

COUNCIL QUESTIONS – 28TH JANUARY 2015

Section 1 - Questions to Cabinet Members

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

Is he proud of the fact that he and his fellow Councillors voted against the development of a state of the art hospital on the site of the present Chase Farm Hospital?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

I think you may have not properly understood the debate, or the position taken by my side. We simply could not support the motion we were presented with which was partial, failed to consider all aspects of the development, and was totally lacking in evidence of outcomes. Nor, unlike our motion, did it have any asks of the Royal Free aimed to protect NHS provision for the future.

Question 2 from Councillor Pite to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Can Councillor Bond please provide the Council with an update on the recent successes within the borough's parks?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Yes, over the past year or so to support the delivery of the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy we have been creative in using section 106 to deliver a range of park enhancements. These include the restoration of the Town Park Boating Lake, the installation of a new trim trail at Albany, restoration of the pond at Tatem, and planned biodiversity improvements to Oakwood Park.

The Parks Service has also secured Fields in Trust Queen Elizabeth II status for Craig Park, St George's Field, Jubilee Park, Ponders End Recreation Ground and Tatem Park, which increases the protection against future development and has led to the delivery of a new artificial cricket wicket in Ponders End Rec, a new orchard and wildlife area within Jubilee Park and new paths in Tatem Park. To this end we have also been awarded Partner of the Year, for Fields in Trust.

In 2013 the Parks Service secured funding from the London Marathon Trust to replace ageing play equipment at Wilbury Way and in 2014 funding for a multi-use games facility at Hazelwood Recreation Ground.

At Aldersbrook Recreation Ground a new social area has been funded by the Mayor of London's Pocket Park programme, which has resulted in the installation of two new table tennis tables, new picnic benches and new trees.

At Firs Farm a bid to the All London Green Grid (ALGG) has been shortlisted for a flood relief and cycle network through the park. It will be decided via a public vote through the London.gov.uk website.

We have also commenced a £2m capital programme this year to replace fencing, footpaths and play equipment that have reached the end of their serviceable life. Further we are committed to increasing the numbers of Green Flag parks in the borough and have carried out mock assessments of a number of parks with potential for two new applications in January 2016.

To support our Friends of Parks this year we have set up a series of workshops covering areas such as working in or near water, funding, biodiversity, basic grounds maintenance and recruiting volunteers.

Significant progress has also been made against the delivery of the biodiversity action plan objectives including the creation of new meadows, orchards and ponds within a number of the borough's parks, the planting of nearly 1000 new trees across the public realm, and the creation of new sustainable urban drainage systems within Grovelands Park, Town Park and Boxers Lake.

Six parks (Forty Hall, Grovelands, Hilly Fields, Oakwood, Trent & Whitewebbs) continue to be managed in a wildlife friendly way through Natural England's Higher Level Stewardship programme, with the Council receiving grant funding to manage areas of the parks in a specific way.

Question 3 from Councillor Vince to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education Children's Services and Protection

Is there a policy on how to handle issues of extremism in schools, as I am aware of a recent problem in a primary school?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

We are working with schools to implement and evidence the Ofsted /Department for Education (DfE) requirements on British values and ensuring that heads and governors are all aware of the support available if they have concerns about extremism. In addition, we are linking with the Head of Community Safety to ensure that headteachers are fully briefed regarding the Prevent agenda and how to respond should issues arise. Please see below further details regarding the work of the School Improvement Service (SIS).

The SIS is proactively contributing to the anti-extremism agenda; working in partnership with colleagues across the local authority to ensure that schools are aware of their responsibilities and the available support. This is also a key aspect of our response to the requirement to promote British values, which is now a high profile element within the Ofsted inspection framework.

Actions so far:

- SIS has run a very successful workshop for 30 heads and chairs of governors on promoting British values and combatting extremism
- The Head of School Improvement is working directly with the Head of Community Safety and her team to arrange briefings for primary and

secondary headteachers and to arrange that a direct link to their Prevent Website is on the School's Portal.

- We have included training on British values and information on Prevent within the Governor Accreditation Programme (GAP); the governor training programme.
- The Curriculum Access and Support team within SIS has worked directly with Community Safety and Safeguarding to support intervention with individual students deemed to be at risk of radicalisation.
- We have briefed Training and Development Lead Governors on the British values and Prevent agendas, the specific roles and responsibilities of governing bodies, plus details of the support and training available.

We plan to:

- Run further workshops for headteachers and chairs
- Explore the possibility of offering Prevent training to all secondary headteachers /senior leaders.
- Run specific one off briefing and information sessions for governors.

Question 4 from Councillor Bond to Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community Organisations

Has the Council communicated with our twin in France, Courbevoie to express our condolences and solidarity with the French people over the Charlie Hebdo events?

Reply from Councillor Brett

The Mayor of Enfield and I have written to Mayor Jacques Kossowski, the Mayor of Courbevoie, which is, as members will know, a suburb of Paris. On behalf of the Councillors, officers and residents of Enfield we expressed our sincere condolences to all the victims of the Paris atrocities and their families, and extended our heartfelt sympathies to the injured. Terrorism of any sort is completely unjustified and I am sure members will join me in condemning all acts of terrorism and all crimes of violence.

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

Can he inform the Council whether Enfield submitted a bid for the government's £90 million Transformation Challenge Award. This fund was shared by 73 authorities announced at the end of November, who had successfully bid for funding of projects designed to improve delivery of public services while reducing costs to taxpayers?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Yes, the Council submitted an application for the Transformation Challenge. This application was made after a successful expression of interest. This confirmed that the Department for Communities and Local Government supported the strategic case and vision for the programme, but regrettably we were unsuccessful in our bid.

Question 6 from Councillor Doyle to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance

Can the Cabinet Member advise what the percentage reductions are in local government funding over the last 5 years?

Reply from Councillor Stafford

The Government's Base and Specific grant funding to Enfield from 2011/12 to 2015/16 has reduced by 34%. This excludes ring-fenced specific grants such as the Dedicated Schools Grant and Public Health.

Question 7 from Councillor David-Sanders to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Will the Leader of the Council explain why opposition members were not invited to the Ordnance Unity Centre opening in December 2014 and will he undertake to invite them to such events in the future?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Council protocol for invitation to a neighbourhood event ('a new or improved local community facility funded by the Council'), stipulates that the Mayor, Lead Cabinet Member, ward Councillors and the local MP should be invited. I am pleased to report that all these members were invited and attended the opening event – Nick de Bois MP tweeting that he was 'having a tour of the new Unity Centre on Ordnance Rd with new GP services, dentistry, library and community hall – excellent facility.'

Question 8 from Councillor Abdullahi to Councillor McGowan, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care

Can Councillor McGowan give us an update on progress with the New Options Day Centre for People with Learning Disabilities, when we can expect to see it completed and how this centre will benefit those people in the community with a learning disability and their families?

Reply from Councillor McGowan

The construction is in the final stages; all internal work has been completed and the contractor is in the process of completing the remaining external work. The new building will be completed by the end of January 2015 and a robust transition plan is in place to ensure a smooth move for the service from the current premises to the new building.

New Options will be a valuable community asset. The current premises at the Claverings Industrial Estate are unsuitable as a base going forward and the new building will support the development of a more flexible service and community resource. The building will provide a safe base within the community for vulnerable residents with a learning disability, with close access to the high street and Albany Park to promote greater inclusion within the community. The building is fully

accessible with high quality personal care rooms, so service users with high, complex needs will be able to access an increased range of community opportunities, which would otherwise be restricted to them.

In addition to the extensive benefits to learning disability service users, the building will be available for hire by the local community outside of service hours, providing an opportunity for the local people to benefit from this modern, flexible community resource.

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

He will doubtless be aware that the Enfield entry in the London New Year's Day Parade was the winner of the competition and congratulations go to all those concerned in putting together the entry.

Can he tell the Council why, unlike all of the other borough's having entries in the parade, neither the Mayor nor Deputy Mayor nor any other member of the Labour Group was present to give support to those members of staff and volunteers who had given up their day in order to facilitate the entry? Could he also tell the Council what impression he believes those staff and volunteers will have as a consequence of this total lack of support?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

We were delighted that Enfield's entry in the London New Year's Day Parade "Under Your Own Steam" was judged best of those submitted by the 14 London Boroughs, and everyone involved should rightly be congratulated.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor were invited to attend in accordance with usual protocol but, unfortunately, both were unable to do so because of prior commitments. Their apologies were submitted to the organisers in advance as were, we understand, those of a number of other boroughs who could not be represented.

