## London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

## **Notice of Meeting**

### **ASSEMBLY**

## Wednesday, 27 February 2008 - 7:00 pm Council Chamber, Town Hall, Barking

To: Members of the Council of the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

**Chair:** Councillor S S Gill **Deputy-Chair:** Councillor J R White

R. A. Whiteman Chief Executive

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#### **AGENDA**

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

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, Members are asked to declare any personal or prejudicial 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 January 2008 (Pages 1 6)
- 4. Presentation by the Leader of the Council
- 5. Report of the Corporate Director of Resources: The Council's Budget 2008/09 to 2010/11 (to follow)
- 6. Report of the Corporate Director of Resources: Treasury Management Annual Strategy and the Council's Prudential Indicators (to follow)



- 7. Report of the Standards Committee (Pages 7 10)
- 8. Report of the Corporate Director of Resources: 10th London Local Authorities Bill Confirming Resolution (Pages 11 16)
- 9. Report of the Corporate Director of Resources: Appointment of Parent Governor (Primary) Co-opted Member to the Scrutiny Management Board (Page 17)
- 10. Appointments
- 11. Motions (Pages 19 21)
- 12. Leader's Question Time
- 13. General Question Time
- 14. Any other public items which the Chair decides are urgent
- 15. 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 Assembly, 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.

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



### **ASSEMBLY**

Wednesday, 9 January 2008 (7:00 - 7:50 pm)

#### **PRESENT**

Councillor S S Gill (Chair)
Councillor J R White (Deputy Chair)

Councillor A Agrawal Councillor R W Bailey Councillor R J Barnbrook Councillor G J Bramley Councillor Ms E Carpenter Councillor H J Collins Councillor J R Denyer Councillor M A R Fani Councillor N S S Gill Councillor Mrs D Hunt Councillor S Kallar Councillor M A McCarthy Councillor E O Obasohan Councillor Mrs V Rush Councillor L A Smith Councillor D A Tuffs Councillor G M Vincent Councillor P T Waker

Councillor J L Alexander
Councillor Mrs S J Baillie
Councillor W F L Barns
Councillor R J Buckley
Councillor S Carroll
Councillor J Davis
Councillor C J Fairbrass
Councillor Mrs K J Flint
Councillor D Hemmett
Councillor I S Jamu
Councillor Mrs C A Knight
Councillor Mrs P A Northover
Councillor B Poulton
Councillor L Rustem

Councillor Miss N E Smith Councillor Mrs P A Twomey Councillor L R Waker Councillor Mrs M M West

## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor N Connelly
Councillor R W Doncaster
Councillor J K Jarvis
Councillor R C Little
Councillor M E McKenzie
Councillor Mrs J E Rawlinson
Councillor J Steed

Councillor Miss C L Doncaster Councillor Mrs S A Doncaster Councillor Miss T A Lansdown Councillor J E McDermott Councillor W W Northover Councillor Mrs L A Reason

#### 71. Declaration of Members' Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

## 72. Congratulations to Councillor Sydney Kallar, MBE

On behalf of the Assembly the Leader of the Council congratulated Councillor Kallar on being awarded the MBE. Councillor Fairbrass highlighted the fact that Councillor Kallar has been involved in public life since he was 14 years old, having been at the battle of Cable Street in 1936 and serving in the Second World War, and he took up his position with the Council at the age of 70, some 17 years ago. Councillor Fairbrass also said he felt it was right to remember Councillor Kallar's wife, Jane, for her support to

Councillor Kallar during his service with the Council and send her the Council's best wishes.

## **73.** Minutes (5 December 2007)

Agreed.

## 74. Petition: Re-opening of the Gates to the Alleyways at Valence Circus

Received a report setting out actions taken to address the concerns of petitioners from two petitions relating to the closure of the alleyways in Valence Circus and the issues this had raised with regard to difficulties around access for some elderly and disabled residents.

Members queried the number of keys to be issued to residents to gain access to the alleyways and raised concerns about adequate lighting in the alleyways, which the Corporate Director of Adult and Community Services confirmed officers would be happy to investigate.

#### Agreed:

In order to achieve a balanced approach to crime reduction and the needs of residents for access, that

- officers should take the necessary steps to implement the use of a Gating Order under the Highways Act to restrict the unfettered use of the right of way; and
- provide suitable alternative access arrangements for the community affected.

