Ex offenders programme
- Rough sleeping initiative
- England & Wales cricket board grant for non turf pitches
- More homes Bromley (Mears group)
- Leisure centre redevelopment
- Walnuts (Orpington) and West Wickham leisure centres
- Changing places (specialist toilets for complex needs)
- York Rise development
- Crofton Roman Villa (external building)
- Local parades
- Bromley supplementary planning document
- Housing allocation scheme
- Star Lane works
- Temporary accommodation costs
- Supply problems with homelessness accommodation
- Loss of private rental accommodation
- Mottingham Community Support Centre

- Crystal Palace regeneration
- Crystal Palace subway
- Network Rail land availability
- Carbon management within contracts
- Homelessness prevention funds
- Bellegrove housing development
- Library repair works
- Extra affordable housing in West Wickham
- Local London sub regional partnership

Monitoring of budgets, capital programme, contracts and key performance indicators (KPIs) takes place regularly.

**Councillor Tony Owen**  
**Chairman, Renewal, Recreation and Housing PDS Committee**



## COUNCIL

15<sup>th</sup> JULY 2024

## MOTIONS

### **(A) Fight for a fair funding settlement for local government**

**Proposed by Councillor Chloe-Jane Ross and seconded by Councillor (?)**

Council Notes:

- London Boroughs like Bromley have suffered from chronic underfunding for too long. London boroughs' overall resources remain 18% lower in real terms than in 2010. Whilst costs to provide services have risen exponentially, so has the demand for services (due, in part, to high inflation and the cost-of-living crisis).
- A report from the Institute for Fiscal Studies think-tank (in August 2023) found London local government funding is 17% lower than its estimated relative need – by far the largest gap of any region in England.
- The funding gap is particularly acute in Bromley, where we had the second lowest level of settlement funding per head of population in London last year. The borough is facing a projected budget gap of around £17m in 2025/26 increasing to £39m in 2027/28. However, since the Council Tax report was produced, further cost pressures have arisen, as reported to the Executive in May of £9m per annum, which will increase the budget gap even further.
- Long-term planning for local authorities remains difficult as the previous Conservative Government gave local authorities six one-year settlements in a row. This uncertainty around funding hampers strategic financial planning, making it especially challenging to set a medium-term financial strategy for the prosperity of our borough.
- Fixing a fair funding settlement must be a priority for the new Government to stop the crisis in adult social care, children's social care, SEND provision, social housing and homelessness - so that Bromley Council can afford to provide vital support and homes for our residents that need it.

Therefore, this Council calls on the Leader to:

- Work with all Bromley Council parties and groups to call upon our new MPs to make the cause of adequate funding for the London Borough of Bromley their top priority in the first year of the new Government.
- Call upon the new Government to urgently address the acute financial challenges affecting local authorities in order to protect the local services our communities rely on.
- Back the Local Government Association's (LGA) in their calls for sufficiently higher funding; a minimum of 3 years funding settlements; reform to the distribution of funding to better reflect local need; and to increase funding flexibilities and freedoms allowing local authorities to spend funds where they are needed most.
- Write to the new Secretary of State and our MPs to lobby for a fair funding settlement for all local authorities, noting the unfair funding settlement for outer London boroughs like Bromley specifically.

**(B) Section 21 Notices - No Fault Evictions**

**Proposed by Councillor Kathy Bance MBE and seconded by Councillor Chris Price**

The Renters Reform bill was first announced by the previous Conservative Government six years ago, but the bill was not given time to pass before this month's election was called, despite support from opposition parties.

Noting that;

- (1) all the major parties in England have committed to reforming renters' rights,
- (2) the recent rise in residents presenting as homeless following service of section 21 eviction notices and
- (3) the continued growth of temporary accommodation costs to the council,

Bromley Council resolves to lobby the incoming government to finally pass a bill to end Section 21 No Fault Evictions.