Arrangements are being made to arrange for medals to be presented to our participants. As in previous years, the organiser of the London New Year's Day Parade will join the Mayor for a reception and medal presentation at which the Enfield team will be formally congratulated on their excellent achievement.

Question 10 from Councillor During to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Does the Leader of the Council agree with Michael Portillo, ex Enfield Southgate MP, who said in November 2014 that Ed Miliband will be Prime Minister after 7 May 2015 and what impact does he feel this would have on the borough?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Mr Portillo is obviously a well-known and well informed commentator on British politics. He, of course, as an ex Conservative Minister, must be expected to support a Conservative victory in the General Election. However he appears to be indicating

Labour will win the General Election. Of course that will be a good thing and will be great news for Enfield.

Question 11 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration

I refer to the decision of the High Court in December quashing the Council's decision to introduce a Landlords Licensing Scheme. I also refer to his statement to the press issued immediately thereafter and repeated in answer to a question at the special Council meeting on 23 December 2014. Does the Cabinet Member not feel that this shows a degree of hubris, not normally associated with a defendant who had just had a pretty damning judgement against them, and where the judge had refused leave to appeal?

Reply from Councillor Oykener

I reiterate my disappointment and disagreement with the recent rulings made in the judgement. My press statement was that of a responsible politician committed to listening first and foremost to the views of Enfield residents: 84% of whom along with a majority of Enfield businesses who responded to the consultation, supported the proposals. It is also worth remembering that the judgement does not find fault with the scheme or challenge the evidence upon which the decision to implement this scheme was taken.

Question 12 from Councillor Esendagli to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration

Can the Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration please bring us up to date on the housing scheme in progress at Parsonage Lane?

Reply from Councillor Oykener

I am pleased to be able to inform you that the developer commenced on site 18th December 2014 undertaking enabling works to prepare the site. Although the contractor has not been working over the holiday period, welfare facilities have been installed and ground works have now commenced in earnest.

Parsonage Lane will deliver 18 new build homes which include eight units for rent and 10 shared ownership units, available for first time buyers to access the housing market. Additionally the Council has levered in £690,000 of external resources from the Greater London Authority to support the project.

The Council has taken into consideration availability, quality, cost and requirements for the planning approvals in choosing all of the building materials.

To speed up construction and reduce disruption to local residents we are using an off-site method of construction, which will speed up delivery and provide residential dwellings that meet level 4 of the Code for Sustainable Homes. These properties will therefore be more environmentally friendly and are very energy efficient, so residents

will benefit from lower heating bills. Training opportunities and the use of local labour and supply chains will further enhance the legacy that the project will leave. The development is scheduled to complete in December 2015.

Question 13 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration

Can he tell the Council how much money has been spent by the Council on legal fees in defending the action in relation to the Landlords Licensing Scheme and secondly how much money is expected to be spent in seeking leave to appeal?

Reply from Councillor Oykener

The legal expenses associated with defending the legal action amounts to £25,355. There are a number of variables relating to the expected spend on legal fees associated with the leave to appeal, such as the agreed barrister's fees and other disbursements, therefore this is not quantifiable at present.

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

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development provide Council with an update on the work being done to ensure continued inwards investment in our borough?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

A strategic document has been prepared that maps the route to a full inward investment strategy and a full service restructure in the next few months will provide the resource to undertake this work.

Question 15 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration

Can he tell the Council how much has been spent in preparing to implement the Landlords Registration Scheme on 1st April 2015 breaking down the expenditure as follows :

- a. From the date of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the date towards the end of July when Mr Regas first notified the Council that he was seeking leave to bring judicial review?
- b. The expenditure from that date to the date on which leave was granted by the Court of Appeal?
- c. From the date on which the Court of Appeal gave leave for the judicial review to go ahead and the date of judgement in that case?

Reply from Councillor Oykener

Prior to the High Court judgement, the Court made no order to prevent the Council from continuing with the development of the scheme. Having committed ourselves

through the Cabinet decision in April 2014 to implement the scheme by 1st April 2015, we see no reason why we would not have continued with the scheme's implementation rather than put ourselves in breach.

From the date of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 30th April 2014 to the recent High Court hearing decision on 11th December 2014, resources have been incurred associated to the IT and software development and web services amounting to £55,829.07.

In addition to these costs, £6,000 was incurred in the commissioning of the additional research report by Mayhew and Harper Associates approved at the November 2014 Cabinet. That decision reflected Counsel advice on the most appropriate decision making process. No other external expenditure has been incurred (other than legal costs) since the court decision.

Question 16 from Councillor Hasan to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Can Councillor Bond confirm what other boroughs are considering doing to reduce spend in parks and what is the London Borough of Enfield's approach?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Enfield has recently commissioned a review of the parks service to determine whether any efficiency improvements can be secured and to draw up a range of options for reducing the net Council expenditure on parks. This review will take into account approaches by other parks services in London and elsewhere.

Question 17 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration

He will doubtless be aware that his Labour colleagues in Croydon have decided that as a result of the judgement in the Regas case, they are going to re-run their consultation prior to making a decision. Will he explain why in the light of this judgement he will not simply reconsider the proposal and the necessity for it?

Reply from Councillor Oykener

I am advised that it would not be appropriate to comment as the judgment is subject to appeal and the answer to this question may stray into the merits of the appeal and be considered pre-judicial.

Question 18 from Councillor Jemal to Councillor McGowan, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care

Can Councillor McGowan give us an update on work to progress planning permission for the re-provision project and inform us when we might expect to see works commencing on the site?

Reply from Councillor McGowan

I am pleased to advise Council that it was agreed at planning committee on 16th December 2014 that, following re-consultation on the revised plans (incorporating reduction in height of the building to two storeys next to the Alms houses) and subject to no objections being raised, officers in consultation with the Chair, be authorised to grant planning permission. Advanced works on site, including re-routing of a sewer and BT cables are due to start March 2015 with main site establishment commencing in April 2015. The new building will deliver 70 beds, both nursing and residential, and will meet latest standards for Care Homes.

Question 19 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration

In connection with the proposed Landlords Licensing Scheme will the Cabinet Member inform the Council:

- a) With which boroughs did the Council consult, and when, and what was the nature of the consultation? Will the Council publish the responses?
- b) Broken down by focus groups and questionnaires respectively, how many people took part in the “listening and engagement” phase, prior to the formal consultation?
- c) Will the Council publish the questionnaire used for the “listening and engagement” phase, together with any materials provided with the questionnaire?

Reply from Councillor Oykener

It would not be appropriate to comment as these questions relate to the evidence in dispute in court and any answers may stray into the merits of the appeal and be considered sub judice.

Question 20 from Councillor Lappage to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance

Can the Cabinet Member inform the Council how much has been invested in the local infrastructure over the last 5 years and how has this impacted on net borrowing?

Reply from Councillor Stafford

From 2009 to 2014 the Council has invested £609m in capital investment. During this time, net borrowing has increased by £138m including £29m as part of the Government’s Housing Revenue Account (HRA) financing changes in 2011/12.

Question 21 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration

Again in connection with the proposed Landlords Licensing Scheme, can he confirm:

(if necessary by consulting with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety)

- a. That rates of antisocial behaviour have fallen significantly in the past year. What effect does this have on the licensing proposals given that antisocial behaviour is a necessary statutory requirement for the introduction of the scheme? How does this change affect the “evidence base”?
- b. Will he (the Council) publish its work on antisocial behaviour linked to social housing?
- c. Will be confirm that private sector housing has no monopoly on social housing?

Reply from Councillor Oykener

It would not be appropriate to comment to these questions as the issues are closely linked to the evidence in dispute in court and any response may be considered sub judice.

Question 22 from Councillor Erbil to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration

Following the successful partnership with British Gas on the energy efficiency works at Scott House, can the Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration please update us on progress with the British Gas deal to similarly upgrade a further six high-rise blocks?

Reply from Councillor Oykener

The scheme at Scott House has indeed been a great success and of benefit to all the affected tenants who are expected to see their fuel costs reduced by up to 40%. I was therefore delighted that officers were able to negotiate further energy efficiency works with British Gas to the benefit of more of our residents.

The works to the four tower blocks on the Exeter Road Estate and Welch House and Woolpack House on the Beaconsfield Estate commenced on 13th October 2014 and have a completion date of 9th September 2015.

