

To all members of the Council

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Date : 6 November 2012

Dear Councillor,

**Council: 7 November 2012 – “To Follow” response to Council Question 15**

Please find attached, as referred to in the list of written responses to the Council Questions on the agenda for tomorrow's Council meeting (Agenda Item 11) the following answer to Question 15:

**Question 15 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment**

Does Councillor Bond accept that increasing parking charges in town centres as he did in 2010, is also detrimental to the centres in the present economic climate and will he now follow the example of Barnet who had the grace to realise their mistake, and reduce Enfield's on street charges in town centres to the 2010 levels?

**Reply from Councillor Bond**

“I am not entirely sure what Councillor Neville is referring to as parking charges were not increased in 2010.

We know that most people visiting our town centres do not come by car and these people spend more per month than car drivers. In addition, parking charges are only one factor amongst many that determine where people

choose to shop, the most important being the range and quality of shopping facilities. In my view the charges I introduced in 2011 strike the right balance between promoting our town centres, managing congestion and achieving a reasonable turnover of spaces.

With regards to Barnet, I wonder if Councillor Neville has actually checked his facts. Looking at the cost of parking for up to two hours, our charges are significantly less than even the reduced charges in Barnet in nearly all cases.

Barnet: £3.60

Enfield: £2.40 in Enfield Town and £2 elsewhere.”

The response was marked “To Follow” as the result of a late correction to the wording of the question at the time of the agenda dispatch.

I will ensure that details of the response are also included on the amendment sheet to be tabled at tomorrow night’s Council meeting.

I hope this is okay, but if you should have any queries then please come back to me.

Yours sincerely,

*James Kinsella*

James Kinsella  
(Governance Team Manager)