

## **COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS: 16 July 2014**

### **Questions for Cabinet Members**

#### **Question 1 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

It the light of the decision not to appoint formal scrutiny panels, and given Labour's professed desire to maintain and improve accountability, and with a view to making Council meetings more user friendly to the press and public, would he consider moving Councillors' Questions to the beginning of the Council agenda, and extending the time allowed to one hour, at all meetings except the Council Tax setting meeting.

#### **Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

The Council has an established process for considering changes to its constitutional procedures, including the rules of debate for Council meetings. This is that the matter is discussed at the cross party Member & Democratic Services Group who then make a recommendation to this Council. I see that Councillor Neville is a member of that body. I suggest therefore that he submits his request through that process and it will come before Council in due course.

#### **Question 2 from Councillor During to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

Would the Leader of the Council comment on the recent local election results in Enfield?

#### **Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

This was a tremendous result for Labour and a judgement of the Conservative manifesto, policies and ideology. Members of the Conservative side should be mindful of this in their inevitable, gratuitous and ill-informed attacks on the new administration.

I am happy to facilitate the Opposition in performing a proper role in its political scrutiny of the Council and I would want appropriate and relevant input into political discussion. However the Opposition will make that extremely difficult if it simply engages in hyperbole and gratuitous insults.

#### **Question 3 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

Given that the acquisition of the Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust by The Royal Free London NHS Trust has been known about for some months, does he not consider that it was precipitate not to say irresponsible to even attempt to abolish the statutory Health Scrutiny Panel, and will he confirm what steps he is taking to ensure that the considerable and legitimate public concern in the Borough about future provision of hospital services can be properly heard and acted upon by a full and properly appointed Health Scrutiny Committee?

**Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

The statutory health scrutiny function has not been abolished. While it is not for members of the Council Cabinet to dictate scrutiny objectives it is the intention to continue with scrutiny of the health services. In addition Enfield is a member of the North Central London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and I am pleased that Councillor Cazimoglu has been elected Vice Chair of this committee. Scrutiny of the Royal Free and Chase Farm will be undertaken here as part of a cross borough approach, in addition to more local scrutiny.

**Question 4 from Councillor B.Charalambous to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection**

Can the Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection update the Council on the outcome of Ashmole School's application for national government funding to build a Primary School on their existing site?

**Reply from Councillor Orhan:**

Colleagues will be well aware of the government's policy in relation to the expansion of academies and the development of Free schools and, in particular, that decisions on these types of developments are entirely within the gift of the Secretary of State for Education. Information published by the Department for Education website informs us that Ashmole Academy has not been granted permission to open a primary school.

You will be aware that we have already announced plans to permanently increase the number of places in the south west of the borough to meet the identified need for places. In preparation for this, starting in the autumn term, we will be creating a 'partner school' run by Bowes Primary School, an outstanding school. Staff from Bowes will be working closely with Broomfield Secondary School, an improving school, where the provision will be located.

Through this carefully managed, strategic approach to place planning I am confident that these innovative arrangements will provide excellent provision for children in the area and that as our other plans come on stream we will meet the identified need for places in that part of the borough.

**Question 5 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

Given that Councillor Bambos Charalambous is the prospective parliamentary candidate for Enfield Southgate, what other considerations led to his appointment as Associate Cabinet Member (ACM) for Enfield West?

**Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

Councillor Charalambous is the most suitable person for the role. You will appreciate that in all cases the ACM is a representative of a ward in the geographic area covered. Councillor Charalambous, I am sure you will agree, will be an excellent ACM.

**Question 6 from Councillor Cazimoglu to Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community Organisations**

Can the Cabinet Member for Community Organisations inform the Council how many projects have benefitted from the EPRF Residents Priority Fund since 2011?

**Reply from Councillor Brett:**

The Enfield Residents' Priority Fund (ERPF) has been a great success. Over the three years from 2011, 586 projects worth £5.6m have been developed by residents working with ward councillors bringing real benefit to communities across the Borough.

Projects approved by the ERPF Cabinet Sub Committee have ranged in cost from a few hundred pounds to £60,000 + and covered a wide range of activities including street parties, community festivals and cultural activities; sports, arts and music activities for young people; training for skills and employment; English for speakers of other languages; activities for older people; play equipment and green gyms in parks; alleygating, CCTV and other community safety initiatives; community gardens in schools; support to local sports clubs and community cafes.

Despite reduced government funding for local government and increasing demand on services, the Council has demonstrated its commitment to enabling residents to improve their local areas by continuing with the ERPF, albeit with a reduced budget of £500,000.

**Question 7 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

Can the Leader of the Council tell the Council how will he measure success of each of the three associate cabinet members in twelve months' time?

**Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

Success will be measured against the objectives for the roles. This includes chairing area based partnerships, representing their area to the Enfield Strategic Partnership and its business, voluntary sector and public sector representatives, being a focal point for cross ward issues in their area, promoting council work programme issues relating to the area, being a reference point for strategic planning issues and promoting new approaches to ward level engagement.

The Associate Cabinet Members will be specifically consulted on Cabinet papers to solicit specific area responses where appropriate. To facilitate this they will attend Cabinet meetings.

**Question 8 from Councillor Hurman to Councillor Simbodyal, Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport, Youth & Public Health**

Given that the school summer holidays are fast approaching, can the Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport, Youth and Public Health inform the Council about the

range of youth services that will be available for young people to participate in this summer?

**Reply from Councillor Simbodyal:**

There will be a full range of youth services on offer this summer.

All of our youth centres will continue to deliver the core offer during the summer period and from 28 July 2014 this will include young people aged 11 and over. This means pupils who are just finishing year 6, and all pupils year 7 and above, can attend our youth centres from this date - starting with this year's summer programmes.

In addition to this, youth centres in Edmonton, Ponders End and Southgate will be extending their opening hours to offer young people a range of daytime educational opportunities such as sports coaching, leadership, dance and bike maintenance.

Our Summer Uni programme is offering 47 courses ranging from one day to one week in length. In addition to this there are 23 sessions of "turn up and play" sports covering netball, football, tennis and badminton. Courses are diverse and range from "Introduction to Domestic Electrics" "Working in the City" and "Emergency First Aid" to "Smart Money", " Music Production" and "Build Your Confidence".

There will also be a 3 week work experience programme supporting young people into post 16 employment and training.

We will be ensuring outreach youth workers operate in a variety of locations across the borough promoting the youth offer to young people, encouraging them to get involved and diverting them away from anti-social behaviour and crime.

For further information please visit our website [www.enfield.gov.uk/youth](http://www.enfield.gov.uk/youth) or join us on  [Youth Enfield](#) Facebook and  [YouthEnfield](#) Twitter

The Library and Museum Service have organised The Summer Reading Challenge (SRC) aimed at 7-11 year olds. The challenge is to read 6 books during the summer holidays. The Programme runs from 12 July – 14 September. All libraries have organised activities in line with the theme for the SRC i.e. Mythical Maze.

There is a full programme of sporting activities for young people and adults for the summer holidays. This is promoted through the Summer of Fun Programme which can be found on the Councils website at: [http://www.enfield.gov.uk/info/200050/sports\\_and\\_leisure\\_activities](http://www.enfield.gov.uk/info/200050/sports_and_leisure_activities). Our leisure centres continue to provide free swimming during the holidays for young people.

