

**COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS
6 APRIL 2011**

Question 1 from Councillor Georgiou to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

"What was the cost to the Council for preparing answers to 59 questions (19 Labour) (40 Conservative) at the Council meeting of 2 March?"

Reply from Doug Taylor Leader of the Council

"The time taken and ultimately the cost of providing responses to Council questions has increased significantly in recent months. It is however difficult to provide precise figures detailing the cost for a specific question. The total time taken by officers at a range of levels across the Council from Director down to more junior grades is considerable and it is estimated that the time spent to provide answers to the 59 questions at the Council meeting on 2 March 2011 is approximately 58 hours. In monetary terms this equates to approximately £2,300 in total.

If this is replicated over the 7 Council meetings in a year then the cost to the Council Tax Payer will be around £16,000 per year.

Question 2 from Councillor Headley to Councillor Georgiou, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Public and Service Delivery

"We understand that having cut services by £2.1m to fund the Residents Priority Fund that there is to be a guide and toolkit for members in order to enable them to spend the money. When will this toolkit and guide be made available?"

Reply from Councillor Georgiou

"The presumption made by Councillor Headley is wrong. The Government has cut finance to this Council and other local authorities.

Enfield Council has taken a decision to allocate funding to wards and engage with local people to establish where and how the ward funds are allocated.

The guidance and toolkit is currently under development by Officers and that it will be made available during early April 2011. Some briefing sessions will also be made available following the release of the guidance and toolkit for interested members to gain a fuller understanding of the Fund, its aims and objectives."

Question 3 from Councillor Lemonides to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment, Street Scene and Parks

"What did Enfield Council do for the recent national Climate Week?"

Reply from Councillor Bond

“Climate Week is a new national occasion which ran from the 21st to 27th March this year. The campaign aimed to showcase and highlight all of the initiatives across all sectors in the UK that currently combat climate change, and is supported by the Prime Minister, Paul McCartney and the Met Office, to name only a few. Local authorities could become involved in three ways:

- a) by lending their support to the campaign in name;
- b) by promoting the campaign in newsletters and e-bulletins;
- c) and by running events during the week.

Climate Week is an independent campaign founded by social campaigner Kevin Steele and co-ordinated nationally by a small London-based team. There are mixed views from various authorities and networking groups across London regarding the benefits of the campaign versus the staff time and input, however, most took part in some form or another.

Enfield supported the campaign in several ways. At our recent Environment Open Day, as well as promoting our own actions, we used the opportunity to raise awareness of Climate Week. In addition, we provide posters in the Civic Centre and had a "Featured Item" on the home page of the Council's website promoting Climate Week and a link to the national campaign website.

On Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd March we held 2 staff Energy Awareness sessions carrying on from the awareness training we did as part of our Carbon Trust Standard accreditation. In addition to energy awareness we promoted the Council's Cycle to Work Scheme and Tax Free Bikes, and use of the hybrid pool car. We also ran the national "Climate Week one minute challenge" asking staff to develop green ideas for saving or making money. We developed an energy quiz to get staff thinking about energy usage and asked staff to sign up to a set of "green pledges". I am pleased to say that there was a much higher response to all three than originally expected. We secured a donation from a local cycle shop of a large contribution towards a push bike for the winning prize of the one minute challenge.

Schools were invited to take part in curriculum activities that will raise the profile of energy conservation, recycling and all aspects of sustainability. It is thought that this will be a more effective way of involving a greater number of staff than the annual Sustainable Schools Conference held in March.

School pupils took part in the full Climate Week Challenge (as opposed to the one minute challenge for staff) but the uptake on this is not yet known.”

Question 4 from Councillor Headley to Councillor Anwar, Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Capacity Building in the Third Sector

“Can he please tell the Council when the voluntary sector strategy will be available or will be in place?”

Reply from Councillor Anwar

“The new framework document for community capacity building in Enfield is currently under development by Officers in partnership with some of our key sector representatives. It is planned to go out to full consultation in summer 2011 with a view to being signed off by the Council and launched in December 2011.”

Question 5 from Councillor Sitkin to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment, Street Scene and Parks

"What is Enfield doing to retrofit energy saving measures in private housing stock - helping owners to reduce their energy?"

Reply from Councillor Bond

“The Barings energy and water saving scheme

The Private Sector Housing Team is working in partnership with Southern Electric, to offer a range of energy and water saving measures to Enfield residents. This scheme will help reduce energy and water bills, cut down on energy wastage and help reduce the impact of climate change within the private sector.

Southern Electric has commissioned specialist Energy Surveyors from Barings Insulation Limited to offer free advice and support on how to pay less for fuel bills. Letters are being hand delivered by surveyors contracted by Southern Electric in three wards offering appointments for occupiers at a time convenient for them. We are particularly targeting the scheme in the Jubilee, New Southgate and Bowes wards.

Cavity wall insulation and loft insulation (where none exists) are being offered free of charge for people who are over 70 or in receipt of a means-tested or disabled related benefit.

The energy and water saving measures available to homeowners or private tenants are:

- Loft insulation
- Cavity wall insulation
- Hot water tank jackets (free of charge whilst stock last)
- Energy monitors & saving-plugs (free of charge whilst stock last)
- Aerated shower heads, tap aerators and displacement devices (free of charge whilst stock last)

RENEW Scheme

RENEW is an energy retrofit programme targeting a specific area within the borough. Home inspections will be carried out by a qualified assessor who will install cost effective easy measures, such as low energy light bulbs, energy monitors. They will also give comprehensive advice on energy saving measures and refer people onto other energy saving agencies where appropriate.

Enfield made a joint bid with Barnet and Haringey for a grant under the scheme. We are working in partnership with the North London Sub Region and the London Development Agency (LDA) to ensure that the scheme is a success. The wards that we have decided to target are Haselbury, Lower Edmonton and Upper Edmonton. We aim to target 13,000 properties and gain access to 3000 of these in order to install the easy measures, give follow on comprehensive advice and refer to energy savings agencies for further work where appropriate.

Unfortunately, the RE:NEW scheme is currently on hold due to funding uncertainties at the London Development Agency. However, we are currently drawing up detailed specifications for contractors so that we can proceed as soon as the LDA gives approval.

