

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Monday, 16 December 2019 at 6.30 p.m., Room C1, 1st Floor, Town Hall,
Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG

This meeting is open to the public to attend.

Members:

Chair: Councillor James King

Vice Chair: Councillor Sufia Alam

Scrutiny Lead for Children & Education

Councillor Kahar Chowdhury

Scrutiny Lead for Health & Adults

Councillor Dipa Das

Scrutiny Lead for Housing & Regeneration

Councillor Marc Francis

Councillor Tarik Khan

Scrutiny Lead for Resources & Finance

Councillor Eve McQuillan

Bethnal Green Ward

Councillor Bex White

Scrutiny Lead for Community Safety &
Environment

Councillor Andrew Wood

Co-opted Members:

Halima Islam

Co-Optee

James Peter Wilson

Co-Optee

Deputies:

Councillor Peter Golds, Councillor Zenith Rahman, Councillor Mohammed Pappu and Councillor John Pierce

[The quorum for this body is 3 voting Members]

Contact for further enquiries:

David Knight, Democratic Services

1st Floor, Town Hall, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent,
London, E14 2BG

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E-mail: david.knight@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Web: <http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/committee>

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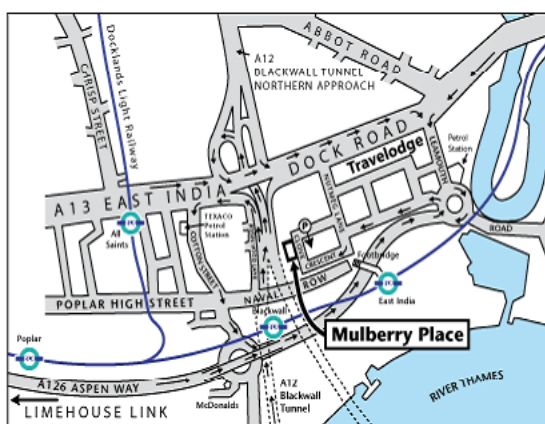
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Electronic agendas reports and minutes.

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QR code for smart phone users.

SECTION ONE	WARD	PAGE NUMBER(S)
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE		
To receive any apologies for absence.		
2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST		7 - 10
To note any declarations of interest made by Members, including those restricting Members from voting on the questions detailed in Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992. See attached note from the Monitoring Officer.		
3. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES		
To confirm as a correct record of the proceedings the unrestricted minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 25 th November, 2019 – To follow.		
4. REQUESTS TO SUBMIT PETITIONS		
To receive any petitions (to be notified at the meeting).		
5. FORTHCOMING DECISIONS		11 - 40
6. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS 'CALLED IN'		
No decisions of the Mayor in Cabinet (... date ...) in respect of unrestricted reports on the agenda were 'called in'.		
7. SCRUTINY SPOTLIGHT		
7.1 Challenge Session Report - Working in genuine partnership with seldom-heard residents to make our communities safer		41 - 68
8. UNRESTRICTED REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION		
8.1 Budget Scrutiny		

TO FOLLOW

9. VERBAL UPDATES FROM SCRUTINY LEADS

(Time allocated – 5 minutes each)

10. PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF UNRESTRICTED CABINET PAPERS

To consider and agree pre-decision scrutiny questions/comments to be presented to Cabinet.

(Time allocated – 30 minutes).

11. ANY OTHER UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

To consider any other unrestricted business that the Chair considers to be urgent.

12. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

In view of the contents of the remaining items on the agenda the Committee is recommended to adopt the following motion:

“That, under the provisions of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting for the consideration of the Section Two business on the grounds that it contains information defined as Exempt in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972.”

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL SECTION (Pink Papers)

The exempt committee papers in the agenda will contain information, which is commercially, legally or personally sensitive and should not be divulged to third parties. If you do not wish to retain these papers after the meeting, please hand them to the Committee Officer present.

SECTION TWO

WARD

**PAGE
NUMBER(S)**

13. EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

Nil items

14. **EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS 'CALLED IN'**

Nil items

15. **PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY OF EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL) CABINET PAPERS**

To consider and agree pre-decision scrutiny questions/comments to be presented to Cabinet.

(Time allocated 15 minutes).

16. **ANY OTHER EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

To consider any other exempt/ confidential business that the Chair considers to be urgent.

Next Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Monday, 13 January 2020 at 6.30 p.m. to be held in Room C1, 1st Floor, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG

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Agenda Item 2

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS - NOTE FROM THE INTERIM MONITORING OFFICER

This note is for guidance only. For further details please consult the Members' Code of Conduct at Part 5.1 of the Council's Constitution.

Please note that the question of whether a Member has an interest in any matter, and whether or not that interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, is for that Member to decide. Advice is available from officers as listed below but they cannot make the decision for the Member. If in doubt as to the nature of an interest it is advisable to seek advice **prior** to attending a meeting.

Interests and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs)

You have an interest in any business of the authority where that business relates to or is likely to affect any of the persons, bodies or matters listed in section 4.1 (a) of the Code of Conduct; and might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial position of yourself, a member of your family or a person with whom you have a close association, to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward affected.

You must notify the Interim Monitoring Officer in writing of any such interest, for inclusion in the Register of Members' Interests which is available for public inspection and on the Council's Website.

Once you have recorded an interest in the Register, you are not then required to declare that interest at each meeting where the business is discussed, unless the interest is a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI).

A DPI is defined in Regulations as a pecuniary interest of any of the descriptions listed at **Appendix A** overleaf. Please note that a Member's DPIs include his/her own relevant interests and also those of his/her spouse or civil partner; or a person with whom the Member is living as husband and wife; or a person with whom the Member is living as if they were civil partners; if the Member is aware that that other person has the interest.

Effect of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest on participation at meetings

Where you have a DPI in any business of the Council you must, unless you have obtained a dispensation from the authority's Interim Monitoring Officer following consideration by the Dispositions Sub-Committee of the Standards Advisory Committee:-

- not seek to improperly influence a decision about that business; and
- not exercise executive functions in relation to that business.

If you are present at a meeting where that business is discussed, you must:-

- Disclose to the meeting the existence and nature of the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, if later; and
- Leave the room (including any public viewing area) for the duration of consideration and decision on the item and not seek to influence the debate or decision

When declaring a DPI, Members should specify the nature of the interest and the agenda item to which the interest relates. This procedure is designed to assist the public's understanding of the meeting and to enable a full record to be made in the minutes of the meeting.

Where you have a DPI in any business of the authority which is not included in the Member's register of interests and you attend a meeting of the authority at which the business is considered, in addition to disclosing the interest to that meeting, you must also within 28 days notify the Interim Monitoring Officer of the interest for inclusion in the Register.

Further advice

For further advice please contact:-

Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director, Governance and Monitoring Officer. Tel 020 7364 4800

APPENDIX A: Definition of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

(Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, Reg 2 and Schedule)

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vacation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	<p>Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by the Member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of the Member.</p> <p>This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.</p>
Contracts	<p>Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority—</p> <p>(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and</p> <p>(b) which has not been fully discharged.</p>
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	<p>Any tenancy where (to the Member's knowledge)—</p> <p>(a) the landlord is the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.</p>
Securities	<p>Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where—</p> <p>(a) that body (to the Member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) either—</p> <p>(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or</p> <p>(ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.</p>

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THE FORWARD PLAN

Published: 19 November 2019

Contact Matthew Mannion
Officer: Democratic Services
Email: matthew.mannion@towerhamlets.gov.uk
Telephone: 020 7364 4651
Fax No: 020 7364 3232

The Forward Plan is published 28 days before each Cabinet meeting.

In addition, new issues and changes to existing issues will be published on the website as soon as they are known.

The web pages also contain past Forward Plans and publication deadlines for future Plans. To visit the web pages go to <http://democracy.towerhamlets.gov.uk/mgPlansHome.aspx?bcr=1>.

Tower Hamlets Council **Forthcoming Decisions Plan**

What is this document?

The Forthcoming Decisions Plan (or 'Forward Plan') contains information on significant decisions that the Council expects to take over the next few months.

As a minimum this will include notice of:

- All **Key Decisions** to be taken by the Mayor, Cabinet or Cabinet Sub-Committees
 - This could include decisions taken at public meetings or taken individually at other times.
- Budget and Policy Framework Decisions (for example the Budget Report itself and major policies to be agreed by Council as set out in the Constitution)

Key Decisions

The Council is required to publish notice of all key decisions at least 28 days before they are taken by the Executive or Commissioners. Key decisions are all those decisions which involve major spending, or savings, or which have a significant impact on the local community. The precise definition of a key decision adopted by Tower Hamlets is contained in Article 13.03 of the [Constitution](#). Key Decisions can be taken by the Mayor outside of meetings, the Mayor in Cabinet or by a Cabinet Sub-Committee.

Publication of Forthcoming Decisions

Individual notices of new Key Decisions will be published on the website as they are known on the 'Forthcoming Decisions' page, whilst this 'Forward Plan' collating these decisions will be published regularly, as a minimum at least, 28 days before each Cabinet meeting. The Plan will be published on the Council's website and will also be available to view at the Town Hall and Libraries, Ideas Centres and One Stop Shops if required.

Urgency

If, due to reasons of urgency, a Key Decision has to be taken where 28 days' notice have not been given. Notice will be published (on the website) as early as possible and Urgency Procedures as set out in the Constitution have to be followed.

Make your views known

The most effective way for the public to make their views known about a Forthcoming Decisions is to contact the lead officer, or Cabinet Member (where stated), listed. You can also view the Council's [Consultation Calendar](#), which lists all the issues on which the Council and its partners are consulting.

Information about the Decision Makers

Further information on the Mayor and Members of the Cabinet can be found on the Council [website](#).

Notice of Intention to Conduct Business in Private

The Council is also required to give at least 28 days' notice if it wishes to consider any of the reports on the agenda of an Executive meeting (such as Cabinet) in private session. The last row of each item below will indicate any proposal to consider that item in private session. Should you wish to make any representations in relation to item being considered in private please contact Democratic Services on the contact details listed on the front page.

