

Notice of Meeting

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 7 October 2020 - 6:00 pm
Meeting to be held virtually

Members: Cllr Jane Jones (Chair), Cllr Dorothy Akwaboah (Deputy Chair), Cllr Toni Bankole, Cllr Donna Lumsden, Cllr Olawale Martins, Cllr Simon Perry, Cllr Ingrid Robinson, Cllr Paul Robinson, Cllr Bill Turner and Cllr Phil Waker

Date of publication: 25 September 2020

Claire Symonds
Acting Chief Executive

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Please note that this meeting will be webcast, which is a transmission of audio and video over the internet. To view the webcast click [here](#) and select the relevant meeting (the weblink will be available at least 24-hours before the meeting).

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Declaration of Members' Interests**

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, Members are asked to declare any interest they may have in any matter which is to be considered at this meeting.
- 3. Minutes - To confirm as correct the minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2020 (Pages 3 - 7)**
- 4. Getting Barking and Dagenham Back to Work: Local Unemployment Response after Lockdown (Pages 9 - 23)**
- 5. Update on the Scrutiny Review on Ambition 2020 and its Early Impact (Pages 25 - 42)**
- 6. Work Programme (Pages 43 - 46)**
- 7. Any other public items which the Chair decides are urgent**

8. **To consider whether it would be appropriate to pass a resolution to exclude the public and press from the remainder of the meeting due to the nature of the business to be transacted.**

Private Business

The public and press have a legal right to attend Council meetings such as the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, except where business is confidential or certain other sensitive information is to be discussed. The list below shows why items are in the private part of the agenda, with reference to the relevant legislation (the relevant paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended).

There are no such items at the time of preparing this agenda.

9. **Any confidential or exempt items which the Chair decides are urgent**

Our Vision for Barking and Dagenham

ONE BOROUGH; ONE COMMUNITY; NO-ONE LEFT BEHIND

Our Priorities

Participation and Engagement

- To collaboratively build the foundations, platforms and networks that enable greater participation by:
 - Building capacity in and with the social sector to improve cross-sector collaboration
 - Developing opportunities to meaningfully participate across the Borough to improve individual agency and social networks
 - Facilitating democratic participation to create a more engaged, trusted and responsive democracy
- To design relational practices into the Council's activity and to focus that activity on the root causes of poverty and deprivation by:
 - Embedding our participatory principles across the Council's activity
 - Focusing our participatory activity on some of the root causes of poverty

Prevention, Independence and Resilience

- Working together with partners to deliver improved outcomes for children, families and adults
- Providing safe, innovative, strength-based and sustainable practice in all preventative and statutory services
- Every child gets the best start in life
- All children can attend and achieve in inclusive, good quality local schools
- More young people are supported to achieve success in adulthood through higher, further education and access to employment
- More children and young people in care find permanent, safe and stable homes
- All care leavers can access a good, enhanced local offer that meets their health, education, housing and employment needs
- Young people and vulnerable adults are safeguarded in the context of their families, peers, schools and communities

- Our children, young people, and their communities' benefit from a whole systems approach to tackling the impact of knife crime
- Zero tolerance to domestic abuse drives local action that tackles underlying causes, challenges perpetrators and empowers survivors
- All residents with a disability can access from birth, transition to, and in adulthood support that is seamless, personalised and enables them to thrive and contribute to their communities. Families with children who have Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) can access a good local offer in their communities that enables them independence and to live their lives to the full
- Children, young people and adults can better access social, emotional and mental wellbeing support - including loneliness reduction - in their communities
- All vulnerable adults are supported to access good quality, sustainable care that enables safety, independence, choice and control
- All vulnerable older people can access timely, purposeful integrated care in their communities that helps keep them safe and independent for longer, and in their own homes
- Effective use of public health interventions to reduce health inequalities

Inclusive Growth

- Homes: For local people and other working Londoners
- Jobs: A thriving and inclusive local economy
- Places: Aspirational and resilient places
- Environment: Becoming the green capital of the capital

Well Run Organisation

- Delivers value for money for the taxpayer
- Employs capable and values-driven staff, demonstrating excellent people management
- Enables democratic participation, works relationally and is transparent
- Puts the customer at the heart of what it does
- Is equipped and has the capability to deliver its vision

MINUTES OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 9 September 2020
(5:00 - 6:48 pm)

Present: Cllr Jane Jones (Chair), Cllr Dorothy Akwaboah (Deputy Chair), Cllr Toni Bankole, Cllr Olawale Martins, Cllr Simon Perry, Cllr Ingrid Robinson, Cllr Paul Robinson, Cllr Bill Turner and Cllr Phil Waker

Also Present: Cllr Andrew Achilleos and Cllr Margaret Mullane

Apologies: Cllr Donna Lumsden

11. Declaration of Members' Interests

12. Minutes - 1 July 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2020 were agreed.

13. Air Quality Action Plan

The Air Quality Officer (AQO) delivered a presentation on the position in Barking and Dagenham in relation to air quality and preparations for a public consultation on an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP). The levels of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) (a pollutant principally arising from the combustion of fossil fuels), were noted to be above legal limits, requiring the Local Authority to declare an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and to produce an AQAP under Part IV of the Environmental Protection Act. The AQAP currently being developed was for the period 2020-2025, and once approved by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Greater London Authority (GLA), the Council would be required to report annually on the progression of its key objectives.

The AQO explained the current issues that the Borough faced, noting high concentrations of pollution on and near main road networks and high levels of emissions from road transport, construction and development and vehicle fleet composition. The need to increase current air quality monitoring in the Borough was also highlighted, along with key priorities for the AQAP 2020-2025. A timetable for the preparation of the AQAP was presented, including a consultation with key internal and external stakeholders, who played a major part in improving air quality in Barking and Dagenham, as well as an 8-week public consultation. A final draft AQAP 2020-2025 was intended to be put forward for Cabinet approval in December 2020.

Following the presentation, Members asked a number of questions to the AQO, the responses to which are summarised below.

The AQO explained the difference between main monitoring 'stations' and smaller satellite air quality monitors and the reasons behind their geographical positioning within the Borough. The Environmental Health team was undertaking a review into the current air quality monitoring network, as this was not currently representative of air quality levels within Barking and Dagenham, overall. This was particularly

apparent through the monitoring station at Scrattons Farm, which was observed to not be receiving data from the A13 at all due to its 150-200m southern positioning from the main road, which had led to it being classified as a 'background' station. The Environmental Health team wished to relocate this station to a roadside position to obtain more representative data on current air pollution from main roads in the Borough; however, additional funding would need to be secured in order to achieve this. A number of factors needed to be taken into account when installing an air quality monitoring station, such as land ownership, access, maintenance, electricity connections and Wi-Fi connections.

Further discussions into the funding for future air quality monitoring stations took place, with Members noting that the Council's Environmental Health team were working with the Planning department to look into potential planning mechanisms that could be used to support future funding in this area. The Public Health team's continuing involvement in responding to challenges around air quality in the Borough had resulted in the further integration of the Public Health and Environmental Health departments' air quality work.

The Borough's pollution principally arose from roads, namely, vehicle exhaust, regenerated dust and emissions; main roads presented the biggest concern. Whilst the Council had a limited range of regulatory powers that it could implement on Transport for London (TfL) operated roads, the Council was the regulatory body for roads outside of TfL control. The Council needed to work to reduce emissions from the roads that fell under its remit. Council staff were working with TfL to implement the 'School Streets' programme, which looked into lowering air pollution in and around school areas. This programme was specifically targeting three schools around the A13 due to its high levels of air pollution.

There were a small number of Electric Vehicle street charging points in the Borough, but the Council would be looking into the best ways of deploying infrastructure to meet demand, given the projected growth of electric vehicles in London. It was also noted that with the reduced public transport uptake and the increase in private vehicle usage, as a result of the pandemic, the Council was considering ways to influence sustainable transport and incentivise the uptake of electric vehicles in the Borough through the implementation of travel plans within businesses and commercial entities, and new technology to reduce congestion and vehicle miles.

