

Supplementary Agenda

URGENT MOTION

Motion in the name of Councillor Nesil Caliskan

Enfield Council recognises that the Government has lost control of the economy amidst a cost-of-living crisis, prompting the Bank of England to make an unprecedented £65bn intervention to stabilise markets, following catastrophic proposals announced in the September mini-budget.

Increasing energy bills, tax rises on working people and inflation reaching a 40-year high have devastated living standards for Enfield residents. The economic crisis also means higher rents and higher mortgages as interest rates skyrocket.

The economic crisis has been self-inflicted by Liz Truss and her government. This Council notes that trickle-down economics has consistently failed.

The decision of the government to reverse the plans to abolish the 45p income tax rate was only made after days of economic turbulence.

Enfield Council calls on the government to:

- Properly tax the oil and gas giants to pay for an energy price cap freeze
 - Ensure the minimum wage is set at a level that reflects the cost of living
- Enfield Council will write to the Chancellor to urge him to take immediate action to stabilise the economic situation.

Enfield Council will take direct action to do everything it can to support residents throughout this crisis, including:

- Identifying public building space in the borough that could provide places of warmth for those struggling to heat their homes
- Creating a programme to make additional food available to pupils from low-income households to help them through the winter
- A call to action to our community organisations to work with us to get hot food to our residents aged over 70 who may struggle in the coming months
- Making our residents fully aware of our Hardship Fund services and how to contact us
- Establishing a highly visible and easily accessible Cost of Living web resource on our Council website that is regularly updated with helpful information for residents

10. COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME (Pages 1 - 22)

The list of questions and their written responses will be published prior to the meeting.

12. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

The Council is asked to approve the following change to the Finance and Performance Scrutiny Panel:

Cllr Alessandro Georgiou to replace Cllr James Hockney.

Question 1 from Councillor Ayten Guzel to Councillor Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

Can the Leader of the Council inform us how many refugees there are in Enfield and how many families have been matched with the households? How many unaccompanied children have arrived from Ukraine to Enfield?

Answer:

183 hosts have been matched with Ukrainian refugees and we are supporting 159 Ukrainian refugees and 40 Afghan refugees who are now resident in Enfield.

We have one unaccompanied Ukrainian minor who has arrived in the borough, and four children are awaiting a visa to be issued before travelling to Enfield.

Question 2 from Councillor Thomas Fawns to Councillor Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

Enfield Council has been shortlisted and won several local government awards over the past few months. Can the Leader of the Council provide us with some examples?

Answer:

Despite ongoing pressures to Council resources including the recent challenges presented by the pandemic and the cost-of living crisis, the Council continues to deliver the quality services our residents rely on and make significant improvements to the borough.

As a result, Enfield Council has won several national awards this year which recognise some of our outstanding services, regeneration projects and housing initiatives:

1) At the LGC Awards, the Community Pantry, part of the Community Hubs Team based at Edmonton Green library won the Public Health Award.

- The award is an excellent example of the positive impact collaborative team working can have on our residents.
- Together community volunteers, local businesses, our Public Health team and our Community Hub team are increasing access to healthier food and support services through our Community Food Pantry.

2) At the MJ Awards the Council won in two categories:

- i) **Retrofit London, Responding to the Climate Emergency'** category. A partnership project between Enfield Council, Waltham Forest Council and London Councils.
- ii) **Nexus won an award in the 'Delivering Better Outcomes'** category, focused on innovative projects that have made a real difference to the lives of residents.

This award recognises NEXUS' impact in reducing permanent exclusions, keeping young people safe and in school through collaboration, connection, and partnerships.

3) The Watercourses Team won the Environment Agency's - Flood and Coast Excellence Awards in the Surface Water Management category

- The Watercourses team has delivered some first-class sustainable drainage projects at Moore Brook Green Link (Haselbury) and the Four Hills Estate (Whitewebbs).

4) The Meridian Water regeneration team won the Regional Award in the Refurbishment/ Revitalisation Project category at the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors Awards 2022

- The award is for the new Bloqs open-access factory at Meridian Water, providing affordable workspace for local businesses.

5) The Meridian Water regeneration team won the Planning Award 2022 in the Promoting Economic Growth category

- This award was given for the fantastic work that our teams working on our regeneration project, Meridian Water, have delivered. These projects have supported, encouraged and driven economic growth in Edmonton.

6) Bury Street West won the "Best Development rural/suburban" category and the Housing Development and Regeneration Won the "Best Development Team Urban" category at the Inside Housing national awards

- Bury Street West won the "Best Development rural/suburban" category for 50 houses of which 25 are affordable homes. The site is a former depot which was appropriated from the General Fund to the Housing development team for delivery of a brand new residential scheme. There were 10 nominated projects, in this category, including two located in Wales.
- **Housing Development and Regeneration** won the "Best Development Team Urban" category for successful delivery during challenging pandemic including a successful residents' ballot at Joyce and Snell's, delivering starts and completions across estate Infill sites and navigating remote working to achieve a collaborative approach to preparing and submitting over 2000 homes for planning approval.

7) Enfield Catering Services has won Contract Caterer of the Year at the prestigious Public Sector Catering Awards 2022

- All our meals are prepared using fresh ingredients and unlike many other school meal providers, we have abolished the use of frozen food when cooking for the children.
- Enfield Catering Services has switched suppliers to better reflect its commitment to tackling the climate emergency and to support London businesses.
- As a result of buying locally, we have significantly reduced the number of food miles we clock up. In addition, the new suppliers will deliver social value to the borough, providing employment and work placement opportunities.