## 75. Customer Service Presentation - Children's Services Department

Received a presentation from Christine Pryor, Head of Integrated Family Services, on customer service issues within her division. There are five inter-linking strands to the service, which works across agencies to deliver seamless services for children aged 0-19 and their families, namely:

- Children's Centres
- Extended schools
- Parental Support
- Early Years and Childcare
- Engagement

Information was provided about each of the above areas, together with the results of satisfaction with childcare and engagement with children and young people surveys.

Members asked a number of questions relating to how the Children's Centres were publicised, the take up of places and the opening times.

Christine Pryor responded that the centres are open for 50 weeks of the year, from 8.00 am until 6.00 pm, but they are looking at the possibilities of making the opening times more flexible, including weekend working. With regard to publicity, one of the benefits of the centres being located on school sites has been that they have been able to work closely with the schools, health visitors and have provided literature to health centres,

libraries and local shops. In an effort to improve on this they are also working with the Council's corporate communications team to publicise the centres. In terms of take up, this has been very good.

In response to a query as to when there would be a Children's Centre in Alibon Ward, it was confirmed that Alibon, together with Valence and Longbridge Wards, would be targeted in the next phase of the programme.

It was noted from the children and young people's survey that 53% of young people in the borough said they hoped to continue studying and go to university, which the Leader of the Council said was a great improvement and was to be encouraged.

The Chair thanked Christine Pryor for her presentation.

## 76. London Member Development Charter

Received a report from the Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development seeking approval to take the first steps towards obtaining a London Member Development Charter for Barking and Dagenham. This is a statement of the Council's commitment to developing and supporting its elected councillors.

**Agreed** to work towards obtaining the London Member Development Charter for Barking and Dagenham.

## 77. Report of the Executive - recent business

In order to comply with statute and assist in the calculation of the Authority's Council Tax for 2008/09, **agreed**:

- (i) In accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, that the amount calculated by the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham as its Tax Base for the year 2008/09 shall be 51,429.5 Band D properties;
- (ii) That the discounts for second homes and short term empty properties are reduced from the current 50% to a 10% discount from 2008/09 onwards;
- (iii) That the discounts for long term empty properties are reduced from the current 50% discount to a 10% discount from 2008/09 onwards; and
- (iv) That no locally determined discounts based on categories of property or occupier be awarded for 2008/09.

## 78. Appointments

There were no appointments.

#### 79. Motion

## **Translation of Council documents**

Moved by Councillor Bailey and seconded by Councillor Barnbrook:

"It has been worked out that a council could translate council documents into over 70 languages, indeed some councils do this. This can easily cost councils over £1,000,000 per annum. Councils also employ interpreters and latest government research shows that they are very expensive with some costing over £20 per hour to use. Government research also shows that rather than encouraging migrants to speak and learn English all these political correct strategies actually discourage migrants from learning English. I would like to move the motion that from this evening the council will stop printing council documents in any other language except English and the council stops using interpreters forthwith. To continue with these practices is a complete waste of money."

The following amendment was moved by Councillor Fairbrass and seconded by Councillor Liam Smith:

"This Council notes the motion and will consider the advice recently issued by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Hazel Blears, although the Council has already reduced its expenditure on translation by approximately 50%."

Councillor Fairbrass said that this Council is not concerned with the national spend. He said the motion grossly overstates the issue as it relates to Barking and Dagenham: expenditure on translation and interpreting in this borough is not anywhere near £1m. The Council's total expenditure for 2006/7 is £49,539 both for translation and interpretation. This equates to approximately 28.4p per local resident per year and he added that personally he does not mind spending about 1/2p a week on this service.

Councillor Fairbrass went on to say that Council policy is already closely aligned with recent guidance issued by Hazel Blears, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, and officers are taking the opportunity to review the Council's policy in light of this and will be issuing guidance for all staff in the near future.

Councillor Barnbrook raised issues about children learning English in schools, saying that it does not assist all pupils if children are being taught English in class, and that the impact of translation cuts the actual lesson time down from 40 to 25 minutes. He said that children should be required to speak the English Language before they come into schools. However, Councillor Liam Smith responded that in Dagenham Park Community School, where 26 languages are spoken, English is taught outside normal school hours and classes are not disrupted.

The Chief Executive flagged up that the expenditure of £49,539 quoted by the Leader of the Council also includes signage and Braille, which helps disabled people gain access to services.

