



Summary of H&F Buildings Consultation responses regarding Cambridge House and Barclay House

Key themes:

- Impact on service provision**
- Financial / property issues**
- Impact on Council employees**

From buildings consultation response	LBHF comments
Impact on service provision	
1. The sale of both properties will reduce locally relevant services.	Relocation of affected staff to a central location with services will enhance services delivered across the borough. Currently staff spend considerable time (often up to an hour) travelling to the centre of the borough from Barclay House which is inefficient and a waste of valuable human resources. Services currently based at Cambridge House will continued to be delivered at a central location.
2. It is vital to remember the size of the borough and ensure services can be provided, and be accessible to communities in the North <i>and</i> South.	By moving services to a central location which is accessible to all makes for a more efficient way of working. Links to the centre of the borough from both the north and the south are efficient. For residents based in either the north or the south of the borough who have to travel farther north or south to access a service will now only have one central area and a shorter journey.
3. Is the Council doing this in anticipation of merging all services with neighbouring boroughs?	The merged locations are a separate issue and had been planned before merger discussions.
Financial / property issues	
4. Will the Council incur exit charges?	The lease on Barclay House expires in September 2011 and the leases on Cambridge House expire in August 2014. The council will not incur exit charges at the end of these leases except for normal dilapidations claims.
Impact on council employees	
5. Better work is done by employees who have a sense of identity with the places in which they work – staff should not have to work in sanitized offices and should receive good working conditions from the tax payers’ money.	The planned changes in location will offer staff improved working conditions whilst offering tax payers and service users a more efficient service with savings being made on building rental.
6. Council staff need a secure base both for themselves and to ensure residents know where to go when they need a service.	Many staff have moved several times in the last two years. This plan will give staff the security of a central borough location, based with like services. Communication will be made with service users and borough residents so that they

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	are aware of the new location of services and how to access them.