For Enfield Council to be recognised in this way, is an amazing achievement for everyone who has worked or contributed to all these initiatives. Every single person at the Council strives to make a real difference to the residents of Enfield and I would like to extend my thanks to the teams and individuals involved for all their hard work.

Question 3 from Councillor Nawshad Ali to Councillor Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

How can local SME builders and residents access opportunities in the Borough to take forward small housing and business developments?

Answer:

As part of the Council's commitment to create an economy that works for everyone through our housing development programme, 2 small build projects are being brought forward for delivery with SME consultants and contractors. In addition, 3 small build sites are being disposed to SME builders via the GLA small sites portal - [Small sites | London City Hall](#).

We also dispose of small parcels of housing land as they are no longer required and opportunities can be accessed through auction at <https://auctions.savills.co.uk/>

Question 4 from Councillor Hannah Dyson to Councillor Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

Would the Leader of the Council, agree to the filming of all Council meetings to promote democracy and engagement in local politics? Many Enfield residents cannot attend meetings due to work or caring commitments and if live streamed, the meetings would reach all residents who would like to follow local democracy and stop residents feeling alienated in the democratic process. It could also be educational for young people to engage early on, learn about how decisions are made and harness an interest in local government.

Answer:

The Council is committed to promoting democracy and appreciates that residents can't always attend meetings at the Civic Centre. We regularly broadcast meetings with high public interest, however, this has come at a cost of £87,381 from the start of 2020 to date. Plans to modernise the Council's meeting rooms are being developed, to enable broadcasting of meetings so that residents can follow local democracy and ensure that it's accessible to everyone.

Question 5 from Councillor Alessandro Georgiou to Councillor Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

How many households are currently dependent on Energetik for their energy supply and what is the current energy unit price, i.e., price per kWh/standing charge, that Energetik is charging its customers, and how does this compare to the current market price?

Answer:

As of 04/10/22 Energetik has 884 households connected to its service.

For consumption Energetik charge residential customers 4.86p/kWh which is fixed until 1st April 2023. This compares to a current gas price to residential customers of 10.3p/kWh (capped by government from 1st October).

Energetik's equivalent standing charge is 48.48p per day (note that Energetik's standing charge includes a rapid call out facility to customers to repair their HIU (the boiler equivalent to a gas supply, 4 hour response in winter and 8 hour response in summer)

A typical gas standing charge is 28p per day which unlike Energetik does not include any call out facility for a problem with the customer's gas boiler. Separate policies can be purchased by gas customers starting at around 83p extra per day.

A typical annual bill for an Energetik customer in a new well insulated 2 bedroom home is: £351.91

A typical annual bill for a natural gas customer at present in a new well insulated 2 bedroom home is: £538.44

A typical annual bill for an Energetik customer in an older 2 bedroom home (1980s) is: £468.55

A typical annual bill for a natural gas customer at present in an older 2 bedroom home is: £720.20

All figures are excl. VAT

Question 6 from Councillor Alessandro Georgiou to Councillor Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

What was the price per kWh charged by Energetik in September 2021 and in April 2022 and what is the estimated charge likely to be for April 2023, based on comparison with the current market price projections?

Answer:

The price charged in the period April 2021 – March 2022 was 4.177p/kWh excl. VAT. The price charged in the period April 2022 – March 2023 is 4.86p/kWh excl. VAT

The estimate for the period April 2023 – March 2024 cannot be reliably provided until a release of inflationary data in December 2022. We will be happy to provide an estimate in early January 2023.

Question 7 from Councillor Alessandro Georgiou to Councillor Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

Can the Council guarantee that Energetik customers will continue to pay less than the market rate for their energy supply?

Answer:

While Energetik does not experience the same specific price-related risks that the 'white label' energy market does, it is not immune to the conditions of the market. The company updates prices in April each year. In April 2022, the rise for an average customer until 31st March 2023 was just under £45 total for the year, and just under £35 total for the year on the company's social housing tariffs (this does of course depend on usage, the figures quoted are an average). It is reasonable to say that this delivered excellent value relative to the rest of the energy market's price rises.

From April 2023 the exact picture will not be known until December, when the cost of the company's own energy supplies are clearer for the period April 2023 – March 2024, however, Energetik is confident that its rate will again be lower than the present government capped rate of 10.3p/kWh for natural gas.

Question 8 from Councillor Gunes Akbulut to Councillor Ergin Erbil, Deputy Leader of the Council

Addressing climate change is something that we must work on with the whole community. How have we been engaging with the community on their role in addressing climate change?

Answer:

The Council acknowledge and very much agree that addressing climate change can only be done successfully by working with the whole community. Recent and ongoing programmes of engagement include:

- Active Social media campaigns around recycling, tree planting, electric vehicles, warmer homes and reusing construction materials
- Establishing and facilitating forums such as the Schools Climate Action Network, which enables peer learning and experience sharing
- Project specific engagement sessions on specific issues such Rewilding, Healthy Streets and Local Area Energy Plan, where the community, stakeholders and wider representatives are invited for input on the development of projects and proposals

The role of others, both the community and beyond, is a key consideration as part of the review of Climate Action Plan which is currently in progress. As part of this review process the Council intend to engage with the community on the Climate Action Plan and progress, and work with community on how they would like to see the plan develop and their role in helping to deliver it.