The notice may reference a paragraph of Section 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act. In summary those paragraphs refer to the following types of exempt information (more information is available in the Constitution):

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority handling the information)
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matters arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes:-
 - a) to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

Contact Details for this Plan

Contact Matthew Mannion
Officer: Democratic Services
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Fax No: 020 7364 3232

Forward Plan November 2019

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Decision Title	Due Date	Page No.
*Adoption of Article 4 directions for the removal of permitted development rights for the change of use from town centre uses to residential (C3) and the change of use from dwellinghouses (C3) to small houses in multiple occupations (C4)	29/01/20	6
Adoption of the Tower Hamlets Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule	15/01/20	21
Adoption of the Tower Hamlets Local Plan 2031: Managing Growth and Sharing the Benefits	15/01/20	22
Award of Contracts for the Support Service in Three Hostels for the Single Homeless	27/11/19	9
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*Isle of dogs Neighbourhood Plan-Validation of submission	18/12/19	26
Lease of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park and Lodge (excluding Soanes Centre) to the Friends of Tower Hamlet Cemetery Park	18/12/19	14
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Refresh of Tower Hamlets Substance Misuse Strategy 2020-2025	27/11/19	12
Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Q2 2019-20	27/11/19	13
*Review of the Community Language Service	18/12/19	27
Tower Hamlets Annual Equality Report 2019	18/12/19	19
*Tower Hamlets Approach to Regeneration	29/01/20	16
Tower Hamlets Council Equality Policy	18/12/19	15
Tower Hamlets Transport Strategy 2019-2041	18/12/19	19
Urgent Structural Works-Brewster House and Malting House	26/06/19	8

* New Issues published since the last Forward Plan

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Title of Report	Disposal of Land at Mantus Road E1	Ward Bethnal Green	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	Cabinet members are asked to approve the disposal of the land at Mantus Road to Tower Hamlets Community Housing. Receive 6 housing units from THCH in exchange for the land at Mantus Road.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet Not before 27/03/19		
Community Plan Theme	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in		
Cabinet Member	Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Air Quality		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Planning consultation is over several weeks</p> <p>The project is part of the Councils initiative to establish a pipeline development programme including estate regeneration scheme and infill sites. The pipeline programme is to be established in consultation with the Mayor and Cabinet and the programme has been discussed with Cabinet members.</p> <p>THCH has obtained planning permission and would have undertaken consultation as part of that process.</p>		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Jane Abraham, Ralph Million (Housing Project Manager) jane.abraham@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Senior Strategic Asset Manager, Place)		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	N/A		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	Partly Exempt (Part of the report will be exempt) The appendices as will contain commercially sensitive information		
Title of Report	Liveable Streets Bethnal Green consultation outcome report	Ward St Peter's; Weavers	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	<p>This item presents the results of the Bethnal Green Liveable Streets project which was taken to public consultation on Monday 28 October 2019 until Monday 25 November 2019.</p> <p>This item seeks a decision on the next stages of the Liveable Streets in Bethnal</p>		

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Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 29/01/20			
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities			
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Environment			
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Public Key Partners Other Directorates</p> <p>Four-week public consultation with the residents, businesses and key stakeholders in the Bethnal Green Liveable Streets area.</p> <p>Consultation documents with paper survey were sent out to everyone within the consultation area, as well as hosting a survey online.</p> <p>Queries were responded to via a dedicated email address.</p>			
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	Yes, an EqIA has been carried out for the project for concept design. The EqIA will be updated based on the results of the consultation and detailed design.			
Contact details for comments or additional information	Chris Harrison, Dan Jones Liveable Streets Technical Director Chris.Harrison@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Divisional Director, Public Realm) dan.jones@towerhamlets.gov.uk			
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	None			
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted			
Title of Report	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Adoption of Article 4 directions for the removal of permitted development rights for the change of use from town centre uses to residential (C3) and the change of use from dwellinghouses (C3) to small houses in multiple occupations (C4)</td> <td style="width: 20%;">Ward All Wards</td> <td style="width: 20%;">Key Decision? Yes</td> </tr> </table>	Adoption of Article 4 directions for the removal of permitted development rights for the change of use from town centre uses to residential (C3) and the change of use from dwellinghouses (C3) to small houses in multiple occupations (C4)	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Adoption of Article 4 directions for the removal of permitted development rights for the change of use from town centre uses to residential (C3) and the change of use from dwellinghouses (C3) to small houses in multiple occupations (C4)	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes		

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Summary of Decision	<p>The Council is seeking to confirm two Article 4 directions which would remove planning permitted development rights for the change of use from town centre uses (A1, A2, betting office or pay day loan shop, a mixed use as set out in the legislation) to residential (C3 Use Class) and the change of use from dwellinghouses (C3 Use Class) to small houses in multiple occupation (C4 Use Class).</p> <p>The Article 4 directions would result in the need for planning permission to be obtained for the above changes of use.</p>
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Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 29/01/20
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities
Cabinet Member	Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Planning, Air Quality and Tackling Poverty
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Stakeholders such as the local community, adjoining and neighbouring local planning authorities, developers etc. Secretary of State</p> <p>Consultation on the making of the two Article 4 directions has been carried out from 15th August 2019 to 26th September 2019.</p> <p>The following methods have been used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two local press notices in the East London Advertiser – one for each Article 4 direction • 87 site notices in total for both Article 4 directions in relevant locations • Notification to neighbouring planning authorities, Plan-Making emailing list and other relevant identified organisations • Notification to the Secretary of State
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	<p>Yes</p> <p>An Equality Impact Assessment for both Article 4 directions were carried out.</p> <p>The EqIA relating to the Retail Article 4 direction has not found any adverse effects on people who share protected characteristics.</p> <p>The EqIA relating to the HMO Article 4 direction has found potential adverse effects on people who share protected characteristics; however, limited information is available to understand the degree of impact.</p>
Contact details for comments or additional information	Marissa Ryan-Hernandez, David Williams (Plan Making Team Leader), (Acting Divisional Director, Planning and Building Control, Place) david.williams@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Justification/Evidence base reports Equalities Impact Assessments

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Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Urgent Structural Works- Brewster House and Malting House	Ward Limehouse	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	<p>This report recommends allocating resources and awarding a contract to undertake works needed to address the structural integrity at Brewster House and Malting House, two Large Panel System blocks.</p> <p>The Government advised further checks of the structural integrity of these buildings in 2018. As a result, consulting structural engineers Wilde Carter Clack conducted a comprehensive structural investigation and concluded that the blocks required intrusive structural strengthening. Therefore, the Mayor is recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agree to the allocation of capital resources to fund the works and the services associated with delivering the works. 2. Agree to the award of the works contract via the Council's Better Neighbourhoods Framework. 3. Agree to formally consult leaseholders and to recharge them for their portion of the cost of the works. 4. Agree options for recharging leaseholders for the cost of any temporary rehousing of dwelling occupants, their furniture and belongings, and for the reinstatement of the same upon the completion of the works. 5. Agree to officers exploring the possible voluntary buy back of leasehold properties in the two blocks. 6. Agree to the introduction of two additional borough wide payment options for leaseholders. <p><i>This matter was considered by the Mayor in Cabinet on 26 June 2019, where some aspects of the decision were deferred as explained in the decision notice http://democracy.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?AllId=102046.</i></p>		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 26/06/19
Community Plan Theme	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in
Cabinet Member	Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing
Who will be consulted before decision is made	Residents have been kept informed via; monthly newsletters and issue of FAQs, weekly TRA drop in meetings, a public drop in event and access to the on-site

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and how will this consultation take place	<p>Project Team</p> <p>Cabinet Lead member Corporate Finance Legal Services</p> <p>There will be further consultation meetings held and for leaseholders the statutory S20 consultation process will be undertaken.</p> <p>One-to-one meetings</p>		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No		
Contact details for comments or additional information	<p>Mark Baigent (Interim Divisional Director, Housing and Regeneration) mark.baigent@towerhamlets.gov.uk</p>		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Available		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	<p>Partly Exempt (Part of the report will be exempt) One or more of the appendices to the report may be exempt as they are expected to contain sensitive commercial/financial information</p>		
Title of Report	Award of Contracts for the Support Service in Three Hostels for the Single Homeless	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	<p>Future contractual arrangements for the provision of support for residents of four hostels in the borough who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have been rough sleeping or are otherwise homeless; • often have complex support needs including mental health and substance misuse; • often become physically frail at a much younger age than the general population, necessitating increasing levels of care and support over time. 		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 27/11/19
Community Plan Theme	TH Plan 3: Strong, resilient and safe communities
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Who will be consulted before decision is made	Service Users; Key internal stakeholders across Social Care, Housing and Community Safety

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and how will this consultation take place	Services; Support providers; NHS partners Consultation has been undertaken with a range of key stakeholders. An external independent review of provision has been commissioned and completed to inform planning of future service delivery models		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	A QA checklist has been completed, which confirms that the proposals have due regard to any equalities impacts for the population cohort concerned.		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Warwick Tomsett Joint Director, Integrated Commissioning warwick.tomsett@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Hostels Commissioning Plan 2019-2022		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted NA		
Title of Report	Draft Scrutiny Report - Improving health, environmental quality, economic and social outcomes through Housing Open Spaces	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	This report submits the report and recommendations of the Housing Open Spaces scrutiny review, and the action plan for implementation.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 27/11/19
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities
Cabinet Member	Statutory Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Housing
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	None – all relevant stakeholders have already been consulted / engaged. The joint scrutiny panel during the evidence collection process engaged with a number of key stakeholders (residents, registered providers, and voluntary and community organisations).
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been	N/A

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carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	
Contact details for comments or additional information	Mark Baigent, Abidah Kamali (Interim Divisional Director, Housing and Regeneration) mark.baigent@towerhamlets.gov.uk, Policy Officer Housing Abidah.Kamali@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Appendix 1 – Housing open spaces scrutiny review report Appendix A – Housing open spaces action plan
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted
Title of Report	Quarterly Performance & Improvement Monitoring – Q2 2019/20
	Ward All Wards
	Key Decision? No
Summary of Decision	This report provides the Mayor in Cabinet with an update on the delivery and implementation of the council's Strategic Plan

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 27/11/19
Community Plan Theme	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in
Cabinet Member	Mayor
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	Not Applicable None - this is a performance and delivery update
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No
Contact details for comments or additional information	Thorsten Dreyer, Sharon Godman, Juanita Haynes (Head of Intelligence and Performance) thorsten.dreyer@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy and Performance) sharon.godman@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Senior Research Officer, Strategy & Performance) juanita.haynes@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be	None

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available?	
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted
Title of Report	Refresh of Tower Hamlets Substance Misuse Strategy 2020-2025
	Ward All Wards
	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	Tower Hamlets Substance Misuse Strategy expired in March 2019. Refreshing the strategy will enable us to articulate to residents, our approach to tackling substance misuse problems in the borough.