With regards to the extension of London's Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ), there could be a 20% drop in NO₂ levels because similar reductions had been recorded when the GLA changed Central London's Congestion Charge zone into a Low Emission zone. Whilst the greatest benefits would be seen within the inner ULEZ zone (with Barking and Dagenham being an outlying borough on the edge of this area), there would be some positive benefits outside of the ULEZ too.

The AQO's team were working on a 'Ways of Working' staff travel programme in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic in conjunction with the Council's Inclusive Growth department. This would aim to reflect the ways in which employees were now working, incentivise staff to reduce their car usage and use more sustainable and active travel routes. The Operational Director for Enforcement Services highlighted that there was a current drive to reduce the number of journeys that residents made, encouraging them to utilise more sustainable forms of transport.

The GLA had contracted an external agency to investigate the potential health repercussions of cycling on A-Roads, such as the A13, concluding that the overall psychological and physical benefits from cycling outweighed the negative impact of air pollution on health. However, to mitigate the effects of air pollution, it was important to inform residents about alternative cycling routes that would expose them to less air pollution. The AQAP would also include an action to undertake more strategic planting of trees near major roads around the Borough to reduce pollution.

The Council's Planning department had responsibility for implementing and delivering policies to regulate air quality emissions from buildings and developments. The Council had greater regulatory control in reducing emissions from newer buildings, as developers would be subject to any new planning policies to minimise the impact of pollution. In respect to the Council's existing building stock, a refit and renew programme was in place. There would be a specific measure in the AQAP to demonstrate that all major developments would need to abide by GLA requirements relating to dust mitigation in relation to construction and demolition. All construction companies also needed to abide by a code of construction practice in relation to on-site operational work.

The Council's goal that 25% of its fleet should be electrified by 2025 was a target the its Inclusive Growth department had already agreed to work towards, but further work was necessary to establish whether this target would meet the Council's goal of being carbon neutral by 2030, and meeting the national 2050 carbon neutral goal. Members also discussed the possibility of campaigning for an electrified TfL fleet across the Borough, with the AQO noting his own specific responsibility to report on and encourage wider air quality lobbying for collective resident gains.

Members noted that steering group meetings would be held on a quarterly basis after the adoption of the AQAP, during which each internal Council department would provide an update as to their designated actions. It was suggested that briefings from these meetings could be arranged and shared with the Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The Member Champion for Climate Change acknowledged the timeliness of the forthcoming AQAP, considering the current challenges around respiratory health and welcomed the commitment to the 'School Streets' initiative. He emphasised the importance of a meaningful implementation of the AQAP, the importance of regular monitoring by the Council's scrutiny Committees, once ratified.

The Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Community Safety congratulated the AQO for his work and the central role he played in moving this agenda forward. She commented that there was a lack of representation of schools in the Dagenham and Marks Gate areas (the latter being close to the A12 road), in the 'School Streets' programme and had raised this as an ongoing issue in a recent portfolio meeting. She assured the Committee that air quality would be a quarterly feature at her portfolio meetings, as it was a priority for her as a Cabinet Member.

The Chair suggested that a progress report into the implementation of the AQAP be scheduled into the Committee's Work Programme for its meeting on 9 June

2021. She highlighted the importance of helping schools to implement air quality monitoring programmes, as well as using the Council's Communications team to disseminate information about sustainable transport. The need for additional funding to better monitor pollution levels was also discussed, to support the Council's case when lobbying TfL and the Government to help the Borough reduce pollution levels and its impact. The Chair suggested that the use of the River Roding for the transportation of more goods be looked into, as well as the further lobbying of TfL to encourage them to use more sustainable public transport methods.

In response to comments, the AQO stated that whilst the Borough had a Carbon Offsetting Fund, there was currently no mechanism for ensuring developers made a contribution to offset any local air pollution emissions that they did not meet, unlike several other boroughs in London which have put this mechanism in place through the planning process.

The Committee **resolved** to recommend that as part of the AQAP, developers be required to make a contribution towards offsetting the impact of new developments on local air pollution.

The Chair asked that the relevant officers be requested to respond to this recommendation and report back to this Committee.

14. Update on the Scrutiny Review on Ambition 2020 and its Early Impact

The Chair stated that this report merely confirmed that the previously agreed recommendations stemming from the scrutiny review into 'Ambition 2020 and its Early Impact' had been accepted by officers. She added that the Committee was due to receive an update at this meeting outlining how the recommendations would be implemented, in the form of an action plan. However, due to officers wanting to check the action plan against the Council's recently amended Corporate Plan, the Chair had agreed that the action plan instead be presented to the Committee's meeting on 7 October 2020, which was noted.

15. Work Programme

Further to the suggestion made by the Chair in minute 13, Members agreed that the Work Programme include an update on the Council's Air Quality Action Plan in relation to the meeting scheduled for 9 June 2021.

In response to a comment, the Committee agreed that a short update on Anti-Social Behaviour be provided as part of the second response to Covid-19 update item scheduled for the 4 November 2020 meeting and asked the Governance Officer to note this.

The changes to the Work Programme were **agreed**.

Members passed their thanks to the Council's Finance Director for sending an analysis of the expenditure relating to the Housing Revenue Account classed as 'supervision and management', and the overspend in repairs and maintenance to the Committee, following a request for this information at the previous meeting. The Chair asked that any further questions Members had on the information

provided be forwarded to herself and the Governance Officer by a deadline she would confirm outside of this meeting.

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7 October 2020

| | |
|--|---|
| Title: Getting Barking and Dagenham Back to Work: Local Unemployment Response after Lockdown | |
| Report of the Inclusive Growth Team | |
| Open Report | For Information |
| Wards Affected: All | Key Decision: No |
| Report Author: Rachel Laurence, Head of Enterprise & Employment Strategy | Contact Details: E-mail: Rachel.laurence@lbbd.gov.uk |
| Accountable Strategic Leadership Director: Graeme Cook, Director of Inclusive Growth | |
| <p>Summary</p> <p>This report covers the Council's plans into supporting residents back into work. Appendix 1 to this report provides a summary of the current landscape and also the Council's response to local unemployment for those who have been affected as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions and lockdown.</p> <p>It sets out our plans to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide core back to work support 2. Launch a local jobs campaign 3. Maximise external funding options 4. Mobilise a Green Jobs creation programme 5. Kick off a project to tackle long term unemployment <p>The presenter will endeavour to provide the latest figures, in relation this area, to the Committee at the meeting.</p> | |
| Recommendation(s) | |
| The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note this report. | |
| Reason(s) | |
| This report and appendix provides information on the support to the local economy in the Borough by providing more jobs, maximising funding opportunities and links in with our plans for Inclusive Growth. | |

1. Financial Implications

Implications completed by Sandra Pillinger Group Accountant

- 1.1 This report sets out the plans to support residents back to work and sets out a number of initiatives to achieve this aim. Many of these initiatives can be delivered within existing resources and for others funding bids are pending. There are a number of new government funding streams which will support delivery of these

plans – further clarity is awaited. There are no proposals which will require revenue budget growth.

2. Legal Implications

Implications completed by Dr Paul Feild Senior Governance Lawyer

- 2.1 The Council has the power to support getting residents back to work post lock down and promoting economic activity. The thrust of the action aligns with the key themes of the Borough Manifesto of regeneration, employment, skills and enterprise.
- 2.2 This is by virtue of the general power of competence under section 1 of the Localism Act 2011, which provides the Council with the power to do anything that individuals generally may do. Section 1(5) of the Localism Act provides that the general power of competence under section 1 is not limited by the existence of any other power of the authority which (to any extent) overlaps with the general power of competence. The use of the power in section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 is, akin to the use of any other powers, subject to Wednesbury reasonableness constraints and must be used for a proper purpose.
- 2.3 Furthermore in dealing with the post lock-down effects, the Government has made it clear with Procurement Policy Notes and guidance that the public sector should operate in a way that while ensuring value for money does not put additional pressures on its suppliers who may also be facing difficulties due to the effect of the Covid 19 virus and the measures taken to stop its spread.