Question 9 from Councillor Hannah Dyson to Councillor Ergin Erbil, Deputy Leader of the Council

What is the average time to acknowledge, investigate and reply to residents raising formal complaints and what is planned to improve this service including improved collaboration between complaints and other services so that investigations run smoothly?

Answer:

Average Complaint Response Times

The average response time between 1 July and 30 September was 12 working days. Improvements implemented throughout this period decreased the average response time in September to 10 working days.

Improvement Plans

In May 2022, the complaints service was restructured, creating dedicated complaint management team in Place Department reflecting largest volume of customer contact and therefore complaints. A separate complaints management team services the remaining departments and maintains performance and learning oversight as well as quarterly reporting. This structure and dedicated resource for the high-volume areas is designed not only to increase performance, collaboration and accountability but also ensure targeted improvement and complaints learning at service levels.

The Council also replaced its complaints case management IT system to reduce manual processes leading to response KPI performance improvements, generate greater data insight and analysis capturing complaint learning to inform service enhancements, and realise financial savings.

As part of these changes a number of staff guidance documents and information are being prepared to enhance existing policies and support responding officers and departmental complaints teams. Response templates have been revised to improve response quality. Quality and complaint trend analysis will be undertaken during Q3 to support corporate and departmental learning and improvement.

Prevention work is also underway for specific high-volume services to improve resident communication, availability & accessibility of information and resolve issues at first point of contact. An audit for Complaints is scheduled for early 2023 to assess handling of complaints once the new structure, processes and technology are embedded.

Question 10 from Councillor Nicki Adeleke to Councillor Tim Leaver, Cabinet Member for Finance & Procurement

What percentage of Enfield homes have an income of less than £45,000 and on some calculations struggle with increases in energy costs?

Answer:

In total 7,562 of the 9902 (76.5%) of council tenants would have an income of less than £45,000 and would likely struggle with increases in energy costs.

The council is committed to supporting all of its residents through the cost of living crisis in as many ways as it can. A dedicated online resource has been developed that pulls together the many practical ways that the council and its partners can help Enfield residents in this difficult time, including access to funding. Each of our residents will face their own individual challenges and we believe that offering a comprehensive guide to the assistance that is available will allow the people in our borough to get the best help available. Our frontline staff are also being trained to guide and support all Enfield residents through the crisis.

In addition to improving the access to this important information about existing and emerging support the council will also be:

- Identifying public building space in the borough that could provide places of warmth for those struggling to heat their homes
- Creating a programme to make additional food available to pupils from low-income households to help them through the winter
- Issuing a call to action to our community organisations to work with us to get hot food to our residents aged over 70 who may struggle in the coming months
- Making our residents fully aware of our Hardship Fund services and how to contact us

The council and its partners will continue to monitor the crisis and will respond responsibly and practically as the situation develops to support the people of Enfield.

We continue to look at improving the sustainability of our Council housing stock as part of a strategic approach to asset management. We have set aside HRA investment in existing stock to address the burdens created by the cost of living crisis, where possible.

- Council Housing capital works includes a replacement roofs initiative where we install loft insulation on top of existing. This is part of a 3 year programme which has delivered roof replacements to circa 650 homes to date. These properties are selected based on their decency status – i.e. they require a new roof due to its age and condition.
- We are part of the retrofit accelerator for homes innovation partnership which is a ground-breaking approach to procuring and developing deep retrofit solutions that aims to unlock up to £10bn of market potential and kickstart large-scale, whole-house retrofit for homes across the country. The innovation partnership brings together housing providers and suppliers to help transform the scale of retrofitting the UK's aging, inefficient housing.
- Within the Borough we continue to include energy efficiency works within our Capital Delivery Programme in tandem with applying for Government Funding

opportunities targeting properties with EPC D ratings and integrating these within our overall works programme.

- There are a number of projects which the Council has pushed forward including a pilot to improve social housing properties that would benefit from energy efficient retrofit measures such as external wall insulation to existing solid walls to PAS:2035 standard. All 51 homes were upgraded to EPC C (from EPC D). The initiative is subject to further and ongoing funding. The majority of new homes are connected to the heat network which will help to reduce costs for those in social housing.

Question 11 from Councillor Chris Dey to Councillor Gina Needs, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion

I welcome the work of the Conservative Government in providing the funding for the Police to increase the number of Officers by 20,000. I understand the recruitment campaign is going well and we are on track nationally to hit this ambitious target. Can the Cabinet Member find out how many of the additional officers will be allocated to our Borough and how many of those have already started?

Answer:

Enfield Council welcomes funding for additional police officers. We understand that in the fullness of time 6,000 will be allocated for London.

Additional officers are much needed because Conservative governments have cut police budgets. Indeed, in recent years Enfield Council have funded extra police officers directly because years of Conservative cuts to local police budgets put everyone's safety at risk.

Enfield Council have requested the numbers of new recruits that will be allocated to the BCU since the Growth Programme began around January 2020 and will share the information when it is received.

