

Council Questions – Wednesday 25 March 2015

Section 1 - Questions to Cabinet Members

Question 1 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety present a breakdown of fly tipping levels per ward from May 2014?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The information is not available on a ward basis.

Question 2 from Councillor Abdullahi to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development please tell the Council about the work being done to build the Meridian Water Train Station?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

In partnership with Network Rail, Greater London Authority (GLA) and Transport for London (TfL), the Council has reached agreement for a £122m scheme to provide three tracking from Stratford to Angel Road station (S.T.A.R.) increasing rail provision at Meridian Water from the existing 0-2 trains an hour up to four trains an hour from 2018.

Angel Road station forms the central public transport hub for Meridian Water. It is a key element of the Mater Plan around which proposed new neighbourhoods have been planned and will be built to access via Meridian Boulevard to the east and directly from the Meridian Angel neighbourhood to the west. It's delivery is therefore essential to unlocking large scale housing developments and access to the employment opportunities in the Lee Valley.

A package of funding was approved at Cabinet (subject to call in) on 11 March 2015 to progress the project to the next stage of technical design to be delivered by Network Rail appointed consultants, Volker Fitzpatrick. It is anticipated that GLA funding approval will be secured by May 2015. It is expected that works will start on site during Summer 2016 and complete early 2018.

Question 3 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

Please list to date the Friends of the Parks Groups whom you have met as part of the consultation process in relation to not locking parks at night?

Reply from Councillor Bond

All Friends of Parks Groups that are affected by the proposal have been offered a meeting. Those that have taken up the offer are:

Aldersbrook Rec.
Town Park
Albany Park
Jubilee Park
Broomfield Park
Bury Lodge Gardens
Hazelwood Sports Ground
Oakwood Park
Trent
Forty Hall
Enfield Playing Fields
Grovelands Park
Pymmes
Tatem and Weir Hall

All other Friends of Parks Groups have been invited to put forward their views as part of the consultation.

Question 4 from Councillor Doyle to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

On average students from Enfield are likely to graduate with a debt of £44,000 and write offs are set to jump to £21bn over the next three decades. Does the Leader agree that the Government's system is not only bad for students but bad for Government debt?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Labour plans to cut tuition fees to £6,000 – a great boost for Enfield's young people. I am worried about the huge public debt that will never be repaid and I am surprised by the lack of awareness or any apparent concern shown by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Question 5 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

A Friends of the Parks Group has contacted me regarding their consultation meeting with you. They felt that the meeting was unconstructive and they were not talking to a representative from an organisation that was willing to listen to concerns raised.

Please could the Cabinet Member explain to the chamber whether or not his department is truly listening to the views of the Friends of the Park's Group in relation to not locking parks?

Reply from Councillor Bond

They are.

Question 6 from Councillor Barry to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety give the Council an update on Cycle Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Bond

In December 2014, Transport for London's Surface Board approved the release of Mini Holland funding for design and implementation in 2015/16.

In January/February 2015, inaugural meetings were held for all three of the Cycle Enfield Partnership Boards. These cover Enfield North, Enfield West and Enfield South East.

In February 2015, we started a series of exhibitions at local venues to update local residents and businesses about the Cycle Enfield project and enable them to comment on emerging designs. These exhibitions were held at Palmers Green, Enfield Town and Edmonton Green. A further exhibition will be held at Freezy Water on 2 April 2015. The drawings at these exhibitions showed how road space could be reallocated to accommodate cycle lanes. A further round of exhibitions is planned for June, followed by a 12 week public consultation.

Work is continuing with the preliminary design and modelling of main road cycle routes at A105, Green Lanes; A110, Southbury Road; Enfield Town and A1010, Hertford Road. Various surveys have been undertaken to gather the information needed for design. These include topographical surveys, traffic surveys, parking and loading surveys, town centre surveys and surveys to establish the locations of buried pipes, cables and ducts. Base models have also been submitted to Transport for London.

Work is also continuing with the Enfield Town to Meridian Water Quietway (due for completion by October 2015) and a network of Greenways.

Question 7 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

The week commencing 2nd March 2015 had lots of road works near the town centre area and some retailers commented that it was a very low footfall week. Can the Cabinet Member advise what action will be taken to better plan and co-ordinate these types of works in future in order to avoid causing disturbance and difficulty accessing the Town Centre?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The Opposition Group should note that UK Power Networks undertook connection works in Silver Street for the whole week starting on Monday 2 March 2015. This was a planned operation and the temporary traffic management arrangements, which prevented access from London Road/Church Street into Silver Street, involved diverting traffic along Southbury Road and Parsonage Lane, all of which was agreed with the Council's New Roads and Streetworks Team. The traffic signals timings were adjusting accordingly and temporary traffic signals were installed at the Silver Street/Parsonage Lane junction to control the traffic.

During these works, on the Wednesday, Thames Water had to undertake an emergency repair to a burst water main in Slades Hill. This was an 'unplanned' emergency operation, which could not be avoided. As a condition of the Streetworks Permit, the Council required Thames Water to manually control their temporary traffic signals in order to minimise traffic backing up during peak periods. The Council has issued fixed penalty notices to Thames Water for not manually controlling their signals and also for not having adequate attendance on site.

Thames Water also closed a lane in Genotin Road for a few hours during the middle of the one day (thereby avoiding the peak times) to replace a manhole cover. This work was also undertaken as an emergency operation.