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 27/11/19
Community Plan Theme	People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities; A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in; TH Plan 3: Strong, resilient and safe communities; TH Plan 4: Better health and wellbeing.
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing, Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Equalities
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Consultation to date has consisted of: resident on-line survey, attendance at key ward panels affected by substance misuse, drop-in consultation at the Whitechapel Idea Store, interviews with key stakeholders across, Health, Adults and Community Services, Children's services, work path, Metropolitan Police, Third sector including drug and alcohol services, Community Rehabilitation Company (Probation), service users.</p> <p>Semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders Focus Groups Service user forum consultation MAB workshop Tower Hamlets Together /Health & Wellbeing Workshop Executive workshop Partnership Executive Workshop Ward Panels On line consultation Planned attendance at all Council Directorate Leadership Team meetings</p>
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	An equality analysis/ quality assurance checklist concluded that strategy will not have a disproportionate impact on any of the protected groups under the Equality Act (2010) that cannot be mitigated in the strategy and therefore a full Equality Analysis will not be undertaken. The strategy is not proposing any fundamental changes.
Contact details for comments or additional information	Ann Corbett (Divisional Director, Community Safety) ann.corbett@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other	Substance misuse Needs Assessment Consultation summary report

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information will be available?			
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted NA		
Title of Report	Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Q2 2019-20	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	This report details the Quarter 2 (September 2019) monitoring position against the approved budget for revenue and capital spend for the 2019-20 financial year. It also includes information on the council's progress against its saving targets, strategies for reducing overspends and a number of general financial health indicators.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 27/11/19		
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities		
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	N/A N/A		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	N/A		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Kevin Bartle Divisional Director of Finance, Procurement and Audit Kevin.Bartle@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	N/A		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Contracts Forward Plan 2019/20 – Quarter three	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes

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Summary of Decision	This report presents the contracts being procured during quarter 3. The report also sets out the Contracts Forward Plan at Appendix 1 to the report. The report asks for confirmation that all contracts can proceed to contract award after tender.
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Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 18/12/19			
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities			
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector			
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Necessary consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the council's policies and procedures.</p> <p>Where required, consultation with service users and stakeholders will be undertaken as part of the project and budget approval process.</p> <p>Necessary consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the council's policies and procedures.</p> <p>Where required, consultation with service users and stakeholders will be undertaken as part of the project and budget approval process.</p>			
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No. Contact specific EQIA is expected to be completed by respective contract owners as part of the Directorate approval.			
Contact details for comments or additional information	Pam Cummins Directorate Support Manager, Resources pam.cummins@towerhamlets.gov.uk			
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Report and appendices include details of all contracts to be awarded.			
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted			
Title of Report	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lease of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park and Lodge (excluding Soanes Centre) to the Friends of Tower Hamlet Cemetery Park</td> <td>Ward All Wards</td> <td>Key Decision? No</td> </tr> </table>	Lease of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park and Lodge (excluding Soanes Centre) to the Friends of Tower Hamlet Cemetery Park	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? No
Lease of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park and Lodge (excluding Soanes Centre) to the Friends of Tower Hamlet Cemetery Park	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? No		
Summary of Decision	The report recommends that the Council grants a lease of the Tower Hamlets			

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	Cemetery Park and lodge (excluding the Soanes Centre) to the Friends of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park.
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Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 18/12/19		
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities		
Cabinet Member	Mayor		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>As above</p> <p>Internal consultation with the Parks team and Mayor's office. Negotiations with the Friends.</p> <p>The land to be demised under the lease to the FoTHCP includes open space. As such, the 1972 Local Government Act requires the Council to publicise its intention to make the disposal, through the grant of a lease, and to consider any objections received.</p> <p>The notice was published in the Docklands and East London Advertiser on the 5th September 2019. Closing date for any objection is the 26th September 2019</p>		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No		
Contact details for comments or additional information	<p>Sylvonne Bailey, Caleigh Freeman, Alan McCarthy sylvonne.bailey@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Business Management Support) caleigh.freeman@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Interim Head of Asset Management) alan.mccarthy@towerhamlets.gov.uk</p>		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	No		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Tower Hamlets Council Equality Policy	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? No
Summary of Decision	The Tower Hamlets Equality Policy sets out the Councils commitment to equality pursuant to the public sector equality duty under the Equality Act 2010.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 18/12/19
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Community Plan Theme	People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities		
Cabinet Member	Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Equalities		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	Corporate Equality Board LBTH Staff Networks Trade Union Forum Strategy & Policy SLT HAC DLT Place DLT Childrens & Culture DLT Resources DLT Governance DLT CLT MAB None		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	N/A		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Sharon Godman (Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy and Performance) sharon.godman@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	N/A		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Tower Hamlets Approach to Regeneration	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	This report provides an overview of the strategic approach being taken to coordinate and deliver regeneration across the borough. It highlights the context driving regeneration as well as the area based approach currently being adopted by the council through the development of governance structures and delivery plans.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 29/01/20
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities

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Cabinet Member	Mayor		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Residents via consultation processes outlined above. Ward members Key stakeholders including the GLA and TfL Internal consultation with council departments</p> <p>The emerging area regeneration delivery plans have been informed by the engagement undertaken on the Local Plan, the Local Infrastructure Fund and Liveable Streets programme. In addition, Area-based workshops with ward members were held in November 2019 to present the proposed regeneration approach and discuss their ideas on how to apply it to their areas.</p>		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	EqIA undertaken as part of the Integrated Impact Assessment for Local Plan, March 2019.		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Sripriya Sudhakar, Ann Sutcliffe (Place Shaping Team Leader, Place) Sripriya.Sudhakar@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Corporate Director, Place) Ann.Sutcliffe@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	N/A		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Physical Activity & Sport Strategy	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	The Physical Activity & Sport Strategy aims to provide the strategic direction for delivery of sport & physical activity in Tower Hamlets, in alignment with directorate, council and partner priorities. The strategy sets out how we can increase levels of physical activity in the borough, make the most of the local environment, harness the community engagement opportunities and ensure children and young people develop a positive relationship with being active.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 18/12/19
Community Plan Theme	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit
Who will be consulted	The consultation activities that took place in 2017 (as summarised above)

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<p>before decision is made and how will this consultation take place</p>	<p>involved engagement with a large number of consultees from all sectors and residents.</p> <p>Initial interviews in 2019 were conducted with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Biggs, Executive Mayor • Sabina Akhtar, Cabinet Member for Art, Culture & Brexit • Danny Hassell, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People • Katy Scammell, Associate Director of Public Health • Sandjea Green, Head of Youth Service • Steve Murray Head of Arts and Events • Rob Morton, Active Travel Officer • Paul Buckenham, Development Manager • Hanif Osmani, Poplar HARCA • Peter Okali, CEO THCVS • Keiko Okawa – Senior Strategy and Policy Manager (Place) <p>Over 35 stakeholders took part in the online consultation during May 2019 including representatives from a range of perspectives within the council, private sector and voluntary and community sector.</p> <p>The following consultation activities have been undertaken, or are planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Series of themed workshops (Health & Wellbeing and Sports Focused) with the voluntary and community sector - Oct 2017 • Workshop with council officers – Oct 2017 • Focus groups with REAL Disability Forum, Create Day Centre, Carers Forum, Inter Faith Forum, LGBT Community Forum and Caxton Hall Older People's Health & Wellbeing Day - Sep & Oct 2017 • Online survey for stakeholders from all sectors – Oct 2017 • Initial interviews with key stakeholders – during Mar & Apr 2019 • Workshop with Members – 10th Jul 2019 • Inter-active online consultation with stakeholders from a wide range of sectors – 14th to 23rd May 2019 • Further consultation activities are planned to seek feedback on the final draft strategy. – to take place in Oct & Nov 2019 		
<p>Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?</p>	<p>No. The Equality Checklist (and further analysis if required) will be completed as part of the strategy development process. Date of completion – end of September 2019.</p>		
<p>Contact details for comments or additional information</p>	<p>Lisa Pottinger (Head of Sport & Physical Activity) lisa.pottinger@towerhamlets.gov.uk</p>		
<p>What supporting documents or other information will be available?</p>	<p>Draft Physical Activity & Sport Strategy and Physical Activity & Sport Strategy Policy Context Appendix</p>		
<p>Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?</p>	<p>No, Unrestricted NA</p>		
<p>Title of Report</p>	<p>Tower Hamlets Annual Equality</p>	<p>Ward</p>	<p>Key Decision?</p>

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	Report 2019	All Wards	No
Summary of Decision	This item will provide an update to Cabinet on the work the council and its partners have undertaken to address inequality in the Tower Hamlets which supports its meeting of the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) as set out within the Equality Act 2010. It will also set out the future plan to further reduce inequality in the borough.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 18/12/19		
Community Plan Theme	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in		
Cabinet Member	Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Planning, Air Quality and Tackling Poverty		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	None None		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	N/A		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Sharon Godman (Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy and Performance) sharon.godman@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	N/A		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Tower Hamlets Transport Strategy 2019-2041	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	This report presents the council's draft Transport Strategy 2019-2041. The strategy sets out the council's plan for travel in the borough over the next 20 years in line with the Mayor of London's Transport Strategy 2018. It includes priorities to deliver a healthier, safer and more environmentally friendly transport system in the borough, which will improve transport options and reduce the impacts of traffic on the residents.		

Decision maker	Cabinet
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Date of decision	18/12/19
Community Plan Theme	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Environment
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Internal Transport Workshop (January 2019)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement event for internal staff, • Participants came from a range of relevant departments across the council, including Public Health, Public Realm, Adult Social Care and Planning Health and Wellbeing Board (March 2019) Air Quality Board (March 2019) Growth and Economic Development Board (March 2019) Travel Focus Group (March 2019) • 3 groups, 8 participants each. • Participants consisted of a cross section of the public (e.g. age, gender and ethnicity), representing drivers, cyclist and walkers <p>Transport Strategy Summit (April 2019)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 72 participants from external organisations including residents <p>Following the Transport Summit, the council received further input into the draft strategy from a range of groups, including Real (working with people with a disability in the borough), East London Business Alliance and Toynbee Hall (working with older people).</p> <p>On-line public consultation (July - August 2019)</p> <p>The engagement activities held from January till May 2019 were all face to face (e.g. meetings and workshops).</p> <p>Public consultation held in July/August will be on-line. Roadshow will be held across the borough to publicise the consultation and a draft strategy.</p>
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	An Equality Analysis will be developed after the public consultation held in July and August 2019.
Contact details for comments or additional information	Dan Jones, Mehmet Mazhar (Divisional Director, Public Realm) dan.jones@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Business Manager, Highways & Traffic Management) mehmet.mazhar@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	<p>Strategic Plan 2018-2021; http://democracy.towerhamlets.gov.uk/documents/s130890/6.1b%20TH%20Strategic%20Plan%2007-18.pdf</p> <p>Strategic Plan 2019-2022</p> <p>Strategic Plan 2019-2022</p> <p>Mayor of London Transport Strategy 2018 https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/mayors-transport-strategy-2018.pdf</p>
Is there an intention to	No, Unrestricted

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consider this report in private session and if so why?			
Title of Report	Adoption of the Tower Hamlets Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	<p>The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is a charge per square metre applied to most new development. The charge is applied to raise funding to contribute to the delivery of infrastructure to support development.</p> <p>It is now necessary to adopt the CIL charging schedule to ensure the Council receives adequate funding for much needed infrastructure across the borough.</p>		

Decision maker Date of decision	Council 15/01/20
Community Plan Theme	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in
Cabinet Member	Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Planning, Air Quality and Tackling Poverty
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Members of the public.</p> <p>Three consultations held throughout the different stages of the preparation of the Schedule as required and set out in the Statement of Community Involvement and in accordance with the national legislation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Public drop-in events -Bespoke meetings with the development industry -Press and social media adverts
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No – an Equality Assurance Checklist was completed in respect of the consultation on the Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule (02/10/2017) and found that no equalities issues exist and this position hasn't changed.
Contact details for comments or additional information	<p>Joshim Uddin Principal Infrastructure & Development Viability Officer Joshim.Uddin@towerhamlets.gov.uk</p>
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examiners Report 2. Charging Schedule (final) 3. Statement of Modifications 4. Equalities Impact Analysis 5. Charging Schedule explanatory notes 6. Regulation 123 list 7. Instalment policy