Question 12 from Councillor Chris Dey to Councillor Gina Needs, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion

I am pleased to note that The Metropolitan Police reduced offences of Knife Crime with Injury from 4,136 for the 12 months to June 2019 to 3,357 for the 12 months to June 2022. I am deeply concerned that against the trend that Enfield has seen an increase of 20% with 71 incidents from January 2022 until June 2022. Does the Cabinet Member share my concerns and what initiatives are they working on with our Partners in the Police to get knife crime under control in Enfield?

Answer:

The Council as key members of the Community Safety Partnership are committed to reducing violent crime. This is reflected in the Safer and Stronger Communities Board priorities and in the examples of work listed below.

Overview of the work on prevention and reduction of SYV which includes but is not

limited to anti -knife crime activity

- Attracting additional funding from the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) to recruit additional detached and outreach youth workers to young positively engage young people on streets and local communities and in Serious Youth Violence in hot spots
- Successfully bid for funding to tackle robbery- which will enable youth workers to deploy on identified bus routes for a year to deter robbery.

- Ring fencing capital funding for procuring mobile youth vehicle to deploy to the hot spot areas
- A Partnership Problem Solving Group chaired jointly by Council Community Safety Officers and the Police – which meets monthly, tasking resources to all crime and ASB- including those aimed at tackling serious youth violence.
 - Approximately 1/3 of taskings include SYV relevance
 - East of the A10 (plus transport hubs)
 - Open spaces
 - Reflects the North Area Violence Reduction Group analysis/ problems/ plan
 - CCTV
 - Schools, community and communications/Online Watch Link

- Additional 150k committed to support public spaces cameras
- Support for Operation Sharda- (VRU funded feelings of safety project with young people) Listening and acting to provide extra deterrent
- Supported Young People's Substance Misuse Services
- Referred young people at risk from County Lines to the Rescue and Response project provided across London.
- "Because of you" communications campaign working with and supporting the Youth Parliament
- Commissioned a film for young people using VRU funding, which will be widely available for schools and other settings.
- Used partnership funding to develop a Youth Integrated Offender Management Programme for young people in the Youth Justice Team requiring additional support to deter reoffending.
- Commissioned Mentors for young people working with St Giles Trust
- Commissioned schools' projects to drive positive aspirations, improve engagement and reduce the likelihood of exclusion or offending.
- Commissioned the London Fire Brigade to deliver a Fires Cadets scheme extended to those at risk of offending or reoffending. Pupils attending sessions will improve attendance and engagement levels. Cadets, aged 14-17 years old work alongside operational firefighters and volunteers from the community to achieve a BTEC Level 2 Award in Fire and Rescue Services in the Community. Cadets develop transferable life skills including leadership, communication skills, teamwork, as well as learning first aid and practical firefighting techniques.

- Contributed to the development of the Domestic Abuse Hub with wrap around family support- DA is a strong contributory risk factor for young people who are at risk from Serious Youth Violence
- Knife safes have been installed in separate locations and 13 knives were collected in Q2
- Partnership walkabouts and weapons sweeps have been conducted.

Question 13 from Councillor Margaret Greer to Councillor Abdul Abdullahi, Cabinet Member for Children's Services

There has been a huge increase in the number of children with special needs Education Health & Care Plans (EHCPs) since the introduction of the 2014 special needs reforms – this has been in the region of a 10% increase every year. What has the Council done to ensure there are enough school places to meet the needs of these children with their range of needs?

Answer:

Thank you very much for your question on this very important matter. The council has taken on the challenge of providing more places to meet a wide range of special educational needs of children and young people. The most recent example is the opening of Salmons Brook Secondary School for up to 70 secondary aged children with social, emotional and mental health needs. In addition, a new site was developed for Durants Schools with further work last year for a further 40 pupils at this school. In addition, there have been expansions of Russet House School for autistic pupils, Waverley School for physically, mentally and learning disability children and young people. Oaktree has also expanded from 90 pupils to currently 136 with 2 additional classrooms built. West Lea School has also expanded and now is on 9 sites across the borough including a new facility at Broomfield School. The borough has also expanded the number of ARPS (additional resource provisions based in mainstream primary and secondary schools) from 12 to 19 over the past two years (each providing for between 8 to 16 pupils) – and has also introduced a new concept of units – that is in effect special schools in mainstream schools – these are based at De Bohun, Brimsdown and Lavender primary schools which will cater for over 50 pupils.

Furthermore, to meet the increased need, the borough has expanded its autism support provision and its speech and language provision to support parents and to support schools better meet the need of children with special needs. In addition, 20 nurture classes have been funded in primary schools to meet the needs of young children who find it difficult to manage in a mainstream classroom.

As you can see, the borough has provided 100s more places to meet the growing demand and continues to explore further possibilities including new provisions. I am more than happy to provide further information at a later or more detailed information if needed.

Question 14 from Councillor Andrew Thorp to Councillor Chinelo Anyanwu, Cabinet Member for Public Spaces, Culture and Local Economy

Could the Cabinet Member explain why children across Enfield have been left upset and disappointed that splash pads and fountains were closed during the hottest summer on record. The facilities are hugely popular with families and should be fully serviced and in operation from May half term each year. Can the Cabinet Member also commit to not allowing such a situation to occur next year?

Answer:

Repeated attempts at repairs of the Splash Pads by Enfield Council employees and specialised contractors have identified multiple system faults consistent with their age and exacerbated by the long period of isolation due to Covid. The Splash Pads now require substantial investment to replace or refurbish the major components and bring them back into safe and reliable operation. Those works are currently being procured and are expected to be completed ahead of the 2023 summer season.