In conclusion, Councillor Bailey highlighted the fact that the Rt Reverend Dr Michael Nazir-Ali, Bishop of Rochester, had recently spoken about no go areas in Britain and said that by encouraging interpreting and translation services we are actually creating more no go areas, so the first thing children should be learning in schools is English.

Following the debate the amendment was put to the vote and by a majority was agreed.

**Agreed** that this Council notes the motion and will consider the advice recently issued by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Hazel Blears, although the Council has already reduced its expenditure on translation by approximately 50%.

#### 80. Leader's Question Time

## **Question from Councillor Robert Bailey**

"I would like to ask the Leader of the Council, in view of recent local government research which shows that 'local councils are perceived to be like old boys clubs and closed shops composed of white males who are retired and sixty plus and in the majority of cases unrepresentative of the community", what is the council going to do to encourage younger and more intelligent people to put themselves forward for election or is he happy with the undemocratic and unrepresentative status quo."

## **Response from Councillor Fairbrass**

"This Council does not fit that perception. The majority party's councillors fall into the following groups: 50% white males, 31.57% female, 18.42% minority ethnic, and 42.10 % are below 60 years of age. All stood for election, all were opposed and all were elected. That is democracy and they are a representative cross section of the residents of this borough.

The inference that anyone over 60 is less intelligent than someone younger may be regarded by some as an insult to over 26,000 retired residents of this Borough, which I believe includes two of the opposition party. Youth does not automatically confer wisdom but age builds experience and intelligence.

We are already working with our colleagues in other London Councils to promote the role of local councillors and thus improve recruitment. I would suggest a bit more reading and research by the questioner and I would refer him to the London Councils web site and to the report of the Councillors Commission 'Representing the Future', which contains 61 recommendations on how to recruit and retain competent councillors.

One final observation, my colleague Sid Kallar, MBE, joined this council at the age of 70 and at the age of 87 his considerable contribution to his community has been recognised by Her Majesty."

#### 81. General Question Time

A number of questions submitted by minority party Members were withdrawn as the Members were absent from the meeting due to illness.

### **Question from Councillor Robert Bailey**

"Why after all this time and all the promises have we not got wheelie bins yet and when are we going to get them?"

# Response from Councillor Fairbrass (in the absence of the Lead Member for the environment and sustainability)

"This question has been answered previously and the answer remains the same."

The Waste Strategy, which was agreed in May 2006, clearly described how the council will decide if we want to have wheelie bins. I can only assume the Member has still not read the strategy so he will be sent another copy.

If we do what is suggested and simply dump wheelie bins on our residents, without proper consultation and advice, we will increase the amount of rubbish we collect which will increase the tax we pay for landfill thus increasing Council Tax.

The scheme that we will bring forward has been properly researched and planned and will not only make it easier for our residents to recycle and improve the cleanliness of the streets but actually reduce waste, which is better for the environment and saves the money that we can reinvest in other areas that are important to our community."

### **Question from Councillor Richard Barnbrook**

"How many Council dwellings have been allocated to asylum seekers this year? What is the cost to the Housing Revenue account and budget? How many asylum seekers have been referred for Housing Association accommodation this year?"

#### **Response from Councillor Liam Smith**

"The answer to this question is still the same as the last time I answered it, ie none because the responsibility for housing asylum seekers was passed to NASS (the National Asylum Seeker Service) in April 2000. Consequently there has been no cost to the Housing Revenue Account this year and no asylum seeker cases have been nominated to Registered Social Landlords by the Council."

#### THE ASSEMBLY

#### **27 FEBRUARY 2008**

## REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Title: Report of the Standards Committee	For Decision
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## **Summary**

The following main business was carried out by the Standards Committee at its last meeting on 10 January 2008:

# 1. Standards for Members of the Public (Volunteers) Undertaking Council Activities

These Standards (Appendix 1) are recommended to the Assembly for inclusion in Part E (Codes and Protocols) of the Council's Constitution. They were adopted by the Council as a set of principles that volunteers could reasonably be asked to respect and the volunteers to which they apply include:

Community Housing Partnership, Education Appeals Panels, Scrutiny Panels and Independent Members' Remuneration Panel

Note that amendments to the Standards, following consultation and review by the Standards Committee, are indicated in **bold** type.

### 2. Standards Complaints against Members – New Arrangements

The Committee considered a report on the changes to the roles and functions of the Committee as a result of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. In particular, the filtering and determination of complaints will be carried out by the Committee rather than the Standards Board for England as at present, which could have significant implications upon the work of the Committee. Currently the Standards Committee membership consists of three Independent Members and four Councillor Members. Regulations effecting the new arrangements are anticipated in the near future.