Forty Hall has a comprehensive programme of activities details of which can be found at: <http://www.fortyhallestate.co.uk/whats-on/events>. The Millfiled and Dugdale programmes can be found at their website: <https://forms.enfield.gov.uk/peo/> and finally there are many events and festivals taking place throughout the Borough and these can be found on the Festivals website at: <http://www.enfieldfestivals.com/>

### **Question 9 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

As the Associate Cabinet Members cannot apparently be asked questions at Council (which I find somewhat surprising considering they are all in receipt of a Special Responsibility Allowance) can Councillor Taylor tell the Council, what objectives he and/or Councillor Charalambous have set for the latter's first year as Associate Cabinet Member for Enfield West, other than attempting to win the Enfield Southgate parliamentary seat?

#### **Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

See the answer to question 7. I do not see winning the parliamentary seat for Enfield Southgate as an objective for this role.

### **Question 10 from Councillor Lappage to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

The Government has recently asked local authorities to identify a place to commemorate the World War 1. Can the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety advise the Council of London Borough of Enfield's response?

#### **Reply from Councillor Bond:**

The Council was written to earlier this year inviting it to join the Centenary Fields programme, which is delivered by the organisation Fields in Trust in partnership with the Salvation Army. The Centenary Fields programme aims to secure recreational spaces in perpetuity in honour of the millions of people who lost their lives in World War I. Following consideration, it is proposed that an application will be submitted for Chase Green and the adjacent war memorial which is located on a piece of the park referred to as Cenotaph Gardens. It is proposed that an application will be submitted to Fields in Trust later this summer.

### **Question 11 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

As the Associate Cabinet Members cannot apparently be asked questions at Council (which I find somewhat surprising considering they are all in receipt of an Special Responsibility Allowance) can Councillor Taylor tell the Council what objectives he/Councillor Uzoanya have set for the latter's first year as Associate Cabinet Member for Enfield North, apart of course from attempting to secure the election of Joan Ryan as MP?

#### **Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

See the answer to question 7 and question 9. Perhaps in her supplementary question, Councillor Laban might advise me what, in Councillor Uzoanya's role, she sees as likely to assist the election of any particular candidate.

**Question 12 from Councillor Stewart to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

To save costs for Enfield Council Tax payers, what action has the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety taken with other local authorities to procure CCTV services?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

Enfield has worked with other boroughs (including London Borough of Waltham Forest) to develop a Framework Contract, through which potentially all London Boroughs will be able to procure installation, maintenance and repairs to CCTV.

The process itself will save time and money and future agreements will represent the best value. In addition to changes to the way that we buy these services, there is likely to be an “e-auction” as part of the process to drive down costs and achieve the best value for local residents.

There will be no requirement for Enfield to spend, however, we have invested significantly in cameras to support work around community safety.

The high quality of our services has helped us to successfully partner OCS in delivering CCTV monitoring for the neighbouring London Borough of Barnet.

**Question 13 from Councillor Lavender to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

The seven boroughs in North London have agreed to start work on a new waste plan in order to be able to meet the duty to co-operate.

Between 3rd June and 9th July 2014 those boroughs are consulting on a scoping report for a sustainability appraisal. Part of that consultation involves inviting parties to nominate sites to be considered as part of the work of the North London Waste Plan.

In its manifesto the Labour Party has publicly stated that it wants to create a dump in the East of the Borough. Would Councillor Bond please confirm whereabouts he proposes this dump to be situated? Furthermore what traffic impact analyses has been carried out in relation to the proposed dump? If they have been carried out, where can they be found? Given the plethora of complaints received by neighbouring residents about the former dump can Councillor Bond provide the Council with evidence that necessary ameliorating measures are to be put in place to ensure that residential amenity is not undermined? Can he also confirm that the costs of acquisition of the site for the dump and its operating costs are fully budgeted for? If so, can he point out where in the capital programme and existing budgets one can find the necessary financial entries?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

There is no mention of a dump in the manifesto.

**Question 14 from Councillor Jemal to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development**

Can the Cabinet Member for Economic Development provide further detail on the 10 July 2014 Enfield Expo event supporting start-ups and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the borough?

**Reply from Councillor Sitkin:**

The Enfield Expo event is organised by the Federation of Small Business (FSB) and is to be hosted by the Council at the Dugdale Centre on Thursday 10 July 2014.

For the Council, the event represents an opportunity to engage directly with business rate payers, potential investors and business start-ups. It also aims to stimulate business to business (B2B) communication and encourage business to business activity.

It is an excellent way for the Council to demonstrate that it is open for business and is listening to business concerns.

For businesses there will be business advice clinics, speed-networking and advice on access to finance.

The forum also provides a chance for the council to showcase major new council-led initiatives which could present business opportunities.

The FSB, as UK's largest SME member-led organisation, has organised many B2B events in other London boroughs to which the response has been overwhelmingly positive. Other boroughs which have hosted events include Harrow, Hammersmith and Fulham, Lambeth, Barnet, Camden, Croydon and Waltham Forest.

All direct costs of the event are met by the organisers (FSB), the Council provides the space and staff resource on the day. The effectiveness of the event will be evaluated by levels of attendance and feedback from businesses. Officers from the Economic Development Service, amongst others, will be in attendance.

**Question 15 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance**

Could the Cabinet Member please inform the council:

1. How many buildings does Enfield Council own?
2. What is the occupancy level of the buildings that the Council owns?
3. Is any space in an Enfield Council owned property currently let to another body, whether that be public or private sector?

4. If there is any vacant space in Enfield Council owned buildings, where is it, how much square foot in it and how long has it been marketed for?
5. How much square foot is allocated per worker in Enfield Council owned buildings?
6. If Enfield Council rents space off of private or public sector landlords, how much does this amount to annually?

**Reply from Councillor Stafford:**

**Response to (1)**

**Investment (broken down by buildings / units)**

Retail / Commercial buildings:	211
Industrial and estates	169
Agricultural	20

**Operational (broken down by sites)**

Corporate Offices:	12
Day Care Centres:	5
Older Peoples Homes:	5
Youth & Community Centres:	7
Car Parks	20
Allotments:	37
Leisure Centres:	6
Parks & Open Spaces:	130

**Response to (2)**

Retail / Commercial	= 1.89% void rate (per no. of unit as an average)
Industrial estates	= 2.3 % void rate (per no. of units as an average)

**Response to (3)**

We do lease sites (including land and buildings) to other parties. These can range between anything from sole traders to multi-national companies.

**Response to (4)**

**Retail**

- 542 Hertford Road, EN3 5ST - Size 50.23 Sq. m. Vacant since 9/9/2013 – Currently under offer.
- 308 Firs Lane N13 5QQ - Size 70.88 Sq. M. Vacant since 23/3/2012 – Currently under offer.

There is also one shop at 107 Fore Street N18, which is being held vacant for a

community use. There are also 2 void shops out of borough at Whitefield's Road and these are being kept vacant for redevelopment purposes.

### **Industrial**

- 5 Centre Way, Claverings Industrial Estate N9 0AP – First Floor Unit – 445 Sq. m – Vacant since April 2014
- 11b North Way, Claverings Industrial Estate N9 0AP – First Floor Unit – 280 Sq. m – Vacant since July 2013

### **Response to (5)**

Space is allocated per workspace and not per worker and set at a minimum of 4.8 square metres.

### **Response to (6)**

Total rent payable per annum for leased in properties is £754,199

### **Question 16 from Councillor Anderson to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection**

Can the Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection update the Council on the excellent news of the additional school provision in Southgate Green?

### **Reply from Councillor Orhan:**

I am delighted to be able to update the Council on our continued commitment to provide school places for all reception age pupils. Councillors will have seen the news on the Council website and the advert in the local press regarding the latest development in Southgate Green. The additional provision will be managed by Bowes Primary an outstanding primary school based at Broomfield Secondary School.