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Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Adoption of the Tower Hamlets Local Plan 2031: Managing Growth and Sharing the Benefits	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	<p>The Local Plan sets out a vision, strategic priorities and a spatial planning policy framework for development in the Borough. Its purpose is to direct the determination of planning applications and positively plan for the development and infrastructure requirements to meet the needs of existing and future communities.</p> <p>It is now necessary to adopt the Local Plan to ensure the Council has a robust and up to date spatial planning policy framework.</p>		

Decision maker Date of decision	Council 15/01/20
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities
Cabinet Member	Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Planning, Air Quality and Tackling Poverty
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Various consultation throughout the different stages of the preparation of the Plan as required and set out in the Statement of Community Involvement and in accordance with the national legislation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public drop-in events - Area specific workshop and bespoke meetings with specific grounds - Press and social media adverts <p>Various consultation throughout the different stages of the preparation of the Plan as required and set out in the Statement of Community Involvement and in accordance with the national legislation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public drop-in events - Area specific workshop and bespoke meetings with specific grounds - Press and social media adverts
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	N/A
Contact details for comments or additional information	<p>Caleigh Freeman, Gemma Ganadin, Jane Jin, Marissa Ryan-Hernandez, David Williams (Business Management Support) caleigh.freeman@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Personal Assistant, Planning & Building Control) gemma.ganadin@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Team Leader, Planning Services, Place) jane.jin@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Plan Making Team Leader), (Acting</p>

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	Divisional Director, Planning and Building Control, (Place) david.williams@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Inspector's Report Schedule of Main and Additional Modifications Supplementary/Interim Planning Documents Review Final Local Plan		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Quarterly Performance & Improvement Monitoring – Q3 2019/20	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? No
Summary of Decision	This report provides the Mayor in Cabinet with an update on the delivery and implementation of the council's Strategic Plan.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 26/02/20
Community Plan Theme	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in
Cabinet Member	Mayor
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	Not applicable None - this is a performance and delivery update
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No
Contact details for comments or additional information	Thorsten Dreyer, Sharon Godman, Juanita Haynes (Head of Intelligence and Performance) thorsten.dreyer@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Divisional Director, Strategy, Policy and Performance) sharon.godman@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Senior Research Officer, Strategy & Performance) juanita.haynes@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	None
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so	No, Unrestricted

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why?			
Title of Report	Contracts Forward Plan 2019/20 – Quarter Four	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	This report presents THE contracts being procured during quarter 4. The report also sets out the Contracts Forward Plan at Appendix 1 to the report. 2. The report asks for confirmation that all contracts can proceed to contract award after tender.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 25/03/20		
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities		
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	<p>Necessary consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the council's policies and procedures.</p> <p>Where required, consultation with service users and stakeholders will be undertaken as part of the project and budget approval process.</p> <p>Necessary consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the council's policies and procedures.</p> <p>Where required, consultation with service users and stakeholders will be undertaken as part of the project and budget approval process.</p>		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	No. Contact specific EQIA is expected to be completed by respective contract owners as part of the Directorate approval.		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Kevin Bartle Divisional Director of Finance, Procurement and Audit Kevin.Bartle@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	Report and appendices include details of all contracts to be awarded.		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) s75	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes

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Summary of Decision	The Children's Integrated Commissioning Team, the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Children's Social Care (CSC) are working towards establishing a fully integrated Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) by expanding the current Section 75 (S.75) agreement between Tower Hamlets Council and Tower Hamlets CCG bringing all funding contributions for CAMHS into one expanded S.75 agreement with the CCG from April 2020.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 29/01/20
Community Plan Theme	People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Young People
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	We have been and will be in consultation with the current provider, East London Foundation Trust (ELFT) in line with our commissioning intentions We have been and will be in consultation with the current provider, East London Foundation Trust (ELFT) in line with our commissioning intentions
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	NA
Contact details for comments or additional information	Ronke Martins-Taylor (Divisional Director, Youth & Commissioning) Ronke.Martins-Taylor@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	NA
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted NA

Title of Report	Budget Consultation Outcome 2020-21	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? No
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Summary of Decision	Statutory budget consultation is required with business ratepayers, however, a broader consultation with all residents and other relevant stakeholders is considered to represent best practice. The Council launched a six week Your Borough Your Future consultation campaign in October. This report outlines the outcomes from the budget consultation.
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Decision maker	Cabinet
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Date of decision	18/12/19		
Community Plan Theme	A dynamic outcomes-based Council using digital innovation and partnership working		
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Resources and the Voluntary Sector		
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	Businesses and residents of the borough This report provides the outcome of the budget consultation		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	N/A		
Contact details for comments or additional information	Kevin Bartle Divisional Director of Finance, Procurement and Audit Kevin.Bartle@towerhamlets.gov.uk		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	N/A		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Isle of dogs Neighbourhood Plan-Validation of submission	Ward Blackwall & Cubitt Town; Canary Wharf; Island Gardens	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	The Isle of Dogs Neighbourhood Plan was formally submitted for consideration by the Council on 23 October 2019. This report assesses the submission against the statutory requirements, to allow Cabinet to make a decision about whether the neighbourhood plan should proceed to examination.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 18/12/19
Community Plan Theme	All Priorities
Cabinet Member	Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Planning, Air Quality and Tackling Poverty
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	Consultation was held between 3 April and 26 May 2019. A consultation statement setting out who was consulted and how is a statutory requirement of a neighbourhood plan submission, and has been included as an appendix to the report. If the report recommendations are approved, further consultation will take

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	<p>place between 9 January and 19 February 2020 (expected dates).</p> <p>Consultation on the neighbourhood plan was arranged by the neighbourhood forum, as required by the regulations. This decision will also allow for further statutorily-required consultation to take place before the examination of the plan begins.</p>		
Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	no		
Contact details for comments or additional information	<p>Steven Heywood, Marissa Ryan-Hernandez, David Williams (Planning Officer, Plan Making Team) Tel: 020 7364 4474 Steven.Heywood@towerhamlets.gov.uk, (Plan Making Team Leader), (Acting Divisional Director, Planning and Building Control, Place) david.williams@towerhamlets.gov.uk</p>		
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	<p>Cabinet Report, 19 December 2017 – Neighbourhood Planning: Isle of Dogs Neighbourhood Plan – 2017 to 2031 – Legal Compliance and Examination Stage (http://democracy-internal.towerhamlets.gov.uk/documents/s118798/5.9%20Isle%20of%20Dogs%20Neighbourhood%20Plan.pdf)</p>		
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted		
Title of Report	Review of the Community Language Service	Ward All Wards	Key Decision? Yes
Summary of Decision	In February 2019, The Mayor requested a review of the Tower Hamlets Community Language Service. This report sets out those options for the service arising from that review.		

Decision maker Date of decision	Cabinet 18/12/19
Community Plan Theme	A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in; People are aspirational, independent and have equal access to opportunities; TH Plan 1: A better deal for children and young people: aspiration, education and skills; TH Plan 2: Good jobs and employment
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Culture, Arts and Brexit
Who will be consulted before decision is made and how will this consultation take place	To date we have held consultation sessions with members and with providers. Further sessions were also held with parents which were very well attended. Headteachers of primary schools where the service is provided have also been consulted. We will also consult with employees should the decision lead to a service reorganisation.

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Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out and if so the result of this Assessment?	Yes
Contact details for comments or additional information	Judith St John (Divisional Director, Sports, Leisure and Culture) judith.stjohn@towerhamlets.gov.uk
What supporting documents or other information will be available?	NA
Is there an intention to consider this report in private session and if so why?	No, Unrestricted NA

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Non-Executive Report of the: Overview & Scrutiny Committee Monday, 16 December 2019	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: Sharon Godman, Divisional Director Strategy, Policy and Performance	Classification: Open (Unrestricted)
Challenge Session Report - Working in genuine partnership with seldom-heard residents to make our communities safer	

Originating Officer(s)	Afazul Hoque , Head of Corporate Strategy & Policy Daniel Kerr , Strategy and Policy Manager, Corporate Filuck Miah , Strategy and Policy Officer, Corporate
Wards affected	All Wards

Executive Summary

This paper submits the report and recommendations of the Environment & Community Safety Scrutiny Lead’s review of ‘ward panels engagement with seldom heard groups’ for consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Recommendations:

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

1. Note the report and agree the recommendations identified (by the Scrutiny Lead for Environment and Community Safety) within the report

1. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 1.1. The Scrutiny Lead for Environment and Community Safety identified the effectiveness of ward panels’ engagement with hard to reach and seldom heard groups as the subject for a scrutiny challenge session.
- 1.2. The session aimed to ensure that we hear and learn from first hand experiences of seldom-heard residents and identify key barriers to their engagement to ensure better participation in safer neighbourhood ward panels. Their feedback is captured in the report.

- 1.3. Ward panels in Tower Hamlets should play an important role in community policing. There are currently 20 ward panels and one Safer Neighbourhood Board in Tower Hamlets. The set-up of ward panels consists of an elected chairperson (elected by resident ward panel members), local residents, housing providers, community groups and Local (ASB) managers, as well as ward councillors. The evidence in the report highlights the need for further work to better engage seldom heard groups in community safety issues. This includes tackling low resident engagement with ward panels, low awareness of the Online Watch Link (OWL) system, low awareness of enforcement activities and community improvements, and resident's perception of feeling unsafe (as detailed in the annual resident survey).
- 1.4. The report makes a number of practical recommendations for key stakeholder partners to take on board and put into action. These will improve the engagement and participation of seldom heard residents on community safety concerns.
- 1.5. The report makes 11 recommendations:
 - Tower Hamlets ward panels to develop and recruit to vice chair roles, focussed on building representative participation.
 - MOPAC (Mayor's Office for Police and Crime) to incentivise learning and development opportunities for ward panel vice chairs e.g. how to promote inclusion and engagement with seldom-heard community
 - Changing the location, time and venues for two of the four (or six) meetings to be held during the day
 - Public Realm representation and attendance at ward panel meetings
 - Establishment of a Youth Council representative on the Safer Neighbourhood Board as part of inclusive and diversity agenda
 - Local authority to lead on a borough wide marketing campaign to publicise ward panels
 - A collaborative approach by Safer Neighbourhood Board (SNB), ward panels and the Police to publicise ward panels.
 - Strengthening trust between the police and the ward's residents e.g. SNTs to lead and implement action-focussed minutes and jointly developing (at ward panels) a cultural framework of co-produced solutions.
 - Police prioritise attendance at ward panel meetings, as the fundamental purpose is to hold the police to account.
 - Local authority to develop a meaningful breakdown of community safety acronyms list to facilitate better resident understanding of key terminology
 - Mayor to lobby Home Office for more resources for 101 service
- 1.6. The report also sets out the approach and techniques used to engage with residents including co-producing some of the solutions that led to the final recommendations of the report.

2. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1. The report covers the implications of the public sector equality duty which addresses S149 (protected characteristics) of the Equality Act 2010. The application of the duty will facilitate meaningful engagement of seldom-heard groups with safer neighbourhood ward panels and their priorities reflect the views and concerns of all residents.

3. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 3.1 There are no specific financial implications emanating from this report.

4. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 4.1. The Council has the legal power to undertake the recommendations detailed in this report. However, the implementation of the second bullet pointed recommendation will be dependent upon the decisions made by the London Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and the prioritisation of attendance at the ward panels by the Police will be dependent upon the decision of the London Metropolitan Police and the agreements that this Council has with them.
- 4.2. There are no other legal implications arising from this report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- None

Appendices

- Scrutiny Challenge Session Report

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

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

List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

- None

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SCRUTINY CHALLENGE SESSION REPORT

**Working in genuine partnership with seldom-heard
residents to make our communities safer**



**London Borough of Tower Hamlets
October 2019**

Acknowledgements

Councillor Bex White (Scrutiny Lead for Environment and Community Safety), chair for this session, would firstly like to thank the local resident contributors for giving up their time to engage and participate in the challenge session. Much of what was discussed during the challenge session has informed the report and their contribution influenced many of the recommendations.

Residents:

Christina Ajagbe, David Burbidge, Sharon Currie, Lisa Folan, Mark Healey Bee Lim, Shibli Miah, Phillip Mullen, Samia Shire, Syed Uddin and others for their participation and contribution.

Councillors involved with the Challenge Session:

Councillor James King	Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair, and Limehouse Ward)
Councillor Gabriella Salva Macallan	St Peter's Ward
Councillor Eve McQuillan	Bethnal Green Ward

London Borough of Tower Hamlets Officers:

Ann Corbett	Divisional Director for Community Safety and Substance Misuse
Charles Griggs	Head of Community Safety
Keith Daley	Interim Head of Substance Misuse
Calvin Mclean	Head of Neighbourhood Operations

External Members:

Jon Shapiro	Tower Hamlets Safer Neighbourhood Board Chair
Christopher Scammell	Tower Hamlets Safer Neighbourhoods Inspector (Metropolitan Police Service)

Strategy and Policy (scrutiny support):

Filuck Miah	Strategy and Policy Officer
Daniel Kerr	Strategy and Policy Manager
Genevieve Duval	Strategy and Policy Officer
Janette John	Strategy and Policy Officer

Chair's Foreword

Community safety is about feeling safe, whether you're at home, in the streets of Tower Hamlets or working in the borough. It connects you to quality of life and being able to pursue and achieve the benefits from your domestic, social and economic lives without fearing obstacles from crime and disorder.

Community safety remains a key Mayoral priority e.g. Priority 2: *A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in*. Our Council, along with local Police and the borough's Safer Neighbourhood Board (SNB) remain of the view that ward panels are an essential piece of the puzzle in delivering community policing. Devolving some of the community policing priorities at a local ward level provides an opportunity for local residents to become active and empowered members who go on to provide an asset based approach¹ for delivering on local community safety concerns.

As the scrutiny lead for the Environment and Community Safety portfolio, I commissioned this scrutiny challenge session to ensure that we learn from seldom-heard residents, we identify and remove barriers to their engagement and as a result we ensure their participation in safer neighbourhood ward panels. This will empower them to become more informed and better engaged on community safety issues. This in turn should enable the council and its partners to benefit from their contribution to community safety.

The challenge session was well attended by residents, council officers and our partners, and a number of new insights were shared into how we can work better together to strengthen ward panels and to make them representative of the community.

The report makes a number of practical recommendations for key stakeholder partners to take on board and put into action for improving engagement and participation of seldom-heard residents on community safety concerns.

I'd like to thank the residents who gave their time and thoughtful contributions to this report – I hope that what you read here reflects what you said to us, and that we can continue to work together moving forward.

Councillor Bex White

Scrutiny Lead for Environment and Community Safety

¹ <https://www.nurtureddevelopment.org/asset-based-community-development/>

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1. Recommendations

Recruitment and training	
R1	Tower Hamlets ward panels to develop and recruit to vice chair roles
R2	Mayor's Office for Police and Crime (MOPAC) to incentivise learning and development opportunities for ward panels vice chairs e.g. how to promote inclusion and engagement with seldom-heard community
Fostering and encouraging participation	
R3	Changing the location, time and venues so that those panels that are already well attended add two additional daytime meetings per year, and those with low attendance from residents switch to 2 daytime and 2 evening meetings.
R4	LBTH Public Realm representation and attendance to ward panel meetings
R5	Establishment of a Youth Council representative on the Safer Neighbourhood Board to enhance inclusion and better understanding of diversity
Advancing the publicity of ward panels	
R6	Local authority to lead on a borough-wide marketing campaign to publicise ward panels
R7	A collaborative approach by Safer Neighbourhood Board, ward panels and the Police to publicise the visibility of ward panels.
Strengthening trust	
R8	Strengthening the trust between the Police and the ward's residents e.g. lead and implement action-focussed minutes and jointly developing (via ward panels) a cultural framework of co-produced solutions.
R9	Police prioritisation of attendance of ward panel meetings, as the fundamental purpose is to hold the Police to account.
Developing tools for engagement and participation	
R10	Local authority to develop a meaningful breakdown of community safety acronyms list to facilitate better resident understanding of key terminology
Strengthening funding capacity	
R11	Mayor to lobby Home Office for more resources for 101 service

2. Introduction

Reason for Enquiry

- 2.1. The Overview and Scrutiny annual work programme 2019-20 identified the need to examine reasons for low participation and engagement from seldom-heard residents with the ward panels and how this can be improved.
- 2.2. The Council's annual resident survey (ARS)² (surveyed 1,104 residents). Findings suggest that crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) has remained for 2018 – 2019³ the top personal concern for the borough's residents.
- 2.3. Furthermore, the justification for the enquiry remains consistent with the Mayoral priority and Council's strategic plan⁴ e.g. priority 2 – A borough that our residents are proud of and love to live in; outcome 7 – People feel safer in their neighbourhoods and anti-social behaviour is tackled.
- 2.4. For the purpose of this report, we shall refer to Safer Neighbourhood Board as SNB, Safer Neighbourhood Teams (consists of the Police Sergeants, Police Constables, Police Community Support Officers) as SNTs, anti-social behaviour as ASB and Overview and Scrutiny Committee as OSC
- 2.5. For this report, it is vital to understand the definition of the term 'seldom-heard groups' as they are the most important stakeholders for the challenge session. Some research suggests⁵ these are under-represented people with vulnerability factors⁶ e.g. health and disability, equalities / discrimination factors, economic, personal and family circumstances. Southwark Clinical Commissioning Group⁷ further suggests that 'seldom-heard' is a term for groups who may be experiencing barriers to accessing services. It is also worth noting that 'seldom-heard' groups have previously been termed 'hard to reach' groups, but the more recent terminology places the onus on authorities to listen better, rather than blaming those whose voices are not heard.
- 2.6. The Public Sector Equality Duty⁸ (PSED) plays a key role in terms factoring protected characteristics (S149 of the Equality Act 2010) that 'seldom-heard groups' fall into.

² https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/Documents/Borough_statistics/Annual_Residents_Survey_results_2018.pdf

³ https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/Documents/Borough_statistics/2019_ARS_Briefing_Paper.pdf

⁴ https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/Documents/Strategy-and-performance/TH_Strategic_Plan.pdf

⁵ <https://www.iriss.org.uk/resources/insights/effectively-involving-seldom-heard-groups>

⁶ <https://www.app.college.police.uk/app-content/engagement-and-communication/engaging-with-communities>

⁷ <https://www.southwarkccg.nhs.uk/news-and-publications/publications/policies-strategies-registers/Documents/Engaging%20with%20Seldom%20Heard%20Voices%20and%20Outreach.pdf>

⁸ <https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN06591/SN06591.pdf>

2.7. The challenge session scope had also identified a number of key reasons for justifying the investigation of this topic. These have been identified as the following: low resident engagement with ward panels; low awareness of the Online Watch Link⁹ (OWL) system; low awareness of enforcement activities and community improvements and resident's perception of feeling unsafe.

Methodology

2.8. The objective for the challenge session was to identify the barriers to engagement and then focus on solutions that helped to bring about the desired outcome: seldom-heard group residents being more informed and better engaged on community safety.

2.9. To support this process, the challenge session embedded two core questions; acting as a reference point for framing the sessions activities and more importantly to enable seldom-heard residents who attended the challenge session to use their personal experiences and comment on ward panels and community safety. The questions focussed on the following:

- How can participation of seldom-heard groups be enhanced?
- How can residents be empowered to improve safety in their own neighbourhood?

2.10. The approach also stipulated areas that it would not cover or were considered out of scope. This included the central ASB reporting system (as the ASB reporting system is a new product and requires operational time to be established) and actions covered from last year's OSC trilogy report¹⁰ 2018-19 to avoid repetition. The report will acknowledge and make references to some of the OSC's trilogy report recommendations for context only.

2.11. The challenge session was chaired by Councillor Bex White, Scrutiny Lead for Environment and Community Safety on the OSC and supported by Filuck Miah, Strategy and Policy Officer.

Members in attendance:

Councillor Bex White (chair)	OSC Member and scrutiny lead for Environment and Community Safety (Chair)
Councillor James King	Chair of OSC
Councillor Eve McQuillan	OSC Member
Councillor Gabriella Salva Macallan	Scrutiny Member

Officers:

Ann Corbett	Divisional director for Community Safety and Substance Misuse
Charles Griggs	Head of Community Safety

⁹ <https://www.owl.co.uk/met/>

¹⁰ <http://democracy.towerhamlets.gov.uk/documents/s157560/Enc.%20%20for%20Response%20to%20Overview%20and%20Scrutiny%20Committees%20recommendations%20on%20Safety%20Aspiration%20and%20I.pdf>

Keith Daley	Interim Head of Substance Misuse
Calvin Mclean	Head of Neighbourhood Operations
External Partners	
Jon Shapiro	SNB chair for Tower Hamlets
Christopher Scammell	Tower Hamlets Safer Neighbourhood Inspector (Metropolitan Police Service)

London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Daniel Kerr	Strategy and Policy Manager, Strategy Policy and Performance Division
Filuck Miah	Strategy and Policy Officer, Strategy Policy and Performance Division
Genevieve Duval	Strategy and Policy Officer, Strategy Policy and Performance Division
Janette John	Strategy and Policy Officer, Strategy Policy and Performance Division

2.12. The challenge session was structured in the following way to facilitate seldom-heard resident engagement:

1	Chair's welcome and introduction to the session
2	Icebreaker – encouraging dialogue
3	Exercise part 1 – Barriers to engagement with ward panels
4	Exercise part 2 – Developing solutions for engagement with ward panels
5	Feedback, response from panel members (learning from the session)
6	Chairs summary and closing remarks

2.13. An essential element to the session's approach was to ensure that there were 20-30 seldom-heard residents who could participate and meaningfully engage. The approach differed from the traditional scrutiny methodology and provided the following benefits:

- Opportunity for panel members, ward Councillors and seldom-heard residents to engage in meaningful dialogue on community safety issues.
- Capturing seldom-heard resident's views and opinions as part of local intelligence gathering to support the development of final report recommendations.
- Empowering seldom-heard residents to air their views on barriers to engagement and lead on developing solutions for improving engagement with ward panels.
- The challenge session approach mirrored what engagement could look like through a testing methodology, which could be implemented at ward panel levels.