## **Recommendations:**

The Assembly is recommended to:

- (1) adopt the revised Standards for Members of the Public (Volunteers) Undertaking Council Activities as attached at Appendix 1 for inclusion in Part E (Codes and Protocols) of the Council's Constitution;
- (2) approve the increase in membership of the Standards Committee from 2008/09 to five Independent Members and four Councillor Members enabling recruitment of the additional Independent Members to commence in advance of the regulations coming into force;

- (3) endorse, in principle, the Committee's intention to establish at least two sub-committees to deal with complaints about Member conduct once the new functions take effect, each with two Independent Members and one Councillor Member (one of the Independent Members taking the Chair). Membership on each occasion to be drawn up by the Corporate Director of Resources in liaison with the Chair of the Committee. The Independent and Councillor Members who are not appointed to a particular sub-committee will act as reserve Members.
- (4) agree the associated changes to the Council Constitution.

Contact Officer:	Title:	Contact Details:
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## **Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:**

Report and minutes of the Standards Committee, 10 January 2008

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

# STANDARDS FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (VOLUNTEERS) UNDERTAKING COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

This document sets out the standards the Council would like members of the public, acting as volunteers, to comply with when they are undertaking voluntary activities on behalf of the Council. Voluntary Activities undertaken in a voluntary capacity include, for example, acting as an external representative on a Scrutiny Panel, or acting as a member of an Education Appeal Panel.

The standards themselves are not legally enforceable, but it is hoped that volunteers will be willing to comply with them. Some voluntary activities do have legal implications - for example the Data Protection Act and the Human Rights Act control the use of personal information.

## 1. Courtesy

#### 1.1 Volunteers should:

- (a) promote equality and not discriminate against any person:
- (b) treat others fairly and with respect regardless of their race, age, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability;
- (c) facilitate and encourage wide discussion where appropriate
- (d) represent the views of the wider community

#### 2. Use of information

### 2.1. Volunteers should not:

- (a) disclose private or confidential information given to them in the course of their duties.
- (b) use information against any person; or
- (c) use information to gain any personal advantage.

#### 2.2 Volunteers should

- (a) make sure that family and friends/colleagues do not see private and confidential information.
- (b) return all private and confidential information to the relevant Council officer at the end of a meeting or, if the volunteer is unable to attend a meeting/event, as soon as possible afterwards.

- 3. Interests
- 3.1 Volunteers should make known to the relevant Council officer any interest they have in the matters being discussed during Council activities. These interests may include:
  - (i) financial interests (direct or indirect, for example as an employee of a company), and/or;
  - (ii) any relationship or friendship that a volunteer may have to any person or organisation that is the subject of discussion at the Council activity.
- 3.2 Where there is a conflict of interest, the volunteer must leave the meeting whilst the matter is being discussed.
- 4. General Behaviour
- 4.1 At all times, appropriate standards of behaviour should be displayed.
- 4.2 In particular, volunteers should not:
  - (a) be rude or cause offence;
  - (b) use inappropriate language (e.g. swearing, discriminatory comments);
  - (c) be under the influence of alcohol or other substances when involved with Council activities; or
  - (d) use their status to promote any organisation.

Feb 2008 (Contact Officer: Group Manager, Democratic Services – Tel 020 8227 2135)

#### THE ASSEMBLY

#### **27 FEBUARY 2008**

#### REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

Title: 10th London Local Authorities Bill	For Decision
Confirming Resolution	

### Summary:

This report concerns a Parliamentary procedure requiring further Council Confirming Resolution on the 10<sup>th</sup> LLA Bill and supporting Bills. These Bills are of significance for all London Boroughs. This Borough has always supported such measures and the Assembly agreed in principle to proceed with the promotion of the London Local Authorities legislation on 3 October 2007.

Wards Affected: All

#### Recommendation:

That the Assembly:

- (i) supports in principle the proposals as set out in this report; and
- (ii) agree the confirming resolution as attached at Appendix I.

#### Reason:

To progress London Councils' proposals and in doing so to assist the Council to achieve its Community Priority "Making Barking and Dagenham Cleaner, Greener and Safer".