Decent Home Scheme

Whilst this scheme is not primarily a retrofit program, Community Housing has worked together with the North London Sub Region (NLSR) to secure funding in order to provide grants to vulnerable home owners in order to carry out urgent remedial works. £288,000 was allocated Enfield Council last year. We decided to focus the funding on priority heating and insulation works. Primarily, the purpose of these works is to help ensure that vulnerable households can live in a decent home. However, they also help to improve energy efficiency and therefore reduce carbon emissions in the borough.

The Private Sector Housing Team was successful in reaching our target of approving grants for 82 vulnerable households. The outstanding remedial works are being monitored by one part time officer.

Following recent negotiations within the NLSR, we have successfully secured a further allocation of £750,000 to spend over the next two years. Where possible, we will continue to prioritise urgent heating and insulation works in order to maximise the associated reductions in carbon emissions.

Small Works Assistance Grants

The primary purpose of these works is to help ensure that vulnerable households can live in a property that is suitable for their needs and free from excess cold. Where appropriate, we can allocate grants in order to carry out heating/insulation works i.e. replace faulty/old boilers. To be eligible for this grant, home owners must be vulnerable (60+, children, disability) and the

grant is means tested. These works help to improve energy efficiency and therefore reduce carbon emissions in the borough.”

Question 6 from Councillor East to Councillor Charalambous, Cabinet Member for Young People and Culture, Leisure, Sports and the Olympics

“At the Council meeting before last, the Conservative opposition scrutinised in depth the apparent failure of each member of the Labour administration to monitor its capital program. The Conservative opposition believes that the delays in implementing the capital program will be impossible to reverse.

Will you please therefore confirm which elements of the capital program that are relevant to your area of responsibility (i) are on track, (ii) will be delayed or (iii) will be cancelled? What percentage of the annual capital budget relevant to your area has been spent?”

Reply from Councillor Charalambous

“The Quarter 3 Capital Monitor was presented to Cabinet on 9 March 2011, and sets out in detail the progress on the capital programme. The report explains that:

- The capital programme is on track to deliver against the latest plans.
- Projects have necessarily been delayed because it was prudent to review the capital programme the new Administration inherited to ensure it fitted with our policies, and was affordable given the current economic outlook.

It should also be remembered that the capital programme provides an upper limit to the amount of money that can be spent in any one year. It is not a target which necessarily needs to be met come what may. This Administration is committed to prudent financial management by applying resources where we can to deliver our policy commitments whilst ensuring excellent value for money.”

Question 7 from Councillor Sitkin to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment, Street Scene and Parks

"In 2008, an article came out in the Evening Standard ranking Enfield as fourth worst in London in terms of residents' per capita CO2 emissions. Would Councillor Bond tell us what measures the new Administration has taken to redress the situation?"

Reply from Councillor Bond

“Decent Home Scheme

Enfield has successfully worked together with the North London Sub Region (NLSR) to secure funding in order to provide grants to vulnerable home owners in order to carry out urgent remedial works. For the year 10/11 the NLSR allocated Enfield Council £288,000. This year, Enfield has decided to prioritise Cat 1 heating and insulation works and we have successfully reached our target of approving grants for 82 vulnerable households. This work will not only help to ensure that these vulnerable households can live in a property that is suitable for their needs, but will also help to improve energy efficiency and therefore reduce carbon emissions in the borough. There is some NLSR funding left over for Decent Homes work for next year. Although this money was initially allocated as a Targeted Funding Stream, the NLSR are currently in discussions on how we feel this money would be best spent.

Barings Insulation Scheme

This scheme is funded by money from Southern Electric through The Carbon Emissions Reduction Target (CERT) to help reduce carbon dioxide emissions from homes. £100,000 has been made available to us for cavity wall and loft insulation. The scheme is being run by Osbourne Energy using Barings as their contractor.

The scheme started in September 2010 and was due to finish at the end of December 2010. The scheme originally targeted the Palmers Green area, but due to a very poor response it was expanded to encompass Freezy Water, Enfield Lock and Enfield Highway. The pick up to the scheme has still been extremely low, with only 10 properties being treated to date. Further targeted work is underway.

Part of the problem is thought to be that under the remit of the scheme only properties with less than 60mm of insulation are eligible and there are very few properties with cavity walls. This may be viewed positively that other previous schemes have been successful in providing loft insulations (although top up insulation will be needed).

Meetings have been held with Barings and ourselves to discuss ways forward. It was felt that one of the barriers with the up take was that the letter posted to residents was too fussy, had too much information and was not clear that the scheme was endorsed by Enfield. It was agreed that the letter was to be re drafted and resent. The targeted area was reviewed, looking at information obtained from The 2002 House Condition Survey, the 2009 BRE stock survey and from The Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Development Study.

We are also looking into the possibility of using some of our own Housing Assistance funds to top up insulation in properties where the occupier is over 70 or in receipt of benefits and the insulation is above 60mm but below 200mm. This will increase insulation to these properties where the residents

are fuel poor. We met with procurement and legal in January 2011 and proposals will go to Cabinet in May. A letter was sent to households in February 2011 and a press release drafted.

RENEW Scheme

RENEW is an energy retrofit programme targeting specific area within the borough. Home inspections will be carried out by a qualified assessor who will install cost effective easy measures, such as low energy light bulbs, energy monitors. They will also give comprehensive advice on energy saving measures and refer people onto other energy saving agencies where appropriate.

Enfield made a joint bid with Barnet and Haringey for a grant under the scheme. This was put forward by the North London sub region to the London Development Agency (LDA), who are funding the scheme. The wards that we have decided to target are Haselbury, Lower Edmonton and Upper Edmonton. We chose these wards based on various data including deprivation and % of private households living in the private sector. We aim to target 13,000 properties and gain access to 3000 of these in order to install the easy measures, give follow on comprehensive advice and refer to energy savings agencies for further work where appropriate.

Unfortunately, the RENEW scheme has reached a hiatus because following the CSR, the LDA is to be disbanded and funding for next year has come into doubt. Originally, the LDA were only going to fulfil existing contracts for funding. Negotiations are still taking place with them about the RENEW project but we have been advised by the North London Sub Region to have a specification drawn up so that we can proceed as soon as the LDA gives approval. If money is made available it is likely that all the funding will be carried over for the next financial year.