As with Scott House, the works consist of applying external wall insulation to the blocks and renewing all windows, both to individual flats and communally. Other works in repair and upgrading to the external of the blocks will be carried out at the same time, for example installing communal satellite TV reception systems, lighting and repairs to the structure.

The external wall insulation will be fully funded by the Energy Company Obligation Agreement between British Gas and Enfield Homes with a further contribution to other works.

I look forward to visiting these Estates when works are complete.

Question 23 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration

Can he tell the what enforcement action has been taken under the Housing Act 2004 over the past five years, for what purposes and in which wards and can he give an indication in each category of the nature of the underlying reason for taking that action?

Reply from Councillor Oykener

Please refer to the attached table (Appendix A) which evidences the number of enforcement notices served by the Housing Enforcement Team over the past five years, under the Housing Act 2004 powers.

Question 24 from Councillor Kepez to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Cycle Enfield is a great opportunity to improve accessibility and improve the life opportunity of some of the borough's poorest residents. Can Councillor Bond provide an update on this scheme?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The Cycle Enfield Project will deliver many economic, environmental, health and public realm benefits and provide accessibility and life opportunity for some of the borough's poorest residents.

At the end of March 2014, the Council was notified that it is one of three outer London boroughs selected to receive Mini Holland funding. Since that time, officers have been busy making preparations to deliver various elements of the Cycle Enfield Project as follows:

- Completed topographical surveys and traffic surveys for the A105 corridor and Enfield Town.
- Appointed a Programme Manager to lead the Cycle Enfield Delivery Team, on 18/08/14.
- Cabinet approved the governance arrangements for the Cycle Enfield Project on 17/09/14.
- Commissioned Ringway Jacobs to prepare a business case (19/09/14) and to undertake preliminary design and modelling (05/09/14) through the London Highways Alliance Contract (LoHAC).
- Prepared a draft consultation strategy 20/10/14.
- Commenced preliminary design and modelling for the A105 Green Lanes and Enfield Town.
- Prepared designs for the Enfield Town to Meridian Water Quietway.
- Held public meetings and design workshops for the proposed Quieter Neighbourhoods e.g. Fox Lane.
- Held inaugural Cycle Enfield Partnership Board meetings for Enfield North (05/01/15) and Enfield West (08/01/15). The Partnership Board meeting for Enfield South East is scheduled for 19/02/15.

- Is undertaking parking and loading surveys and town centre surveys on the A105, Green Lanes; Enfield Town and the A1010, Hertford Road,
- Public meetings to be held near each of the main road routes in February/March 2015.

Question 25 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Can he tell the Council what he knows about the proposed North East London Strategic Alliance (NELSA) and what discussions has he been a party to in leading to the announcement by the Leader of Barking and Dagenham that such an alliance was to be formed? Can he also tell the Council whether he considers that this is a matter which should be the subject of a Council debate and decision?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

The proposed NELSA is in reality a name change of the NLSA (North London Strategic Alliance) which was formed under the last Conservative administration. I cannot find any record of this being discussed at full Council at the time. The membership of such a sub-regional grouping strengthens Enfield's position to influence policy and access funding and ensure we are an integral part of the Government's devolution agenda. It has never been more important to be part of a sub-region. The long term financial position of Enfield is protected by being part of an effective sub region.

Question 26 from Councillor Stewart to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Can Councillor Bond provide an update on the current consultation with friends groups on parks locking arrangements?

Reply from Councillor Bond

At Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 29 October 2014, it was agreed that the decision regarding parks locking be deferred to April 2015 to enable consultation with the friends of the parks and the police. All affected friends of parks have been contacted and the consultation is underway.

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

At the first meeting of Cycle Enfield Partnership Board – Enfield North it was confirmed that Federation of Enfield Residents and Allied Associations (FERAA) had not been invited to participate as a result of "a decision taken by Councillor Bond". It was also apparent that no residents groups for the areas under consideration had been invited to the meeting. Since the object of the exercise was to start the process of consultation on a spend of some £27m, can he explain to the Council the rationale for specifically excluding from the meeting, the umbrella organisation for residents associations in the borough and also representatives of the appropriate residents associations for the schemes that were being considered?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

The Cycle Enfield Partnership Boards are part of the governance arrangements agreed by Cabinet on 17 September 2015. Their purpose is to consider emerging designs in their particular area and to make recommendations to the Cycle Enfield Project Board about which options should be taken forward to public consultation. Each partnership board comprises of the following:

- The Associate Cabinet Member for the area (Chair) who may co-opt others to participate
- The relevant Member of Parliament
- Ward councillors
- Active residents' associations whose areas are dissected by a segregated cycle route
- Conservation groups and heritage groups
- Schools
- Enfield Business and Retailers' Association
- Cycling groups
- Age UK
- Enfield Vision
- Enfield Disability Action

In Enfield North, there appears to be only one residents' association that meets the above criteria – the Alma Road Residents' Association and they were invited to attend the partnership board meeting on 5 January 2015. There are many organisations that could have been selected to participate in the partnership boards. However, numbers had to be restricted to ensure that the boards function properly and, in my view, ward councillors have a responsibility to gauge opinion.

Over the coming months, there will be many opportunities for local residents and businesses to express their views on the Cycle Enfield Project. In February/March 2015, we will be holding a series of public meetings near each route, where the public can come along and discuss the plans with officers. This will be followed up with further drop-in sessions and a formal consultation.

Question 28 from Councillor Levy to Councillor McGowan, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care

Given the pressures on hospitals over the Christmas period, widely reported in the media, can Councillor McGowan inform us how our own local hospitals coped over the same period? In addition can Councillor McGowan also inform us how our social care services responded, given that social care pressures nationally are being cited as a contributing factor towards unprecedented pressures in the hospitals?

Reply from Councillor McGowan

There is a well-known crisis in hospital accident and emergency services in the UK. Our local hospitals, North Middlesex University Hospital (NMUH) and Barnet Hospital, have received large numbers of ambulance conveyances at their Accident

and Emergency (A&E) departments and were in and out ‘black alert’ over the Christmas period. This means that the numbers arriving at A&E who require admission exceed the number of beds currently available at that point in time in the acute setting. Chase Farm Hospital Urgent Care Centre has also had exceptional numbers and has extended its opening hours during this period.

Adult Social Care has increased capacity within the hospitals and community through the seven day working, including management support, facilitating the assessment and discharge process and access to equipment throughout the weekend as well as Monday to Friday. This has been in place since January 2014. Over the winter period, we have increased our social work, occupational therapy and enablement resources to cope with increasing demand and ensure that a whole systems and timely approach is in place for patients. We have moved some enablement assessing staff into the hospital teams to work with social work, ward and discharge staff to further support timely and safe discharge arrangements.

Community based health and social care staff including Hospital Social Work and Discharge Teams, Therapies, Community Matrons, District Nurses worked throughout the Christmas period providing cover to support hospital discharges from 24th December 2014 to 2nd January 2015. This included co-ordination between multi-disciplinary teams including Integrated Community Equipment Services (ICES), Outreach Teams, ICT Health, the Enablement Team’s Out of Hours Service and Brokerage Team. London Borough of Enfield (LBE) provided additional management cover over the entire period.

It has been acknowledged by both NMUH and Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals that delays due to LBE social care are minimal, our performance remains strong and our weekend and bank holiday working is making a difference within the system, both the Haringey and Barnet Systems Resilience Groups have aired this and our performance has been acknowledged by them. The few delays we have had over the last couple of months in acute settings are primarily down to nursing bed availability. There were no social services delays in acute wards over the Christmas period.

I would ask Council to join me in thanking all staff involved for their efforts in reducing the pressures and maintaining services for Enfield residents during this challenging period.

Question 29 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety explain to the chamber the criteria used when selecting which stakeholder groups would have a place on the Cycle Enfield, Area Partnership Boards?

Reply from Councillor Bond

As stated in answer 27 above, the partnership boards are part of the governance arrangements and stakeholders were carefully selected to provide a wide range of

views. Unfortunately, attendance had to be restricted to ensure that the board meetings are manageable and fulfil their purpose.

Question 30 from Councillor Maguire to Councillor McGowan, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care

It has been reported that the Ordnance Unity Centre attracted 50 new applications to join the GP surgery on day 1. Can Councillor McGowan give an update on how the centre has been received by the local community and how the Council is planning to ensure valuable community facilities such as these remain given the challenging financial context in which we find ourselves?