## Implications:

#### Financial:

Funding for the Council's contribution to the promotion cost of the proposed London Local Authorities Bills remains at the previously reported estimate of £18,000. This can be met from the existing budgets of the Regeneration and Customer Services Departments and the cost is likely to be spread over three financial years.

#### Legal:

These are covered in the report.

### **Risk Management:**

No specific implications.

## Social Inclusion and Diversity:

No specific implications.

#### Crime and Disorder:

The measures proposed will contribute to reducing enviro-crime and public nuisances in London.

Contact Officer:	Title:	Contact Details:
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## 1. Background

- 1.1. This Council is a Member of London Councils; its business is governed by the decisions of The London Councils Executive ("LCE") and the London Councils Leaders Committee. The LCE agreed that their officers would consult with Boroughs on which new powers could be contained in a 10th London Local Authorities Bill ("LLAB"). In 2007 London Councils then agreed to consult external stakeholders on the proposals that had been collated. Draft proposals were shared with the Government Office for London, Transport for London (TfL) on the transport proposals, Parliamentary Agents and other parties.
- 1.2. LCE noted the consultation feedback and indicated that it would be minded to promote a 10th LLAB with the Leaders' Committee agreeing the final content of that Bill at its meeting on 10 July 2007. The Leaders Committee agreed in principle to support a Bill.
- 1.3 On the 3 October 2007 a report was submitted to the Assembly seeking views as to whether there was support for a 10th London Local Authorities Bill. Members favoured the suggestion and resolved to give the proposed Bill the Council's support and agreed:
  - to support, in principle, the proposals set out in the report
  - the draft resolution set out in the appendix, and
  - that the relevant Services will pay towards the costs

## 2. How the Measures Proposed were Established

- 2.1 The criteria used by the promoters are the following:
  - There must be evidence that the problem addressed is serious and affects a significant number of Boroughs, or London as a whole.
  - It must be possible to show that there is no existing legislation to address the problem, or that existing legislation has proved to be ineffective.
  - It must be possible to make the case that London authorities should be given new powers, even though these powers will not be available to authorities nationally.
  - The proposals must have the support of other London authorities.
- 2.2 The majority of the provisions are environmental or transport-related issues.
  On 22 January 2008 the draft Bill was deposited with Parliament. A number of the early proposed measures have been dropped such as levies on chewing gum following representation. The Bill proposes:

- Decriminalising measures relating to public health including fixed penalty notices and houses in multiple occupation ("HMO")
- A new regime to control dog fouling
- The power to require people to disclose their name and address when a fixed penalty charge is served or they will be committing a criminal offence
- Power to make charges for public toilets (urinals)
- A requirement to display food hygiene certificates

Experience has shown that certain measures are best promoted with bespoke Bills to simplify matters and ease Parliamentary progress. This has led to potentially three Bills being promoted.

#### These consist of

- the 10<sup>th</sup> London Local Authorities Bill
- A number of transport measures in a separate joint Bill with Transport for London. The cost will be shared with TfL as the measures will affect borough and TfL controlled roads.
- The London Local Authorities (Shopping Bags) Bill
- 2.3 Provisions that directly contradict Government policy are not likely to become law. The Government Office for London has stated its opposition to the proposals on environmental fixed penalties and serving notice on houses in multiple occupations. They also expressed concern on the proposals for the control of plastic shopping bags. Their concern is that Local Authority sponsored Bills should only be used for measures which work with the criteria outlined above and don't create an imbalance for the nation as a whole. So for that reason the Shopping Bag Bill is likely to be opposed because the nuisance of discharged bags is a national issue which merits a national strategy. The retail trade are likely to lobby against it too. This means there is going to be some bartering and negotiation as the Bills enters its Parliamentary Committee stage which may mean some proposals will not make it onto the statute book.

## 3. Why the Need for Further Resolutions

3.1 For the Council to benefit from the various London Local Authorities Bills it will be necessary for a further resolution to be made. As the aims, nature and quality remain as before there are no policy change implications. An advertisement was placed by London Councils in the London Evening Standard announcing the proposed resolutions of all the participating Boroughs. This indicates the date, place and time the respective Boroughs will make their resolutions. For Barking and Dagenham it is set down for the Assembly 27 February 2008 at the Town Hall Barking at 7.00pm.

#### 4. The Resolution

4.1 A draft resolution has been provided by the London Councils, which they propose be adopted by all the Boroughs promoting this Bill. The Parliamentary Agents have advised the form of resolution will allow the promotion of more than one Bill. This is set out Appendix I.

