

## **Policy House - Building a better life for all**

This document is a 12 font narrative version of our A3 Policy House diagram.

Our vision for the Borough is *Building a Better Life for All* with the key aims of:

- Raising household incomes
- School and post-16 education
- Housing and estate renewal

The priority themes of the Council as shown in the “Policy House” are:

- Better together
- Better homes
- Better health and well-being
- Better future

We developed the “Policy House” to show how our priorities, policies and strategies fit together, and to make clear what is important to the Council and to the Borough.

### **BETTER TOGETHER**

#### Theme

We all want our borough to be a place we can be proud of. Pride too in being good neighbours and in the respect we show to others. A real community, where local people have the confidence to be involved in the decisions that affect their lives, their street, their neighbourhood, their Borough. For that, people need to feel safe and to have confidence that the authorities are on their side. Building pride can't be done by the Council alone – we need to work with all our partners and with the voluntary sector and community groups to create a community everyone can take pride in.

#### Outcomes

- A borough in which people are proud and satisfied to live and work.
- A borough with low levels of anti-social behaviour, and where authorities support residents in getting problems solved.
- A borough where people feel safe in their neighbourhoods and town centres.
- A borough where people get involved – and feel included – in the decisions that affect them.
- A borough with a range of positive activities for young people.
- A borough with a thriving voluntary sector.
- A borough that safeguards children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- A borough where local people come together to make it a better place.

Every Child Matters: Stay Safe, Make a Positive Contribution.

The Seven Principles of the Department of Health's Vision for Adult Social Care

## Members' Priorities 2010

- Encourage schools to allow people who live nearby use of their facilities during evenings and at weekends
- Use all our powers to crack down on anti-social council tenants
- Keep youths off the streets by providing more positive things for young people to do
- Continue to hold one of England's largest St George's Day celebrations and celebrate other community events every year
- Bring zero tolerance on anti social behaviour like spitting, littering, dog fouling and louts
- Install more CCTV cameras
- Make sure local people have a full say on all new developments

## **BETTER HOME**

### Theme

More people want to live in our borough. That means we need a range of housing options, including both quality affordable/social housing and aspirational housing, for now and the future. But home is about more than just a house, and we want our streets, parks and estates to reflect people's pride in where they live. We have a vision for housing, for estates and better parks, that we want local people to share. With local residents' help we will make Barking & Dagenham somewhere where people can raise their family – knowing that their Council is working hard to make the Borough somewhere they can call home.

### Outcomes

- A borough with more affordable housing for local residents, with a particular focus on family-sized houses.
- A borough with improved estates and homes that people choose to live in, whether owned by the Council, other social landlords, privately rented or owned.
- A clean borough, with low levels of litter and graffiti and where residents look after their own homes and gardens.
- A borough with good quality transport, including public transport, roads and footpaths.
- A borough with excellent parks, play and cultural facilities.
- A borough with a safe home for every child.

The Seven Principles of the Department of Health's Vision for Adult Social Care

## Members' Priorities 2010

- Smarten up local shopping parades
- Continue to build new council houses for local people
- Buy empty properties and put them back into council house stock
- Extend the Eyesore Gardens campaign to whole borough, include shop fronts
- Continue to protect weekly waste collections
- Introduce a Landlords charter to force landlords to act responsibly
- Provide lots of things for young people during summer holidays

- Continue our road and footpaths investment programme
- Build a play area in all of the Borough's parks
- Push for the kind of developments at Dagenham Dock and Riverside that local people want and need
- Fight for access to Thames waterfront so local people can make the most of it

## **BETTER HEALTH & WELL-BEING**

### Theme

With the Olympics on the horizon we want our Borough to be a healthier, fitter place. Where people can get help to stop smoking, get the advice they need to lose weight and can exercise in pleasant surroundings. For the most vulnerable, and those less able, we believe in giving independence and choice – and we will continue to deliver quality social care to those who need it.

### Outcomes

- A borough where people's health and fitness are improving, with fewer smokers, with more people taking exercise and where people take better care of their diet.
- A borough with excellent leisure and health facilities, in which people can exercise, play and relax.
- A borough with high quality social care services for those that need them.
- A borough where people with care needs are helped to live the life they want, with real choices about their lives and care.
- A borough which meets the needs of disabled children, young people and adults are met.

Every Child Matters: Be Healthy

The Seven Principles of the Department of Health's Vision for Adult Social Care

### Members' Priorities 2010

- Ensure every child can swim
- Champion older people's local facilities and their use by local older people
- Help our most vulnerable pensioners to keep their independence by looking after them in their own homes
- Continue to campaign for a community hospital in Dagenham

## **BETTER FUTURE**

### Theme

We want a borough that believes in opportunity – one that recognises and champions success, where people can look to the future with confidence, assured that their council will do what it can to provide the educational, academic and vocational opportunities they need. A borough of rising, not falling incomes. A working borough – where business and entrepreneurship is given the help it needs. A place where hard work is rewarded and where effort and determination are encouraged.

## Outcomes

- A borough with excellent schools, constantly improving and which are growing to meet the demands for pupil places.
- A borough with excellent – and improving – attainment through education and training.
- A borough of rising incomes.
- A borough that is great for doing business in, and where businesses are supported to thrive.
- A borough that reduces its waste and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

Every Child Matters: Enjoy & Achieve; Achieve Economic Well-being  
The Seven Principles of the Department of Health's Vision for Adult Social Care

## Members' Priorities 2010

- Invest £270 million in local secondary schools
- Create more Council apprenticeships
- Keep council tax levels down so they are lower than Havering and Redbridge
- Support local businesses by encouraging people to buy locally
- Champion and reward achievement by local school pupils
- Set up a small business task force to help people start their own business
- Fight for access to the Thames waterfront in the borough

## **All outcomes will be delivered by A WELL RUN ORGANISATION THAT IS .....**

- Understanding and responds to its customers and citizens, and supports people to help themselves and their community
- Innovative, leaner, and more efficient with lower support costs and lower costs of assets
- Using technology to modernise working practices and open up new opportunities for sharing information and communicating better
- Taking opportunities for sharing costs, minimising waste, and maximising external funding
- Well managed with a well developed and motivated workforce
- Respected with a good reputation for "doing business"
- Delivering its statutory duties in the most practical and cost-effective way.

To be successful though we also have to work together in the right way. Our values set out how we work together as one team to provide excellent services. They are:

- Putting our customers first
- Taking responsibility
- Treating each other fairly and respectfully
- Working together as one team
- Achieving excellence