I would particularly like to thank both schools and know they are busy ensuring that our youngest pupils will be welcomed in the new school ready for the Autumn Term. The collaboration between the 2 schools will really support our mission to show parents what excellent provision there is and raise the profile of Broomfield School as a rapidly improving school. We have had a good response from parents already and are confident that this will provide the places needed in this area.

### **Question 17 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

Will the Council consider asking residents of Morley Hill in a referendum whether or not they would like to keep the speed humps in their road?

### **Reply from Councillor Bond:**

When consulted on the then proposed 20 mph zone, 35 Morley Hill households voted in favour and only 11 against. The scheme is improving safety for all road users, particularly the vulnerable, and we have no intention of removing it.

**Question 18 from Councillor Keazor to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety advise the Council what affect the recent pronouncements from the Right Honourable Eric Pickles regarding CCTV and parking enforcement will have on the residents of Enfield?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

Nothing – it was a headline grabbing statement.

**Question 19 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance**

Has the Council any plans to follow the lead of other local authorities in London and insist that a pub be marketed for at least 12 months prior to considering any planning application for its conversion to another use?

**Reply from Councillor Stafford:**

Planning regulations can be restrictive in this area. However, where there is obvious benefit to the community, we would consider each case on its merits

**Question 20 from Councillor Hamilton to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety tell the Council what impact the revised European Union Waste Framework Directive will have on Enfield service delivery?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

We are currently reviewing the potential impacts of the revised waste framework directive and will carry out an assessment on the current service over the coming months.

**Question 21 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance**

Does the Council have any plans to raise Council tax for Enfield residents in:

2015

2016

2017

2018

**Reply from Councillor Stafford:**

Our manifesto commitment is to keep council tax as low as possible during the life of this administration, and we will stick to that. Whether we are able to depends, of course, on the level of funding provided by central government, and their track record has, of course, been very poor. Nor can we predict the economic or political environment beyond 2015.

**Question 22 from Councillor Jiaage to Councillor Oykenor, Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration**

Could the Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration provide an update on Estate Renewal Projects and the progress achieved so far?

**Reply from Councillor Oykenor:**

**Dujardin Mews**

Dujardin Mews, (formerly Academy Street) in Ponders End, is a new Enfield Council housing development of 38 homes, which will be amongst the first new Council homes to be built in Enfield for decades. All of the homes will be affordable and available to current Alma Estate residents as part of the estate renewal scheme on that estate.

Planning permission was granted in 2013 and Durkan have been appointed as house builder on behalf of the council. Contractors have commenced on site undertaking enabling works to prepare the site for construction with completion scheduled December 2015.

**New Avenue Estate Renewal**

New Avenue estate renewal scheme which includes Shepcot House, Coverack Close and Beardow Grove in the project, has 163 existing homes of which 33 are leaseholders. The decanting process has commenced and over 30 tenants have taken the opportunity to move off the estate with 3 leaseholders in the process of selling their properties back to the Council.

We are in the process of procuring a developer to develop the project on the Council's behalf and are awaiting clarification on a number of points from the two shortlisted bidders who are Countryside and Mulalleys.

We meet regularly with the residents' panel to keep them informed of scheme progress.

**Estimated start on site: 2016**

**Alma Estate**

The estate renewal area includes a total of 717 properties, and of these, 547 are

tenanted and 170 leaseholders. The project includes Kestrel House, Cormorant House, Merlin House and Curlew House, as well as flats and maisonettes on Alma Road, South Street, Napier Road, Fairfield Close and Scotland Green Road.

We have appointed Countryside as the preferred developer who will provide (subject to planning) 794 new homes which includes a mix of 200 new council homes for rent, market sale and shared ownership housing with their registered provider partner Newlon Housing Trust.

Vacant possession of the first phase (Kestrel House and 15-45a Alma Road) is progressing well and phase 2, which includes Cormorant and Merlin, is now underway.

We are finalising the development agreement with the developer and holding design workshops with the residents which will enable a planning submission in November 2014.

The Curlew estate based office is a well-used resource for residents and we have had over 2210 visits since it opened in November 2012.

### **Estimated Phase One start on site: November 2015 (subject to planning)**

#### **Small Housing Sites**

The Small Housing Sites programme involves seven small sites, all less than 0.3 hectares and located in the Town, Chase and Turkey Street wards. Six of these sites were previously occupied by former sheltered housing blocks that were no longer fit for purpose and the seventh site was a former garage site that has since been cleared.

Sites are - 9-85 Parsonage Lane; 22-68 Forty Hill; 119-135 Lavender Hill; 50-60 St Georges Road; 41-63 Tudor Crescent; 1-18 Jasper Close; 1-35 Holtwhites Hill garages.

To date six of the seven sites have been cleared ready for redevelopment. Planning consent has been obtained on all sites and subject to satisfying planning conditions the remaining site at Forty Hill will be cleared in summer 2014; the delay to this demolition has been as a result of planning rules for the conservation area.

The Council has been working to procure a development partner and has now appointed Kier as the house builder. The development agreement and section 106 agreement are in the process of being finalised which will allow the scheme to start on site.

The Council has secured £700,000 of external funding from the GLA to support the proposed scheme which will deliver 94 new homes – 37 owned by the Council.

### **Phase One Jasper Close and Parsonage Lane: Start on site July 2014**

#### **Ladderswood**

Located between Arnos Grove and New Southgate Station and the A406 North

Circular, Ladderswood has 161 existing homes in blocks Curtis House, Danford House, Mason House, Betspath House, Lorne and Roberts House.

Full Planning consent to build 517 new homes, hotel and commercial space was received in February 2014 and Start on Site was achieved in March 2014.

Due to a number of issues the Council has decanted all 9 remaining tenants from Curtis House to Betspath House and the remaining two leaseholders, who want to remain on the new scheme, will temporarily move out by the end of July enabling Curtis House to be demolished earlier than expected.

Consultation with the trustees of Millennium Green has been ongoing and the developer will be making a contribution towards the proposed improvements.

### **Phase One - start on site March 2014 and completion Phase One - September 2015**

#### **Highmead – now named Silverpoint**

Located in the Angel Edmonton, Highmead was a former council block that had been in a poor condition. The site, which included a tower block and retail units, has now been demolished by the Council and in 2012 received a planning consent for the development of 118 new homes, a GP centre and a community facility.

The local authority appointed Countryside and Newlon Housing Trust to deliver the project on their behalf and works started in summer 2013

#### **Completion of Highmead: September 2015**

#### **Question 23 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

Following the successful and well attended Cancer Research UK Race for Life event at Trent Park in June where a large number of supporters and participants were issued with parking fines from the Council, can the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety confirm whether a donation equivalent to the revenue raised from the fines could be made to Cancer Research UK to support this excellent charity's life-saving work?

#### **Reply from Councillor Bond:**

As the Conservative Group should know, traffic management legislation ring-fences any surplus made from parking and traffic enforcement to be used for transport schemes. The Council uses its surplus to go towards funding freedom passes that assist both pensioners and young people with using public transport. We are therefore unable to donate to this worthwhile charity with this revenue.

#### **Question 24 from Councillor Doyle to Councillor McGowan, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Care**

Can the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Care list the main provisions in the new 2014 Care Act?