## 5. Process of Promoting the Bill

5.1 Following the resolutions the draft Bill will proceed through the committee stages in the House of Lords. The complete process is set out in Appendix II.

#### 6. Costs

6.1 As earlier reported the final cost to each Council will be approximately £18,000 per borough spread over a number of financial years. The total cost will be funded from within existing budgets in the relevant departments Customer Services £15,600 and Regeneration £2,400.

## 7. Next Steps for the Council

7.1 Making the resolution(s) does not bind the Council to all or any of the provisions if they become law. It does give the Council a real opportunity to influence the shape of the proposed legislation. The final decision as to whether the final legislation is formally adopted can be taken later.

## Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

London Councils Leader's Committee Report

#### **List of Consultees:**

Councillor L Smith, Deputy Leader's portfolio
Councillor M McCarthy, Lead Member for Customer First
Councillor Mrs Rush, Lead Member for Community Safety
Bill Murphy, Corporate Director of Resources
Joe Chesterton, Divisional Director of Corporate Finance
Nina Clark, Divisional Director of Legal and Democracy
Darren Henaghan, Head of Environment and Enforcement Services
Jim Mack, Head of Asset Strategy and Capital Delivery
Glynis Rogers, Head of Community Safety and Preventive Services
Paul Feild Principal Corporate Solicitor

## CONFIRMING RESOLUTION OF LONDON BOROUGH COUNCIL

#### THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BARKING AND DAGENHAM

R E S O L V E D that the resolution of this Council passed at a meeting of the Council held on 3 October 2007 to promote a Bill or Bills, pursuant to which the Bills intituled "A Bill to confer further powers upon local authorities in London; and for related purposes"; "A Bill to introduce in London a prohibition on the supply of certain bags by retailers, to confer powers upon local authorities in London to enforce the prohibition; and for related purposes" and "A Bill to confer further powers upon local authorities in London and upon Transport for London; and for related purposes" have been deposited in Parliament, be and the same is hereby confirmed.

#### I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT -

- (1) the above Resolution is a true copy of a Resolution passed by the Barking and Dagenham London Borough Council on the [ ] day of [ ] 2008;
- (2) the said Resolution was passed by a majority of the whole number of the members of the Council; and
- (3) the meeting at which the said Resolution was passed was held after thirty clear days' notice of the meeting and of the purposes thereof had been given by advertisement in a local newspaper circulating in the borough such notice being given in addition to the ordinary notice required to be given for the convening of a meeting of the Council.

Dated this [ ] day of [ ] 2008.

[Chief Executive]
[or other appropriate officer]

## 10<sup>th</sup> London Local Authorities Bill Promotion Timetable

The timetable is as follows:

- London Councils carries out further consultation and clarification with authorities on the proposed provisions
- London Councils carries out consultation with Government departments and other interested bodies
- publication of an advert in the Evening Standard 10 August 2007 gives notice of the date of the council meetings at which participation in the Bill will be discussed
- London Councils Leader's Committee considers finalising the proposed provisions to go in the Bill
- London local authorities consider resolutions in full council to agree to participate in promoting the Bill
- The draft Bill is circulated to authorities for comments
- Leaders' Committee gives final approval to the Bill's contents
- The Bill is deposited in Parliament
- Second Advertisement placed in Evening Standard 14 December 2007
- Spring 2008 London Councils authorities consider the second resolution to confirm participation in the Bill
- Parliamentary proceedings commence this will normally be in a committee of the House of Lords. From this point progress is dependant upon availability of Parliamentary time and the level of opposition and assistance from public bodies and interested parties.

#### THE ASSEMBLY

#### **27 FEBRUARY 2008**

#### REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

Title: Appointment of Parent Governor (Primary) Co-opted	For Decision
Member to the Scrutiny Management Board	

## **Summary**

The Primary and Secondary School Parent Governor representative positions on the Scrutiny Management Board have been vacant for over 12 months. Following an election process in October 2007 co-ordinated by Children's Services, nominations to fill these positions were agreed, although the successful nominee for the Secondary School role has subsequently withdrawn - a fresh election process will be undertaken for this position.

The selection of the Parent Governor representatives is a two-stage process, the first being the nomination stage and the second being a ballot (assuming more than one nomination is received). All serving school parent governors are eligible to take part in the election process.