Reply from Councillor McGowan

I am pleased to report the opening of the new Ordnance Unity Centre has been received very positively by the local community based on feedback to staff and the number of visits. Ordnance Unity Centre for Health did receive over 50 requests to register with the new GP service on the first day of operating from the new premises and is continuing to receive requests to register. The library and community hall is now fully operational and are already being well used.

Question 31 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Can he explain to the Council the necessity to politicise his Christmas message and will he accept that it rather portrayed him as a “political” Scrooge?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

I am sorry that Councillor Neville did not appreciate the column I penned for the Enfield Advertiser. However freedom to express my views, as I see fit, is something that I will not apologise for. Perhaps the message was not to your taste but so be it. After all the Chief Secretary to the Treasury recently likened Conservative policies as taking Britain back to a Dickenson era, so perhaps I was ahead of my time with the column but consistent with a senior Member of Her Majesty’s Government.

Question 32 from Councillor Hamilton to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance

Can the Cabinet Member advise the Council what awards Finance, Resources and Customer Services have been shortlisted for since 2010?

Reply from Councillor Stafford

| Year | Award Body | Reason | Which LBE Service |
|------|--|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2010 | Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) National community involvement award | Community Influence | Governance Services (Scrutiny) |

| Year | Award Body | Reason | Which LBE Service |
|-------------|--|--|---------------------------------|
| | Municipal Journal (MJ) Awards | Excellence in Democratic Services | Governance Services |
| | LGC Pension Fund Awards | Pension Fund performance | Financial Management Services |
| 2011 | Mayor of London's Green Procurement Code | Green Procurement | Procurement Services |
| | National Customer Services Awards | Customer Service | Customer Services (OSC) |
| | Local Government Chronicle | Finance Team of the Year | Revenues and Exchequer Services |
| | LGC Pension Fund Awards | Pension Fund performance | Financial Management Services |
| | Global Business Excellence Award | Outstanding Customer Service | Customer Services (OSC) |
| 2012 | The Law Society Awards | Lexcel award for Excellence in practice management | Legal Services |
| | Municipal Journal (MJ) Awards | For Legal Service | Legal Services |
| | The Lawyer Awards | In-house Public Sector Team of the Year Award | Legal Services |
| | National Fraud Authority | Excellent financial investigation work with the Edmonton Police Pay Back Unit. | Counter Fraud Team |
| | Association of Public Service Excellence (PSE) Awards | Best Local Democracy Initiative | Governance Services |
| | MJ Awards | Community Engagement' | Governance Services |
| | MJ Awards | Best Local Democracy Initiative' | Governance Services |
| | Pension Fund performance | Financial Management Services | Runner up |
| | Soticom – Better Connected | Website reconnection | IT & Transformation Services |
| 2013 | The Lawyer Awards | In-house Public Sector Team of the Year Award | Legal Services |

| Year | Award Body | Reason | Which LBE Service |
|-------------|--|--|-------------------------------|
| 2013 | Government Opportunities in Public Procurement Awards | Shared procurement service with Waltham Forest. | Procurement Service |
| | New London Awards | Craig Park youth centre. New build extension and refurbishment £2.6million | Property Services |
| | IRRV Performance Awards | Excellence in Innovation (Non IT) joint Task Force with Housing needs, Job Centre Plus, CAB and other agencies to support vulnerable people through the Gov. Benefit Changes (Welfare Reform). | Revenues & Benefits Services |
| | IRRV Performance Awards | Excellence in Innovation (IT) –, Digital and online services for residents, landlords and businesses. | Revenues & Benefits Services |
| | LGC Pension Fund Awards | Pension Fund performance | Financial Management Services |
| | Telecare Standards Association | Excellence in telephone customer service | Customer Services (OSC) |
| 2014 | MJ Awards | Legal Services | Legal Services |
| | Lawyers in local government | Lawyer of the year Young lawyer of the year Legal team of the year | Legal Services |
| | The Lawyer Awards | In-house Public Sector Team of the Year Award | Legal Services |
| | MJ Awards | Excellence in Community Engagement' | Governance Services |
| | IRRV Performance Awards | Excellence in Innovation – My Enfield Account | Revenues & Benefits Services |
| | Improvement & Efficiency Awards | Translation and Interpreting partnership | Translation |

| Year | Award Body | Reason | Which LBE Service |
|-------------|---|--|-------------------------------|
| | | – connecting people. A partnership/collaborative working, shared services, in a diverse borough | |
| | London Councils | Manager/mentor of the Year recognises excellence in individuals and boroughs that are making apprenticeships a success in the capital. | Customer Services (OSC) |
| | The National Outsourcing Association | Ongoing success of the highly progressive partnership between the two organisations. | Enfield IT and partners SERCO |

Question 33 from Councillor R Hayward to Councillor Sitkin Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Both Labour and the Conservatives agree that there is a desperate need for housing within the London Borough of Enfield.

Meridian Water is a great opportunity to help fulfil this need.

- a. Has the Council managed to purchase the following sites - National Grid, IKEA, Dwyer, HSBC? If not why not and when is this likely to happen?
- b. Has the Council managed to secure Meridian Water within a Housing Zone?
- c. The Cabinet agreed the building of the "Boulevard" in the spring of 2015. Will work start in March 2015?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

- a. The acquisition of the National Grid site has been agreed in principle with National Grid and the internal approval process is now underway with a view to exchanging in February 2015. The Council's agent is negotiating with Dwyer and IKEA with the intention to agree terms in spring 2015. The HSBC owned land will be purchased once the Council has appointed a master developer so not to tie up all of the Council's capital.
- b. Confirmation of the Council's Housing Zone status is expected to be confirmed in March 2015.
- c. The first phase of works to the Boulevard, improving the quality of the road surface, remains on track to start in spring 2015.

Question 34 from Councillor Lappage to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration

Now that Enfield Homes is coming back under direct Council control from April 2015, can the Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration tell us how the ALMO is performing against the targets it reports to the Council?

Reply from Councillor Oykener

Enfield Homes report monthly to the Council on the Key Performance Indicators that cover areas such as responsive repairs, re-servicing empty properties, satisfaction with the repairs service as well as decent homes work, time taken to re-let empty properties, gas servicing, collection of rent and leaseholder service charges and complaints handling. I am very pleased to say that Enfield Homes' performance has continued to improve whilst costs have reduced. Eight of these indicators are on target, two are amber (within tolerance) and one is missing its target [stage 1 complaints that escalate to stage 2 (13%)].

Enfield Homes' performance is also reported quarterly to the Housing Board, chaired by the Cabinet Member for Housing & Estate Regeneration and which also includes the Deputy Leader, the Lead Opposition Member for Housing as well as tenants and leaseholders.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff and Board of Enfield Homes for their excellent work for the tenants and leaseholders of the borough and I look forward to welcoming back our colleagues when the Housing Service returns to direct Council control in April 2015.

[More detail can be found on the Performance page on the Enfield Homes website: http://www.enfield.gov.uk/Enfieldhomes/info/13/about_us/111/performance]

Question 35 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety explain the consultation process with the Parks Police, prior to the parks locking decision in October being signed?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The Head of Community Safety spoke to the police on the 6th October 2014 (Superintendent Carl Robinson) to understand the view of the senior police leadership team in Enfield on the proposal to stop locking the pedestrian gates for a relatively small number of parks where this practice remained.

The results of analysis by the Community Safety Unit were referenced in that discussion, which showed that there was no indication that locked pedestrian gates made a notable difference to crime figures in parks. This may be because in most

cases parks are by the nature of the facility almost impossible to secure against someone who is minded to get access to the area.

The response of the superintendent on the 8th October was:

"My position on this, as discussed, is that it is a matter for the local Council to decide, as the Council have ownership of the Parks."

He also noted that local officers should note any specific issues as the changes are implemented in order to assist with any future reviews.

This is what is recommended by the Council in its proposal. It was also repeated in the response to a question from Councillor Neville, in the public meeting of the MOPAC (Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime) roadshow, at the Civic Centre in December.

Question 36 from Councillor Dogan to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration

In light of the favourable national press interest in the innovative Enfield solutions to housing issues, what can the Cabinet Member for Housing and Estate Regeneration tell us about the conference on this subject being arranged by the Guardian?

Reply from Councillor Oykener

The Councillor is right to note that our concerted effort to improve the housing situation in Enfield is attracting positive interest from a range of parties regionally and nationally. At present we are looking to develop a conference proposal focusing on our reinvigorated approach to addressing housing need with a view to holding a dedicated event featuring nationally recognised speakers in March 2015. I believe that our multi-stranded approach is innovative and will continue to attract interest from those seeking to solve their own housing challenges. The Guardian and their 'Guardian Cities' team are interested in what we are doing and in our plans to develop the conference proposal. I expect more media outlets to register their interest with us once our plans are finalised, and any event staged to be a success.