## Reply from Councillor McGowan:

The main provisions of the Care Act 2014 are set out as follows:

### The Care Act 2014 is in five parts.

- **Part 1 – Care and Support**, is intended to give effect to the policies requiring primary legislation that were set out in the White Paper *Caring for our future: reforming care and support*, to implement the changes put forward by the Commission on the Funding of Care and Support, chaired by the Economist Andrew Dilnot, and to meet the recommendations of the Law Commission in its report on Adult Social Care to consolidate and modernise existing care and support law. This includes new rights for carers, a statutory framework for Safeguarding Adults and a cap on the costs of care.
- **Part 2 – Care Standards**, gives effect to elements of the Government's response to the Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust Public Inquiry that require primary legislation.
- **Part 3 – Health**, makes changes to the Trust Special Administration regime. It also takes forward the necessary legislative measures for the proposals outlined in *Liberating the NHS: Developing the Healthcare workforce - From Design to Delivery*<sup>2</sup>, the establishment of Health Education England as a non-departmental public body; and those in relation to health research that were set out in the Government's *Plan for Growth*<sup>3</sup>, the establishment of the Health Research Authority as a non-departmental public body.
- **Part 4 – Health and Social Care**, establishes a fund for the integration of care and support with health services, known as the Better Care Fund and makes provision for additional safeguards around the general dissemination of health and care information.
- **Part 5 – General**, deals with various technical matters such as the power to make consequential amendments, orders and regulations, commencement, extent and the short title of the Act.

Draft regulations and guidance for Part 1 of the Act have been published and they cover:

### General responsibilities and universal services

1. Promoting wellbeing
2. Preventing, reducing or delaying needs
3. Information and advice
4. Market shaping and commissioning of adult care and support
5. Managing provider failure and other service interruptions

### First contact and identifying needs

6. Assessment and eligibility
7. Independent advocacy

## **Charging and financial assessment**

- 8. Charging and financial assessment
- 9. Deferred payment agreements

## **Person-centred care and support planning**

- 10. Care and support planning
- 11. Personal budgets
- 12. Direct payments
- 13. Review of care and support plans

## **Adult safeguarding**

- 14. Safeguarding

## **Integration and partnership working**

- 15. Integration, cooperation and partnerships
- 16. Transition to adult care and support
- 17. Prisons, approved premises and bail accommodation
- 18. Delegation of local authority functions

## **Moving between areas: inter-local authority and cross-border issues**

- 19. Ordinary Residence
- 20. Continuity of care
- 21. Cross-border placements

## **Other areas**

- 22. Sight registers
- 23. Transition to the new legal framework

A report is due for July cabinet meeting which provides further details including the key financial risks associated with the implementation of the Care Act.

## **Question 25 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection**

Could Councillor Orhan comment on the recent advertisement in the local press for a staffroom assistant at Churchfield School, whose primary role at £10 per hour is to "provide weekly homemade treats" for staff at the school?

In particular can she tell the Council how in these straightened times whether she believes that this is a good use of education funding?

## **Reply from Councillor Orhan:**

I am sure Councillor Neville is aware that all our schools manage their own budgets themselves and make their own decisions and I can assure him that our audit team regular checks on their financial probity. However, I can comment on this particular case as I have visited the school and seen at first-hand how this post is used when they welcomed a visit from the Turkish Embassy to exemplify their outstanding practice in supporting children with English as a second language. The school's ethos is to provide an outstanding education in a warm and welcoming environment. This role ensures that kitchen areas in the school are clean and hygienic, that staff who are key to the outstanding progress made by children, are comfortable during their breaks, that the many visitors to the school are welcomed and that the meetings are hosted effectively. In addition the role works with the children to harvest and prepare food grown by the pupils on their allotment and in the outdoor learning environment to be eaten in school.

I am sure that Councillor Neville would be warmly welcomed to the school so that they could demonstrate the added value of this post. I suggest that Councillor Neville visits and then reports back to the Council whether he supports the decision of the school.

**Question 26 from Councillor Hasan to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection**

Can the Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection provide the Council with the number of successfully managed and delivered permanent primary school places for Enfield since 2010 and a brief outline of the challenges she faces in the coming year?

**Reply from Councillor Orhan:**

I am proud to be able to report that since 2010, 19 primary schools have been permanently expanded with an additional 4410 primary school places created for local children. The School Expansion Programme has on-going construction work at six primary schools in the borough all of which will be completed this calendar year. In fact, the completely rebuilt early years' site for George Spicer Primary School at Kimberley Gardens is due to be formally opened by the Mayor on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2014. For this September there will be 330 more reception places than there were in 2012 which is why we were able to ensure that over 93% of parents were able to get their first or second choice of school for the new academic year, putting Enfield in the top five performing boroughs in London.

School and early years places will continue to be a high priority for us and we face a number of challenges in continuing to deliver these permanent places, not least is the central government funding constraints and a failure to recognise inflation in the construction sector (our tender returns are significantly higher than expected due to market conditions). The options we are investigating for future expansion are all more challenging in terms of delivery – more innovative solutions will be required and this generally requires more money, i.e. to acquire land to support expansions or the take forward schemes in areas where more costly exterior treatments will be required to meet planning conditions. The Council is faced with having to borrow more to continue to meet our statutory obligation to provide enough school places to

meet demand.

Councillors will also be aware that we have been set a challenging target to provide places for targeted 2 year olds and officers have been working hard to develop the provision and to broker that with our parents. The numbers of places that we need to find rises rapidly this year to 2,700 by March 2015. I am sure you can appreciate the challenge that number represents but we are determined to ensure that our most needy families and young people can benefit from this opportunity

The uncertainty of additional free school provision, both in Enfield and in neighbouring boroughs means that pupil place planning across the borough remains a difficult task. We are aware of specific areas within the borough where parental choice is restricted due to limited places and we aim to address this wherever we can. Our recent announcement of new provision through the introduction of Bowes Southgate Green School (at Broomfield Secondary School) is our direct response to this demand and we continue to work towards providing a permanent primary school at Grovelands Park for this community.

There are also issues such as increased pedestrian and road traffic due to the increasing number of parents and pupils travelling to and from school on daily basis and both the Council and schools are working together to ensure that they can do so safely.

In addition to the work on mainstream places as our schools population increases we also have a real and increasingly urgent need to address our special school places and our provision across the local authority for pupils with special educational needs. This is a real priority for the coming year and I will be feeding back to Councillors regularly on how this work is progressing

#### **Question 27 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

Following the announcement of the £150 million fund for community or custom built housing, what steps is the administration taking to secure the use of this fund in Enfield?

#### **Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

Last month the government announced the launch of a £150m Serviced Plot Loan Fund to help people custom build their own home. Custom build is different to Self-Build - Self Build allows an individual to directly organise and commission the design and construction of their new home – Custom Build is when someone works closely with a developer to build a new home.

Funding is in the form of a loan and eligible projects must bring forward a minimum of 5 serviced plots which have a planning consent and ready for construction. The loan, which represents 75% of their eligible costs, must be repaid at the time of the property sale.

The council supports the proposal as a method of delivering homes faster and using local smaller builders and will continue to support applications by eligible applicants.

### **Question 28 from Councillor Kepez to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

Can the Leader of the Council advise what plans are being developed to commemorate the First World War?

#### **Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

We are arranging a floral display for a commemoration / memorial display for the start of World War 1 (WW1). This will be in Broomfield Park. The Parks Team are also planning some events with partners. Enfield in Bloom plan on planting poppy seeds in Forty Hall, Pymmes Park and at Millfield House.

The Library Service is delivering:

- CityReads' where the theme this year was WW1 with a graphic novel activity in the museum space.
- Displays throughout the period of the conflict to highlight notable events including in three libraries in August to commemorate the outbreak of the War.

The Museum Service will deliver:

- 'Enfield at War 1914-1918' exhibition in the museum space in the Dugdale Centre until January 2015 with activities for all ages and the production of two books of local interest.
- Working in partnership to create a WW1 work pack for schools funded by The Enfield Society.