Small Works Assistance Grants

I have included information on one of our core Housing Assistance grants (Small Homes Grants) because roughly half of these grants are paid in order to carry out heating/insulation grants i.e. replace faulty/old boilers. So far this year we have approved 36 Small Works grants. To be eligible for this grant, home owners must be vulnerable (60+, children, disability) and the grant is means tested. This work will not only help to ensure that these vulnerable households can live in a property that is suitable for their needs, but will also help to improve energy efficiency and therefore reduce carbon emissions in the borough.”

Question 8 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment Street scene and Parks

“Does he believe that the minuted assertion by Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance at the Bush Hill Park, Palmers Green and Winchmore Hill Area Forum on 1st December that “parking charges were being raised to gain

additional revenue” assists his argument for the substantial increases in car parking charges which he recently approved. How does he reconcile Councillor Stafford’s comments with government guidelines on the imposition of such charges?”

Reply from Councillor Bond

“The latest Government guidance (published by the Department for Transport in November 2010) states that authorities should consider the following factors when setting parking charges:

- parking charges can help to curb unnecessary car use where there is adequate public transport or walking or cycling are realistic alternatives, for example, in town centres;
- charges can reflect the value of kerb-space, encouraging all, but short-term parking, to take place in nearby off-street car parks where available.
- charges should be set at levels that encourage compliance with parking restrictions; and
- if on-street charges are set too low, they could attract higher levels of traffic than are desirable. They could discourage the use of off-street car parks and cause the demand for parking spaces to exceed supply, so that drivers have to spend longer finding a vacant space.

The Guidance makes it clear that Authorities should never use parking charges just to raise revenue or as a local tax and we have not done so. The recently agreed charges are in line with the Guidance and seek to strike a balance between the need to encourage more sustainable means of transport, the need to reduce traffic congestion and the need to maintain town centre vitality.

However, the Guidance also acknowledges that “where the demand for parking is high, the delivery of transport objectives with realistic demand management prices for parking may result in surplus income”. In such cases, the relevant legislation requires that local authorities must ensure that any on-street revenue not used for enforcement is used for defined, transport related expenditure only.”

Question 9 from Councillor Ekechi to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment, Street Scene and Parks

"Would Councillor Bond tell us what the new Administration is doing to improve Enfield's record in terms of green waste collection?"

Reply from Councillor Bond

“This Administration has a distinct manifesto pledge to increase recycling.

In terms of green garden waste we will roll out the wheeled bin service borough wide and give all residents the chance to recycle a wider range of green and bio degradable and compostable waste than ever before either via wheeled bin system.

With wheeled bins residents are now able to recycle all green garden waste as well as food waste for composting.

In addition the Council has been successful in a bid to the London Waste and Recycling Board (£270K) for a pilot project to offer a food waste recycling service to high rise flats. This will now provide a service to residents who would not have previously been able to have recycled any kitchen waste.”

Question 10 from Councillor Lamprecht to Councillor Charalambous, Cabinet Member for Young People and Culture, Leisure, Sports and the Olympics

“Could Councillor Charalambous confirm it is still the Council’s intention to demolish and rebuild the Bramley Road Sports Centre?”

Reply from Councillor Charalambous

“The leisure contract with Fusion was approved in March 2010 this included £8.9 million worth of investments in the Councils Leisure Facilities. The length of contract and the Capital developments all mean that there is a significant saving for the Council over the life of the contract. One of the Capital projects that was included as part of the contract was an Artificial Grass Surface on the site of the current Bramley Bowls site. It is the Councils intention to proceed with this change of use at Bramley Road and demolish the Bramley Road Bowls site and replace it with an Artificial Grass Pitch.”

Question 11 from Councillor Cranfield to Councillor Simon

"Can Councillor Simon report on the response of the LGA to the proposed increase in employee pension contributions."

Reply from Councillor Simon

"At present employee contributions range between 5.5% and 7.5%. The Government proposal is to increase employee contributions across all public sector schemes by a further 3%. For the LGPS, this will result in the average employee contribution being 9.3%. Details of the actual scheme design have not yet been released nor the proposed date of introduction.

The increase in the employee contribution is seen as a means of ensuring that employees meet part of the strain on pension funds resulting from people living longer. The intention of this increase is to make LGPS sustainable for future generations of employees.

However a likely consequence will be that staff will opt out of the LGPS simply because they cannot afford the reduction in their pay. The Treasury anticipates a 1% fall in membership but other commentators suggest the opt out rate could be as high as 30%. The level of drop out will vary between funds.

The result of a fall in membership would be to put more pressure onto the employers' contribution level and destabilise the scheme"

Question 12 from Councillor East to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment, Street Scene and Parks

"Could Councillor Bond please let us know his thoughts on Councillor Sitkin's decision, in his role as its chairman, to expand the remit of the Green Belt Forum to cover all green spaces and parks in the borough?

If he supports this change, could he confirm that this matter will be put to full Council for its consideration?

If not, could he explain why this proposal was made and why commitments were made to the member's of that forum without his prior consultation?"

Reply from Councillor Bond

"After due consideration of this matter with Councillor Sitkin, this item was withdrawn from the agenda of the March Green Belt Forum meeting."

Question 13 from Councillor Constantinides to Councillor Doug Taylor Leader of the Council

"I wish Councillor Taylor every success in his efforts regarding Chase Farm Hospital. Can he ensure that his eye is not taken off the ball with regards to the North Middlesex Hospital?"

Reply from Councillor Taylor

"I would like to reaffirm my commitment, set out in Council Motion 12.1, that no decisions regarding the future of Chase Farm Hospital should undermine the quality and viability of North Middlesex Hospital; that proper investment in our hospitals must be guaranteed; and that Enfield residents want good value services at both the Enfield hospitals and there should be joined up thinking and working that ensures this occurs, which might result in a closer relationship than the current one."

Question 14 from Councillor Joannides to Councillor McGowan, Cabinet Member Older People, Health and Adult Social Care

"Is the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services fully aware that the average Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) application to be processed is now eight

weeks instead of four? What impact will this have on care staff applicants in the borough?"

Reply from Councillor McGowan

"The Criminal Records Bureau runs a service called ISA Adults First. The ISA Adult First service is available for those services where there are statutory obligations to maintain staffing levels, and allows a person who is not barred to start work, prior to CRB information being available. Its use is intended in exceptional circumstances to maintain staffing levels in organisations regulated and inspected by the Care Quality Commission. The statutory obligations apply to care homes, domiciliary care agencies and adult placement schemes.

