

Leader's Report to Cabinet Cabinet Meeting – 19 July 2005

Current Issues:

1. The announcement of our successful bid is one of the proudest times ever for the Borough, and for London. We've been given an extraordinary opportunity by the IOC - to host the world's greatest event and to transform sport in the UK. Young people, some still in primary schools, can dream of competing against the best on home soil.

London is the city where the world comes together. 300 languages are spoken in our schools. It's a place where diversity is not just tolerated, but celebrated. Every athlete competing will find a community to cheer them on.

This will leave us with a real Olympic dividend: the transformation of one of the most deprived parts of London, thousands of new jobs and new homes, business for British companies providing services and facilities for the Games and a proud sporting legacy, inspiring a fresh generation to get active and stay healthy.

2. I am pleased to introduce the Council's new Performance and Improvement Plan for 2005 - 2008. This is an important document for everyone who works for, and with, the Council to improve the quality of public services for our residents.

It is an honest and frank account of what the Council is doing well, what needs to improve and how we will continue to work with our partners to ensure that our services meet the needs of local people.

3. The launch of our new Community Strategy will be taking place at our annual LSP Conference on 21st July. This document replaces our Community Plan and sets out our long-term vision that reflects the things residents say are most important to them. The document also outlines our priorities and shows how partner organisations will improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the borough.

I am very pleased that Joe Montgomery, Director of the Government's Neighbourhood Renewal Unit will be attending and will be giving a keynote speech.

Meetings and Events attended between 22/06/05 & 19/07/05:

External Meetings and Events:

- IDEA graduation ceremony
- Visit from Paul Howarth, Head of the Housing Support Division at the DWP
- 5 Borough Olympic Leaders Meeting

- Visited Mayville School
- Visited Belmont Park School
- Accommodation for Voluntary and Community Organisations (AVCO), attended their AGM and took part in their question and answer session
- Attended a send off reception for the local children travelling to Singapore
- Hosted an Olympic Bid thank you reception
- Local Government Association Annual Conference & Exhibition, Harrogate
- Visited Warwick Boys School for their Democracy Day
- Association of Local Government (ALG) Annual General Meeting
- North London Strategic Alliance Leader's and Chief Executive Meeting
- ALG's Borough Surveys Communication Meeting
- Zulu's Bar resident's meeting
- Visit to the Muslim Burial Trust

Internal Council Business Meetings and Events:

- Local Strategic Partnership Executive Board
- Business Management Meeting with Chief Executive and Deputy Leader
- Walthamstow Academy consultation interview
- Letyonstone By Election

Councillor Clyde Loakes
Leader of the Council

Date submitted: 06/07/05