The Local Studies Service will deliver:

- A Heritage Lottery Fund funded project 'Enfield at War' – a digitisation of WW1 & WW2 material and creation of heritage trails
- Articles from the weekly newspapers of the time scanned and uploaded on to the council website

Lastly there will be a memorial event at 2pm on 4th August 2014 which is the date of the outbreak of hostilities during WW1 (details to follow) and we are looking to pay respects to those that fought and honour their memory.

### **Question 29 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

Following a Government amendment to the Deregulation Bill passed by the Commons two weeks ago, the effect of which is to ban the use of CCTV cars/vans to penalise motorists for parking, will he now announce an immediate halt to the use of these vehicles in Enfield for detecting parking, will he now announce any infringements prior to the formal enactment of the change in the law?

#### **Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

The Department for Transport have already made it clear that there will be circumstances where CCTV vehicles can continue to be used. These will be around schools, in bus lanes, at bus stops and on red-routes.

**Question 30 from Councillor Esendagli to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety give us an update on the Mini Holland bid?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

We are currently carrying out traffic surveys to inform the preliminary scheme designs that we will be preparing over the coming months. In the meantime we are planning the extensive consultation that will be a key part of Cycle Enfield.

**Question 31 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

Can he tell the council how many penalty charge notices for parking breaches have been issued in Enfield, during the past four years, as a result of the use of CCTV cameras installed on moving vehicles?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

The Council issued 48,156 Penalty Charge Notices from the CCTV vehicles from 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2014.

**Question 32 from Councillor Barry to Councillor Simbodyal, Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport, Youth and Public Health**

Can the Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport, Youth and Public Health outline the challenges of tackling health inequalities in the borough?

**Reply from Councillor Simbodyal:**

The Black Report, which was published in 1980, demonstrated the correlation between poverty and ill health. People with lower incomes tend to die at a younger age and live longer in poor health.

In Enfield, life expectancy at birth for males is 80.5 years and for females is 84.0 years, but there are inequalities with men in Upper Edmonton living 75.7 years and women living 78.5 years. This is mainly due to people dying earlier from heart disease, stroke and cancer in areas of deprivation.

In Enfield as elsewhere the cycle of deprivation begins at the start of life. We have the largest number of children living in poverty in London. Enfield residents are disadvantaged by having one of the lowest public health allocations in London at £43 per person versus a target of £50, which presents a real challenge for our administration.

However, we are determined to ensure that we improve the health of people in Enfield and tackle health inequalities. Our evidence-based interventions are

showing some real progress. Life expectancy in the Edmonton area has improved dramatically with life expectancy for women in Edmonton Green now having reached 84 years.

We offer universal services throughout Enfield to tackle health inequalities throughout the borough such as smoking cessation and health checks. We do however have an enhanced offering in our most deprived areas. We have been working with the NHS to make sure that they are focussed on the medical causes of health inequalities and that high blood pressure, high cholesterol levels, diabetes, heart disease, stroke and cancer are better managed. Our progress in Edmonton means we can broaden our focus to other areas with below-average health outcomes, such as Enfield Lock and Chase.

Primary care is vital to tackling health inequalities in the short term, and we intend to work with NHS England to ensure that the people of Enfield receive the very best primary care services; especially in areas of greatest deprivation. We do also need to take a long term view and going forward we intend to have a much stronger focus on tackling child poverty and worklessness.

We need Government to show real leadership in tackling the long-term causes of poor health outcomes. Smoking is one of the biggest causes of preventable deaths, however the Conservative-led Government is failing to recognise the overwhelming evidence and calls from experts and health charities that standardised plain packaging of cigarettes is effective in tackling smoking. I would urge the Government not to cave into vested interests, and to help prevent more children taking up smoking by introducing this measure without delay.

**Question 33 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

How does he reconcile the abolition of area forums, without paying even lip service to public consultation on the change, with Labour's Public Consultation policy, and why was the possibility of abolition not canvassed during the last cycle of the fora?

**Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

Councillor Neville appears not to understand the proposal. The 7 area forums will be replaced by 21 ward fora. This increases not decreases, accountability and contact with the public. If wards want to meet together they can do so.

All residents who attended area forums will be able to attend more locally based, locally relevant ward fora.

**Question 34 from Councillor Lemonides to Councillor Georgiou, Deputy Leader of the Council**

Will the Deputy Leader inform the meeting of how the Council has improved services to deaf and hard of hearing people?

**Reply from Councillor Georgiou:**

We have a Sensory Impairment Team with staff who are fully qualified in British Sign Language (BSL) and other communication means, and a specialist social worker who is fluent in BSL and experienced in working with hard of hearing, deaf blind and deaf service users and their family members. We offer a weekly drop in where equipment can be issued directly, equipment replaced, information and advice given, including in areas such as housing, debt etc. and referral for full assessment. Individuals are supported in the most appropriate way for them to remain independent and socially included in the community. This can include purchased care and support.

The specialist social worker undertakes assessments and reviews for people with complex needs which includes a sensory impairment. The complexity of individuals' situations may relate to housing, education, employment, welfare benefits, social activities, isolation and social relationships and/or in accessing health care services.

Personalisation underpins our service delivery and a holistic person centred approach is adopted to all aspects of service users lives. The social worker, and sensory impairment Team, work with partner agencies and other professionals to provide information to service users and families in order to enable them to make informed decisions about how they wish to live their lives to the full.

The provision of specific equipment is identified to assist with communication, which may include the following:

- a British Sign Language (BSL)/English interpreter
- a lip-speaker
- a note-taker
- various sensory impairment equipment (to enable service users to live safely in their homes)

An equipment demonstration facility is provided in order to enable service users to see and test the different types of sensory equipment.

The Physical Disabilities Partnership Board has representation from sensory impairment users to express views about their experiences and services and highlight issues unique to people with a sensory impairment living in Enfield to ensure we identify gaps and further develop services.

The Council has also enhanced its customer service to the deaf community. The Customer Services division have retained their 'Louder than Words' accreditation, a nationally recognised best practice charter for organisations striving to offer excellent levels of service and accessibility for customers and employees who are deaf or have a hearing loss.

Since March 2014, a BSL interpreter is now available on the first Wednesday of every month at Enfield Civic Centre (9am to 4pm) to assist customers needing help and advice.

Finally a series of videos have now gone live on the Council's website including BSL interpreters advising customers on a range of council tax and benefits issues. Some

of these videos are available from [www.enfield.gov.uk/counciltaxonline](http://www.enfield.gov.uk/counciltaxonline) Further videos are currently being developed to cover a wide range of priority services.

**Question 35 from Councillor Rye to Councillor Taylor Leader of the Council**

- a. What consultation was there with CAPE Chair's prior to the abolition of the Crime & Safety & Stronger Communities Scrutiny Panel?
- b. How will the Council fulfil its duty to scrutinise the work of MOPAC and policing in Enfield now that the Crime & Safety & Stronger Communities Scrutiny Panel has been abolished?

**Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

- (a) Consultation with CAPE Chairs was not felt necessary as the Council is not changing in any significant way our approach to the scrutiny of crime and safety issues and the outcomes delivered. The Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC), charged with leading the dedicated work stream for crime and safety, have a dedicated lead to ensure that we fulfil our statutory obligations and continue to improve the effectiveness of our scrutiny and partnership working in these areas.
- (b) Under the new arrangements, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee will be directly responsible for the scrutiny of crime and safety: This will include scrutiny of the Community Safety Partnership and the partners who comprise it. As stated above, the OSC will appoint a member from within its ranks to be directly responsible for the scrutiny of these areas and there will be a standing work stream for crime & safety. The new arrangements agreed at the council meeting in June will, in my opinion, more than fulfil our statutory requirements and will allow for a more flexible and responsive scrutiny function.

