

Committee: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY	Date: 29 July 2008	Classification: Unrestricted	Report No.	Agenda Item No. 6.1
Report of: Assistant Chief Executive Originating Officer(s): Amanda Thompson Team Leader, Democratic Services			Title: Cabinet Decision Called-in: London Thames Gateway Development Corporation, Draft Bromley-by-Bow Land Use Design Brief Wards: Bromley-by-Bow	

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The attached report of the Interim Corporate Director, Development and Renewal was considered by the Cabinet on 2 July 2008 and has been "Called In" by Councillors Abjol Miah, M.A Munim, Harun Miah, M. Mamun Rashid and Dulal Uddin for further consideration. This is in accordance with the provisions of Part Four of the Council's Constitution.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Committee consider the contents of the attached report, review the Cabinet's provisional decisions arising and decide whether to accept them or refer the matter back to Cabinet with proposals, together with reasons.

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of "Background Papers" used in the preparation of this report

Brief description of "background paper"

Cabinet report – 2 July 2008

Name and telephone number of holder
and address where open to inspection

Amanda Thompson
02073644651

3. THE CABINET'S PROVISIONAL DECISION

3.1 After considering the attached report the Cabinet provisionally agreed:-

1. That the Draft Bromley-by-Bow Land Use and Design Brief, attached at Appendix 2 to the report (CAB 014/089) be approved for a 12 week period of statutory consultation to be carried out jointly between the Council and London Thames Gateway Development Corporation prior to its approval by the Authority as 'Interim Planning Guidance'; and
2. That the Corporate Director Development and Renewal be authorised, after consultation with the Lead Member Housing and Development, to make any appropriate and necessary minor amendments to the Bromley-by-Bow Land Use and Design Brief prior to statutory consultation from August 2008.

4. REASONS FOR THE 'CALL IN'

4.1 The Call-in requisition signed by the five Councillors listed above gives the following reasons for the Call-in:

4.2 The issue of a community cemetery in Tower Hamlets has been pressing for some time and is a demand that has clearly come from Tower Hamlets residents. It is also something that, were it to be achieved, would add to community cohesion.

4.3 At the moment those wishing to bury their loved ones have to seek space in Hainault and elsewhere. A number of options to establish a new cemetery in LBTH have been examined. Converting the Mile End cemetery to new use ran into very understandable opposition from those who treasure a historic cemetery and from those who might still have loved ones buried there. The old gas works site has been ruled out for the moment on the grounds that it would be too expensive to render the polluted ground safe. There is a proposal that there should be £200 compensation for families having to bury loved ones outside the borough but this is very unsatisfactory for many families who wish to be close to their loved ones in order to visit the grave.

4.4 Given the Bromley by Bow draft plan is about future development in the area, the opportunity should have been taken to examine the feasibility of a community cemetery in the area. Such a feasibility study has been wrongly omitted from the planning considerations. Without such a feasibility study, we will not know if the best planning use of the area should include the development of a community cemetery in the area.

5. ALTERNATIVE COURSE OF ACTION PROPOSED:

5.1 The Councillors submitting the Call-in requisition have asked that a feasibility study for a community cemetery in Bromley-By-Bow be commissioned.

6. CONSIDERATION OF THE "CALL IN"

6.1 The following procedure is to be followed for consideration of the "Call In":

- (a) Presentation of the “Call In” by one of the “Call In” Members followed by questions.
- (b) Response from the Lead Member/officers followed by questions.
- (c) General debate followed by decision.

N.B. – In accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Protocols and Guidance adopted by the Committee at its meeting on 6 June, 2007, any Member(s) who presents the “Call In” is not eligible to participate in the general debate.

- 6.2** It is open to the Committee to either resolve to take no action which would have the effect of endorsing the original Cabinet decisions, or the Committee could refer the matter back to the Cabinet for further consideration setting out the nature of its concerns and possibly recommending an alternative course of action.