3. Corporate Policy and Equality Impact

- 3.1 This proposal specifically focusses on meeting economic outcomes in line with our Inclusive Growth Strategy, to deliver good quality employment opportunities and grow a diverse and resilience business base in the borough.
- 3.2 In particular this proposal is concerned with mitigating the negative economic impacts of Covid19 on residents experiencing loss of employment or increased barriers to employment.
- 3.3 The proposal highlights the continuing needs of those furthest from the labour market in a context of increased pressure on a reduced number of jobs available, ensuring that we continue to focus our resources and strategy on these more disadvantaged groups whilst at the same time seeking to tackle increased employment barriers for newly unemployed residents.
- 3.4 In addition to setting out overall plans to tackle economic impacts and continue supporting priority groups of residents further from the labour market, this proposal also sets out a new focus on stimulating the creation of new good quality jobs for young people, who in the current economic context will be facing unprecedented challenges to entering the labour market.

List of appendices:

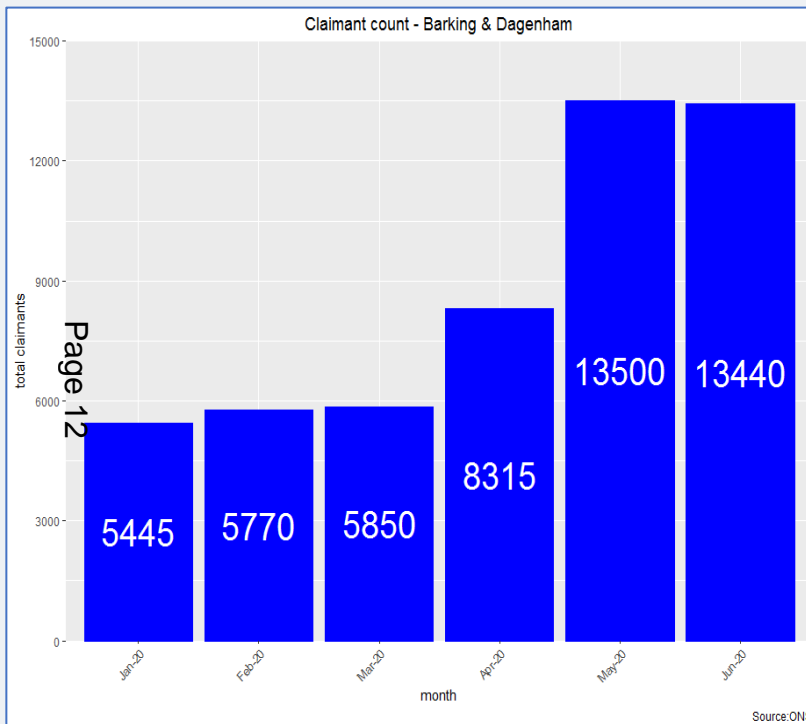
- Appendix 1 Presentation titled Getting Barking and Dagenham back to work: local unemployment response after lockdown

**Getting Barking and Dagenham back to
work: local unemployment response after
lockdown**
July 2020

one borough; one community; no one left behind

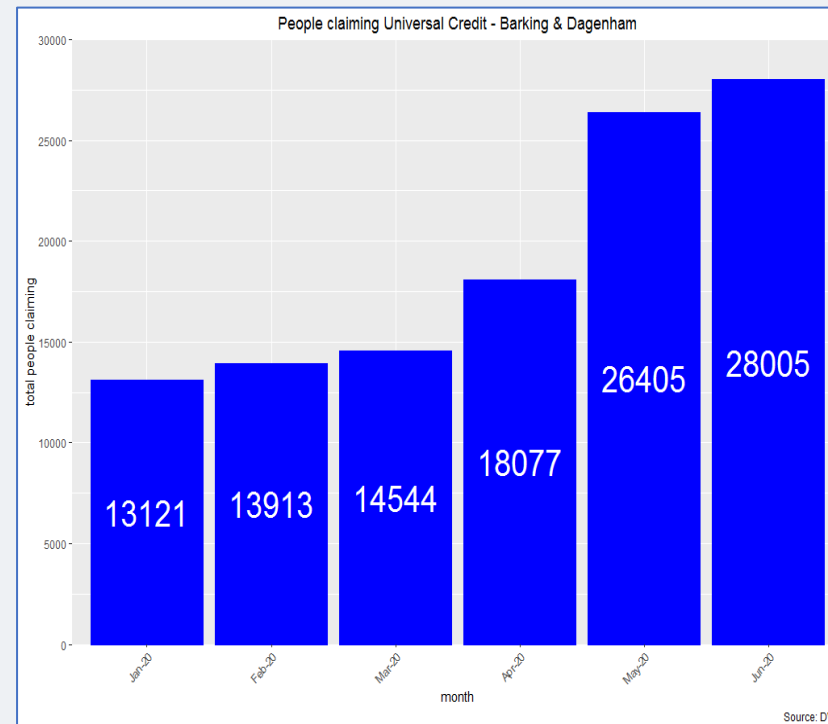
Unemployment is already up. And we are about to be hit by wave of redundancies and bankruptcies .

Unemployment benefits claims Jan – Jun 2020:



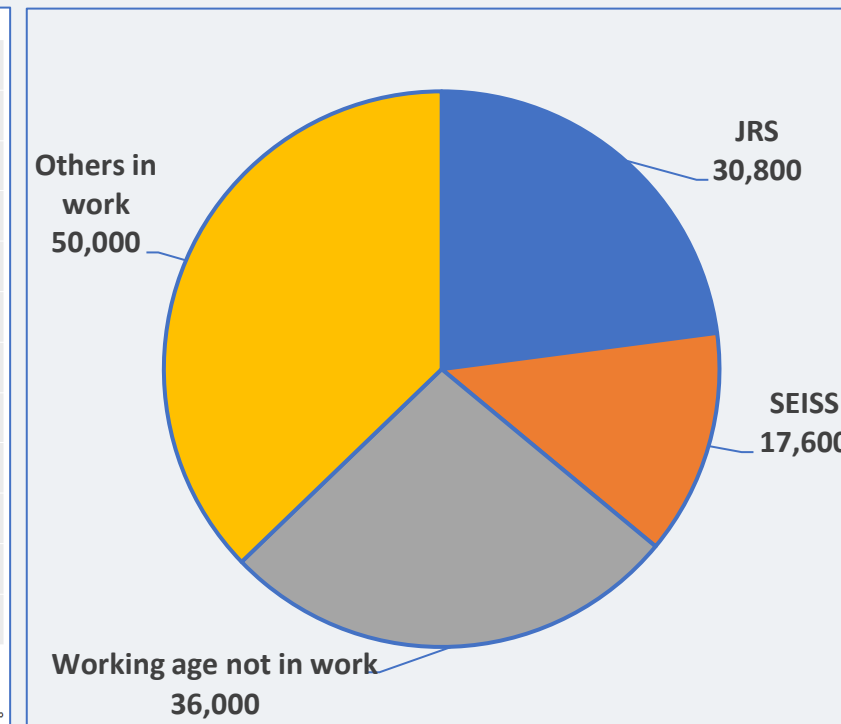
- total figure has **almost tripled since start of lock down**

UC claims Jan – Jun 2020:



- total amount has **doubled since start of lockdown**

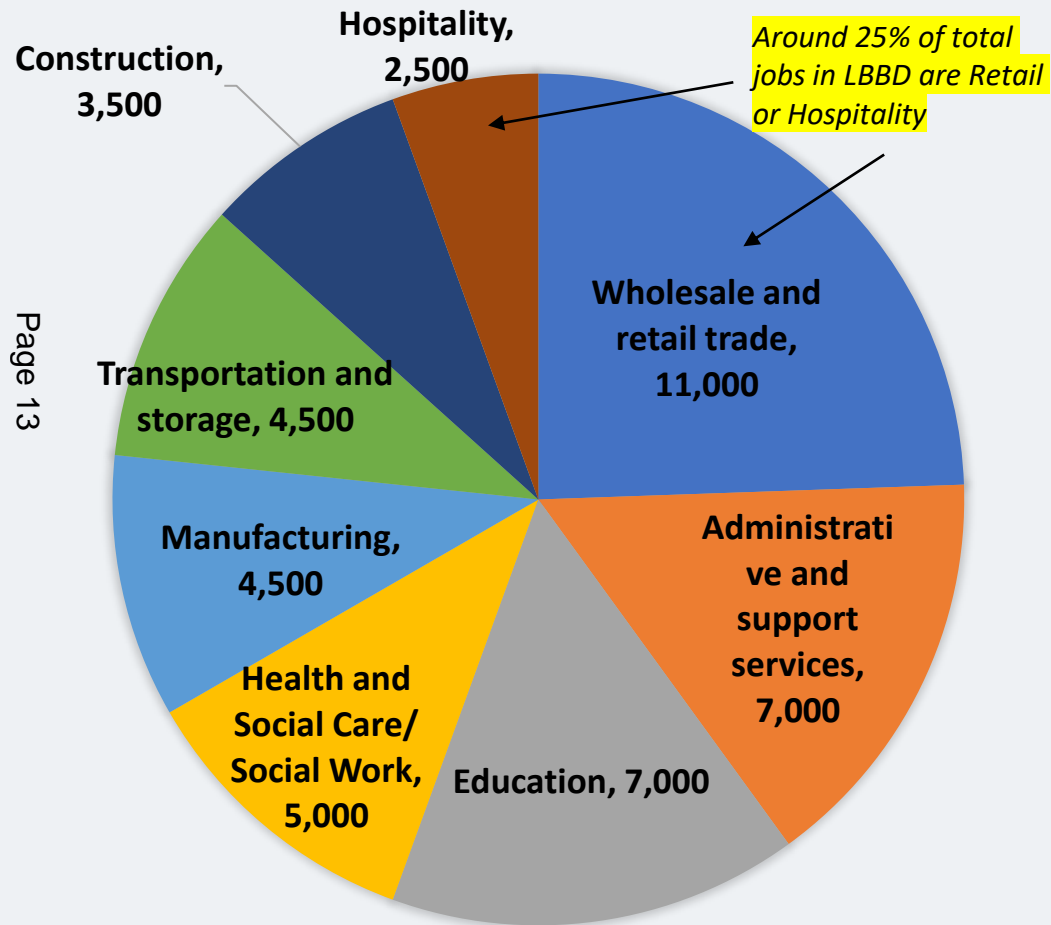
Proportion of LBB working age population in receipt of JRS or SEISS support:



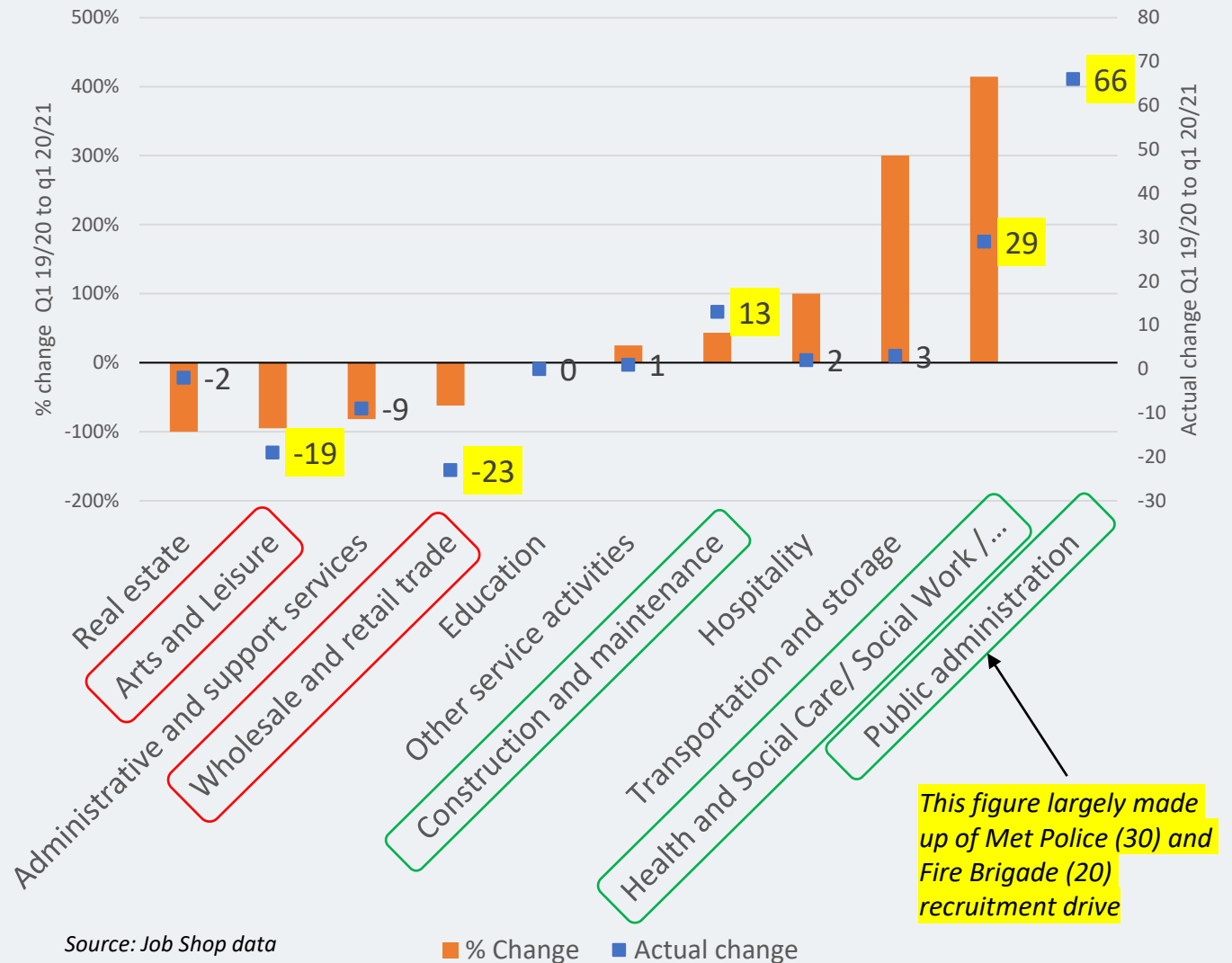
- **49% of residents in work**, currently in receipt of furlough or self employment support
 - **36% of total working age population** in receipt of these schemes – 8th highest in London

And the sector mix of the local jobs market leaves us particularly vulnerable:

Jobs by Sector in Barking – top 8 sectors (83% of total employment):



LBB Job Shop Vacancy listings, Apr-June 2020 compared to same period 2019:



But we go into this downturn with a good support offer in place and having laid strong foundations in past year:

For local business:

- Business Forum meeting quarterly, plus a webinar programme run via the BEC
- Regular newsletter circulated monthly
- New business support scheme run by BEC launching in September in BEC for SMEs
- Over £26m paid out in grants to local business