**Question 36 from Councillor Abdullahi to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development**

Can the Cabinet Member for Economic Development provide an update on the work being done to develop a Lea Valley Heating Network?

**Reply from Councillor Sitkin:**

The Lee Valley Heat Network is an ambitious capital infrastructure scheme, with a vision to become the first city-scale heat network in London. It is set to capture waste heat from the Edmonton energy waste facility and other dedicated combined heat and power plants, using it to provide heating and hot water to thousands of homes and businesses in the Lee Valley, including Meridian Water, Ladderswood, Alma Road and New Avenue. The associated business plan is being submitted to Cabinet for approval in July 2014.

**Question 37 from Councillor Rye to Councillor McGowan, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care**

Does he support the abolition of the Health Scrutiny Panel given the excellent work it has done with cross party support to question and challenge NHS delivery in the Borough and how will the Council now fulfil its duty to scrutinise health care in Enfield?

**Reply from Councillor McGowan:**

Under the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013, and the Health and Social Care Act 2012, the Council is able to review and scrutinise matters in relation to health. In addition, there is a requirement for a local authority to have a process in place to respond to Healthwatch and NHS consultations.

This power and requirement do not state that there must be a dedicated and separate committee to scrutinise health. The above functions have therefore been vested in the Overview & Scrutiny Committee (OSC). The OSC will ensure, through the implementation and monitoring of its work programme, that the Council's statutory obligations are fulfilled by the lead members and the dedicated work stream for health.

The new arrangements agreed at the Council meeting in June will, in my opinion, more than fulfil our statutory requirements and will allow for a more flexible and responsive scrutiny function. The challenge to the NHS, which Councillor Rye has quite rightly referred to, will continue more robustly than ever. Plus opposition members will be as involved as they were previously so I fully expect the good cross party working to continue.

The Council remains fully committed to ensuring that the Health Scrutiny function will continue to seek improvements in the delivery of health services, address health inequalities and secure the best possible health services for the Borough.

**Question 38 from Councillor B Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

Can the Cabinet Member confirm the administration's intention to consult local retailers during the rollout of the Cycle Enfield scheme?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

As we have made clear from the outset extensive consultation will be a key part of Cycle Enfield. This will include consultation with business associations as schemes are being developed and with individual local traders once a preliminary design has been approved.

**Question 39 from Councillor Rye to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

Can Councillor Taylor confirm that officers have been instructed not to attend ward councillors' own local ward meetings when their expertise to present a particular topic would aid community engagement and enable councillor colleagues to have more effective meetings?

**Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

Officers have not been given any such instruction. There appears to be more confusion in the minds of opposition members than I imagined possible. It is a fact however that, due to the current financial situation, there will be a reduced level of officer support available to members to help facilitate ward forums. Support will be given by Corporate Governance to locate and book suitable venues. In exceptional circumstances, to be determined by the strategic importance of the issues to be discussed, a limited specialist officer presence may be available. Members should contact the relevant director, in advance of the meeting, to request the officer attendance. Further guidance on this will be given to members.

**Question 40 from Councillor Dogan to Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community Organisations**

Can the Cabinet Member for Community Organisations inform the Council how many volunteers completed 100 hours volunteering or more to be awarded certificates under the council's volunteering scheme?

**Reply from Councillor Brett:**

I would like to thank the Member for drawing attention to the great work Enfield Council has done in promoting and encouraging volunteering opportunities in the borough.

Since March 2010, the '100 Hours Volunteering' recognition programme, developed and coordinated by the Council's Corporate Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Team, has become a centrepiece of our work in this area. The events have been hugely successful and since the programme commenced in 2010 we have been able to celebrate the achievements of 2,340 local volunteers who give their time to support some of our most vulnerable people and worthy causes.

Our commitment to supporting the programme remains as strong as ever and we look forward to recognising the achievements of even more of our local people in the events planned for 2014/2015.

**Question 41 from Councillor Smith to Councillor Oyken, Cabinet Member for Housing & Estate Regeneration**

Following the report at Cabinet on Meridian Water, can he confirm that the Council will be submitting a bid for Meridian Water to become a housing zone following the recent announcement by Mayor Boris Johnson. Can he also inform the Council how he will acquire the necessary land at a reasonable price without using Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) powers?

**Reply from Councillor Oyken:**

The Council has already submitted a bid for Meridian Water to become a Housing Zone. The first council in London so to do. It is hoped that all councillors will welcome this news.

It is the Council's normal practice to try and secure all necessary land for regeneration purposes through a process of voluntary negotiation, within a framework of appropriate valuations and development appraisals, whatever the location. This often produces very satisfactory outcomes. Should voluntary negotiation prove to be unproductive however, and where there is a case for it, then the Council can and will, use its compulsory purchase powers, as it has clearly done in the past.

**Question 42 from Councillor Erbil to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

The Council has just been given an extra £350,000 for work on potholes in the Borough. Can the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety, inform the Council why he thinks the Government have done this?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

Because the Government recognises the outstanding performance of the London Borough of Enfield in managing its highways network in a very diverse borough.

**Question 43 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

I understand that the presumption is that the North London Waste Authority (NLWA) will finance and own the proposed new Household Recycling Centre in the east of the borough set out in the Labour Party Manifesto at the election. Please could the Cabinet Member explain this change of direction because previously the Administration turned down the opportunity of the NLWA owning the Barrowell Green site?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

Funding arrangements are currently being explored. I would remind Councillor Laban that this is a 4 year manifesto to be delivered in the lifetime of the administration.

**Question 44 from Councillor Maguire to Councillor Oyken, Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration**

Could the Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration provide us with an update on "right to buy" completions this year?

**Reply from Councillor Oyken:**

In response to the above I am able to advise that we have had a total of 34 sale completions from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30 June 2014.

The breakdown of these sales were as follows:

Freehold - 7

Leasehold - 27

In addition to the above there are four sales scheduled to complete in July 2014, three of which are leasehold and one freehold.

For comparison in the same period in 2013 there were 16 sales completed whilst sales for the whole of 2013-14 were 100.

**Question 45 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment set out the plans his department has to remove the algae in the New River from Southbury Road through to Parsonage Lane?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

The algae could potentially be removed but it would only be a short-term measure and therefore this would not be a good use of hard working families' money in these austere times.

**Question 46 from Councillor Simon to Councillor Simbodyal, Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport, Youth and Public Health**

Will the Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport, Youth and Public Health inform the Council of the number of people who took part in the night hike on 27 June 2014 and how much money was raised for charity?

**Reply from Councillor Simbodyal:**

The number of people who took part in the night hike this year was 450. This includes 35 people who booked on the night. This year we had a first, Kelly the Guide Dog was our first canine participant! This year's route went east and took in Southbury Road, the Hertford Road and Bury Street. The total amount of money raised won't be known until our partners from the Nightingale Hospice and Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust have collected their money but the money collected through entrance means that at least £5000 will be going to charity.

I am also very grateful for the support of Andy Love, MP for Edmonton, who again joined us at the start of the night hike. Alone he raised £920.

**Question 47 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

There were proposals at the election by the Labour Party that play roads would be introduced. Roads designated as play roads would be closed at times for children to play in. Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment give an approximate date as to when we are likely to hear more about the play roads policy?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

The Council is supporting this national initiative and will consider each application on an individual basis. However we have already had our first play road closure.