Question 37 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety confirm claims that when consulting certain friends groups, they are being told to support not locking parks at night, because of the efficiencies coming forward?

Reply from Councillor Bond

It's an open consultation and we are listening to Friends Groups of Parks.

Question 38 from Councillor Kepez to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development provide Council with an update on Lee Valley Heating Network Ltd?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

Full Council on 8 October 2014 agreed to sanction investment in the development phase of the Lee Valley Heat Network (LVHN). This decision was based on a Business Plan which suggests strong viability for a heat network, with an early phase to support the major development at Meridian Water. Since then significant progress has been made:

1. Appointment of a full team of expert consultants to develop a robust project, which is already being seen by many as leading the way in UK heat networks.
2. The discussions with North London Waste Authority (NLWA) are progressing well, including the design scope for a prominent District Heating Energy Centre at the front of the EcoPark. Full contract terms and design sign-off are scheduled to be agreed by the end of April 2015.
3. Following a detailed management review of the project costs to date and the associated tasks and timelines to ensure that the LVHN business is legally, technically and financially sound, the company will finish its development and design phase earlier than expected. The main investment decision is scheduled for Cabinet in June 2015, followed by Full Council in July 2015.

Question 39 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Does the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety agree that as part of delivering the Council's key priority of fairness for all, all friends of the parks groups should be treated equally in the future whether they support not locking the parks at night or not?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Yes

Question 40 from Councillor Maguire to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development provide Council with an update on the work being done to rebuild Enfield's food sector?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

Enfield's Food Sector currently accounts for an impressive one third of all manufacturing jobs in the borough. The Garden Enfield Project aims to create further jobs with a food growing economy that is planned on a number of levels,

including growing on a commercial level at scale, promoting the Enfield Veg Co., and initiating Enfield Farm Start.

Commercial Growing

The Council's plans for growing at scale for commercial purposes is underway, with a robust business plan to underpin the creation of a joint venture with a commercial operator. It is anticipated that the first phase of the enterprise will be under construction by the end of 2016 and create jobs, in line with industry standards in growing, packing, processing, marketing and logistics.

Enfield Veg Co.

The Enfield Veg Co., a vegetable box scheme, which provides weekly bags of seasonal produce, launched in November 2013 with 20 customers and expanded to 55 customers over the past year. Produce from the Forty Hall market garden (five acres of organically grown vegetables) supplies, through its box scheme, a number of local outlets such as Budgens, Baskervilles Tea Shop and Forty Hall Café.

The market garden project resulted in three new specialist horticultural jobs in the borough and is a company limited by shares, and is the first of what will a number of new small businesses that will be created as a result of the Garden Enfield initiative.

The project has had well over 50 volunteers involved in the project as well as Capel Manor students. This opportunity will open doors for individuals seeking work in the food growing sector to gain valuable experience.

Enfield Farm Start

Another strand of the Garden Enfield project will support newly trained farming entrants with the opportunity to grow at a small scale and 'have a go' at growing commercially by providing land at a reasonable cost, infrastructure such as shared equipment and facilities, and support from experienced growers. The plots will be co-located to encourage support between farmers and facilitate routes to commercial markets.

Indirect Economic Impacts

The Garden Enfield Project will set up additional community schemes over the coming years and will encourage local residents to become involved in the growing project. The aim is to create a borough-wide network of growing schemes that offer opportunities for selling produce as well as the social benefits that will evolve.

The project takes the long view in the educational strand of the project which has thus far reached over 300 primary school children with access to growing on school grounds, and created work experience placements for a number of secondary aged students. The aim of developing both an understanding of the origins of fresh food and an appreciation of the health benefits of healthy eating will impact on public health issues now and in future.

Question 41 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety list the friends groups that have been consulted with in relation to not locking parks at night?

Reply from Councillor Bond

As per the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 29 October 2014, it was agreed that the above decision regarding parks locking be deferred to April 2015 to enable consultation with the friends of the parks and the police. The affected parks, with friends of parks groups, are being consulted as per Appendix 1 within in the Parks Locking Report.

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

Could Councillor Bond update the Council on measures that the Council is taking to encourage the uptake of electric vehicles?

Reply from Councillor Bond

We have already installed a number of electric vehicle charging points in our car parks and a few on-street as well. We also require new development to provide electric vehicle charge points in line with the London Plan standards. However, much more needs to be done if we are going to encourage the up-take of electric vehicles.

Most plug-in vehicle owners will do the largest proportion of their charging at home. The availability of accessible and affordable charging options is therefore key to increasing the uptake of plug-in vehicles. For many residents in Enfield off-street parking is not an option, presenting a barrier to plug-in vehicle adoption for many. In order to address this, the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) operates a scheme which gives local authorities access to funding to help with the costs of procurement and installation of on-street charging points in such residential areas. Enfield has recently applied to join this scheme, becoming one of only three London boroughs to do so. Providing the incoming government continues with this initiative after May 2015, Enfield will commit to provide a free on-street electric vehicle bay and charge point, as close as possible to a qualifying resident's home.

This is just one example of innovative action that the Council is taking to improve air quality and the borough's environment. Another is the London Boroughs' Consolidation Centre project that Councillor Stafford has been overseeing, where we have introduced a consolidation centre in partnership with Camden and Waltham Forest Council s that significantly reduces the number of delivery trips that need to be made to the authorities, saving money and reducing vehicle emissions.

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

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety explain the protocol in relation to consulting with Friends of the Parks Groups on parks matters?

Reply from Councillor Bond

All Friends Groups sign up to the Friends Agreement and the following elements on the Council side of the agreement would apply to consultation and keeping the Groups informed:

4. A Council Partnerships & Projects Officer will attend quarterly Friends Group Open Meetings (Monday to Friday) providing at least four weeks notice has been given.
5. Provide relevant information to Friends Group via electronic means.
6. Involve the Friends Group on relevant public consultation exercises and feedback results.
8. Inform and consult with the Friends Group regarding any proposed use of the Park for events, or for any other use not within the normal purposes of the Park.
9. Provide briefings/communication to the Friends Group on Corporate matters including those concerning the wider Council agenda.

Question 46 from Councillor Levy to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Since the Labour Council created a ‘Sustainability Team’ taxpayers are now saving almost £1m per year in unnecessary energy cost. Can Councillor Bond tell us the latest Enfield 2020 successes?

Reply from Councillor Bond

- The Council has invested almost £6.5 million to improve the energy performance of 48 Council buildings, 11 schools and all of Enfield’s street lights, which is estimated to save over £930k per year on its energy bills.
- Through the Big London Energy Switch, over 1,000 households in some of Enfield’s most deprived communities have registered to switch energy provider.

This has resulted in average energy bill savings of over £100 per year for each household that switched energy provider.

- As a result of proactive engagement with British Gas, the Council has brought millions of ECO funding into Enfield. This has already improved the energy performance of over 100 Council homes, saving residents an average of £400 per year. A further six tower blocks will now be targeted, together with private-sector homes in three of Enfield's most deprived wards.
- The Council has worked with other London boroughs to develop the £6.5 million Smart Homes project, using government Green Deal Communities funding to encourage take up of solid wall insulation in private-sector homes and help local businesses install some of the available measures.

As a result of its range of innovative energy projects, the Council was shortlisted as a finalist for the Local Government Chronicle 2014 Public Sector Awards for Energy Efficiency.

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

Over the Christmas period the weather got considerably colder and roads were icy and as a result residents complained to Councillors about how dangerous it was to drive. Due to these complaints would the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety put residents' safety first and re-evaluate the decision made in August to shorten the length of the winter gritting network?

Reply from Councillor Bond

When I reviewed Enfield's winter maintenance plan before the start of this winter season, my decision to reduce the length of the Priority 1 network for gritting roads in advance of ice and snow was based upon the principles identified in the national Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance Management, which sets out the priorities for highway authorities to consider.

The reduced network includes all Classified A, B and C Roads in Enfield as well as other link roads, all bus routes, roads that serve emergency facilities, main industrial and business centres plus access for Council critical service provision such as Council depots. The priority 1 network is approximately 32% of the overall road length of the Borough, which is comparable with other boroughs.

It is my intention to keep the Priority 1 network as agreed with Officers and to review it, as I do every year, after the winter season.