Any delays in a full response to a CRB application for a care worker, which would impact on the ability to run the service, should access ISA Adults First. Organisations should also ensure that proactive measures are in place to reduce the risk of a situation where insufficient staffing levels may occur."

Question 15 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment Street scene and Parks

"In the light of the disgraceful devastation along the embankment adjoining Grange Park Station perpetrated by Network Rail, would he join with me in pressing Ministers to change the rules which currently permit that company to carry out such works without any consent (save in respect of Conservation Areas)?"

Reply from Councillor Bond

"On 8th February 2011, I wrote to the Chief Executive of Network Rail to express deep concern with the lack of consultation with local residents and the extent of removal of foliage from the area of the works.

On 18th February 2011, I wrote to the Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Rt Hon Philip Hammond MP, Secretary of State for Transport to press for there to be a legal requirement for a public consultation process and provision for appropriate mitigation measures as a pre-commencement condition prior to such works on relevant land by all statutory undertakers."

Question 16 from Councillor Zinkin to Councillor Charalambous, Cabinet Member for Young People and Culture, Leisure, Sports and the Olympics

"I understand that local authorities have been allocated tickets for the Olympic Games. How will the Council be disposing of its allocation?"

Reply from Councillor Charalambous

“The Council has decided that Olympic tickets should be purchased for children who are looked after by the Local Authority. The Director of Schools and Children's Services has been authorised to purchase up to 20 tickets from the Olympic website in line with the normal ticketing procedures. This is in line with the Council's role of corporate parent. The tickets will be distributed to those young people that have shown particular commitment over the year. In this difficult economic climate Enfield will not be taking up the allocation of tickets that have been made available by LOCOG, and no tickets will be made available to Members through this prioritised system.”

Question 17 from Councillor Vince to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services

“Will Councillor Orhan inform the Council what she has done as Corporate Parent to support the most vulnerable children (looked after) in this Authority over the last year?”

Reply from Councillor Orhan

“I send Christmas cards to Looked After Children, along with birthday cards on young people's 18th birthdays.

I attended the Animation Event to present awards to the looked after children who had participated in this project on 8th March at the Dugdale Centre.

I attended the LAC Achievement Day last year and plan to attend the equivalent events this year.

I will be attending the Fostering lunch taking place shortly.

I visited Triangle House in November 2010 and spent time talking to staff from the five specialist areas.

I am meeting Children in Care Council in April 2011.

You will note from Question 16 that I have asked the Director of Schools & Children's Services to invest in Olympics tickets for looked after children.

Following reductions made in the Comprehensive Spending Review, I have made every effort to protect services to the most vulnerable children, including those looked after.”

Question 18 from Councillor Prescott to Councillor Anwar, Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Capacity Building in the Third Sector

“London Councils has confirmed, although Enfield Council did not see fit to

apply when first invited to, that there is still an opportunity for Enfield to apply for match funding to bolster what it does as regards local pre-employment (ESF priority 1.1) and NEET (ESF priority 1.2) activities.

As Cabinet has already earmarked £1.9m for third sector support, the suggestion is that this sum could well be used to provide the match in order to attract a further £1.9m in external funding to double the amount available for what must surely be high-priority local community activities.

Will the Cabinet member please confirm that he intends to apply for this funding, and that he will do so as a matter of urgency, to ensure that workless Enfield residents seeking training and employment do not miss out on this windfall opportunity?"

Reply from Councillor Anwar

"The London Councils funding referred to in the question is to co-sponsor activities relating to employment and any application would be a matter for another portfolio holder. The Council fund referred to in the question is specifically earmarked for community capacity building activity with our partners in the voluntary and community sector. I have however alerted relevant cabinet lead members to your enquiry regarding the initiative as the Council is always interested in any activities that could help local people gain employment."

Question 19 from Councillor Zinkin to Councillor Simon, Chairman of the Pension Board

"Can the Cabinet Member confirm that an impact assessment evaluating the potential adverse effect on admitted bodies was carried out by the LGPS (Local Government Pension Scheme) Pensions Board prior to its decision to introduce new repayment terms with effect from 1 April 2011?"

Reply from Councillor Simon

"The likely impact of the changes to contribution rates payable by FE colleges, academies and other external employers was well understood, and was a step the Pensions Board reluctantly took.

However, in the light of the 3-yearly revaluation of the Pension Fund, the Council's new actuaries AonHewitt advised the Pension Board that it would be appropriate for each employer to have their own individual rate, rather than as, in the past, a pooled rate. These could then reflect the age profile and financial standing of each organisation.

All such employers were invited to a meeting with the Pension Board and the actuary. Following the meeting, officers, in consultation with the actuary, agreed a number of changes to payment profiles with the various employers. Thus, the adjustments have been made, when possible, to reduce the impact.

The Pensions Board has invited a representative from the external contributors to Enfield's pension fund to serve on the Pension Board."

Question 20 from Councillor East to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance, Facilities and Human Resources

"What does Councillor Stafford think of the strong opposition to his suggestion that there may be "...too many libraries in Enfield..." and could he explain how much support is there for his view within the rest of the Labour administration?"

Further, residents in Enfield Lock have expressed dismay at the suggestion that they may lose one or both of their libraries; to what degree do Councillor Uzoanya and the other Enfield Lock Councillors support the Administration's strategy on libraries, and will they side with Enfield Lock residents in a campaign to keep the libraries at Ordnance Road and Enfield Island Village open, or will they be muzzled?"

Reply from Councillor Stafford

"There are no immediate plans to close any of the libraries in the Borough. However, the Library & Museum Service is currently undergoing a Leaner Review to explore and develop strategic options for the future delivery of the service. As yet these options are not formulated and no decisions have been made, but once we are in a position to do so these will be presented through the Cabinet process in the usual way.

I did state at Area Forums that there was a possibility of closing 3 libraries. I do not deny this. Closure is an option that the Leaner Review will consider. As yet no decisions have been made. When the final recommendations are formulated they will be extensively consulted upon.

Consideration will obviously be given to the views of local Councillors and local residents."

Question 21 from Councillor Headley to Councillor Anwar, Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Capacity Building in the Third Sector

"At the Council meeting before last the Conservative opposition scrutinised in depth the apparent failure of each member of the Labour administration to monitor its capital program. The Conservative opposition believes that the delays in implementing the capital program will be impossible to reverse.