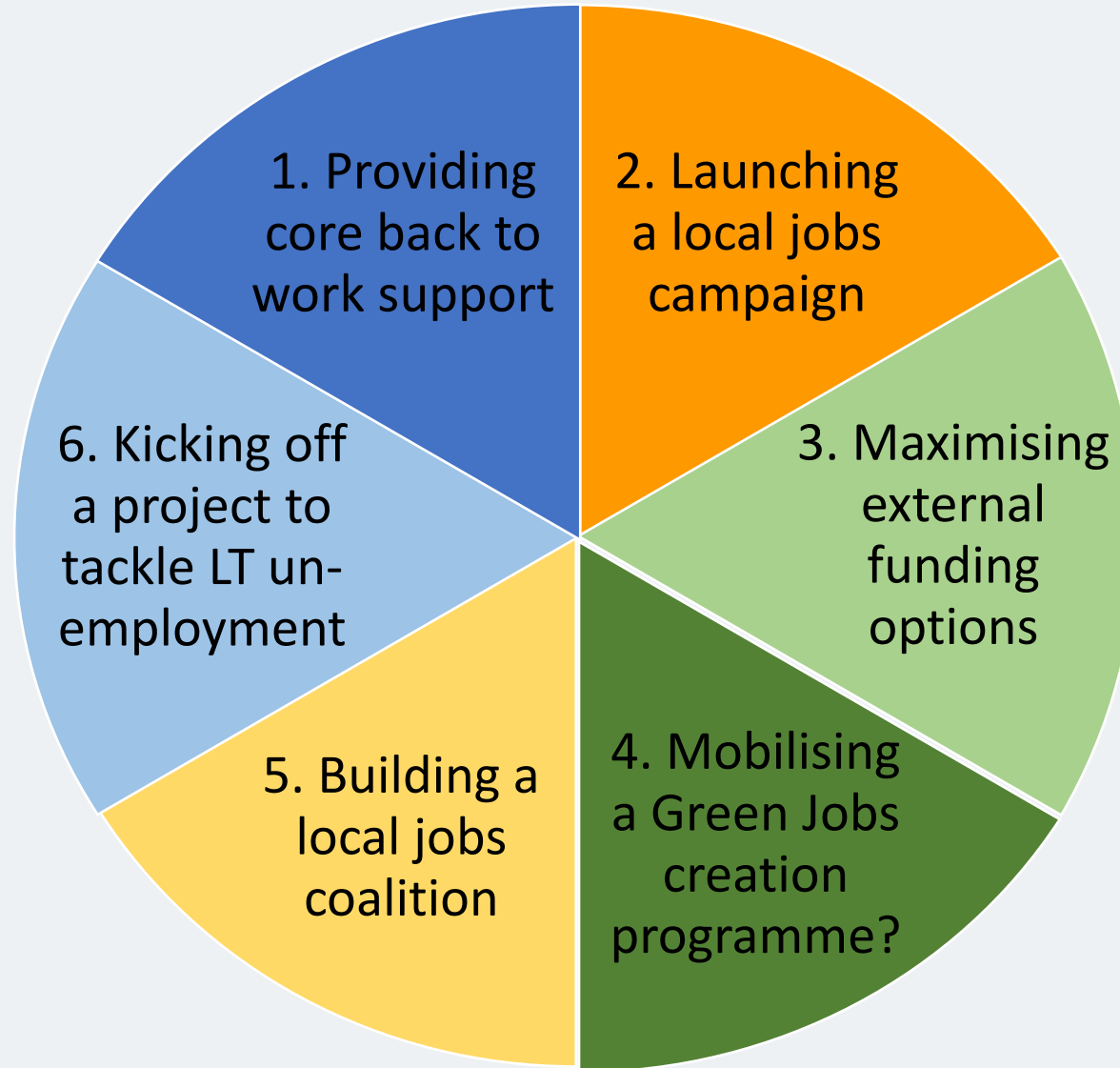
For residents:

- Over 1,300 residents supported into jobs via the Employment & Skills service.
- Wider support offer across HAM Hub, housing, debt, community food clubs, mental health support, adult learning, social prescribing, hardship fund
- Brokerage of work experience, apprenticeships, and job opportunities, particularly within construction sector

Underpinned by:

Range of ambitious economic development and regeneration projects that will create thousands of new jobs, through Be First

So: our response to unemployment spans six areas:



1. We will provide our current support offer for local residents and businesses:

- Practical **support to get a new job** – with 11 FTE job coaches each able to help 100 - 150 residents at any time, with improvement to our online support
- Access to **skills training and apprenticeships**
- Early **engagement with employers** who have furloughed staff to prevent redundancies where possible, or provide rapid support to those losing their job
- **Targeted help** for young people leaving school or college, care leavers, adults with learning & mental health difficulties, older newly unemployed, BAME group and those with child care issues
- **Support to local businesses** to help them cope and thrive, via Business Forum and the BEC.
- **Wider support** to protect incomes and to gain/sustain employment such as housing, debt, welfare and hardship

As the impacts of Covid evolve we'll continue to review how we target and focus this support.

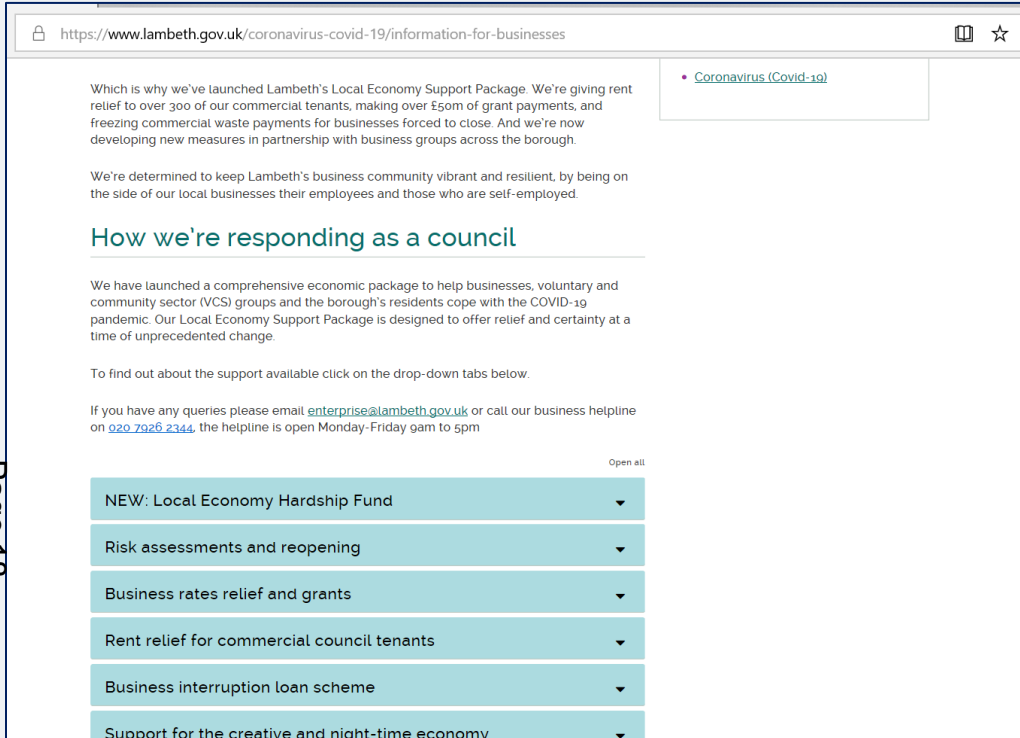
2. We will design and launch a high-profile local Jobs Campaign to galvanise action and offer hope

Aiming to launch in mid-October, this campaign would aim to do three things:

1. **Promote** the support offer available to residents wanting a job or to improve their skills and to businesses wanting to survive and thrive – i.e. telling them where to go for help, from LBBB and elsewhere.
2. Tell a story about the **employment opportunities coming to the borough** and what the council is doing to create good local jobs and back local business
(e.g. film studios, markets relocation, data centre, new build housing/construction, sector focused initiatives on green, care, creative, social value, apprenticeship levy transfer, new train station at Barking Riverside etc)
3. Engage with people and businesses to **buy** local, **trade** local and **hire** local – linked to launch of our new social value policy