Question 46 from Councillor Chibah to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance

How much money has Enfield Council been awarded from the Department of Communities & Local Government because of its demonstrated ideas on how to improve prevention of fraud, increase recovery of money stolen by fraud and innovative ideas to generate the most effective savings?

Reply from Councillor Stafford

Enfield Council has been awarded £195,000 from the Department for Communities and Local Government in a bid to cut fraud. The money will fund a project that will focus on building fraud prevention measures and reporting of cases prevented across as many of the Council's services for vulnerable people as possible. It will see Enfield working more closely with other local authorities and the private sector to seek out potential fraudulent activity and confirm the adequacy of both prevention and detection controls.

Funding has been awarded as the proposal has demonstrated innovative ideas to generate the most effective savings. The overall aim is to stop fraud from entering the Council's systems and reduce the need for costly detection measures, reactive recovery and investigations.

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

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety inform the chamber of the amount of salt the borough holds for winter gritting?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Our highways contractor has over 700 tonnes of salt at his depot and we have an additional 400 tonnes at our Morson Road Depot. In addition, we have access to a pan-London stock of 28,000 tonnes through our arrangements with our London Highway Alliance Contractor (LoHAC), Ringway Jacobs.

Question 48 from Councillor Barry to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Would the Cabinet member for Environment join me in congratulating and thanking the many Council employees who have contributed to Enfield winning the 2014 Clean Britain Award in recognition of the Council's work in keeping our streets tidy for residents?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Yes this is a great achievement and recognition of the service provided.

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

Enfield Town has had over flowing bins at the weekend and rubbish bags left out on the street. Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety assure the Council that he will make it a priority to ensure that the town centre looks clean and attractive to visitors?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Yes

Question 50 from Councillor Jiagge to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Following the conference on tackling fuel poverty that the Council organised in November 2014, what action is the Council taking with its partners, such as British Gas and National Energy Action (NEA), to bring affordable energy to residents in the borough?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

The Tackling Fuel Poverty conference in November 2014 was a great success and helped to shape the beginnings of a Fuel Poverty Action Plan for Enfield, with Councillors Sitkin, Simbodyal and Brett in attendance. Attendees included Enfield's Citizens Advice Bureau, the Over 50s Forum and the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust. A follow-up event has been organised for Thursday 29 January 2015 to further develop the Action Plan Framework, by agreeing objectives, designating responsibilities and determining activities, so helping to outline where NEA's free support can be best targeted.

Work has started on creating 'Energy Champions' in the borough, with an Energy Awareness City and Guilds Level 3 course run over 7, 8 and 9 January 2015 for a number of partner organisation and Council representatives. The attendees are due to take the level 3 exam on 16 January and a 'Train the Trainer' course is being run on 23 January, enabling them to deliver Energy Awareness City and Guilds Level 1 to residents and organisations in Enfield.

The Community Action Partnership has started to look at referrals processes relating to fuel poverty in Enfield, to see if there is the potential to develop a multi-agency referral system. An initial meeting with key partners has been organised in January. The Community Action Partnership is already supporting events in the borough, with NEA, British Gas, the Leader of the Council and the Sustainability Service due to attend the Over 50s Forum Winter Fair on 20 February 2015. A co-operative of local businesses is also due to attend, to provide advice on installing energy efficiency measures in the home.

After the workshop on 29 January, further work will develop and embed the Community Action Partnership in Enfield, helping residents to access affordable warmth and reduce fuel poverty in the borough.

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

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety inform the chamber what percentage of the income from pitch hire fees goes towards the maintenance of the pitches?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Currently the Parks Service uses 37.5% of the income raised from sports pitch bookings for the routine maintenance of the pitches and associated equipment (goal posts etc.).

Question 52 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Please could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development inform the chamber precisely which projects will be funded via the New Homes Bonus (NHB) top slice monies?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

The New Homes Bonus top slice is to be used across 3 main projects – Apprenticeships Skills and Training; Support to the Business Community; High Street Improvements.

The Authority made bids for an allocation of the £70m NHB top-slice to provide funding for the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). What has been agreed is £1.083m which is equivalent to the top-slice. The agreed projects are:

| LEP Priority Theme | Project summary | Timeframe | NHB GRANT |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Apprenticeships, skills and training | Apprenticeship Training Association for the Construction and Logistics Sectors : Create an Apprenticeship Training Association for the construction sector in Enfield. The organisation would be commissioned by the Council to engage with business and young people, matching current students of construction-related courses, and individuals experiencing barriers to employment with local construction firms. It would also have a remit for identifying apprentices interested in pursuing a career in driving jobs as part of the logistics sector. | April 2015 - March 2017 | £292,000 |
| Business Support | Business Sector Forums - Development and Expansion: The proposal details the creation of Sector Forums for both the food sector and the logistics sector. The intention would be, over the course of the two years of funding, to then grow these new forums and 3 existing forums to include all relevant stakeholders, and look to make the work sustainable going forward by leveraging additional funds from the businesses involved and other sources of funding. The proposal also focuses on sector specific promotion of business in Enfield, | April 2015 - March 2017 | £291,268 |
| High Streets | High Streets: Physical improvements to a number of shop fronts within Enfield Town and Ponders End within the London Borough of Enfield. Improvements will target ground floor retail units of independent retailers as part of a block so that they contribute to the quality and appeal of the borough's High Streets. | January 2015 - March 2017 | £500,000 |
| | | | £1,083,268 |

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

Could Councillor Bond please provide a breakdown of the costs to the Council of Illegal Crossovers - Enforcement Programme Phase 1, including hiring temporary staff to carry out the work?

Reply from Councillor Bond

We already have an established team that manages the Council's vehicle crossover application and construction process. This initiative has required the up-front investment of an additional temporary highway inspector and technical support staff for which costs are estimated to be £20,000 to for phase 1 to the end of March 2015. Vehicles unlawfully crossing the footway contribute significantly to the damage, which results in the Council spending £2.5M per annum on resurfacing. This initiative will reduce costs in the long run.

Question 54 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety confirm whether he will look closely at traffic flow along Cockfosters Road and carry out a full assessment, with special consideration of the impact that the new Cat Hill housing development will have on traffic flow once completed? Cockfosters Road is a very well used and major access road between the M25 to Southgate, however traffic flow at peak times is often at a near standstill. The additional pressures that the new Cat Hill development will place on traffic flow will be considerable, and therefore will the member assure me that he will support my demand that enhancements and improvements to ease the flow of traffic will be made before the development at Cat Hill is completed?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The traffic impact of the Cat Hill development was considered in detail as part of the determination of the planning application and, bearing in mind the traffic that would have been generated by the previous university use, the Planning Committee concluded that the application could not reasonably be refused on transport grounds. This view was reached having to take account of both the collation government's National Planning Policy Framework and the Core Strategy developed by the last Conservative Administration.

However, amongst other things, the S106 agreement secured as part of the planning permission included funding to allow us to relook at the impact of the completed development on Cat Hill roundabout. I would be interested hear Councillor Charalambous's specific ideas on what he thinks can be done to ease traffic flow, but I am not supporter of an old fashioned 'predict and provide' approach which will simply draw more traffic onto the corridor.

Question 55 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety explain why Enfield Council does not collect recycling from commercial sites, and whether they will be willing to change their policy on this? After I followed up a complaint by the Hadley Wood Association Centre, I was informed that Enfield does not offer a 'fully mixed recycling service' for commercial premises. This leaves these

establishments no choice but to dispose of recyclable material in general waste bins which, in 2015, seems absurd.

Reply from Councillor Bond

The Council is not currently able to provide a mixed recyclables collection as it is not economically viable to do so. Commercial mixed recyclate is also usually of a much lower quality and with higher contamination than domestic streams which can cause difficulties at the sorting plant.

Commercial sites generally produce a different mix of recyclables to households with a much higher proportion of card and paper than is found in domestic collections. The cost of processing mixed recyclables is also significantly higher than that of paper/card. Because of this the Council offers businesses a paper/card recycling service which is both financially worthwhile and simple for them to manage.

Going forward we are currently procuring a new mixed recyclables processing contract and have included within the specification the ability to accept commercial recyclate. This contract is expected to be in place by October 2015 and once it is let commercial waste officers will reassess the viability of providing a commercial mixed recycling service.