Question 15 from Councillor Elif Erbil to Councillor Abdul Abdullahi, Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Ofsted recently inspected the Leaving Care Service in Children & Family Services. Can you tell us the outcome of that inspection?

Answer:

Ofsted undertook a focused visit looking the arrangements for care leavers on 5th and 6th July 2022.

In summary, they found that a sustained focus on the part of senior managers, elected members and partners had resulted in tangible and sustained improvements for care leavers. The findings were that care leavers are well supported by committed and caring personal advisors and social workers, who are ambitious for them and take a keen interest in their well-being.

Ofsted acknowledged that individual support and various corporate initiatives have contributed to an overwhelming majority of care leavers in Enfield receiving levels of support that are consistent with their needs. Ofsted highlighted many strengths which include pathway plans for care leavers being needs-led, aspirational and up to date; that care leavers live in a range of stable and safe accommodation and well matched to their needs; risks to care leavers are clearly identified and well understood; care leavers in custody are supported effectively; there is a strong focus on helping care leavers to access and enjoy employment, education and training opportunities; the physical and emotional needs of care leavers are well met by creative and innovative multi-agency team of professionals; the care leavers hub provides an extensive range of drop-in services and workshops that support care leavers to develop independence skills.

Enfield Council shows ambition and determination to secure the best outcomes for care leavers with senior managers having a good understanding of the service strengths and areas of further development. An area of further development related

to reviewing and updating pathway plans when care leavers' needs change, or risks escalate, to accurately reflect current circumstances.

Question 16 from Councillor James Hockney to Councillor Rick Jewell, Cabinet Member for Environment

In 2021/22 42 trees were felled in Bush Hill Park Ward, with only 16 planted – a net loss of 26 trees. This is in addition to any trees being felled to date in 2022/23. Will the Portfolio Holder commit to reversing this net loss of trees to a net gain?

Answer:

The tree planting season is from mid-November to early March so it is not always possible to immediately replace felled trees. It is our intention to redress the lost tree stock within the Bush Hill Park ward in the coming months, to ensure that the net loss of trees is addressed.

Question 17 from Councillor Maria Alexandrou to Councillor Rick Jewell, Cabinet Member for Environment

Will the Council look at more pedestrian crossings in Enfield to promote walking?

Answer:

Yes, the Council is committed to continuing to make pedestrian improvements. Recent examples of this include the current Ponders End Healthy Streets project, which includes new zebra crossings and also the Healthy Streets Active Travel project at North Middlesex Hospital, which refreshes an existing zebra crossing and installs an additional zebra crossing point. The Council is committed to increasing the levels of active travel as set out in both local and national government policy.

Question 18 from Councillor Thomas Fawns to Councillor Susan Erbil, Cabinet Member for Licensing, Planning and Regulatory Services

Can you update us on the progress made with migrating our local land charge register to HM Land Registry and what benefits do these new arrangements have for our residents?

Answer:

The Local Land Charges Register went live with HM Land Registry on 15 August 2022. Residents can now access statutory land and property data throughout the borough directly and without charge. Not only does this give them the opportunity to make early decisions, but also has the benefit of open access for mortgage lenders, leading to reduced time and costs in property conveyancing.

The Local Land Charges team continue to maintain the information held on the register ensuring its integrity as a single source of data and respond directly to residents' queries arising from Register results.

The team continue to respond to detailed land and property enquiries submitted by conveyancers using the paid for CON29 application process. This is a local service bringing together a wide range of data from across the Council, of interest to prospective purchasers.

Question 19 from Councillor Maria Alexandrou to Councillor Rick Jewell, Cabinet Member for Environment

How is the Council dealing with the illegal parking in front of planters positioned at the Low Traffic Neighbourhood roads stopping emergency access to those roads?

Answer:

Parking Services received complaints that vehicles were parked on restrictions near planters on roads adjacent to Low Traffic Neighbourhood roads during the summer.

Since then, enforcement officers regularly visit the area and issue Penalty Charge Notices if vehicles are found parked illegally. If residents report such incidents, we also send officers to the locations to enforce.

Question 20 from Councillor Josh Abey to Councillor Susan Erbil, Cabinet Member for Licensing, Planning and Regulatory Services

What is the benefit of the Council providing cemeteries services to our residents?

Answer:

The population of Enfield continues to grow, and we provide this essential service to our diverse community at time of need. Local availability and choice of interment options provides comfort to residents who can be assured that a final resting place can be found locally and together. This also allows for end of life planning. The Council works to ensure a positive customer experience and ensure capacity to manage increased burial rates arising from Covid.

Question 21 from Councillor Edward Smith to Councillor Rick Jewell, Cabinet Member for Environment

Following the completion of Phase 1 of the scheme to import large quantities of building soil and aggregate to Holly Hill Farm and the plans to extend the scheme, would Councillor Jewell confirm where the majority of this material is likely to stem from and what travel plans are in place?

Answer:

Details of the proposals for Holly Hill Farm were considered and approved by the Planning Committee in February 2022 under reference 21/02088/FUL. Details of the access arrangements are set out in the Construction Environmental Management Plan and the Transport Assessment, which can both be viewed on the Council's website. <https://www.enfield.gov.uk/services/planning/the-planning-register>

Question 22 from Councillor Mohamed Islam to Councillor Alev Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care

Can the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care explain why has Polio vaccination become of particular concern and what actions are being taken to boost immunisation rates?

