



## Policy and Resources Committee

24 September 2020

<b>Title</b>	<b>Members Items in the names of Councillor Geof Cooke and Councillor Ross Houston</b>
<b>Report of</b>	Head of Governance
<b>Wards</b>	All
<b>Urgent</b>	No
<b>Key</b>	No
<b>Status</b>	Public
<b>Enclosures</b>	None
<b>Officer Contact Details</b>	Maria Lugangira, Governance Service - Assurance <a href="mailto:maria.lugangira@barnet.gov.uk">maria.lugangira@barnet.gov.uk</a>

### Summary

The report informs the Committee of Members Items and requests instructions from the Committee.

### Recommendations

1. That the Committee's instructions in relation to the Members items are requested.

#### 1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 Members of the Committee has requested that the items tabled below are submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration and determination. The Committee are requested to provide instructions to Officers of the Council as recommended.

<p><b>Cllr Geof Cooke</b></p> <p><b>West London Orbital Rail</b></p>	<p>Making passive provision for West London Orbital (WLO) platforms at the Brent Cross West Thameslink station that the Council is delivering would save public money when the WLO is approved and would accord with Barnet Council and Mayor of London policy.</p> <p>Unfortunately, National Government support to TfL during the Covid-19 pandemic has prevented TfL from committing the £1.4m estimated cost of the work and there is now a serious risk that the provision might not be made in the station design at Network Rail's GRIP 5 stage that must be progressed to enable the Thameslink station to be opened on schedule in 2022.</p> <p>I propose that officers and the Leader investigate every possible funding mechanism and lobby budget holders including the Secretary of State for Transport to ensure that passive provision for the WLO is made at Brent Cross West.</p>
<p><b>Cllr Ross Houston</b></p> <p><b>Responding to the impact on planning policy, regeneration and housing of 'Planning for the Future'</b></p>	<p>The Government have published a document 'Planning for the Future' that will effectively result in a bonfire of current planning regulation, and even more overdevelopment in Barnet with little likelihood that the Borough will benefit from additional affordable housing and funding for infrastructure.</p> <p>The proposals will scrap the need to obtain planning permission once early stage principles for a development are agreed in 'growth areas', and developments will only need basic checks in 'renewal areas'.</p> <p>This will side-line local planning committees, local democratic accountability, and the ability of residents to have a say on final planning applications.</p> <p>In order to protect Barnet from overdevelopment and ensure we are in control of planning policy, and housing and regeneration locally, I believe the Council must oppose the 'Planning for the Future' proposals, and I ask the Committee to discuss and agree a robust response to the Government's consultation.</p>

## 2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 No recommendations have been made. The Committee are therefore requested to give consideration and provide instruction.

### **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED**

3.1 Not applicable.

### **4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION**

4.1 Post decision implementation will depend on the decision taken by the Committee.

### **5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

#### **5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance**

5.1.1 As and when issues raised through a Member's Item are progressed, they will need to be evaluated against the Corporate Plan, Barnet 2024 and other relevant policies.

#### **5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

5.2.1 None in the context of this report.

#### **5.3 Legal and Constitutional References**

5.3.1 The Council's Constitution (Members of the Council, Article 2) states that a Member, including appointed substitute Members of a Committee or Sub-Committee will be permitted to have one matter only on an agenda that he/she serves. Members' items must be within the term of reference of the decision making body which will consider the item.

#### **5.4 Social Value**

5.4.1 Not applicable.

#### **5.5 Risk Management**

5.5.1 None in the context of this report.

#### **5.6 Equalities and Diversity**

5.6.1 Members' Items allow Members of a Committee to bring a wide range of issues to the attention of a Committee in accordance with the Council's Constitution. All of these issues must be considered for their equalities and diversity implications.

#### **5.7 Corporate Parenting**

5.7.1 None identified in the context of this report – any substantive report will consider the implications in detail.

5.8 **Insight**

5.8.1 None.

5.9 **Consultation and Engagement**

5.9.1 None in the context of this report.

6. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

6.1 None.