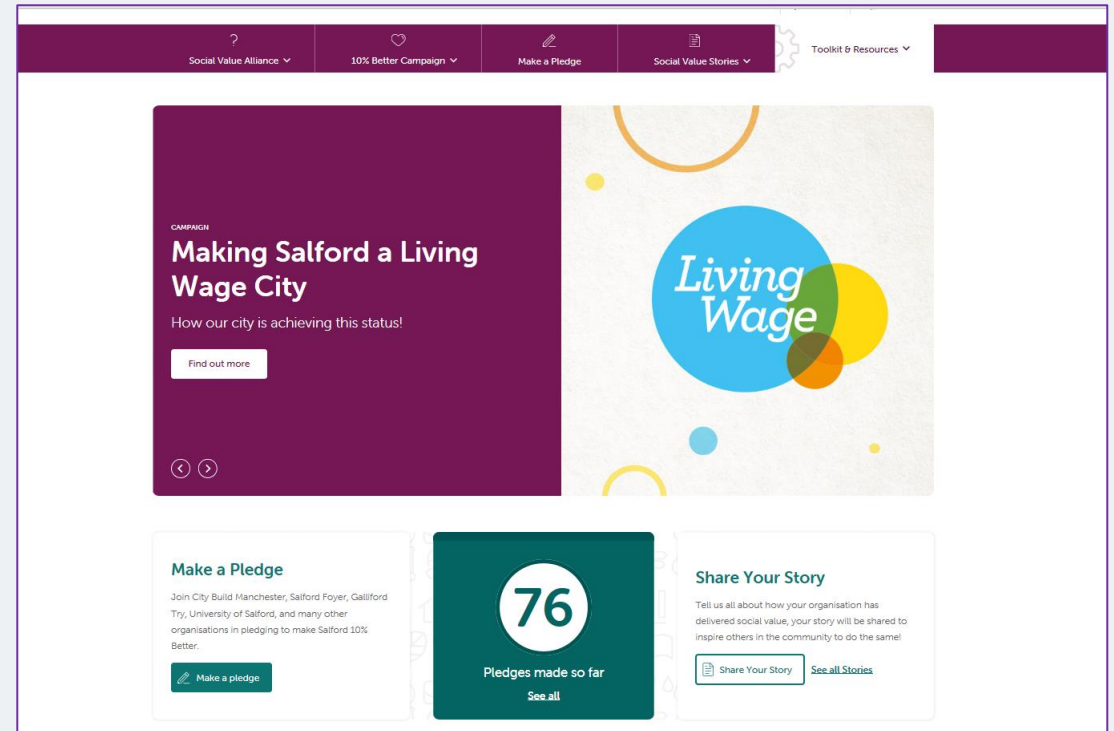
Here's what this campaign might look like...

- Branded coms drive including Member video content, posters, press work and social media campaign to promote and communicate our offer and recovery package
- Web presence encouraging and featuring pledges and commitments by local institutions and businesses (e.g. see Salford's Social Value Campaign)



Screenshot: Lambeth 'Local Economic Recovery Package' framing

- Refreshed presentation of our offer in joined up layout on council pages to clearly link stimulation of economy with support for individual residents, as a clearly defined economic recovery package (e.g. see Lambeth's 'Local Economic Recovery Package' pages)



Screenshot: Salford Social Value 'Living Wage City' campaign

3. We will take advantage of external funding opportunities to enhance our local response and support offer:

- **Pending funding bids**

- DWP funding for 18-25 y'olds including residents from deprived wards, BAME groups
- Seeking to access ~25% of £72m unspent ESF funding, via Local London, which would support additional employment support provision for newly unemployed, those at risk of losing their job and more disadvantaged groups

Government's Plan for Jobs:

- Kickstart scheme: £2.1bn nationally to fund NMW, 25 hour per week work placements for 16-24 y'olds on UC – currently establishing our role as both a direct employer who will create some Kickstart roles, and as a coordinating body for local businesses supporting the application for the funding and the delivery of the wrap-around training and support offer
- Skills, training & apprenticeship funding: around £1bn for apprenticeships, traineeships and employment support
- Flexible Support Fund: around £150m additional funding, distributed by local JCP, incl. to councils, for employment support
- Range of funding schemes for energy retrofitting: including £3.2bn of funding for energy retrofitting of private homes, public sector stock and social housing stock

4. We will mobilise a local Green Youth Jobs programme...

- We are drawing together a number of existing and new funding streams, to create a **Green Youth Jobs programme** – a major, council-led employment intervention
- Programme will draw together the **Kickstart fund**; the **three new retrofitting funds**; existing and new **apprenticeship and training funding** streams; and our plans for **public realm, energy and housing developments**, to form a **“Greening the Borough” themed jobs package**.
- Based around **6 month paid work placements** with an accompanying **training package**, with support to find **permanent roles and access further learning thereafter**, this programme will build towards longer term employment in sustainable careers.
- Programme sits alongside a **wider effort to grow our base of green jobs**, from entry level roles to those requiring greater training (environmental improvements, tree planting, public realm, retrofitting, sustainable construction etc)
- This should form a cornerstone of our **Jobs campaign** and the work to build our **local partnership** working

5. We will build a local jobs coalition with key partners to maximise impact

- Co-location with JCP at our BLC & Dagenham library – focussed on youth employment
- Identify and engage with new and larger employers – sector focussed
- Seek to coordinate jobs and skills offer with CU and B&D College
- Work with business, VCS and education partners to agree joint strategy for maximising business support provision including innovation, mentoring/ coaching, and support to access investment

6. We will undertake a design & innovation project to tackle long term unemployment and wider employment disadvantage

- While immediate focus is rising unemployment, it's vital we don't neglect those already out of work pre-Covid and face greater labour market disadvantage.
- Over the last year, stronger links have been built btw CommSol and Care & Support teams to support more disadvantaged groups (with a additional specialist post starting soon to support adults with learning disabilities).
- We'd also like to undertake a cross-council design & innovation project to explore how we should evolve our offer/model for those at risk of LTU and facing greater disadvantage – in the context of a changing local labour market.
- The scope and plan for this work depends on the outcome of discussions on the strategic framework – and cross-cutting projects that may emerge from that and be supported by the council's core.

Resources are still unclear while we await further details from government. Here's how this maps onto these 6 areas:

| Area | Current resource situation |
|---|--|
| 1. Providing core back to work support | <p>Can deliver within existing resources</p> <p>However: existing resources, largest proportion of which come from external sources already, enable us to support up to 1500 on caseload at once. This is already delivering over an above targets. To expand our scale, would require more resource. Some funding bids already pending.</p> |
| 2. Launching a local jobs campaign | <p>Can deliver basic version within existing resources.</p> |
| 3. Maximising external funding options | <p>Additional national government funding secured to support our training and job shop services (AEB funding). Additional national government funding secured to implement retrofitting work, with potential to access further business through Green Homes Grant (pending). Will be applying for national government Kickstart funding scheme and accessing some funding through this to enable us to provide coordinating role for businesses across borough around training and employment support.</p> |
| 4. Mobilising a Green Jobs creation programme | <p>See notes above: possible only dependent on securing both Kickstart funding (application due to be submitted mid-late October) as well as retrofit funding.</p> |
| 5. Building a local jobs coalition | <p>Can deliver within existing resources</p> |

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

7 October 2020

| | |
|--|---|
| Title: Update on the Scrutiny Review on Ambition 2020 and its Early Impact | |
| Report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer | |
| Open Report | For noting |
| Wards Affected: None | Key Decision: No |
| Report Author: Masuma Ahmed, Principal Governance Officer | Contact Details: Tel: 020 8227 2756 E-mail: masuma.ahmed@lbbd.gov.uk |
| Accountable Strategic Leadership Director: Mark Tyson, Director of Policy & Partnerships and Statutory Scrutiny Officer | |
| Summary | |
| <p>On 9 October 2019, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) agreed to undertake an in-depth scrutiny review on Ambition 2020 and its early impact (minute 20 refers). Between then and February 2020, Committee Members took part in a number of formal and informal meetings to scrutinise four key lines of enquiry forming the basis of the review and make recommendations for improvements.</p> <p>At the 1 July 2020 OSC meeting, the proposed final version of the report to arise from this scrutiny review was presented and agreed (minute 10 refers).</p> <p>The 24 recommendations arising from the scrutiny review report have been accepted and an Action Plan outlining the steps to implement them, and the target dates for completion, is at Appendix 1 of this report.</p> <p>Recommendations 7 and 13 require specific reports to be presented to the OSC later in the year and these are reflected in the Committee's Work Programme. As for the recommendations more generally, the updated Action Plan will be presented to the Committee in approximately six months' time to show progress.</p> | |
| Recommendation(s) | |
| The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note this report. | |
| Reason(s) | |
| It is good practice to present an action plan to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee showing how and by when, recommendations arising from a scrutiny review will be implemented to ensure the Committee's work has added value. | |

Public Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report: None.