Will you please therefore confirm which elements of the capital program that are relevant to your area of responsibility (i) are on track, (ii) will be delayed or (iii) will be cancelled? What percentage of the annual capital budget relevant to your area has been spent?"

Reply from Councillor Anwar

“The Quarter 3 Capital Monitor was presented to Cabinet on 9 March 2011, and sets out in detail the progress on the capital programme. The report explains that:

- The capital programme is on track to deliver against the latest plans.
- Projects have necessarily been delayed because it was prudent to review the capital programme the new Administration inherited to ensure it fitted with our policies, and was affordable given the current economic outlook.

It should also be remembered that the capital programme provides an upper limit to the amount of money that can be spent in any one year. It is not a target which necessarily needs to be met come what may. This Administration is committed to prudent financial management by applying resources where we can to deliver our policy commitments whilst ensuring excellent value for money.”

Question 22 from Councillor Smith to Councillor Okeyner, Cabinet Member for Housing and Area Improvements

“Does he agree with his Council colleague Councillor Simon who speaking at the Enfield Highway, Enfield Lock and Turkey Street Area Forum on 16th March stated that Eastern Enfield (which is of course a long way from his own home) “Eastern Enfield needs more high density housing”? Is this view shared by the Labour administration?”

Reply from Councillor Oykener

“Core Strategy Core Policy 5 confirms that the Council will seek to ensure a range of housing sizes to meet housing need and will plan for a borough wide mix of housing.

It goes on to say that the density of residential development proposals should be assessed on the best use of land in the area while respecting the quality and character of existing neighbourhoods, accessibility and infrastructure. Density levels on sites are calculated using the London Plan Density Matrix, our area action plans and regeneration priority areas.

It is intended that Council’s emerging Housing Strategy will summarise for consultation our Estate Renewal programmes indicating that all schemes will be assessed based on viability but, where estate renewal projects are being undertaken in the East of the Borough, all tenanted housing will be replaced by social housing and any additional provision will be a mix of housing types provided as part of building sustainable mixed communities.”

Question 23 from Councillor Michael Lavender to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

“On 8th March, in another major step to free up local government, the Coalition government asked Councils to identify a list of bureaucratic burdens they wish to throw away in the first ever central review of their statutory duties see <http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/newsroom/1859816>. The consultation closes on 25th April. The Department of Communities and Local Government has published an initial list of nearly 1,300 legal duties imposed mainly by primary legislation.

Historically, central government has been prescriptive about how Councils should serve their communities and virtually every function Councils undertake has a legal duty attached to it, set out in numerous Acts of Parliament.

The Review will proactively identify old and unnecessary burdens or barriers preventing Councils from getting on with their job. However the Government will not remove statutory protections for vital frontline services such as libraries and child protection.

This is an exercise which the previous Conservative administration in Enfield tried to undertake, but the task for an individual Council was too large.

What involvement will Enfield Council take in this exercise?”

Reply from Councillor Taylor

“Although participation in this consultation is voluntary, we do intend to participate. The consultation exercise covers a very wide range of areas and within the limits of the resources available to us; we are unlikely to be able to consider each issue in detail.”

Question 24 from Councillor Waterhouse to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment Street Scene and Parks

“How many Civil Enforcement Officers does the Council employ, and what are their powers/responsibilities?”

Reply from Councillor Bond

“Parking have an establishment of 42 Parking Attendants with an average of 22/23 number of tours covered daily.”

Question 25 from Councillor Waterhouse to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment Street Scene and Parks

“How many Civil Enforcement Officers make use of motorbikes in undertaking their duties?”

Reply from Councillor Bond

“Parking have six mopeds on the street.”

Question 26 from Councillor Waterhouse to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment Street Scene and Parks

“How many Fixed Penalty Notices have been handed out by PCSOs in Enfield to people that have dropped litter?”

Reply from Councillor Bond

“The number of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN's) for litter issued by the Council funded PCSOs on our Safer Parks and Safer Estates teams over the past three years is 53.”

Question 27 from Councillor Waterhouse to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment Street Scene and Parks

“How many people have signed up as Street Hawks in the last 12 months, and how many are there in total?”

Reply from Councillor Bond

“There are currently 153 members of the Street Hawks scheme. We will update at the meeting on the numbers that have joined in the last 12 months.”

Question 28 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment Street Scene and Parks

“Can he tell the Council what his policy is on traffic calming measures and in particular does he favour the installation of road humps, speed cushions or speed tables

- (a) In the immediate vicinity of schools, and
- (b) Elsewhere

Reply from Councillor Bond

“The Council has a manifesto commitment to introduce 20 mph zones in all residential roads around schools in the borough. In pursuit of this I am happy to support whatever traffic calming measures are appropriate and do not have a dogmatic view. At present our priority is the residential roads around schools, but traffic calming measures will be one of the options considered in other areas if the road casualties warrant it.”

Question 29 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment Street Scene and Parks

“What action has he taken to secure the alteration of effective hours of the northbound bus lane on the A10 which was changed by TfL from peak hours to all day causing unnecessary traffic delays in off peak hours.”

Reply form Councillor Bond

“TfL increased the operating hours of the northbound A10 bus lane in 2007 from 4pm-7pm Monday to Friday to 7am-7pm Monday to Saturday. Enfield were not properly consulted about these changes and, in response to representations made by Councillor Neville, TfL carried out detailed surveys to better understand the impact of the bus lane, which were provided to officers in early 2010.

These surveys looked in detail at journeys times, bus occupancy, queue lengths and turning movements into both Empire Avenue and Pasteur Gardens. TfL’s view, based on their analysis of the data, is that the bus lane hours should remain the same. The A10 is obviously TfL’s road and at the end of the day the decision on the operating hours of the bus lane is theirs. The surveys suggest that the bus lane benefits bus passengers, albeit that the average bus occupancies during the inter-peak period (23%) are lower than the evening peak (37%).

In addition, the number of vehicles turning from the A10 into either Empire Avenue or Pasteur Gardens during the inter-peak period are relatively low, suggesting that the extension in hours has not had a significant impact on local roads. However, I am happy to keep the matter under review should the situation deteriorate.”

Question 30 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment Street Scene and Parks

“What is his rationale for cutting trading standards enforcement officers at a time when the poorest in our community need greater consumer protection?”