Answer:

The UK Health Security Agency [UKHSA] undertakes a programme of routine monitoring of wastewater for viral and other pathogens in London. This detected Polio virus in June of this year at the Becton Sewage Treatment site. Such detection is not uncommon as people who are vaccinated with the Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) will 'shed virus'. This is not problematic in a population with high vaccine rates. Since 2004 the only vaccine provided in the UK has been the Inactivated Polio Vaccine (IPV).

Coverage of the primary course of polio vaccination in England is now below the 95% WHO target for some groups. Consistently lower coverage has been observed in London. If a population is fully immunised against polio, it will be protected against the spread of *both wild and vaccine strains of poliovirus*

Vaccine coverage for the primary vaccination course at 12 months is below 85% in 8 out of 33 London Local Authorities, with a range from 92.7% in Bromley to 66.0% in Hackney. For Enfield 82.8%

Current routine immunisation against Polio in the UK includes IPV vaccination at eight, twelve and sixteen weeks of age as part of the 6 in 1 vaccine. An additional dose is given at 3 years as part of the 4 in 1 vaccine and another at 14 years as part of the 3 in 1 teenage booster. All five doses are required to be considered fully vaccinated.

VDPV2 particularly has the potential to spread in communities where vaccine uptake is lower and on rare occasions can cause serious illness, such as paralysis, in people who are not fully vaccinated.

At the time of writing no associated cases of paralysis or notified cases of polio have been reported in London or the UK as a whole. Unfortunately there has been at least one case each of "Paralytic" Polio noted in both New York and Israel. These are both thought to be caused by Vaccine Derived Polio Virus spreading in poorly vaccinated communities.

Central Government accordingly announced that *all children* in London aged one to nine would be offered an additional dose of Polio vaccine as an urgent incident response measure.

Local NHS teams in affected areas have been undertaking call and re-call processes to contact parents who are eligible for the vaccine and not up to date or for those children aged 1-9 for their booster to encourage them to come forwards. Vaccinations have been offered primarily through General Practice, with additional support from other providers as agreed for each borough. LBE is working with the

NHS to support the roll-out of this programme including through the Community Vaccine Champions.

Initial reports and information indicate that parents who are “behind” with boosters are coming forward to ensure their children are up to date and/or protected. However, parents from groups who are [for a variety of reasons] hesitant and/or actively resistant to vaccination are not coming forward.

Question 23 from Councillor Edward Smith to Councillor Chinelo Anyanwu, Cabinet Member for Public Spaces, Culture and Local Economy

Would Councillor Anyanwu provide the estimated cost of the current scheme to carry out environmental improvements to Enfield Town and confirm the amount and the source of the funding identified to date?

Answer:

During August and September (and until 9th October) the Council have hosted the latest phase of community engagement on the Enfield Town project. As explained in a community webinar as part of this engagement, the whole of the town centre has been considered in the development of the designs. However, it may be the case that designs have to be delivered incrementally over a number of years, as funding is secured. The current cost estimate is in the region of £15m. The Council currently has in the region of £4.5m secured. TfL have recently announced that Enfield Town will be one of only 5 schemes across London that will continue to receive Liveable Neighbourhood funding to enable progression of this project to the next gateway. The level of further funding in future years is still to be confirmed, but it is positive news that the Enfield Town project has been identified as a scheme that should continue to be progressed.

Question 24 from Councillor Nicki Adeleke to Councillor Alev Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care

Can the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care advise how has the Monkeypox outbreak progressed in London and how has vaccination to risk groups been provided?

Answer:

The Monkeypox [MPX] outbreak in the UK followed an initial detection on the 6th of May 2022. There are now [4th October 2022] 3330 laboratory confirmed cases in England and 2397 of these are in London.

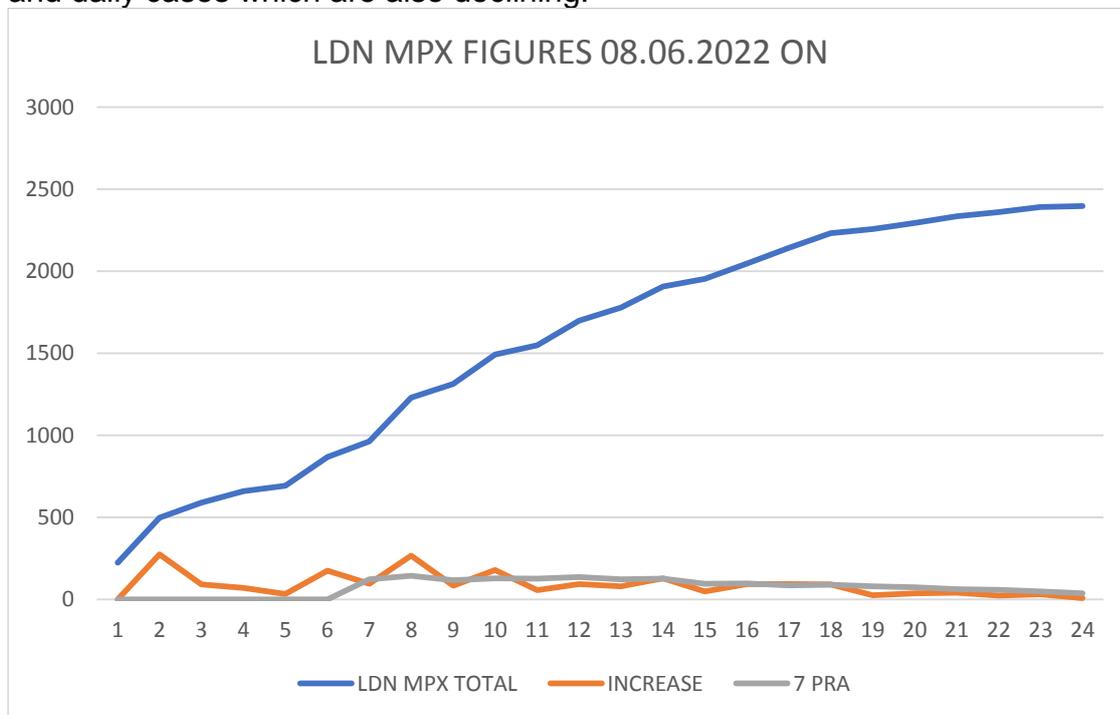
MPX virus is very similar to both the Smallpox and Cowpox viruses and the Smallpox vaccination is also licenced to be used to protect against MPX. There is also a vaccination specifically to counter MPX.