2.14. Location, venue (environmental context), timing and accessibility were also considered as part of the methodology. The thinking behind this

was to ensure that session adhered to the Public Sector Equality Duty, which covered being inclusive e.g. seldom-heard residents who have mobility issues or even those on low income unable to afford the travel.

- 2.15. Using community settings to deliver the challenge session was explored and remained under strong consideration. However limitations e.g. time pressures, unable to guarantee availability of community space and accessibility, logistics and technology challenges resulted in us using the town hall's Council chamber as the default venue. According to feedback from participants on the setting, for some the corporate environment can be intimidating and cause anxiety but for others being invited to speak in a 'prestigious institution' has kudos, and can be empowering and liberating.
- 2.16. A range of techniques were used to promote the event. This included:
 - Councillor White created a short publicity video promoting the reasons for the challenge and inviting the borough's local seldom-heard residents to participate.
 - Council communication channels using the social media feed.
 - Using the Council's commissioned and third sector providers to access local residents.
 - Promoting via the internal newsletter and community and voluntary sector.
 - Promoting via the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and wider non-executive Councillors.
 - Promoting using the scrutiny network and 'Yammer'.
- 2.17. As part of the modernising approach to engagement with local residents Slido¹¹ was introduced to enable residents to anonymously ask questions via a portal on their smart phone. This enabled residents who were not comfortable with group discussions to participate and ask questions. Additionally, it helped to keep the session running on schedule and minimised disruption.
- 2.18. An icebreaker was implemented at the beginning of the session e.g. using borough maps to understand the participant's perception of feeling safe/unsafe and then comparing this with Police crime data intelligence maps (see appendices two and three 2017-2019). This enabled residents to engage in meaningful dialogue (personal experiences of community safety) and facilitate a robust discussion. This also contributed valuable insights into resident perception and the drivers of this.
- 2.19. A one page community safety 'acronym buster' was also incorporated into the information pack as this helped participants to understand key terminologies as this could potentially pose a risk of miscommunication and disengagement.

¹¹ <https://www.sli.do/>

3. Background

Local Context

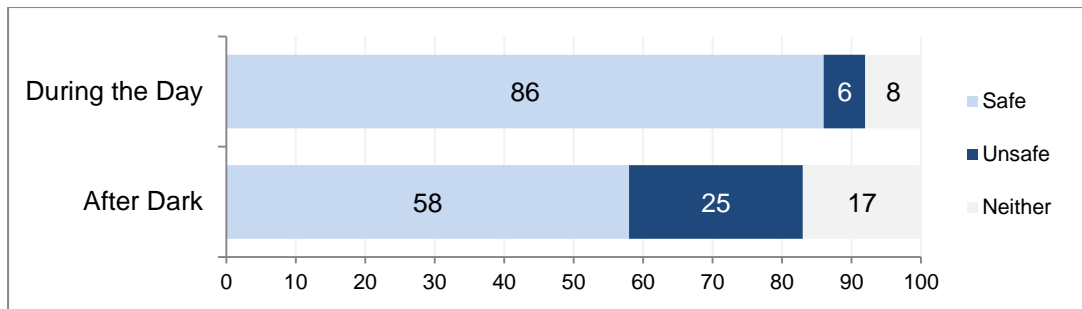
- 3.1. Ward panels in Tower Hamlets should play an important role in community policing. There are currently 20 ward panels and one SNB in Tower Hamlets. The set-up of ward panels consists of an elected chairperson (elected by resident ward panel members), local residents, housing providers, community groups and Local (ASB) managers, as well as ward councillors.
- 3.2. Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) e.g. local community police provide support and remain accountable to ward panels. SNTs are expected to attend ward panel meetings and provide updates on policing issues in the ward; taking into account concerns raised by ward panel members and responding to their questions.
- 3.3. Ward panels influence and define local policing challenges and have scope to agree and set three key priorities (empowering them to identify and implement solutions to local problems) for the SNTs to address and communicate these priorities within the ward. The priorities should be reviewed at every ward panel meeting to assess the level of success or failure as well as updating the priorities.
- 3.4. Community safety remains a key Mayoral priority and one of the key outcomes for the Council's Strategic Plan¹². From intelligence gathered for 2018¹³ and 19¹⁴ ARS, the findings continue to support that crime and ASB remains the top personal concern for Tower Hamlets residents (1,104 surveyed). Furthermore the ARS from 2019 suggests that residents feeling of safety drops by 28% from day to night. This does highlight the variance of day and night time economies; the implication of community safety and feeling safe.

Figure 6: Feelings of safety during the day and after dark (%) in Tower Hamlets, 2019

¹² https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/Documents/Strategy-and-performance/TH_Strategic_Plan.pdf

¹³ https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/Documents/Borough_statistics/Annual_Residents_Survey_results_2018.pdf

¹⁴ https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/Documents/Borough_statistics/2019_ARS_Briefing_Paper.pdf



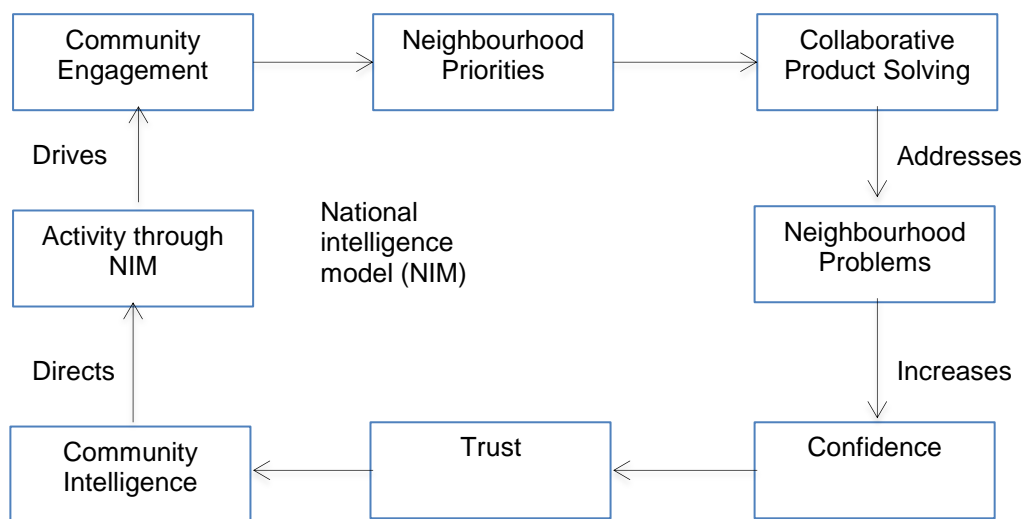
- 3.5. The borough's profile provides some context around the challenges of engagement. Tower Hamlets is the 16th most diverse borough in England¹⁵ and it has the largest Bangladeshi population in the country, making up almost a third of the borough's population¹⁶. More than 43% of the residents were born outside the UK¹⁷.
- 3.6. There are wider benefits of having good public engagement in terms of avoiding financial costs associated with enforcing the law, detecting crime and processing offenders. Ward panel engagement influences the design and delivery of services from the outset. This supports the police to deliver and meet the priorities set by the ward panel. Ward panel engagement should be considered as a core element of local community policing activity. Effective engagement can also operate as an enabler for fostering social responsibility.
- 3.7. The College of Policing accepts that leadership commitment plays a vital role in ensuring engagement is effective. Furthermore, effective engagement requires focussing on residents and results from engagement are integrated into service design and delivery and communities are involved in that delivery such as ward panels.
- 3.8. Implications of low engagement suggest that it can lead to a loss of public confidence in the police. The challenge it leaves to the police is that it will be difficult to predict changes to the community profile, needs and priorities. Additionally there will be increased vulnerabilities around threat, risk and harm, services becoming less responsive and unrealistic public expectations.
- 3.9. The College of Policing use the Confidence Cycle to highlight the relationship between community engagement and increased public confidence in the police. It is their view that greater co-operation from the community can enrich its intelligence gathering

¹⁵ Tower Hamlets Borough Profile 2018

¹⁶ Tower Hamlets Borough Profile 2018

¹⁷ Tower Hamlets Borough Profile 2018

The Confidence Cycle



Source: College of Policing

- 3.10. The Confidence Cycle suggests that engagement with community groups, including those seldom-heard, helps to piece together intelligence on issues that affect the neighbourhood and can be used to develop local priorities for policing local communities.
- 3.11. The College of Policing’s model strengthens the need for seldom-heard resident’s engagement with ward panels as it considers the importance of looking beyond representatives or community groups to ensure engagement reaches seldom-heard community members themselves so they are involved in decision-making.
- 3.12. It is further suggested that safer neighbourhood ward level engagement remains a long-term process that is flexible for communities to access, influence, intervene and provide answers to local policing problems and solutions. Their engagement will not only draw out concerns of local people and gaps in crime and ASB reporting but also is a tool for meaningful participation. Iriss¹⁸ (2011) further

¹⁸ <https://www.iriss.org.uk/.../insights/effectively-engaging-involving-seldom-heard-groups>

suggests that an everyday approach to participation where there is no distinction between participation and service delivery is the most effective in supporting seldom-heard groups.

- 3.13. The challenge for engaging seldom-heard groups particularly from a vulnerable setting suggests they may be preoccupied with 'just about managing' to fulfil their basic needs thus limiting any focus on wider issues.
- 3.14. Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) 2008a identified a variety of obstacles experienced by seldom-heard groups with engagement including attitudinal, organisational, cultural and practical barriers. The organisation context highlights issues of communication e.g. not enough thinking time for some people with impairments.

Legal

- 3.15. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011¹⁹ imposes legal responsibilities on Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) which will be relevant to seldom-heard groups engaging with ward panels this includes:
- 3.16. **Section 1(8) e** - the chief constable is accountable for the effective and efficient engagement with local people.
Section 17 - duties when carrying out functions – an elected local policing body must have regard to the views of people in the body's area about policing in that area
Section 34 - engagement with local police – a chief officer must make arrangements for obtaining the views of people within each neighbourhood about crime and disorder and make arrangements for providing such people with information about policing in that neighbourhood.
- 3.17. The OSC's trilogy report builds on the above in that it recommends facilitation of effective information sharing at ward level to support effective local decision making processes.

Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)

- 3.18. The PSED²⁰ focuses on the S149 (protected characteristics) of Equality Act 2010 and it sets out key principles for public authorities that must in exercise of its function have due regard e.g. seldom-heard groups.
- 3.19. Advancing of equality of opportunity S149 (1)(B) relates to integrating equality considerations into all areas of a public authority's work and take measures to remove barriers and acknowledging that sometime full equality in practice means difference in treatment. The application of this in the context for ward panel's membership could suggest on being aware that evening meetings are particularly challenging for

¹⁹ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/contents/enacted>

²⁰ <https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN06591/SN06591.pdf>

those groups who feel less safe after dark, including groups who feel at risk of hate-crime or who have caring responsibilities.