The successful nominee for the Primary School Parent Governor position is Mrs Lynda Rice. Mrs Rice is an experienced teacher, with teaching experience of nine years in primary and six years in secondary education, and she has been a governor at Five Elms Primary School since 2004.

### Recommendation

The Assembly is recommended to approve the appointment of Mrs Lynda Rice as the Primary School Parent Governor Co-opted Member to the Scrutiny Management Board.

Contact Officer: Nina Clark	Title: Divisional Director of Legal and Democratic	Contact Details: Tel: 020 8227 2114 email: nina.clark@lbbd.gov.uk
	Services	

## **Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:**

Letter and nomination forms sent to all parent governors Letter and ballot papers sent to all primary school parent governors This page is intentionally left blank

#### THE ASSEMBLY

#### **27 FEBRUARY 2008**

Title: Motions	For Decision

The following motions have been received in accordance with paragraph 15 of Article 2, Part B of the Council's Constitution:

## 1. Support for initiative to buy private rented houses in the Borough

To be moved by Councillor Liam Smith:

"That this Council supports initiatives being made by the Labour Group to seek funding from government to allow Barking and Dagenham Council to buy back private rented houses in the Borough.

This new scheme would produce many benefits for the local community and for the neighbourhoods with high levels of poorly managed rented housing. In particular it will:

- Help meet the local family housing needs for affordable rented homes from the Council, and especially help to get families into settled housing
- Raise housing and environmental standards and allow the Council to manage the properties and the appearance of front gardens.
- Tackle landlordism which will stop families from being moved around London and within the Borough where there are high rates of buy to let housing. This would help in building a settled Borough with strong local communities.
- Ensure children are able to attend the same school throughout their primary and secondary education if they wish to.
- Allow neighbourhoods to grow again with better social cohesion and where people will know their neighbours rather than a changing face every six months.
- Stop other Councils from placing their homeless families in other London boroughs."

## 2. Protection of savings and property of residents who need residential or full time care

To be moved by Councillor Richard Barnbrook:

"That this Council should follow the example of other authorities across England and Wales in protecting the savings and property of its residents who find they need residential or full time care.

Residents who have contributed to tax and national insurance should not be expected to use their savings or assets for care and health services that they have already invested in through the state system.

Funding for residential care and home care should be from the local authorities' revenue and reserves and from central government funding of local government and the health service."

## 3. Removal of the 'bidding system' for Council housing

To be moved by Councillor Robert Bailey:

"The present 'bidding system' for Council housing has proved to be a disaster for local people and their families. On this basis I am tabling the motion that the Council should from this day forward do away with the bidding system and revert back to the old points based system with the added provision that only local people who can prove that their family has lived in the borough more than 30 years be considered for Council housing."

The deadline for proposed amendments to these motions is midday on Friday 22 February 2008. For information, attached at Appendix A is the relevant extract from the Council's Constitution relating to the procedure for dealing with Motions.

#### Recommendation

The Assembly is asked to debate and vote on the above motions or any amendments put forward.

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# Extract from the Council Constitution Part B, Article 2 - The Assembly

## 15. Procedure for Motions on issues directly affecting the Borough

- 15.1 Motions must be delivered to the Chief Executive not later than 4.00pm on the Wednesday two weeks before the meeting.
- 15.2 They will be listed on the agenda in the order in which they are received
- 15.3 Motions must be about matters for which the Council has a responsibility or which directly affect the borough.
- 15.4 Amendments to motions should be presented in writing to the Chief Executive not later than 12 noon on the Friday before the meeting. Amendments proposed after this time may only be considered with the consent of the Chair.
- 15.5 A Member may alter or withdraw their motion or amendment at any time.

### 15.6 Order/rules of debate:

- 1 Except with the Chair's consent, the debate on each motion shall last no longer than 10 minutes and no speech shall exceed two minutes.
- The mover will move the motion and explain its purpose.
- 3 The seconder will then second the motion.
- The Chair will then invite other Members to speak on the motion and put forward any amendments.
- Once all Members who wish to speak have done so, or the time limit has elapsed, the Chair will allow the mover a right of reply.
- At the end of the debate, any amendments will be voted on in the order in which they were proposed.
- If an amendment is carried, the motion as amended becomes the substantive motion to which any further amendments are moved.
- After an amendment has been carried, the Chair will read out the amended motion before accepting any further amendments, or if there are none, put it to the vote.
- 9. If all amendments are lost, a vote will be taken on the original motion.

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