List of appendices:

Appendix 1 Action Plan to implement recommendations arising from the Scrutiny Review into Ambition 2020 and its Early Impact

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Appendix 1

| Action Plan Responding to Overview & Scrutiny Committee's A2020 Scrutiny Review | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| Recommendation | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead |
| KLOE 1 | | | | |
| 1. | Smaller, local companies be encouraged to bid for more work with the Council and its companies | <p>1. All companies have access to opportunities via our online procurement portal, but a process will be developed in collaboration with Inclusive Growth to engage better with local suppliers on up-coming opportunities.</p> <p>2. We will be able to report data on spend through local suppliers following the procurement of our new ERP system</p> | <p>6 - 9 months</p> <p>12 months</p> | <p>A Social Value Co-Ordinator has been appointed and took up post on 1st August who will work with Inclusive Growth to develop a detailed plan.</p> |
| 2. | Business plans for the Council's companies be made publicly available (excluding any sensitive commercial information) to allow residents to understand how the companies are aiming to meet their objectives | All Council owned Companies will produce a summary business plan setting out their strategic objectives and how they will meet these as part of the Business Planning process | These documents will be made publicly available annually from 1 st April 21 | Hilary Morris |

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| Recommendation | | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead |
| 3. | Officers provide assurance to the Committee that there are systems, principles and strategies in place to ensure that the Council gets best value from the companies commissioned to deliver services | Principles and strategy to demonstrate Best Value from services commissioned by the Council to the Companies will be set out in a report for OSC's January meeting as per the OSC work plan | In accordance with O&S work plan | | Hilary Morris |
| KLOE 2 | | | | | |
| 4. | Following the return of Elevate, contact centre staff receive additional training in dealing with all vulnerable groups (including young people in care and care leavers) | Calls relating to young people in care and care leavers currently go directly to Children's Care and Support and anything relating to a vulnerable adult would be directed to the Adult Intake Team. We have a guide used in training for vulnerable customers and will update this and the training to include young people in care and care leavers specifically. | End of November 2020 | We have now reviewed our scripts relating to Vulnerable clients to identify the gaps which could prevent the Contact Centre from providing the most responsive service. We have contacted Adult Intake Team, and we will work with them to provide full training and update our guides by November 2020. | Meena Kishinani |

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|---|--|--|---------------------|--|---|
| Recommendation | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead | |
| KLOE 3 | | | | | |
| 5. | Working with support of the Insight Hub, commissioners from Inclusive Growth and Care & Support draw on available data to strengthen their understanding of how demand for services is affected by the movement of people in, out and around the Borough, including in response to new development | 1) Development of the Residents' Matrix 2019/20; the Council's internal demographic modelling tool 2) Development of demand dashboards in the OneView tool to be deployed across Care & Support | End of October 2020 | 1) The Residents' Matrix 2019/20 is now underway after receiving a key dataset (GP registrations data) required from the CCG in Sept 2020. Upon completion, there will be published demographic profiles per ward. These are also being modelled for development areas e.g. Riverside 2) Demand dashboards in OneView are being rolled out in Children's. Demand models for Early Help, Child Protection, Children in Need and Looked after Children are live for commissioners and operations staff to utilise | Graeme Cooke, Elaine Allegretti and Mark Fowler |

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| <p>6.</p> | <p>The Cabinet Member for Social Care & Health Integration rigorously challenges local authorities who place families in the Borough but do not comply with the requirement to inform the Council that they had done so</p> | <p>Part (I): Challenging other local authorities where the guidance for the movement of social care cases is happening – DCS raising concern(s) with their counterpart.</p> <p>Part (II): Vulnerable non-Social Care cases moving into the borough via a housing route with no Social Care involvement and where there is no duty to notify (but is still placing a demand on Council services)- s208 process is adhered to and any breaches of this process are escalated with the placing Borough and through Chief Officer Groups and to MHCLG if required</p> | <p>Part (I): Notifications for Children’s Social Care cases. Completed.</p> <p>Part (II): Notifications for non-Social Care cases (but still vulnerable families): TBC.</p> | <p>For Child Protection and Child in Need cases – or those in Care Proceedings – there is a clear and embedded protocol in place for notification and this is being adhered to. Where a child is in the care of another LA is placed in our borough there is a separate notification process that should be followed – though this is not always followed as rigorously as it should be. Where it is not happening – and is identified – the DCS is writing to their counterpart to raise their concern.</p> <p>There is a statutory process of advising a receiving authority in the case of a homeless placement outside of the host borough (s208 process). This is being adhered to by LBB. Where we become</p> | <p>Elaine Allegretti</p> |
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| Recommendation | | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead |
| | | | | aware other LAs have not followed this process this is raised with the placing authority. Where issues arise under this duty regarding placement in LBBD by others these are raised through the Housing Need Network and through Chief Officers Group. | Elaine Allegretti |

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| Action Plan Responding to Overview & Scrutiny Committee's A2020 Scrutiny Review | | | | | |
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| Recommendation | | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead |
| 7. | The Committee's 2020/21 Work Programme include an item which facilitates further consideration of the end-to-end process for Children's Care & Support (from early help to placement) so that the complexities of managing this demand can be subject to scrutiny and understood, and progress reviewed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The OSC's 2020-21 Work Programme now includes this report on the agenda list for the meeting on 6 January 2021. | 6 January 2021 | | Elaine Allegretti |

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|---|---|--|--------------|--------------|
| Recommendation | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead |
| KLOE 4 (Housing) | | | | |
| 8. | Early in the development of a housing scheme, relevant ward Members be provided with information on the proposed number of bedroom mix of the units, the type of rent, the approximate cost in monetary terms of those rents, and whether there might be any additional service charges, with information displaying how this relates to local need | Be First colleagues will be asked by Inclusive Growth commissioners to provide this information at feasibility stage. Inclusive Growth will match with local need and circulate with Ward members. | January 2021 | Graeme Cooke |

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| Recommendation | | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead |
| 9. | The Council explores the issue of shared ownership and whether people could get 'stuck' in this arrangement, including whether it would be possible for the Council to ask developers to buy back shares to help residents wishing to move on | Inclusive Growth and Reside are currently assessing the experience of residents in Shared Ownership in contributing to a GLA consultation on intermediate housing products, due to close in the autumn. Findings will be shared with Members. | January 2021 | | Graeme Cooke |
| 10. | As there is a variety of figures in relation to housing need in the Borough, this information be more widely publicised and clarified | Inclusive Growth team to provide Members with consolidated briefing on different housing need indicators. | January 2021 | | |
| 11. | Officers develop more detailed communications for residents about the range of affordable housing options such as the Reside offer and shared ownership (including the difference between products, and the eligibility criteria) | New website will include an affordability calculator for potential applicants and allow for uploading of application documents. More information on Reside's existing and upcoming developments will also be added. | January 2021 | | |

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|---|--|--|--|----------|--------------|
| Recommendation | | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead |
| 12. | Officers work to ensure that the supply of affordable homes, as far as viability allows, contains larger family homes of three and four bedrooms in order to ensure larger families can stay in the Borough, rather than moving to less expensive parts of the country | Inclusive Growth commissioners to work with Be First on an ongoing basis to work homes with more bedrooms into development plans. Will report back to committee in 2021. | Ongoing – June 2021 | | Graeme Cooke |
| 13. | Regular data is collected on the impact of the change in Reside's affordability threshold, and this data be presented to the Committee at an appropriate point in the 2020/21 municipal year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The OSC's 2020-21 Work Programme now includes this report on the agenda list for the meeting on 3 February 2021 | 3 February 2020 | | |

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| Recommendation | | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead |
| 14. | With the Government's Help to Buy scheme potentially coming to an end, further options to support residents in putting down deposits be explored by the Council | Inclusive Growth commissioners to review and report back to committee by 2021. | January 2021 | | Graeme Cooke |
| 15. | Officers consider the feasibility of providing positive landlord references for Council and Reside tenants who are seeking to move or secure a mortgage | Inclusive Growth commissioners to review and report back to committee by 2021. | January 2021 | | |