**Question 48 from Councillor Ulus to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance**

In order to cut costs but without any detriment to the delivery of a service, can the Cabinet Member for Finance advise what action he has taken on behalf Enfield residents to recover council tax debt?

**Reply from Councillor Stafford:**

In order to maintain Enfield's high levels of council tax arrears collection, which in 2012/13 was the 4<sup>th</sup> highest in the country, the Council has agreed an innovative arrears collection project with Agilisys Revenue Collection to pilot their bespoke warehouse recovery management service. This uses the 'PLATO' platform to identify collectable debts, and manage and execute the collection process. This service is widely used in the private sector and is now being piloted in the public sector.

Whilst debt collection (e.g. bailiffs) and credit reference data analysis services (e.g. Experian) are widely available in the private sector this service offers a fully managed service including:

- Automated data cleansing and segmentation between collectable and uncollectable debt using the PLATO system, and
- A fully managed debt collection service for the historic debts, including dealing with customer enquiries direct and identifying opportunities for attachments to earnings and benefits

The pilot is expected to run for 1 year. If it is a success, we will consider extending it.

**Question 49 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

Would the Cabinet Member for Environment explain in detail what the "Pop and Shop Policy" in the Labour Party Manifesto fully entails?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

'Pop and Shop' bays are planned for Enfield Town, Winchmore Hill, Southgate, Ponders End and Enfield Highway. The bays will provide free parking for up to 15 minutes and should be in place before the end of September, subject to completion of the relevant statutory procedures.

**Question 50 from Councillor Levy to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance**

Will the Cabinet Member for Finance inform the Council why Enfield Council has registered as a Fair Trade Borough and what the benefits are?

**Reply from Councillor Stafford:**

Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. By requiring companies to pay sustainable prices (which must never fall lower than the market price), Fairtrade addresses the injustices of conventional trade, which traditionally discriminates against the poorest, weakest producers. It enables them to improve their position and have more control over their lives.

**Question 51 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety set out what action to date has been taken place to remove the graffiti on the grade 2 Art Deco factory on Southbury Road and what plans his department has to make sure all the graffiti is removed from this historic building?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

The building owners have agreed to remove the graffiti. However, their priority was to remove the squatters which took place via an Interim Possession Order on 6 June 2014. The owners immediately set up 24 hour security and are in the process of securing the entire site. They have requested quotes to undertake graffiti removal and other works. We are at present looking to work with the building owners rather than take enforcement action, however If the graffiti is not removed within a reasonable time we will consider enforcement.

**Question 52 from Councillor Fonyonga to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council**

Does the Leader of the Council support the proposals of the Leader of the Labour Party to transfer resources from Central Government to Local Government?

**Reply from Councillor Taylor:**

Yes, unlike the Conservative side I do not see the centralisation, and continuing funding cuts as beneficial to the borough of Enfield. I welcome genuine localism and look forward to a more in touch Labour Government to replace the current Government.

**Question 53 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

The roundabout on Carterhatch Lane EN1 that has junctions with Linwood Crescent and the David Lloyd Leisure Centre has dried up plants and weeds in the middle of it. This particular roundabout is sponsored. What plans has the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety's department got to tidy this roundabout up to make sure that sponsors get value for money as sponsorship is something his department wishes to expand on as a policy?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

The roundabout is due for a maintenance visit at the end of July, which is one of the 3 visits it receives each year. We have had historic problems with establishing plants on this roundabout, and will arrange for any dead plants to be replaced, and weeds removed. The company pays for advertising space only, and any income generated is not ring fenced for maintaining the roundabout.

**Question 54 from Councillor Pite to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

Will the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety inform the Council what action he has taken in response to residents concern of anti-social behaviour in the Chase Green area?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

Enfield Council has introduced a range of measures designed to tackle anti-social behaviour in Chase Green following several complaints from residents.

These included complaints about young people congregating in the area, harassing residents and committing crime such as criminal damage, street drinking and theft which made them feel unsafe.

We have:

- Extended the Dispersal Zone for Enfield Town – until 8th December 2014. Agreed that a mobile CCTV will be installed to deter anti-social behaviour and record any problems.
- The Police and Council funded safer parks teams will be co-ordinating their patrols to increase the police attention to the area.
- Tasked youth workers to the area, offering advice and ideas for other activities for young people as alternatives to hanging around the streets and making a nuisance of themselves.
- Monitored the situation through Joint Tasking.

**Question 55 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

The consultation charter work being undertaken by the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety's department was brought to the former Sustainability & Living Environment Scrutiny Panel prior to the election. This particular piece of work was welcomed by the community especially the friends of the parks groups due to criticism with community and formal consultation exercises in the past. Please would the cabinet member give an indication to the chamber as to when we are likely to hear further about the consultation charter?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

The Regeneration and Environment Department is a Customer Service Excellence accredited department and we know that their services affect every resident, business and visitor in the Borough, and that therefore how we deliver our services is really important to the communities we serve.

I can confirm that work is well underway to produce the consultation charter. We will carry out a public consultation in the autumn and, as advised at the scrutiny panel in January and February this year, which you attended, we expect to present a final version of the charter to Cabinet in early 2015.

**Question 56 from Councillor Hamilton to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety**

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety explain why he has agreed for the Council to fund police body-cams to tackle domestic violence?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

Enfield Council has provided body-cams for the police for more than a year. These have been used to great effect in recording the scenes of certain crimes, including domestic violence and the impact on the victim and any witnesses to domestic violence, especially children.

The police maintain that this has increased the number of guilty pleas, which in turn does not perpetuate the ordeal of the victim and reduces the costs of criminal proceedings.

Since the pilot in Enfield, the Metropolitan Police Service has of course decided to make cameras available to officers in many more situations. They have also been found to reduce the incidents of aggression towards officers and provide an irrefutable record of each encounter.

**Question 57 from Councillor R Hayward to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development**

Would the Cabinet Member for Economic Development inform the chamber when the market gardening business plan will be finished?

The market gardening project has been financed via a grant from the Mayor's Regeneration Fund with match funding from LBE. Please could the Cabinet Member provide a full break down of the money spent to date on this project including costs that the borough has incurred as well as tasks financed by the Mayoral Grant?

The Mayoral decision in relation to the market gardening scheme sets out the project aims. This document states that LBE as part of its feasibility study/business plan has to identify sites that make up at least 50 with the scalability of going up to 250 acres worth of land for food production. Would the Cabinet Member explain where his department has identified these sites as part of the drafting of the business plan?

The current community growing scheme that includes sales of the produce grown (the vegetable box scheme) is not at the moment breaking even. Would the Cabinet Member explain when his department expects it to?

**Reply from Councillor Sitkin:**

Garden Enfield, the London Borough of Enfield's market gardening project, aims to build on Enfield's food growing heritage and help create hundreds of jobs by growing, processing and marketing food from the local area, with both a commercial and community perspective.

A business plan is in preparation, to inform the development of possible future commercial growing in Enfield. This plan will examine the viability of commercial production alongside consideration of the wider direct and indirect impacts and in relation to the horticulture sector supply chain. Appropriate land and property consultants have been commissioned to undertake market analysis, which will inform the final business plan.

Market gardening costs for 2013-14 amounted to £258,000, the lion's share of which came from the Greater London Authority (GLA). This funding was used to progress each strand of the programme, which has included:

- Forward investment to secure staffing, land preparation and equipment on 5 acres of land at Forty Hall Farm, to establish the community growing vegetable box scheme. The box scheme is being funded through GLA grant, as well as sales. Contrary to Councillor Hayward's assertion, in 2013-14 the account was in surplus.
- The development of a business plan for the Enfield Veg Company to enter into an appropriate legal entity as a community food project.
- A schools co-ordinator and equipment to enable 17 primary schools to become food growing schools, and involving 270 local school children.
- There has been a search to identify potential opportunities for commercial growing. Acquisition of appropriate land parcels will be subject to the usual process of due diligence.
- Marketing and promotional activities have included development of a dedicated website to promote the project, the City Hall Garden Enfield event seeking further GLA support for the project, etc.