- 3.10. Fostering good relations in this context S149 (1)(c) suggests public authorities are to have due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not. This remains significant in tackling prejudice and promotes understanding particularly when engaging with different seldom-heard group residents.
- 3.11. Application of the duty applies in three ways but the significance for ward panels should consider “where persons are not public authorities but exercise public functions, the duty applies in respect of the exercise of those functions setting priorities and holding the police to account would qualify as application of the PSED”.
- 3.12. Lent and Studdert²¹ (2019), suggest that the police (SNT) and seldom-heard residents will need to hold greater collaboration, using a partnership arrangement but maintaining the principles of trust and respect when engaging in ward panel activity. It suggests that seldom-heard residents must be trusted and respected by the police to have insight into their own needs and freedom to develop solutions for themselves – less of a beneficiary, now an active partner.

²¹ <http://www.nlgn.org.uk/public/2019/the-community-paradigm-why-public-services-need-radical-change-and-how-it-can-be-achieved/>

4. Findings

- 4.1. The challenge session created participation activities, which facilitated seldom-heard residents to engage and capture their views and opinions around engagement with ward panels and community safety.
- 4.2. One of the key barriers to engagement for seldom-heard residents focussed on having reflective representation on ward panels. The seldom-heard residents commented that there was low engagement from young people and therefore failed to capture a key player's perspective on community safety. The residents felt that this was important as youth violence, crime and ASB were considered significant not only in Tower Hamlets but London wide.
- 4.3. The challenge session further highlighted that residents consider barriers such as: spoken English language; level of general education; diversity and cultural sensitivity in the borough; lack of involvement of ethnic minority women; social class division between those with wealth and those living with poverty; levels of employment against high unemployment in specific wards to have significant implications for recruitment and retention of active ward panel members. Tower Hamlets SNB chair acknowledged there was low participation from young people on ward panels. Furthermore, OSC's trilogy report²² 2018-19 recommendation four highlights the need to increase participation and engagement with young people. In addressing the above, the chair made the following recommendation:

R1	Tower Hamlets ward panels to develop and recruit to vice chair roles, focussed on building representative participation.
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- 4.4. The recommendation implies that each of the borough's 20 ward panels recruit a vice chair. Vice chairs can deputise (in absence of main chair) the ward panel meeting thus minimising cancellation of ward panel meetings. The recommendation advises recruitment focus on the under 25 age group representation to address the above and more widely a gender-balanced approach to diversity (embedding S149 protected characteristics of Equality Act 2010) to the membership of ward panels. Furthermore, the recommendation implies that the vice chair should (as part their role) focus on promoting as well as recruiting seldom-heard residents for ward panels.
- 4.5. The session's seldom-heard residents commented that there was a lack of incentive for participating in ward panels. It further indicates that the current offer provides very little benefits for participation. To create a tangible incentive for participation the chair suggests the following recommendation on training:

²²<http://democracy.towerhamlets.gov.uk/documents/s157560/Enc.%203%20for%20Response%20to%20Overview%20and%20Scrutiny%20Committees%20recommendations%20on%20Safety%20Aspiration%20and%20I.pdf>

R2	MOPAC (Mayor's Office for Police and Crime) to incentivise learning and development opportunities for ward panel vice chairs e.g. how to promote inclusion and engagement with seldom-heard community
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4.5. This recommendation focuses on particularly developing strong engagement skills to further attract engagement from the seldom-heard community. Additional benefits of this recommendation suggest that it provides to the individual soft skills development and progression for building their CV portfolio.

4.6. Another key obstacle was the location venue and schedule used to conduct ward panel meetings. These were often held in the evening and the residents felt that this was significant enough to put them off from participating. They highlighted limitations around access for people with disability and those with parenting or care responsibilities. Meetings during winter months (when it gets dark early) is further indicated and supported by Council's ARS 2019 which suggests 58% residents (sample 1104) remained concerned about feeling safe after dark. Although the main responsibility lies with SNB to monitor locations and venues, the Council's own experience suggests that implementing a diverse venue and location strategy e.g. exploring venues that are being used by seldom-heard communities for brokering better reach and engagement. Given the above feedback, the chair recommends the following:

R3	Changing the location, time and venues so that those panels that are already well attended add two additional daytime meetings per year, and those with low attendance from residents switch to 2 daytime and 2 evening meetings
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4.7. The prime objective is to facilitate more participation from the seldom-heard resident groups with ward panels, who otherwise would not be able to commit.

4.8. The challenge session drew out more commonly the concerns on community safety in the context of public realm issues e.g. Poor street lighting, dark and narrow pathways, subways and graffiti leading to perceived concerns of fear and intimidation. Ward Councillors at the session suggested that the Council should consider how it works more closely with community volunteers in order to ensure that as many community spaces are open in the evenings as possible. Furthermore, attendance of Council's Public Realm representatives at ward panels will help to facilitate dialogue with residents (from a particular ward) about their views e.g. Liveable Streets programme from a community safety context. The chair further recommends:

R4	Public Realm representation and attendance at ward panel meetings
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- 4.9. Both OSC's trilogy report 2018-19 and the challenge session's resident feedback highlighted a key need for participation and engagement with young people. The chair's recommendation is to ensure that a Youth Council member is represented on the SNB. The view is that this will strengthen inclusivity and diversity of the board and further develop peer-to-peer reach strategies for young people to engage at ward levels.

R5	Establishment of a Youth Council representative on the Safer Neighbourhood Board as part of inclusive and diversity agenda
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- 4.10. A key concern for seldom-heard residents remains about the publicity of the borough's SNB and local ward panels. Residents fed back on the lack of publicity around awareness and the visibility of opportunities for ward panels. Furthermore, the residents highlighted the lack of user friendliness of the police website, that there remains a percentage of the borough's population that do not or have not access to the Internet at home or are not confident with using the internet. Ward Councillors suggested caution on over reliance of the Internet as the main form of publicity for ward panels. The Council's ARS suggests that only 51% of residents (Sample 1104) use the Council website to source information and only 11% for social media. In order to refresh, promote and showcase the borough's 20 ward panels the chair recommends:

R6	Local authority to lead on a borough wide marketing campaign to publicise ward panels
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- 4.11. The Council has delivered a successful borough-wide Place Campaign and remains in a strong position with a borough wide reach to promote the borough' 20 ward panels. The Tower Hamlets ward panel guidance²³ suggests that SNTs must use all existing local communication mechanisms to share information with the wider public. Tower Hamlets Safer Neighbourhood Inspector is of the view that we should advertise the following:

Defining what a ward panel is and highlighting the substantial impact ward panels have on the local community safety with the goal of increasing greater participation from residents on ward panels.

- 4.12. Taking a collaborative approach to publicising ward panels should help the 'golden thread' alignment of SNB, SNT and ward panels in communicating the same message. The advantage of opening this up to ward panel members will help to develop and tailor a bespoke approach, which may be required to for specific engagement with a particular ward. The findings suggest that empowering seldom-heard residents to designing the publicity will facilitate the local knowledge and wisdom with specific group engagement.

²³https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/ignl/community_and_living/community_safety__crime_preve/anti-social_behaviour/Safer_Neighbourhoods/Safer_Neighbourhoods.aspx

- 4.13. The police's current practice to disseminate safety or priority updates is delivered using the social media site Twitter and some wards produce a newsletter highlighting activities undertaken to meet local police priorities. The SNB chair is of the view that local policing priorities should be promoted on Metropolitan Police Service website but are not currently. The SNB chair further suggests that local ward Councillors are a good source for recruiting suitable members from seldom-heard groups to join their ward panels
- 4.14. Last year's OSC's trilogy report 2018-2019 recommends encouraging 'hard to reach' residents to engage with different kinds of participation events e.g. annual 'open' ward panel meetings. Tower Hamlets ward panel guidance offers an SNT public communication approach but the recommendation below strengthens the approach through collaboration. The chair recommends the following:

R7	A collaborative approach by Safer Neighbourhood Board (SNB), ward panels and the Police to publicise ward panels.
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- 4.15. Lack of trust was a key issue that the seldom-heard residents raised. This was due to the lack of visibility for actions on local police priorities, which has had a profound impact on the seldom-heard resident's level of confidence with SNTs. Often residents suggested that they disengaged with the police as they felt they were not being listened to. Residents felt the need to apologise (show contrition) when things don't go well or according to plan was important in maintaining the relationship with residents and building trust. The chair suggests the following recommendation:

R8	Strengthening trust between the police and the ward's residents e.g. SNTs to lead and implement action-focussed minutes and jointly developing (at ward panels) a cultural framework of co-produced solutions.
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- 4.16. Action-focussed minutes need to support the priorities set by the ward panels and equally feedback on progress of priorities, actionable results and key messages remain crucial in reassuring the community that local policing understands the issues that matter to local people.
- 4.17. The residents commented that there has been a lack of advocacy; lack of understanding of the processes particularly with 101 which led to resident frustration and a feeling of poor response, little or no feedback from local SNTs. This further diminishes the SNTs' credibility particularly around accountability and community trust. The Tower Hamlets ward panel guide suggests that SNT sergeants should be open and honest as to the true capacity of work they can undertake. SNB and ward panels hold SNTs to account. It has been suggested that there has been poor attendance of ward panels from SNTs. Therefore the chair recommends:

R9**Police prioritise attendance at ward panel meetings, as the fundamental purpose is to hold the police to account.**

4.18. The use of community safety jargon, acronyms or abbreviations can be challenging for seldom-heard residents whose first language may not be English, have poor literacy or learning difficulties. The residents commented that key terminology is often used at meetings which they do not understand. This led to miscommunication; much-needed interruption to provided clarification of terminology; disengagement and poor policing local priorities/outcomes. Community safety terminology should be easy enough for residents to understand in order to achieve a meaningful dialogue when they engage with ward panels. The chair expresses the following recommendation to address the above:

R10**Local authority to develop a meaningful breakdown of community safety acronyms list to facilitate better resident understanding of key terminology**

4.19. The residents had concerns about the 101 non-emergency services²⁴ to report incidents of crime and ASB. This currently costs residents 15 pence per call and residents can report crimes such a stolen vehicle, property damage or suspicion of drug use or dealing in the neighbourhood. Although the SNB have no formal power to elevate this, residents feel that this service is not operating effectively as a call can take as long as an hour waiting for a response. There remains a lack of understanding of the processes and this has led to loss of public confidence in the local police response. It suggests that more resource is required to make the service more responsive and effective. The chair recommends the following:

R11**Mayor to lobby Home Office for more resources for 101 service**

A proposal for how to manage this process going forward has been developed. New arrangements will be put in place in the New Year.