Reply from Councillor Bond

“Trading Standards as with many other services are subject to the consequences of a reduction in funding by Government to Local Authorities. The Council has assessed the level of resource that is required to enable the Council’s Trading Standards team to focus on the high risk rogue trading activity, which causes greatest detriment to our residents and legitimate businesses. Whilst there will be an impact on the resource available to carry out lower risk activity, it is expected that the Council’s Trading Standards Team will continue to deliver successful outcomes for our community to provide a high level of consumer protection.”

Question 31 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment Street Scene and Parks

“Will he join with me in seeking to persuade ministers that planning appeals on ‘householder planning applications’ should be determined by an internal appeals panel comprised of non-planning committee members and co-opted independent members, thereby removing these from the jurisdiction of unelected Planning Inspectors and ensuring local decision making.”

Reply from Councillor Bond

“Whilst there is merit in these proposals, we would anticipate that in the interests of providing a fair process, some form of final independent arbitration would still be required. Ultimately these proposals will not only increase the cost to the Council, it is likely to lengthen the appeal process, particularly for retrospective planning applications which often abuse the current system and create much distress for those affected by a development. The Council has adopted the Core strategy and working in a Development Management Document, which will strengthen our position at appeal. In the last two months we have successfully defended 90% of planning appeals.

We recognise that a fair and transparent independent appeal process works in the best interest of both the Council and appellants. Two areas on which we would welcome change would firstly be to allow Councils to challenge decisions made by Planning Inspectors, which appear to be against local policy, without the costs associated with the Judicial Review process. Secondly to prevent any appeal in respect of a retrospective planning application, other than by judicial review.”

Question 32 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment Street Scene and Parks

“Can he tell the Council what his policy is in relation to the hours of operation of residents' controlled parking zones?”

Reply from Councillor Bond

“I have no rigid policy when considering the hours of operation of CPZ as different solutions will be needed in different situations. For instance, a one hour restriction works well around stations where the parking problems are caused solely by commuters, but an all day restriction may well be necessary in a town centre where residents are competing for space with commuters and shoppers.”

Question 33 from Councillor Lamprecht to Councillor Goddard, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Improving Localities

“At the Council meeting before last the Conservative opposition scrutinised in depth the apparent failure of each member of the Labour administration to

monitor its capital program. The Conservative opposition believes that the delays in implementing the capital program will be impossible to reverse.

Will you please therefore confirm which elements of the capital program that are relevant to your area of responsibility (i) are on track, (ii) will be delayed or (iii) will be cancelled? What percentage of the annual capital budget relevant to your area has been spent?"

Reply from Councillor Goddard

"The Quarter 3 Capital Monitor was presented to Cabinet on 9 March 2011, and sets out in detail the progress on the capital programme. The report explains that:

- The capital programme is on track to deliver against the latest plans.
- Projects have necessarily been delayed because it was prudent to review the capital programme the new Administration inherited to ensure it fitted with our policies, and was affordable given the current economic outlook.

It should also be remembered that the capital programme provides an upper limit to the amount of money that can be spent in any one year. It is not a target which necessarily needs to be met come what may. This Administration is committed to prudent financial management by applying resources where we can to deliver our policy commitments whilst ensuring excellent value for money."

Question 34 from Councillor Zetter to Councillor Georgiou, Cabinet Member for Public and Service Delivery

"At the Council meeting before last the Conservative opposition scrutinised in depth the apparent failure of each member of the Labour administration to monitor its capital program. The Conservative opposition believes that the delays in implementing the capital program will be impossible to reverse.

Will you please therefore confirm which elements of the capital program that are relevant to your area of responsibility (i) are on track, (ii) will be delayed or (iii) will be cancelled? What percentage of the annual capital budget relevant to your area has been spent?"

Reply from Councillor Georgiou

"The Quarter 3 Capital Monitor was presented to Cabinet on 9 March 2011, and sets out in detail the progress on the capital programme. The report explains that:

- The capital programme is on track to deliver against the latest plans.

- Projects have necessarily been delayed because it was prudent to review the capital programme the new Administration inherited to ensure it fitted with our policies, and was affordable given the current economic outlook.

It should also be remembered that the capital programme provides an upper limit to the amount of money that can be spent in any one year. It is not a target which necessarily needs to be met come what may. This Administration is committed to prudent financial management by applying resources where we can to deliver our policy commitments whilst ensuring excellent value for money. “

Question 35 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment Street Scene and Parks

“At the Council meeting before last the Conservative opposition scrutinised in depth the apparent failure of each member of the Labour administration to monitor its capital program. The Conservative opposition believes that the delays in implementing the capital program will be impossible to reverse.

Will you please therefore confirm which elements of the capital program that are relevant to your area of responsibility (i) are on track, (ii) will be delayed or (iii) will be cancelled? What percentage of the annual capital budget relevant to your area has been spent?”

Reply from Councillor Bond

“The Quarter 3 Capital Monitor was presented to Cabinet on 9 March 2011, and sets out in detail the progress on the capital programme. The report explains that:

- The capital programme is on track to deliver against the latest plans.
- Projects have necessarily been delayed because it was prudent to review the capital programme the new Administration inherited to ensure it fitted with our policies, and was affordable given the current economic outlook.

It should also be remembered that the capital programme provides an upper limit to the amount of money that can be spent in any one year. It is not a target which necessarily needs to be met come what may. This Administration is committed to prudent financial management by applying resources where we can to deliver our policy commitments whilst ensuring excellent value for money.”

Question 36 from Councillor Joannides to Councillor McGowan, Cabinet Member Older People, Health and Adult Social Care

“At the Council meeting before last the Conservative opposition scrutinised in depth the apparent failure of each member of the Labour administration to

monitor its capital program. The Conservative opposition believes that the delays in implementing the capital program will be impossible to reverse.

Will you please therefore confirm which elements of the capital program that are relevant to your area of responsibility (i) are on track, (ii) will be delayed or (iii) will be cancelled? What percentage of the annual capital budget relevant to your area has been spent?"

Reply from Councillor McGowan

"The Quarter 3 Capital Monitor was presented to Cabinet on 9 March 2011, and sets out in detail the progress on the capital programme. The report explains that:

- The capital programme is on track to deliver against the latest plans.
- Projects have necessarily been delayed because it was prudent to review the capital programme the new Administration inherited to ensure it fitted with our policies, and was affordable given the current economic outlook.