Unlike Smallpox an MPX infection is usually a self-limiting illness with mild symptoms and most people recover within several weeks. However, severe illness can occur in some individuals.

The initial strategy following the confirmation of an outbreak was to undertake robust contact-tracing of people identified as having MPX and offer vaccination to those deemed at “high-risk” of becoming infected. Lower-risk contacts were advised and requested to self-isolate for 21 days. This approach encountered a number of challenges and so a reviewed strategy was developed involved offering vaccination [using the Smallpox vaccine] to anyone who felt that they were at risk.

Uptake was very high and the number of vaccines administered was greatly beyond the original estimates of those deemed “high-risk”. Vaccines were given at primary care, acute and sexual health settings and out-of-hours and weekend clinics were established. This imposed a significant impact upon staffing resources in London and at one point 2500 FTE staff were involved.

In London it now seems that the outbreak is well under control with the latest update published on 03.10.22 showing that both nationally and in London the number of new cases are reducing. In the graph below the blue line is the number of cases in total, which is clearly flattening. The grey and orange lines are the running averages and daily cases which are also declining.



The number of cases in Enfield appears to have stabilised at approximately 30 a month. 95.5% of people with laboratory-confirmed infection, who have responded to enhanced surveillance questionnaires are men who are gay, bisexual or men who have sex with men. [UKHSA].

Question 25 from Councillor Edward Smith to Councillor Chinelo Anyanwu, Cabinet Member for Public Spaces, Culture and Local Economy

Would Councillor Anyanwu detail which film/TV companies have invested in new production facilities in the Borough to date, where these facilities are located and what further such investment is in the pipeline?

Answer:

There are 5 film/tv companies that have invested in the borough as set out below.

| Company | Address |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Netflix/ SEGRO | East Duck Lees Ln, Enfield EN3 7SS |
| OMA | 1 Mollison Avenue Enfield EN3 7XQ |
| OMAX | 6 Solar Way Enfield EN3 7XY |
| Studio Hire London (SHL) | 33 Riverwalk Road EN3 7QN |
| Troubadour Meridian Water Studio | 8 Hawley Rd, London N18 3QU |

**Question 26 from Councillor Guney Dogan to Councillor Alev Cazimoglu,
Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care**

Can the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care explain the changes in government guidance on testing within Care Homes and what approach Enfield is taking with care home providers in the Borough?

Answer:

Colleagues will be well aware of the impact covid has had on our care homes, the staff working in them and the vulnerable residents who call them home. Briefly, the government has removed the requirement for regular asymptomatic mass testing within care home settings. This means that only in cases where the care home has reason to believe that either a resident or a member of staff may be covid positive, will they test so there will be no more mass testing twice a week as per the previous guidance.

This does not mean that testing will cease altogether, though. In the case of an outbreak (two or more cases within a home) all residents and staff may be tested as advised by the local resilience group responsible for advising local authorities and care homes. Care homes will still be able to access free supplies of LFD testing kits via the government portal but not at the same level as before to support this.

Importantly, people being discharged from hospitals into care homes will still continue to receive a PCR test which must be negative before they are moved into the care home. I can tell you that we have, through our Director of Public Health, written to all care homes both to confirm this message and guidance and to make clear, as the guidance does, that really stringent infection control measures must continue as a matter of course. This will include full and appropriate use of PPE with risk assessments done to understand any impact on our staff and vulnerable residents, temperature checks for people entering the home, including visitors, for example.

But it's not just about care homes, though. With our day centres we believe there is a higher risk of more vulnerable people who are out and about in the community catching the virus and possibly taking it into our day centres. We believe, therefore, that it would be prudent for us to advise continued regular LFD testing of staff and people attending the centres, although this will be reduced from twice weekly to once a week testing. We have sufficient stocks of LFD tests to continue to do this as we head into Autumn and Winter and continuously review our stock levels to make sure we have enough test kits available.