5. Appendices

Appendix 1

²⁴ <https://www.police.uk/contact/101/>

Seldom-heard group resident's perception and feedback on barriers and Solutions to engagement collated from the session:

Barriers

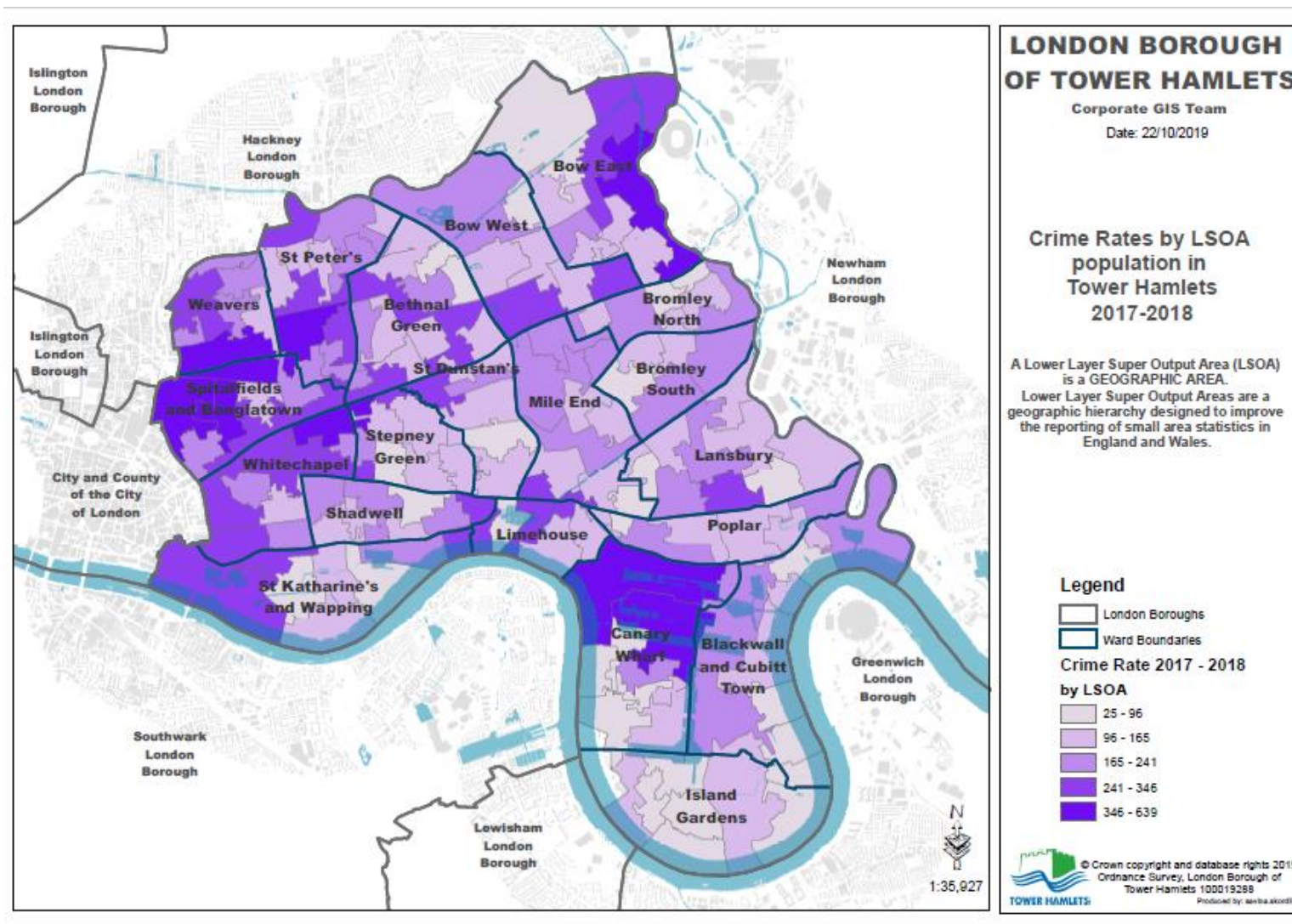
- *Money/ resources – without funds it is difficult to participate*
- *Language culture sensitiveness – involving women*
- *Use of acronyms*
- *Lack of awareness of opportunities (ward panels)*
- *Lack of advocacy*
- *Access to information and website is it up to date?*
- *Percentage of population not able to access the Internet*
- *Opt in system to get information – barrier to people need to know about it opt in*
- *Panel Meeting venue / time and location*
- *Access for disabled people – physical access*
- *Lack of understanding of process – leads to frustration i.e. 101 service*
- *Level of communication between community safety and resident*
- *Police Website difficult to access and scroll local borough information, old site had designated pages*
- *Lack of monitoring or perception regarding police (lack of SNTs) resource*
- *'Will' - The will to work together*
- *Social / class divide – poor / rich areas; work /non-working areas*
- *Lack of knowledge about structures*
- *Trust issues for residents – not listening/responding*
- *Outcomes not communicated to residents – puts off participation*
- *Not listening to serious residents' concerns*
- *Barriers – Economic, Social, Culture, Technology, Language, Disability, Ethnicity, Education, Class.*
- *Council vs Resident - values don't translate for same as residents – where is the action.*
- *Timing of panels for parents remain a challenge meetings pm (evening)*
- *Trust –talking to people in person, working with trusted people*
- *Going to places where people go (e.g. Mosques)*
- *Time commitment how to involve parents and those working several jobs?*
- *Trust – lost confidence*
- *Trust in authorities i.e. institutional racism*
- *Having to move a lot no stability for renters in private sector*
- *Not seeing people like me*
- *Formality*

Solutions

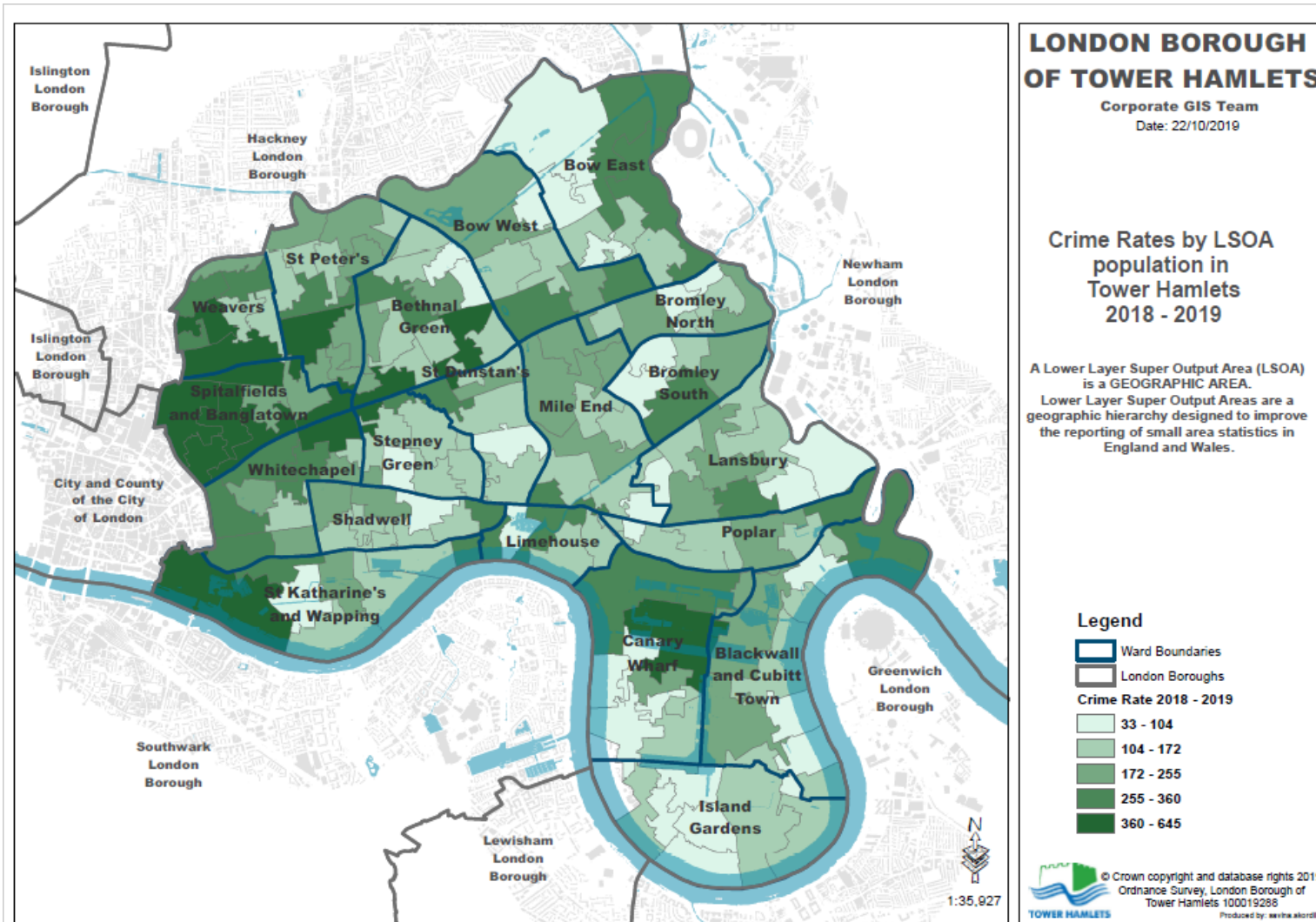
- *Intermediary urgent (grassroots – Leaders in community) to link hard to reach groups with police and community safety teams*
- *Incentives for resident's i.e. training CV improvements*

- *Change SNT – shift times to tackle evening crimes – reassure public*
- *Northampton experiment*
- *Identify key community areas, ‘feeder’ schools, parent groups areas of high volume of ASB by young people*
- *CS members should have links / literature to hand to resident i.e. Cllr Surgeries*
- *Marketing Campaign - ward panels and community safety process*
- *Community safety ‘active citizens’ champion programme which covers the basics – ideal for ward panel members and interested residents to increase knowledge*
- *Access information for events – ensure all events promoted by the Council includes basic access information for disabled people*
- *Communication’s strategy to increase Facebook Instagram and twitter following – so these channels can be used to signpost information and news updates*
- *Regular campaigns to encourage people to opt in to ward mailing list /OWL – promote via social media too.*
- *Improve website information so information about Tower Hamlets, SNB, Wards, opt in, links to police website is clearer and easy to navigate*
- *SNB to promote panel to tenancy residents associations, Housing newsletters, faith spaces etc.*
- *Support resident members to undertake activities that improve or disrupt ASB in the area (community events / awareness raising)*
- *Directory of Acronyms on website*
- *Panels to feed into wider social action campaign i.e. social media campaign to tackle knife crime*
- *Youth Engagement*
- *Young Mayor involvement*
- *Youth clubs*
- *Better coordination of messaging, interventions between parties*
- *Reach out to specialist groups e.g. working with harder to reach groups*
- *Need to encourage better diversity by using all available channels*
- *Rebuild trust by acknowledging breakdown in trust*
- *Proper leadership, role models in elected Councillors*
- *Incentives for engagement*
- *Look at the times/location of meetings*

Appendix 2



Appendix 3



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