It should also be remembered that the capital programme provides an upper limit to the amount of money that can be spent in any one year. It is not a target which necessarily needs to be met come what may. This Administration is committed to prudent financial management by applying resources where we can to deliver our policy commitments whilst ensuring excellent value for money."

Question 37 from Councillor Kaye to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services

"At the Council meeting before last the Conservative opposition scrutinised in depth the apparent failure of each member of the Labour administration to monitor its capital program. The Conservative opposition believes that the delays in implementing the capital program will be impossible to reverse.

Will you please therefore confirm which elements of the capital program that are relevant to your area of responsibility (i) are on track, (ii) will be delayed or (iii) will be cancelled? What percentage of the annual capital budget relevant to your area has been spent?"

Reply from Councillor Orhan

"The Quarter 3 Capital Monitor was presented to Cabinet on 9 March 2011, and sets out in detail the progress on the capital programme. The report explains that:

- The capital programme is on track to deliver against the latest plans.

- Projects have necessarily been delayed because it was prudent to review the capital programme the new Administration inherited to ensure it fitted with our policies, and was affordable given the current economic outlook.

It should also be remembered that the capital programme provides an upper limit to the amount of money that can be spent in any one year. It is not a target which necessarily needs to be met come what may. This Administration is committed to prudent financial management by applying resources where we can to deliver our policy commitments whilst ensuring excellent value for money.”

Question 38 from Councillor Smith to Councillor Oyken, Cabinet Member for Housing and Area Improvements

“At the Council meeting before last the Conservative opposition scrutinised in depth the apparent failure of each member of the Labour administration to monitor its capital program.

Could you confirm what steps you have taken to ensure that the massive expenditure planned by Enfield Homes in the last three months of the year will be successfully processed by the Council’s Finance Department?

Will you please therefore confirm which elements of the capital program that are relevant to your area of responsibility (i) are on track, (ii) will be delayed or (iii) will be cancelled? What percentage of the annual capital budget relevant to your area has been spent?”

Reply from Councillor Oyken

“The Quarter 3 Capital Monitor was presented to Cabinet on 9 March 2011, and sets out in detail the progress on the capital programme. The report explains that:

- The capital programme is on track to deliver against the latest plans.
- Projects have necessarily been delayed because it was prudent to review the capital programme the new Administration inherited to ensure it fitted with our policies, and was affordable given the current economic outlook.

It should also be remembered that the capital programme provides an upper limit to the amount of money that can be spent in any one year. It is not a target which necessarily needs to be met come what may. This Administration is committed to prudent financial management by applying resources where we can to deliver our policy commitments whilst ensuring excellent value for money.”

Question 39 from Councillor Hall to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance, Facilities and Human Resources

“At the Council meeting before last the Conservative opposition scrutinised in depth the apparent failure of each member of the Labour administration to monitor its capital program. The Conservative opposition believes that the delays in implementing the capital program will be impossible to reverse.

Will you please therefore confirm which elements of the capital program that are relevant to your area of responsibility (i) are on track, (ii) will be delayed or (iii) will be cancelled? What percentage of the annual capital budget relevant to your area has been spent?”

Reply from Councillor Stafford

“The Quarter 3 Capital Monitor was presented to Cabinet on 9 March 2011, and sets out in detail the progress on the capital programme. The report explains that:

- The capital programme is on track to deliver against the latest plans.
- Projects have necessarily been delayed because it was prudent to review the capital programme the new Administration inherited to ensure it fitted with our policies, and was affordable given the current economic outlook.

It should also be remembered that the capital programme provides an upper limit to the amount of money that can be spent in any one year. It is not a target which necessarily needs to be met come what may. This Administration is committed to prudent financial management by applying resources where we can to deliver our policy commitments whilst ensuring excellent value for money.”

Question 40 from Councillor Jukes to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance, Facilities and Human Resources

“The Council agreed that only cleaning chemicals not tested on animals will be used by our cleaning services throughout the borough. Please list these chemicals and state how they have been tested as being safe to humans.”

Reply from Councillor Stafford

“The Directors of Enfield Norse Limited received a report prepared by the Managing Director of the company evaluating the use of cleaning products approved by the British Union for Antivivisection (BUAV). Their products are not tested on animals as part of the production process.

The evaluation concluded that although the available products produced a high quality finish, the difficulties and costs of obtaining, using and disposing of the products far outweighed the cleaning benefits. The increase in costs

would exceed the profits of the company and could not be absorbed by the business.

The Board of Directors agreed at their meeting on 16 December 2010 that these products would not be used by the business. The decision would be kept under review. The Council is in contact with BUAV and remains committed to a cruelty free approach to procurement."

Question 41 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment, Street Scene and Parks

"Please could the Cabinet Member for the Environment explain the true primary objective for the CPZ extension?"

Reply from Councillor Bond

"The Parking and Enforcement Plan agreed by the previous Administration identified the need to regularly review our CPZs to ensure that they continue to be fit for purpose. I have carried forward this approach and have started the review process in Enfield Town, Gordon Hill and Winchmore Hill. Part of the review process involves asking residents outside the zone if they have parking problems and want to be included. There is no ulterior motive."

Question 42 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment, Street Scene and Parks

"The Turkey Street Station Gateway project was an environment improvement scheme initiated by the previous administration in order to enhance the adjacent Conservation Area. Please could the Cabinet Member for the Environment explain to the Council why this area looks badly neglected thanks to it being full of weeds and completely strewn with litter?"

Reply from Councillor Bond

"The Turkey Street Gateway project has the final stage of works to be completed. We have recently obtained agreement in principle from Network Rail, and National Express, and are currently working up the final proposals. As a result the paving is still to be finally surfaced, street furniture is to be designed and installed, the station access to be upgraded, and grass areas to be re-laid.

In the meantime, the Parks service will incorporate the completed area within the Parks regular maintenance programme to ensure that overall standards are improved.

In terms of litter, I can advise that the street is litter picked daily and upon completion of the landscaping it is our aim to ensure that works undertaken by street cleansing and parks operations are integrated to provide a seamless service."

Question 43 from Councillor Kaye to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education & Children's Services

"It is expected that two new secondary schools are likely to be needed in the borough in the next five years. Government policy is that any new school should be a Free school/Academy.

