

Cabinet responsibilities, October 2021

Councillor Darren Rodwell, Leader of the Council

As Leader of the Council, Councillor Rodwell has overall responsibility for setting the strategic direction of the Council and for the political management of the Authority, including the delivery of agreed Council priorities and policies.

Councillor Rodwell leads on attracting inward investment, including the borough's film studios and the three markets of London and external relations, including the Government, the Thames Estuary Board, the Mayor of London, London Councils and Local London.

Councillor Rodwell is also responsible for promoting civic pride through initiatives including the Summer of Festivals and the borough's flag-raising ceremonies.

Councillor Rodwell is also responsible for the Armed Services covenant.

Councillor Dominic Twomey, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance & Core Services

Councillor Twomey is Deputy Leader with strategic responsibility for the Council's budget and performance across all of its services.

Councillor Twomey is responsible for the development and implementation of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and the Investment and Acquisition Strategy. The overriding aim is to ensure the Council achieves a balanced budget and secures a financial recovery following a decade of reduced funding from Central Government and financial pressures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Councillor Twomey is also responsible for corporate performance, customer services and is the lead member for digital transformation, organisational development, staff wellbeing, and new ways of working as part of the post-COVID environment.

Councillor Twomey is also responsible for all parking-related matters, incorporating parking strategy and policy (ie. Controlled Parking Zones, low traffic neighbourhoods), enforcement and the parking budget account.

Councillor Saima Ashraf, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Community Leadership & Engagement

Councillor Ashraf is Deputy Leader with responsibility for empowering the community in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes tackling inequalities (including gender and race), engaging different faiths and communities, building on the work of the Borough Manifesto and Good Neighbour Guide, and developing the Citizens Alliance Network.

Councillor Ashraf is also responsible for empowering residents through the management of Council-owned housing and homes let and managed through B&D Reside, the Council's wholly-owned municipal housing company. She also has responsibility for housing support provided to the most vulnerable through the Council's Community Solutions service.

Councillor Ashraf is also responsible for community infrastructure, recreation and leisure, libraries and arts and culture. This includes delivery of the 'Becontree Forever' centenary celebrations, securing facilities and the long-term future of Parsloes and Central Parks, implementing Creative Enterprise Zones, providing a permanent home to the East End Women's Museum, establishing the feasibility of an industrial heritage museum, and maximising heritage assets like Eastbury Manor House and the Abbey Ruins.

Councillor Sade Bright, Cabinet Member for Employment, Skills & Aspiration

Councillor Bright has responsibility for raising aspiration to enable residents achieve their full potential. Councillor Bright leads on employment and skills support provided within Community Solutions (including Barking & Dagenham Adult College) to improve employment and skills outcomes and build resilience across the borough.

As part of this, Councillor Bright works with local employers and key partners to expand local job and training opportunities across the borough, including the proceeds of the borough's growth, such as the films studios and the three London markets.

Councillor Bright also promotes equality and inclusion through the borough's Gender Equality Charter alongside a programme of events including Pride, Black History Month, Women's Empowerment Month, and Women's Empowerment Awards.

Councillor Evelyn Carpenter, Cabinet Member for Educational Attainment & School Improvement

Councillor Carpenter is responsible for driving up standards in nurseries, primary and secondary schools, and in further education.

Councillor Carpenter is responsible for ensuring that youngsters get the best start in life. As part of this, Councillor Carpenter is responsible for ensuring education is accessible to all students and that young people secure their first choice of school and 9 out of 10 schools are rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted.

Councillor Carpenter is responsible for making sure schools cater for the needs of all pupils. This includes fighting for fairer funding for all pupils, driving up participation after youngsters leave secondary school and seeing more pupils go to Sixth Form and onto top universities.

Councillor Cameron Geddes, Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Economic Development

Councillor Geddes has responsibility for making sure the Council delivers on its plans for inclusive growth and economic development in the borough, including the development of thousands of new genuinely affordable homes for local people.

Councillor Geddes provides strategic direction and oversight for Be First, the Council's wholly-owned regeneration company.

Councillor Geddes also has responsibility for the Council's asset management strategy which includes making sure the Council maximises its commercial potential. He leads on overall place-shaping and the Local Plan as well as planning, transport, and infrastructure policy issues.

Councillor Geddes is also responsible for delivering the Council's ambition to be the Green Capital of the Capital, through a range of energy and sustainability activity, including B&D Energy, the Council's wholly-owned energy services company.

Councillor Syed Ghani, Cabinet Member for Public Realm

Councillor Ghani is responsible for leading the drive for a cleaner, greener borough.

Councillor Ghani has responsibility for refuse collections (including domestic, bulky and business waste), recycling and green waste, and cleansing in parks and cemeteries. This includes the delivery of services such as arboriculture and pest control. As part of this, he is also responsible for developing a new waste management strategy.

Councillor Ghani is also responsible for increasing public engagement, and leading on behaviour change campaigns to promote recycling, and reducing fly-tipping and graffiti as part of promoting civic pride.

Councillor Elizabeth Kangethe, Cabinet Member & Champion for Disabled People

In the wake of the pandemic, Councillor Kangethe has responsibility for services to support for residents with physical and learning disabilities ensuring the Council's response is disability inclusive.

Councillor Kangethe will work alongside the Cabinet Member for Social Care & Health Integration to protect the most vulnerable by championing the needs of people with disabilities, including improving health and wellbeing, independent living, pathways into learning, and access to housing, employment, and training.

This includes the whole life cycle from young to old, including provision for Special Educational Needs.

Councillor Kangethe will also work alongside the Cabinet Member for Community Leadership & Engagement to help deliver the Council's equalities and diversity strategy.

Councillor Margaret Mullane, Cabinet Member for Enforcement & Community Safety

Councillor Mullane is responsible for enforcement and community safety. This includes trading standards, anti-social behaviour, environmental crime and noise nuisance. As part of this, Councillor Mullane oversees the Council's flag-ship Private Landlord Licensing Scheme as well as the management of CCTV in the borough.

Councillor Mullane also leads on crime and safety issues for the Council, liaising with the police and with a special focus on tackling serious youth violence, robbery, burglaries and domestic violence.

Councillor Mullane also chairs the borough's Community Safety Partnership which, along with statutory partners, reviews the borough Community Safety Plan in four key areas: Children and Young People, Managing Offenders, Safer Borough Board and Violence Against Women and Girls.

Councillor Maureen Worby, Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health Integration

Councillor Worby is responsible for ensuring the Council fulfils its statutory responsibilities in adult social care services, children's services, and public health.

As part of this, Councillor Worby is also responsible for developing services which help prevent problems, safeguarding the vulnerable, empowering people and maintaining independence.

Working with partners in the NHS, the voluntary sector (including BDCollective) and through schools, Councillor Worby has responsibility for strategies and actions to help end isolation and loneliness for older people, improving adoption, and developing healthy lifestyles programmes and other early intervention in health.

Councillor Worby is also the lead member with responsibility for the Council's Prevent strategy and for reducing domestic violence, working in partnership with the Cabinet Member for Community Leadership & Engagement (on the Prevent strategy) and the Cabinet Member for Enforcement & Community Safety (on reducing domestic violence).