Question 56 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Would the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety confirm whether he is willing to support a Cockfosters' resident's campaign for step-free access at Hadley Wood railway station? Recent maintenance works at the station have revealed several options for step-free access, and indeed there was such access in the past. Will the Member agree to put pressure on Network Rail to encourage them to introduce step-free access as soon as possible?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The lack of step-free access is an issue for many stations in Enfield and we have in the past successfully bid for funding from the Department of Transport's 'Access for All' programme for lifts at Edmonton Green station. The Government's £100m Access for All funding for the period 2014-2019 has recently been extended by £60m and now includes Palmers Green Station, which is the third busiest station in the borough used by approximately 1.7 million passengers a year.

Hadley Wood is a relatively quiet station (used by some 328,000 passengers per year) with only Crews Hill and Angel Road used by fewer people. It is sensible to consider which of the borough's stations should be prioritised for step-free access to take advantage of any future funding opportunities. However, my initial thought is that this should be Silver Street Station rather than Hadley Wood in view of the number of passengers using the station (815,000 passengers per year) and the high proportion with impaired mobility likely to be travelling to and from the North Middlesex Hospital.

Question 57 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Will the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety confirm when double yellow lines will be introduced at the end of Duchy Road (at the end closest to the junction with Lancaster Avenue)? After complaints were initially raised with the Council in 2013 about poor access and visibility into and out of Duchy Road due to parked commercial vehicles, a consultation only went out in October 2014, and no further action has yet been taken by the Council. The narrowness of the well-used junction caused by the parked commercial vehicles has substantially increased the risk of accident and injury and therefore parking restrictions are urgently required. The consultation which had 103 respondents showed 96.1% support for double yellow lines, and therefore can the member confirm when residents' will be able to see them?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The consultation did indeed indicate a high level of support for some form of yellow lines on Duchy Road. However, there was a distinct lack of agreement amongst residents as to the type of extent or restrictions that should be provided to prevent parking by commercial vehicles. Officers are currently finalising a report for my consideration summarising a number of alternative options. I can confirm that the restrictions at the junction of Duchy Road and Lancaster Road, at the very least, will be implemented before the end of March this year.

Question 58 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Will the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety explain why residents and businesses whose roads were removed from this year's winter gritting schedule were not consulted first? Could he also confirm why roads on which schools are located and the roads leading up to them, such as Hadley Wood Primary School of which I am a governor, were also removed from the schedule? Will the Member assure the Council that these school roads in particular will be re-added to the schedule as soon as possible to ensure that access to and from schools in poor weather will be protected?

Reply from Councillor Bond

I am not obliged to consult, however the revised priority 1 gritting network was published in the November edition of 'Our Enfield'; it was covered in my article in the local paper in response to the decision being called-in, and it is clearly set out on Enfield's website.

Question 59 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Will the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety provide an update on the new housing development at Cat Hill; confirm when the development is due to

be completed; and confirm whether the developer has been complying with all relevant development and planning conditions?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The residential development of 231 dwelling continues and is scheduled for completion around April 2016. The developer has complied with all conditions of the planning permission and the site continues to be regularly monitored by officers to ensure compliance with the approved plans and conditions. This monitoring includes regular visits by the tree officer.

Question 60 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Following the recent news that Allianze University College of Medical Sciences (AUCMS), the owners of the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Park, are in liquidation:

- a. Could Councillor Taylor confirm that the Council will immediately repair the well-used Snakes Lane which has found itself in a state of very perilous repair for some time? Snakes Lane is a private road which forms part of the estate sold to AUCMS, however it is used on a daily basis by Trent Park residents, users of the Trent Park hockey and football clubs, and other visitors to the Park. It currently finds itself with crater-sized pot holes, which have substantially increased the likelihood of accident and serious injury.
- b. Will the Leader of the Council support my campaign to ensure that a responsible buyer is found for the site that will enhance the site and provide cultural and educational opportunities, as well as protect and promote the history and heritage of the Grade II listed site and grounds? Will he assure me that the Council will endeavour to ensure the site will not be sold to a property developer with a view to building housing in Trent Park, and that under no circumstances would planning permission be granted for housing on this site?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

- a. The responsibility for repairing the private road known as Snakes Lane rests with the owner of the road. However, Enfield Council is considering a number of options and powers, and has written to the university to discuss different ways of solving this issue for the benefit of Enfield residents. We have recently had a response from the group that has responsibility for managing the site and officers will be meeting their directors to broker a solution taking into account the Council's interests as you have identified.
- b. Officers are committed to working with all parties including potential future purchasers, to safeguard the future of this site in line with adopted policy. The Council adopted a Planning Statement (July 2012) for the former campus setting out the Council's views on the future options and land use potential. The statement recognised any future proposals would need to be heritage led and sensitive to this context due to the statutory requirement to preserve the

significant heritage and landscape value of the former campus (the mansion and gardens are Grade II listed while the site is designated Metropolitan Open Land (MOL)). Within this however, development could potentially involve educational, community, leisure, recreational and economic opportunities subject to appropriateness.

The adopted statement highlights that local and national policy would not support a residential led scheme although it recognises that an institutional residential use or residential development as an ancillary that acts as an enabler may have to be considered.

Question 61 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety confirm whether he supports Conservative demands for 20 minutes free parking on all high streets in Enfield? Businesses across Cockfosters, including those on Cockfosters Road, have been demanding time-limited free parking in front of their businesses for several years.

Despite numerous petitions from businesses and residents across my ward over recent years calling for time-limited free parking, no action as yet been taken, and I understand the Council instead intends to increase parking fees across Enfield. When will the Member realise that punitive parking charges for high street shoppers only serves to starve trade and business to local high streets, damaging the businesses which Enfield residents depend on?

Reply from Councillor Bond

We have been trialling 'stop and shop' bays which entitle motorists to park for free for 15 minutes since 6 October 2014. They are located at various shopping areas in the west and east of the borough. We will be reviewing the outcome of the trial in March 2015.

We have no plans to increase parking charges.

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

Will the Cabinet Member for Finance explain why applicants for a disabled persons' Blue Badge can only apply online? Many people who require a Blue Badge may not have the means of accessing a computer and internet, and therefore will the member confirm that paper applications can be sent to those who request one?

Reply from Councillor Stafford

In line with the Department for Transport Blue Badge Improvement Scheme (BBIS) and wider Digital Britain programme, Blue Badge applications were switched to online in Enfield in December 2013.

Provisions have been put in place to assist those who may not have access to a computer or who are unfamiliar with using one as follows:

- Customers can visit any of our libraries, where they can get assistance from a member of staff.
- Visit any of our Access Centres (Civic Centre/John Wilkes House/Edmonton Green), where assistance can be given to complete by one of our Digital Champions.
- Customers can also call the Concessionary Travel Team, who will go through the application form over the phone with them.
- Should a customer not be able to use any of the above options, a paper form can be sent out.

In 2014 90% of all Blue Badge applications were made on line.

Question 63 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Will the Leader of the Council join me and the Conservative Group in congratulating the Chickenshed Theatre on their successful Christmas run of Peter Pan, for which I was grateful to be invited together with colleagues from both sides of the Council? Will he share my view that Enfield Council should continue to support this excellent charity's future endeavours?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

I would like to congratulate Chickenshed Theatre on their very successful Christmas show, Peter Pan. I know that Councillors and all the residents who attended had a very enjoyable time. Enfield Council is always keen to support Chickenshed Theatre as it provides a very valuable service to our residents. I am aware that Officers have been supporting Chickenshed most visibly in their recent 40th Anniversary celebrations and we will continue to support Chickenshed with their future endeavours.

Question 64 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Please could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development inform the chamber of the number of copies of Opportunity Enfield have been printed and the cost?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

Opportunity Enfield is a private sector funded, professionally produced magazine aimed at attracting inward investment and raising the profile of the borough. 5000 copies are produced for each edition – supported by associated networking events, an on-going e-news service and a managed website. All this is achieved at a cost to Enfield Council of a single page advert - £4,000 + VAT - per edition. The rest is funded by key local stakeholders who will all benefit from Enfield's improving profile.

Question 65 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Please could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development set out in detail the names of all the stakeholders that the Opportunity Enfield magazine was:

- a. Mailed to via the post?
- b. Emailed to?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

- a. 3Fox post the magazine to over 3500 stakeholders including developers, investors, local and central government officers, partner organisations, politicians and interested individuals. This information contains third party, personal data. The disclosure of such information would breach the fair processing principle contained in the Data Protection Act (DPA) 1998, where it would be unfair to that person to release the information.
- b. 3Fox send enewsletters to the same contact list. This information contains third party, personal data. The disclosure of such information would breach the fair processing principle contained in the Data Protection Act (DPA) 1998, where it would be unfair to that person to release the information.