- 1) Where are they likely to be located?
- 2) Given the Cabinet Member's public stance against free schools, can she give a guarantee that she will give her full co-operation and assistance with groups applying to run these schools?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

"We are still assessing the specific geographical needs for any additional school places. We have had to manage the lack of focus on this by the previous Administration.

In relation to the question about my position on free schools I would refer you to my response to your question at our January Council meeting about Woodpecker Hall Free School and reiterate:

As a matter of principle I do not support the coalition Government's policy of establishing free schools: the framework of schools introduced by the former Labour Government provided more appropriately for the development of a diverse community of excellent local schools.

I do recognise that the coalition Government is now calling the shots and that the current Education Bill if enacted will effectively mean that all new schools are academies or free schools. We will be content to work with potential sponsors who share our ambitions for fairness, growth and sustainability for local people."

Question 44 from Councillor Joannides to Councillor McGowan, Cabinet Member Older People, Health and Adult Social Care

"Would the Cabinet member for Adult Social Services explain the current progress of the implementation of the Personalisation agenda?"

Reply from Councillor McGowan

"The personalisation programme has made significant progress over the last 6 months and this briefing details the progress over the period and identifies high level timelines for key deliverables over the next 6 mths."

Transforming the customer pathway:

This workstream has been tasked with reviewing the pathways for service users and restructuring the service to enable the organisation to respond to the new ways of working required under personalisation.

- The programme has developed a new operating model and structure which was agreed by cabinet on 13th October 2010.
- The preference setting process to appoint staff to posts worked well and has allowed us to secure ongoing employment for all permanent employees, with the vast majority being allocated their first choice.
- Staff training requirements have been identified and training is taking place to ensure staff are equipped to work effectively in the new structure.
- The accommodation for the new teams has been confirmed and plans are on track for the new structure to be in place for 11 April 2011
- An evaluation framework has been established to monitor the new model and structure over an initial 8-10 week period to ensure resources and processes are working efficiently.

Resource Allocation System & Information Technology:

The resource allocation system (RAS) will be the approach under personalisation to identify the personal budget a service user will be entitled to based on their level of need.

Resource Allocation System:

- There is a target nationally relating to the number of service users expected to be in receipt of a personal budget by 31 March 2011 which is 30%. Enfield is currently on target to achieve this target and is currently placed within the top 3 London authorities in relation to the number of service users in receipt of a personal budget.
- The department has made significant progress with the selected resource allocation tool supplied by Quickheart. An extended pilot is taking place to further validate and model results which to date have been very positive.
- Feedback from service users to date has been very positive in relation to the approach and process being taken forward as part of the pilot which is very encouraging.
- An item has been placed on the Cabinet Forward Plan for May to present a more comprehensive report in relation to the resource allocation system.

Information Technology:

- The information, advice and guidance portal for social care has now been up and running for approximately 3 months with significant involvement from service users and voluntary sector. The department has proactively been encouraging external providers to utilise the portal as a single resource to ensure service users are getting consistent and comprehensive information regardless of where they obtain it from.

- The essential requirement to integrate the Quickheart solution with the back office social care system (CareFirst) is planned to be delivered in May. This will provide a seamless and efficient approach to passing information from one system to the other and remove any duplication of data entry.
- The support planning and e-market place modules of Quickheart to enable service users to plan and purchase care are expected to be delivered in June. A significant level of engagement has taken place with the voluntary sector. There is currently a significant level of enthusiasm from 3rd sector providers which has been very encouraging.

Commissioning:

This workstream has taken the lead on developing the market in line with the requirements for personalisation.

- A review of the existing 3rd sector provision has taken place
- Commissioners are working with the 3rd sector to ensure that the opportunities for them are made clear
- Expressions of interest have been sought for the provision of support planning and brokerage being available externally and there have been over 60 expressions of interest from providers

Provider Services:

- A review of the internally provided services has started to enable internal services to adapt effectively to the demands of personalisation.

Timeline Summary:

- March 2011 - Extended pilot for Resource Allocation System (RAS)
- 11 April 2011 - New structure and operation model – Go Live
- May 2011 - Integration CareFirst Phase 1 (Assessment & RAS)
- May 2011 - Cabinet Report – Resource Allocation System (RAS)
- June 2011 - Support Planning & E-market
- June 2011 - Evaluation of structure and operating model
- July 2011 - Integration CareFirst Phase 2 (Support Planning & E-market)

Question 45 from Councillor Joannides to Councillor McGowan, Cabinet Member Older People, Health and Adult Social Care

“Would the Cabinet member for Adult Social Services explain what statutory training has been provided to Enfield carers and to providers as recommended by the Care Quality Commission under the Care Standards Act 2001 in the last 12 months?”

Reply from Councillor McGowan

“In the period April 2010 to March 2011

The following statutory training has been provided as recommended by CQC:

- Safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults - 3 tiers dependent on need available throughout the year (30 days training)
- Manual Handling & Risk Assessment - 5 tiers of training dependent on need available throughout the year (40 days training)
- Food Hygiene (12 x 1 day courses)
- Medication Handling & Regulation (16 X half day courses)
- Infection Control (4 x half day courses)
- Emergency First Aid (4 x 1 day courses)

Over and above these courses and in addition to the published training programme we have delivered the following courses to carers groups and the voluntary sector:

- Equalities Act - Legislative update (Request of Enfield Community Engagement Network) 4 x 1 day
- Equalities Act - Provision of Goods and Services - Carers Group 2 x 1 day

Question 46 from Councillor Joannides to Councillor McGowan, Cabinet Member Older People, Health and Adult Social Care

“What measures have been taken by Adult Social Services to help assist vulnerable members of our community including people with learning disabilities to voice their support to keep essential services open in Chase Farm Hospital following a recent visit by the Health Secretary?”

Reply from Councillor McGowan

“HHASC is adept at providing information to service users in appropriate formats and facilitating vulnerable people’s access to consultations which affect their lives. We are very careful to support vulnerable people to have their say without influencing their position. We achieve this particularly with learning difficulty service users through accessible communication tools such as easy read leaflets, blogs, Makaton sign language, DVDs and audio tapes. In the ongoing stakeholder engagement around the future of Chase Farm we have mobilised these resources to assist any vulnerable person wishing to play their part.”