**Question 58 from Councillor Savva to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development**

Will the Cabinet Member for Economic Development inform the Council of how he, on behalf of the Council, is promoting networking of small businesses in the borough and why this is of benefit?

**Reply from Councillor Sitkin:**

In your role as an Associate Cabinet Member I can see why you consider this an important issue to raise.

The Enfield Expo event on 10 July 2014(described in response to Question 14 above) is designed to stimulate networking of small businesses in the borough. The success of this event will be evaluated to assess its benefit to the business community and whether it should become a regular event.

The business arm of the Economic Development Service commissions the North London Chamber of Commerce and the Enfield Borough Retailers Association to deliver a range of services designed to support business both large and small across the borough.

These services include:

- running sector-based boards which bring businesses in the same sector together to network and discuss issues of common concern such as workforce development, business planning and logistics,
- maintaining a business directory,
- managing empty units in town centres,
- supporting recruitment and retention issues,
- supporting initiatives on Enfield's industrial estates with the Industrial Estates Manager,
- acting as a conduit between the Council and businesses.

The Council also supports Enterprise Enfield, the borough's enterprise agency to deliver a bespoke business support and advice service and includes hosting events such as the annual awards evening to showcase business success in a range of categories.

A vibrant network of small businesses has the capacity to stimulate growth and prosperity. An economy comprising a variety of businesses across different sectors can offer a greater number of employment options to local residents, helping to create a more vibrant local economy and address issues of social cohesion and worklessness.

### **Question 59 from Councillor Chamberlain to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety**

Firstly does the Cabinet member take public consultation for Traffic Management Orders (TMOs) seriously?

Secondly can he explain why the Council has already incurred expenditure on work for the proposed zebra crossing at the Bury Street West / Little Bury Street junction, which I understand includes installing three black and white posts, with four illuminated zebra crossing amber globes, and power supplies for the latter, prior to approving a Traffic Management Order which would provide the legal authorisation for this pedestrian crossing.

### **Reply from Councillor Bond:**

The construction of the pedestrian refuge island in Bury Street West (which does not require a TMO) requires the provision of illumination which in turn requires a power supply. For efficiency reasons, while providing illumination for the pedestrian refuge

island, the lighting contractor also erected the belisha beacons but in the very unlikely event that objections to the zebra crossing public notice are received and upheld, they can be easily removed.

**Question 60 from Councillor Chibah to Councillor Simbodyal, Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport, and Youth & Public Health**

Can the Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport, and Youth & Public Health provide an update on recent activities and events for the public at Forty Hall?"

**Reply from Councillor Simbodyal:**

The spring and summer season at Forty Hall & Estate has been well received. The programme started in March and has included a range of activities. These include walks and talks which show visitors how the parkland and the Hall fit together and to introduce them to the history.

Recent Exhibitions have included:-

- The Edmonton Camera Club Photography exhibition where visitors voted for their favourite picture
- Local landscape Artist Gillian Beagley, presented a collection of paintings of the landscape through the seasons
- My Garden Trilogy by E A Bowles: Centenary of a Garden Classic – is a display of paintings and writings from the famous local plantsman E A Bowles we are working in partnership with Myddelton House (Lee Valley Regional Park Authority), and the E A Bowles Society.
- Mummers, Maypoles and Milkmaids – a photographic exhibition explaining some of the wonderfully strange traditions, rituals, and festivals that take place throughout the country – in partnership with the Horniman Museum in South London.

Services for children and families:-

- Storytelling workshops have taken place for young families and grandparents
- Play schemes at the hall are very popular every school holiday. The estate gained Ofsted registration last year and the play schemes are delivered in partnership with the Play Service.

Family friendly events:-

- Come a Maying in May attracted thousands to celebrate the coming of spring through dancing, music, mask making, weaving and other creative activities.
- Late June we saw the first major civil war re-enactment event which drew 2,600 visitors to the hall and the park. The re-enactment society are local people – Enfield's Sir Marmaduke Rawdon's Regiment of Foote!

We have also hosted a number of weddings and conferences at the hall.

**Question 61 from Councillor Chamberlain to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety**

What is the complete and broken down costs of the changes in the Little Bury Street area, including those set out in my last question (Question 59 above)?

**Reply from Councillor Bond:**

The phase 1 traffic mitigation measures for the expansion of Edmonton County School, including improvements to the Little Bury Street / Bury Street West junction and the zebra crossing, will cost £50,000. Phase 2, which will include a 20 mph zone, speed tables, electronic signs and footway reconstruction is estimated at £200,000.

**Question 62 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance**

With reference to the electronic devices (iPads, laptops and smartphones) issued (or intended to be issued) to all Councillors since the election, could the Cabinet Member for Finance confirm the actual and budgeted:

- 1) purchase cost for all devices;
- 2) setup cost for all devices;
- 3) annual cost for all data and mobile phone contracts for all devices.

**Reply from Councillor Stafford:**

- 1) £35,378 Device costs

Windows 7 Laptop (£602 \*4) £2,408  
Nokia 520 (£99 \*51) £5,049  
iPad (£461 \*59) £27,199  
iPad printers (£361 \*2) £722

- 2) £15,071.56

10 project management days  
14.4 desktop engineers' days

- 3) £16,692 Ongoing cost per annum – no increased cost these are the same for the new equipment as they were for the old equipment

Windows 7 Laptop (£128 \*4) £512  
Nokia 520 (£72 \*51) £3,672  
iPad (£128 \*59) + (£84 \*59) £12,508

I believe the figure for agenda printing and associated papers for Governance and Scrutiny adds up to approximately £18k per annum added to the £20k per annum saved by the removal of the courier service.

The payback for this initiative is therefore between 2 and 3 years. There are also unquantifiable benefits, such as enabling councillors to work easily away from the civic centre, and when with residents.

**Question 63 from Councillor Lavender to Councillor Oyken, Cabinet Member for Housing & Estate Regeneration**

Would Councillor Oyken please confirm how much grant the council is entitled to for each new home developed in the borough pursuant to the New Homes Bonus?

Given the delays in the development of Meridian Water and sites under the council's ownership such as Lavender Hill, Forty Hill, Parsonage Lane, will Councillor Oyken inform the council what actions he has taken or arguments he has raised with his colleagues and officers to accelerate the development of these sites?

**Reply from Councillor Oyken:**

The New Homes Bonus is a grant paid by central government to local councils for increasing the number of homes and their use. It is based on the amount of extra council tax revenue raised for new-build homes, conversions and long-term empty homes brought back into use. There is also an extra payment for providing affordable homes.

Payments for each eligible property are paid for six years and are calculated per home in terms of the national average council tax band for that home. A flat rate of £350 per year is also paid for each affordable home delivered. Each net new home (excluding the bonus for affordable housing) is worth approximately £1000. The figure will change depending on which Council Band it falls into eg: 2014/15 Band D £1,455.60.

This is a bit rich after the Conservative Coalition Government's abject and total failure to deliver a strategic and coherent housing building strategy for Londoners. This has left many young Londoners unable to get a foot on the housing ladder. Similarly the previous Conservative administration did little for aspiring house owners in Enfield. The sites referred to will shortly produce new quality housing for our residents.