

Agenda Item 6

Briefing note for cleaner, greener and safer overview and scrutiny committee

Olympics Update

**Cllr James Halden
Chairman, CGS O&S**

Background

At the setting of the work plan for CGS O&S, it was decided, between the chair and the vice chair, that cleaner, greener and safer aspects of the Olympics should form a major agenda item. This was to ensure that the council has fully prepared for CGS aspects of the Olympics, but also to ensure that elected members were fully supported in their roles as community leaders in terms of having accurate information and knowledge of events, and knowledge of how to report concerns etc. (See appendix 1)

The group then met as a working party to have a scoping meeting in order to direct officers to answer exact questions that we felt were relevant as ward members. A report was prepared. (See appendix 2)

A report was taken to CGS O&S on 14th December. Members of the committee welcomed the report but expressed concerns about whether this level of detail was known by all members. Members then had a discussion about the damage that rumours and confusion can cause in terms of service and community engagement during a period that is very dynamic, such as the Olympics. It was agreed that we would seek member's feedback on CGS aspects on the Olympics, with a view to the chairman providing a briefing note that could be used to ensure that members are kept well informed during the period and are thus well placed to act as community leaders. (See appendix 3)

Feedback was collated by democratic services and sent to the chair for consideration. (Appendix 4) a briefing note was prepared by the chair for committee on the 7th Feb 2012.

Members questions

- 1) Cllr. Sue Macpherson: Homesteads- What will happen to the PCSO patrol in my ward?

- 2) Cllr. Mike Revell - Orsett: Having a large and open ward means that fly tip can be a real issue to me. Will I expect delays in environment's response times to such issues? - Do we think there are any areas of Thurrock that are in danger of illegal traveller sites or even illegal traveller sites becoming unwieldy?

- 4) Cllr. James Halden – Homesteads: What events are being held in Thurrock? - Are we expecting trading standards ECT to have an issue with the illegal sales of alcohol or the illegal setting up of clubs and other such venues and what should we do if we become aware of this?

- 5) Cllr. Garry Hague – Chafford and North Stifford: What are our neighbours doing, in terms of events? Will this affect us?
- 6) Cllr. Danny Nicklen: Stanford East and Corringham town. Will anything be happening in ward i.e. the addiszone area?
- 7) Cllr. Amanda Arnold -Ockendon- : Are we expecting major road delays i.e. due to proximity of the crossing ECT. How can we deal with this?
- 8) Cllr. Mark Coxshall Corringham and Fobbing- : How will the lakeside park and ride be policed?
- 9) Cllr. Simon Wootton: Chafford and North Stifford- Do we have any power/responsibility in terms of policing the trains and train stations given the fact that issues with drunkenness ECT are likely?
- 10) Cllr. Joy Redsell - little Thurrock blackshots - : Is there a danger of unplanned events taking place i.e. a group just moving on to black shots field? How can we deal with this if it happens?
- 12) Cllr. Diana Hale- Stifford Clays- : Part of the A13 runs through my ward If there are traffic incidents traffic is fed onto both Stifford Clays Road or Lodge Lane which are totally unsuitable.
- 13) Cllr. Lynn Worrall - Tilbury St Chads- : Whilst not directly my ward I would like the promenade and area around Tilbury Fort to be considered. The actual promenade is owned by the docks but they often need 'reminding' to cut the grass. As an area of public interest I would expect it to attract visitors during the games.
- 14) Cllr. Angie Gaywood – Stifford Clays-: I can think of traffic congestion & pollution, litter, issues around policing? Theft etc... all ones which affect many wards in and around the A13
- 15) Cllr. Phil Smith - Stanford East and Corringham town - Not aware of any specific issues, but I would expect towns that have shows/events Etc will try and build on the Olympics.

Key issues identified

The following issues were raised – some issues have been logged in multiple categories due to having several aspects

Issue	Amount of times raised
Public protection i.e. PCSO's, travellers	1111111
Environment i.e. fly tip	1111
Questions about events	11111
Transport i.e. cleanness of roads, congestion	111
Open areas i.e. parks ect	111

The following issues were raised based on area.

Area	Issues
East Thurrock	7
West Thurrock	7

Issues and options

- A- It's a shame that only 13 members responded thus we did not get the fullest picture of concern that we wanted. However, we have plenty of information to go on.
- B- It was clear that there is still a great deal of confusion about events that are taking place i.e. question about events were the second most asked, as well as ward members asking questions directly relating to open areas in their wards. Greater clarification is needed.
- C- Public protection issues are clearly the greatest concern. Questions have already been asked about if we will have our PCSO's or police sent to other areas i.e. Basildon or London. These must be answered, certainly when you consider that such front line workers would be needed to police certain community events i.e. the Stanford festival.
- D- There is a wide spread of issues, thus it's not one that we can confirm to a certain department. Ensuring clear communication must be central to ensure that members can have their concerns addressed promptly on behalf of their communities.
- E- I think that the second table makes it quite clear that issues are not area specific and thus all members would benefit with support.
- F- That communication is best placed to have a borough wide view of what is happening. Thus communications could serve to be a form of special members services in terms of helping coordinate service response to members.

Recommendations for committee to discuss

- 1.1 That submitted questions are answered
- 1.2 That members are supplied with direct contact information for the most relevant Olympics officers in the public protection, transport, environment and communications department.
- 1.3 That members are also supplied with a full list of events in the Thurrock. Also with a wider view of what neighbours are doing.
- 1.4 That communications steps up to catalogue all members concerns relating to the Olympics and helps coordinate to keep members informed.
- 1.5 That the recommendations are collated into a simple PDF booklet for members.