Question 66 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Please could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development inform the chamber of how many meetings he or his Assistant Director have had with organisations since May 2014 as a result of information on the Opportunity Website or the recent brochures?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

We meet constantly with a number of organisations on the Opportunity Enfield distribution list, including Ardmore Construction, Ikea, Johnson Matthey, London Waste, Mulalley, Newlon Housing, Segro, St Modwen and Thames Water. In addition, we often use Opportunity Enfield distribution material as backup on the many occasions we meet with other manufacturers, logistics specialists and potential future investors in Enfield. I do hope that Councillor Laban is aware that counterparts tend to provide one another with information packs?

Let's also hope Councillor Laban realises the impossibility of identifying every company who has consulted the Opportunity Enfield website as a result of the stellar work this administration has done in raising the borough's profile following eight years of Conservative passivity. If by organisations she is asking which businesses we have contacted, the answer is that above and beyond the aforementioned regular contacts we meet with a minimum of two new companies each month to discuss issues relating to employment and business investment. Not to mention a number of specific sector forums attended by the Cabinet Member and officers; the business ambassadors' meeting hosted by Coca Cola; and other productive conferences

planned for the near future, starting with the business ‘summit’ we have organised to match STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) education and skills to employment needs.

Question 67 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Please could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development explain whether the Opportunity Enfield magazine was printed by Enfield Council’s in house design and print service or whether it was printed by an external printing company?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

The magazine is a privately funded magazine and not an Enfield Council publication. Independent publishers 3Fox use their own external print company.

Question 68 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Please could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development inform the chamber how many hits that www.opportunityenfield.com has had since May 2014?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

As of 15 Jan 2015, from 1 May 2014 the Opportunity Enfield website received 5,193 page hits from 2,875 individual users. The main draw of this privately funded website is the on-going news service. It is also an effective ‘shop window’ for any company looking into Enfield, as an investor or would-be occupier.

Question 69 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Please could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development set out what targets he has set 3 Fox International to achieve as part of its contract with the London Borough of Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

There is no contract in place with 3Fox. Opportunity Enfield is an independently produced, privately funded publication under independent editorial control.

Question 70 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

The Burleigh Way development in Enfield Town has all its shops vacant. Please could the Cabinet Member explain what strategies his department is putting into place to work with partners and investors to get those shop units filled?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

This work is already underway. The Enfield Thinks project (funded by the Mayors High Street Fund) will use these shops to host the boroughs first pop up university (with Birbeck) to host a 13 week programme of teaching and access to employment events. Additionally the landlord has met with officers and Middlesex University to work up a project of employment start-ups for students who need a venue to 'kick start' their way to being an entrepreneur.

Question 71 from Councillor Celebi to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety set out the communication to date with the Friends of Bury Lodge regarding the clearance of the site?

Reply from Councillor Bond

An open meeting was held in March 2014 with Friends of Bury Lodge Park about proposed development (advertised in newsletter).

A further consultation event has been arranged for 24th January 2015, this is being hosted jointly by Enfield Council and Thames21.

Question 72 from Councillor Celebi to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Would the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety ensure that the Friends of Bury Lodge will be fully consulted with over the new SUDs (Sustainable, Urban Drainage systems) project in Bury Lodge Park?

Reply from Councillor Bond

A public consultation event has already been organised for Saturday 24th January 2015. The Friends of Bury Lodge Group, local residents and ward Councillors have been invited to discuss the scheme with Council officers and representatives from Thames 21.

Question 73 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety confirm that his department will be submitting an application to receive funding from the Department for Communities and Local Government's (DCLG) new fund to help Councils crack down on unauthorised development?

Reply from Councillor Bond

DCLG has just announced a new fund of £1 million of which £200K will be available between now and 31 March this year, and the remaining £800K will be available until

31 March 2016. The objective is to offer some financial assistance up to £10k or 50% of the costs (whichever is the lesser amount) in progressing injunctions in planning cases against a persistent breach of planning control. The grant has to be applied for and is subject to a range of conditions. However, conditions and the maximum grant for any one case is limited to not more than half the Council's estimated costs, but is limited to a maximum payment of £10K. Funding will only be available where other enforcement options have been, or would be, ineffective, or where there have been persistent breaches of planning control over a long period. A number of cases are being reviewed to see if they would meet the eligibility criteria. If so, applications will be made to access the fund.

Section 2 - Questions to Associate Cabinet Members

Question 74 from Councillor Chamberlain to Councillor Savva, Associate Cabinet Member (Enfield South East)

Could the Associate Cabinet Member please tell the Council what meetings he has attended and with whom since last Council meeting?

Reply from Councillor Savva

I would like to thank Councillor Lee Chamberlin for his question over my various activities during the last 2 months.

Given below is a brief description of some of the activities –

- I will start with the site visit in his ward at Bury Street Lodge site on the proposed development. Present at the site were Councillors Ahmet Oykener, Sarah Doyle, Erin Celebi, and the Friends of Bury Lodge John Jewson, Denise Valance, 3 members from the Bowls Club, plus Andrew Doyle, Mohammed Lais LBE, Anne Crown LBE Sarah Carter LBE.
- Attended a community meeting at Green Towers, Edmonton Green following an incident in one of the blocks at Edmonton Green. Present were the police, Andy Love MP representatives from L&Q housing association, tenants and leaseholders and community workers. Here we heard the residents' comments, concerns and suggestions.
- Met with the Church Lane Residents Association, along with LBE officers - Bob Griffiths, Robert Oles, Andy Higham, had meeting with the Chair of CAPE (Community Action Partnership for Enfield) Mr Eddie Fraser. Had a meeting with the leaseholders over the payment arrangements towards the improvements works in the Council flats or houses (matter ongoing).
- Had meetings with the resident's representative in Oxford Gardens over alleged unsociable behaviour and have brought this to the attention of the ward councillors and officers (not South East).
- Attended the following meetings - Local Plan Cabinet Sub Committee, Corporate Asset Management, Cabinet meetings, Strategic Leadership,

Chaired a well-attended South East Partnership meeting, formerly the Edmonton Leeside Partnership.

- Chaired another well attended Ward Forum for Edmonton Green, Haselbury, Upper Edmonton.

Question 75 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Uzoanya, Associate Cabinet Member (Enfield North)

Could the Associate Cabinet Member please tell the Council what meetings he has attended and with whom since last Council meeting?

Reply from Councillor Uzoanya

May I advise Councillor Laban to refer to the Associate Cabinet Member (Enfield North) report which went to Cabinet in December, which list details of the meetings I have attended, and for her to note that despite me extending the invitation to Councillor Laban, Councillor Elaine Haywood and Councillor Neville, only one Councillor from her party, Councillor Dines, has invited me to their ward forum.

More recently I attended the heavily attended meeting called Cycle Enfield, which I chaired but surprisingly did not feature Councillor Laban, whom I understand is keen as I am for Cycle Enfield to be wheeled not just across Enfield North but other parts of the Borough.

I look forward to further meetings and working closely with her on projects such as Cycle Enfield.

Question 76 from Councillor Neville to Councillor B Charalambous, Associate Cabinet Member (Enfield West)

Could the Associate Cabinet Member please tell the Council what meetings he has attended and with whom since last Council meeting?

Reply from Councillor Charalambous

Since the last Council meeting on 19 November 2014 I have attended the following meetings in my capacity as Associate Cabinet Member for West Enfield:

- 4 December 2014 - Broomfield House Partnership Board
- 10 December 2014 - Cabinet
- 17 December 2014 - Winchmore Hill Community Forum
- 8 January 2015 - Corporate Asset Management Board
- 8 January 2015 - Cycle Enfield Partnership Board - Enfield West
- 13 January 2015 - Southgate Green Community Forum
- 19 January 2015 - West Enfield Partnership Board

I also have the following meetings in my diary at present until full Council on 28 January 2015

- 20 January 2015 - Palmers Green Community Forum
- 26 January 2015 - Broomfield House Partnership Board

Section 3 - Questions to Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members

Question 77 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Cazimoglu, Chair of the Health Scrutiny Workstream?

Would she tell the Council what she understands to be the meaning of the term “cottage hospital”?

Reply from Councillor Cazimoglu

The term Cottage Hospital is used to describe a centre which provides healthcare facilities and resources, smaller than a district hospital, not housing an A&E or Maternity Unit. It most certainly is not a district general hospital as was present on the Chase Farm Site before this governments downgrade.