I would also point out the impact that the mass vaccination programme has had on reducing the risk of serious illness or death to our most vulnerable people and the staff working with them. The number of cases across our care homes and day services has reduced significantly, but more importantly, we have not had any cases which have caused either serious illness or death for over six months now. That is because over 85% of our residents have been fully vaccinated so it's a timely reminder to us all that, with the Autumn booster programme beginning with our care homes and vulnerable housebound this week, staff within our health services will again be extremely busy making sure that those most vulnerable people living in our community get the jabs they need to stay safe.

Question 27 from Councillor Edward Smith to Councillor Chinelo Anyanwu, Cabinet Member for Public Spaces, Culture and Local Economy

Following the substantial decline in library visits, new customers and issues and renewals since the pandemic, would Councillor Anyanwu set out how she intends to reverse this worrying trend?

Answer:

All of our libraries experienced a dramatic reduction in footfall during Covid 19. As we emerge from the pandemic we are seeing a steady growth in visits to our libraries as our residents lives return to normal. Our four flagship libraries experienced over 250,000 visits between April and June this year, a figure 28% up on the previous quarter and we are seeing this trend continue across the library network.

Whilst the visits to libraries are increasing, we are seeing a change in the way people use the service with the number of books being issued remaining fairly static over the last nine months despite the increase in visits. In contrast the number of e-books, e-magazines and audio books issued is steadily increasing.

The library service continues to develop its offer to the residents of Enfield. Some examples of how the service is adapting to the changes in the way people use libraries include:

Fore Street Library has been developed in partnership with the local community and has opened as a multi-use space, residents are calling it a "home from home". The library has also won awards for its design and been commended from GLA.

Working with specialists, a sensory space has been installed in Enfield Town Library to support those who would benefit from having such a facility available in their

community. The space is also multi-use and we have been receiving positive feedback from customers. We plan an official launch in November.

“Makerspaces” are planned for Ordnance Unity library that will be able to provide crafting, coding and life, learning and leisure provision across the borough.

With visits to libraries increasing, the service is committed to continuing to listen to its users and will continue to develop its offer according to the needs and preferences of the local community.

Question 28 from Councillor Kate Anolue to Councillor Alev Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care

Can the Cabinet member for Health and Social Care explain what the impact of inflation and the cost-of-living crisis is having on our social care providers and on the Council?

Answer:

With inflation currently at 9.9% and potentially increasing over the coming months, it's a timely question.

Energy and fuel costs have increased most. For our providers of social care services we have established that they, for the most part were able to achieve fixed deals while prices were still below where they are now. However, those fixed deals will come to an end and we are anticipating that, even with the recently announced government measures to support businesses there will be an impact on the costs our providers incur. I can tell you that we do regularly communicate with our providers on a whole range of issues, including quality and financial sustainability. In terms of the cost of living our providers can approach us with any issues they have and we have an open book process that we go through with them. We believe that working transparently in this way is in the interests of everyone involved and this does encourage and support open conversations at the earliest stage in order to avoid crisis and provider failures.

This process has worked very well, including over the period of the pandemic and we have not lost any providers due to financial viability issues. However, that does not mean that we are being complacent and we do anticipate that the current cost of living crisis will place increased pressure on our adult social care budgets and on the Council's financial position generally as we make provision for larger fee increases as a result. The detail behind this as well as other demographic pressures is being worked through to deliver a projected position both in this financial year and next.

We do work with thousands of vulnerable people within Health and Adult Social Care and safeguarding them is our top priority. Vulnerable residents are very often disproportionately impacted by economic downturns and we will of course continue to do everything we possibly can to ensure they get the help and support they need to manage.

Question 29 from Councillor Esin Gunes to Councillor Rick Jewell, Cabinet Member for Environment

With the recent TfL settlement what does this mean for Enfield including the future funding of schemes?

Answer:

In August, TfL reached a funding settlement with Government until 31 March 2024. This has enabled TfL to reinstate Local Implementation Plan funding, which helps boroughs deliver the Mayor's Transport Strategy.

The allocation for Enfield for 2022/23 totals £3.314m, comprising:

| Programme | 2022/23 Allocation (£'000) |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Safer Corridors & Neighbourhoods | 1,128 |
| Cycleways Network Development | 1,600 |
| Bus Priority | 156 |
| Liveable Neighbourhoods | 300 |
| Cycle Training | 96 |
| Cycle Parking | 34 |

This information was provided to the Council at the end of September 22. Officers are currently drawing up proposals for individual schemes and projects, with a particular focus on safety, active travel and bus priority. In addition, Enfield was one of only five boroughs to receive Liveable Neighbourhoods funding and this will allow our proposals for Enfield Town to be progressed.

Whilst we have not been notified of all the details for 2023/24, we do know that £1.311m will be available for the Safer Corridors and Neighbourhoods programme.

Question 30 from Councillor Margaret Greer to Councillor Rick Jewell, Cabinet Member for Environment

It has been a year since we introduced the free bulky waste service. How successful has it been and is it well received by residents?

Answer:

The free bulky waste service has been extremely well received by residents and very popular. In the year since the free scheme was launched, we have had over 25,000 bookings (almost 100 collections per day). Bookings can be made by residents 24

hours a day, 7 days a week with the collections operating on a five-day cycle mirroring the refuse collection rounds.

There is a variation in service demand across the borough with the postcodes of eastern Enfield (EN3 & N9) and central postcodes (EN1) accounting for nearly half of all bookings – demonstrating that the new free service is accessible and utilised by all residents.

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