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| Recommendation | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead | |
| KLOE 4 (Sustainability) | | | | | |
| 16. | There is a focus on external communications going forward around parks and leisure so that residents can have sufficient knowledge of community activities being undertaken | Implement actions within the Parks and Open spaces strategy. | Ongoing – the strategy had short, medium and long term targets dates | Changes have been made to the website to ensure that more information is available to residents. A number of friends groups have been established for the parks to help communicate information at a local level. | Mark Tyson |

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|---|---|---|--|----------|--------------|
| Recommendation | | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead |
| 17. | Officers look into how the Council can incentivise residents to use renewable energy technologies, such as electric cars and solar panels, to make sure these are attractive and feasible | <p>The Low Emissions Vehicle Working Group will be responsible for the Council's long-term roll-out of EV chargepoints across the public realm and will report back on recommendations for infrastructure, home installations and promotion of take-up of electric vehicles</p> <p>Through its Cosy Homes programme and Energiesprong pilots the Council is testing the roll-out of renewables across certain stock, with the aim of devising a 10-year decarbonisation programme for council stock to lead the way to net zero homes by 2030</p> | <p>Ongoing but starting in September 2020</p> <p>Ongoing, but pilots/schemes completed by March 2022</p> | | Graeme Cooke |

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| Recommendation | | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead |
| 18. | The Council utilises the opportunity presented by our environment to make parks and open spaces deliver wider priorities such as reducing isolation for our older people and supporting young people to get outside and learn new skills | Implement actions within the Parks and Open spaces strategy. | Ongoing – the strategy had short, medium and long term targets dates | | Mark Tyson |
| 19. | Officers ensure that the recommendations of the Biodiversity Action Plan 2017 are acted upon as part of the Council's new Local Plan | The Biodiversity Report forms part of the evidence base of the Local Plan and work is being undertaken to map the Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINCs) against new developments to see whether developer contributions can be requested to support upgrades and improvements, as well as potentially accessing grant.# | Report back to O&S in January 2021 on next steps | | Graeme Cooke |

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|---|--|---|---|--|--------------|
| Recommendation | | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead |
| 20. | Officers look into the possibility of offering more educational partnerships between the parks service and schools, possibly offering parks education as a Barking & Dagenham School Improvement Partnership (BDSIP) service | The Ranger service to develop its Outdoor Classroom room programme further to enable more schools to access. This will include group programmes at the Eastbrookend Discovery Centre as well as online content. | March 2020 | The outdoor classroom programme has been refreshed but the school sign up has been limited due to the lockdown period. | Mark Tyson |
| 21. | Officers utilise section 106 funding to support the deep retrofitting programme | Review of the Local Plan SPDs and section 106 contributions in the autumn to establish if and how carbon offset funds could be used for retrofitting and if not could it support carbon sequestration in other ways | Report back in January 2021 | | Graeme Cooke |
| 22. | Officers investigate how we can hold developers to account in relation to impacts on air quality | Review of air quality assessments and energy statements per development and quantify how schemes are contributing to carbon reduction | Ongoing – report back in March 2021 on the impact of schemes over the last six months | | |

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|---|---|---|--|----------|--------------|
| Recommendation | | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead |
| 23. | Officers report to Cabinet on a quarterly basis on progress against key environmental plans and objectives as set out in the Council's new corporate plan | Under constant review and monitored as part of the Single Performance Framework through the Corporate Performance Group | Ongoing | | Graeme Cooke |

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| Recommendation | | Actions required to implement recommendation | Target Date for completion of Recommendation | Progress | Lead |
| 24. | The Leader of the Council consider whether clearer ownership within the Cabinet of climate and sustainability issues would help to deliver on the Council's ambitions in these areas | <p>The Leader of the Council appointed a Member Champion for Climate Change. This was approved by Assembly on 13 May 2020 (Minute 7 refers).</p> <p>The role of the Member Champion for Climate Emergency is to work with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Social Housing in addressing the pressing issue of climate change. The role includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintaining a good knowledge of actions being taken by the Council, as well as its peers in London, to address the issue of climate change. 2. Working with Members to advocate for the delivery of a Zero-Carbon B&D, including assisting with the delivery of an effective communications strategy by acting as a "face" for the campaign, alongside the Leader. 3. Working with community groups to promote responsible use of parks and open spaces in the borough. 4. Looking at ways in which the corporate element of the council can learn from public and private sector partners to improve sustainability. | The action is complete. | The action is complete; however, the OSC is free to request updates from the Member Champion for Climate Emergency on his work. | Graeme Cooke |

Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Work Programme 2020/21

Officers must ensure reports are cleared by the relevant internal board and include legal and financial implications at least

| Meeting | Agenda Items | Officer(s) | Cabinet Member/Presenter | CSG Deadline | Governance Service's Deadline |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 4 November | Covid-19 Financial update: Income & Expenditure | Philip Gregory | Cllr Twomey | 8 October | 10am, Monday 19 October |
| | Covid-19 update Part 2 - to reflect the scope agreed on 1 July 2020 and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Role and Impact of BD Can and One Borough Voice ii. How is the Council taking advantage of the new ways of working in the way it serves residents? iii. Impact on equalities and diversity | Mark Tyson to coordinate | Various | | |
| | Work Programme | Masuma Ahmed | | | |
| 2 December | How we work with residents affected by Capital Works? | Graeme Cooke | Cllr Geddes | 12 November | 10am, Monday 16 November |
| | Progress update on Improving Household Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Scrutiny Review Recommendations | Lisa Keating | Cllr Ghani | | |

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| | The Council's Corporate Plan | Mark Tyson | Cllr Twomey | | |
| | Work Programme | Masuma Ahmed | | | |
| 6 January | Monitoring Report 1 on Progress of A2020 Scrutiny Recommendations – KLOE 1, 2 and 3 | Hilary Morris, Meena Kishinani, Graeme Cooke, Elaine Allegretti and Mark Fowler | Cllr Twomey | 10 December | 10am, Monday 14 December |
| | Children's Care and Support: i. MASH Annual Report and update (since it moved from ComSol), ii. Early Help update on Ofsted Improvement Plan iii. Update on the key issues in looked after children's services and iv. Report requested by recommendation 7 of A2020 Scrutiny Review | Elaine Allegretti | Cllr Worby | | |
| | Disabilities – specialisms | Elaine Allegretti | Cllr Worby | | |
| | Work Programme | Masuma Ahmed | | | |
| 3 February | Monitoring Report 2 on Progress of A2020 Scrutiny Recommendations – KLOE 4 (including a wider report on delivering a Zero-Carbon B&D and | Graeme Cook | Cllr Geddes | 14 January | 10am, Monday 18 January |

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| | Draft B&D Action Plan on Climate Change) | | | | |
| | Report requested by recommendation 12 of A2020 Scrutiny Review – Impact of change to Reside’s eligibility threshold | Kristian Melgaard, Reside | Cllr Geddes | | |
| | Response Times and Clear Up Rates with the Borough Commander | Andy Opie | Cllr Mullane | | |
| | Work Programme | Masuma Ahmed | | | |
| 3 March | Covid-19 Financial update: Savings Work Programme | Philip Gregory Masuma Ahmed | Cllr Twomey | 11 February | 10am, Monday 15 February |
| 31 March | Supporting elderly residents – 1) reducing isolation 2) support when discharged from hospital Recovering from the impact on education outcomes of Covid-19 Work Programme | Elaine Allegretti Jane Hargreaves Masuma Ahmed | Cllr Worby Cllr Carpenter | 11 March | 10am, Monday 15 March |
| 12 May | Probation Services (to include reoffending) Impact of Covid-19 on BAME communities | Andy Opie Mark Tyson to coordinate | Cllr Mullane Cllr L Rice | 8 April | 10am, Monday 19 April |

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| | Monitoring report on Action Plan arising from scrutiny Review on Ambition 2020 and its Early Impact Work Programme | Mark Tyson to coordinate Masuma Ahmed | Various | | |
| <i>First meeting of 2021/22 - 9 June 2021</i> | Update on implementation of the Air Quality Action Plan including recommendation made at 9 Sept 2020 meeting - TBC | Chris Banks/ Neil Pearce | Cllr Mullane Cllr Geddes | TBC | 10am, Monday 24 May |