The Council will continue to co-ordinate street works within its legislative powers, in order to minimise the impact on road users, particularly by imposing conditions on permit applications. It holds regular planning and coordination meetings and refuses applications for streetworks operators where it considers that there will be a conflict. However there will undoubtedly be delays to road users due to the temporary traffic arrangements, especially where emergency works take place.

Question 8 from Councillor Lappage to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development please explain why, contrary to Councillor Neville's comments at last Council, the gap between Enfield's unemployment rate and the London average has diminished since 2010, after widening in the years beforehand?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

This reduction has been a direct result of the Council's strong partnership working with a number of key local agencies including Job Centre Plus, our further education colleges, voluntary sector partners and the business support agencies. The Council is focusing on the root causes of unemployment and making efforts to address these to alleviate the issue of entrenched worklessness. The number of Job Seeker's Allowance claimants is now at the lowest level for Enfield since early 2008. Working more closely with local businesses to identify employment opportunities continues to benefit local unemployed residents.

Question 9 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety, set out how he plans to enforce those who do not conform to the time-banded waste collection guidelines?

Reply from Councillor Bond

This information was been set out in Report No.163 agreed by Cabinet on the 11 February 2015.

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

Anthony Hilton in the Evening Standard on 4 March 2015 wrote ‘...the figures for the recovery certainly do not support the idea that the economy has been well managed.’ For Enfield residents, does the Leader believe that the economy has been as well managed as it could have been?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

2010-2014 will be seen in retrospect as Britain’s wasted years. Lack of growth, depressed consumer demand and failed deficit reduction will be the Chancellor’s epitaph.

Question 11 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety set out how many people attended the three recent Cycle Enfield public exhibitions?

Reply from Councillor Bond

To date, a total of 590 people attended the Cycle Enfield exhibitions as follows:

Location	Number of visitors
The Fox Public House, Green Lanes, Palmers Green	320
Dugdale Centre, London Road, Enfield	235
Community House, Fore Street, Edmonton Green	35
Total	590

To ensure a good turnout at the next exhibition on 2 April 2015 at Ordnance Unity Centre, Hertford Road, Freezy Water we are planning a higher level of publicity. This will involve delivering letters to all properties along the A1010 Hertford Road (North) and placing larger adverts (at least half page) in local papers.

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

Given the huge success of green gyms in Enfield, can the Cabinet member for Environment and Community Safety tell the Council of any plans to increase the number of such amenities?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The locations of the green gyms in the borough have been mapped and areas have been identified to target for additional green gyms when funding becomes available.

Question 13 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

Residents of Fyfield Road have contacted me about the business Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) bays in their road. They would like those bays to be for dual use, for example resident and business CPZ permit bays. The rationale being that a large office block on the corner of that road is being converted into flats so therefore there will be a reduction in those needing the business CPZ bays. In view of the comments raised, will the Cabinet Member advise of the action he will now take to investigate changing the business bays, in Fyfield Road, into dual use parking bays.

Reply from Councillor Bond

In addition to shared use bays the lead resident on this matter has also asked that the CPZ be extended to include Sundays. Officers have written to the resident advising him that he needs to raise a petition to show that the majority of residents in this area support this proposal in principle. If this petition is forthcoming resources will be committed to design and consult on these changes.

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

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development please explain why contrary to Councillor Neville's comments at last Council, youth unemployment in Enfield is the lowest it has been since records began in January 2006?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

This reduction has been a direct result of the Council's strong partnership working with a number of key local agencies including Job Centre Plus (JCP), our further education colleges, voluntary sector partners and the business support agencies. The number of young people aged 18-24 claiming Job Seeker's Allowance claimants are now at the lowest level for Enfield for over 15 years. At the same time the Council's targeted approach to businesses and partner agencies including JCP regarding young people has led to a marked decrease in claimant figures.

Question 15 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety confirm whether our parking warden contractor has been informed of the Government announcement, that in the very near future, a 10 minute grace period, after the paid for time has expired, will be introduced before a parking ticket can be issued?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Yes, our contractors are aware of this decision. It may not be a coincidence that this comes out so close to a General Election. Some people might suggest this has more to do with electoral politics than good decision making and is nothing more than a shamefaced tactic by a coalition government that lacks any imagination.

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

Enfield residents often call for more police on the streets. Do you think they would support the Labour proposal on the Mayor of London budget to fund an extra 33 officers in every London borough?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Between July and September last year Enfield Council successfully lobbied the Mayor of London for additional officers (26), which had a significant impact on the crime levels in the Borough. At the October meeting of the Safer Stronger Communities Board (SSCB) it was noted that an overall reduction in those 7 crimes measured by Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) was 2.3% during the relevant period (when compared with the same period in the previous year).

The crime reductions achieved in this period alone are broken down as follows:

- Robbery **-1.9%** (-14.0% to -15.9%)
- Theft from Motor Vehicles **-7.7%** (-8.5% to -16.2%)
- Theft of Motor Vehicles **-11.6%** (+9.8% to -1.8%)
- Theft from Person **-2.4%** (-14.3% to -16.7%)
- Violence with Injury **-0.6%** (+17.9% to +17.3%)
(burglary and criminal damage were not reduced)

It is proven here that the impact of 26 officers for just a short period (two months) can really reduce crime and improve the safety of local people. The additional officers also kick started an improvement for Enfield as compared with other London Boroughs. We have now moved from 31st out of 32 to 7th best improved. We would very much welcome the proposal. More police would be welcome and all of the Chamber should support the Labour proposal.

Question 17 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment & Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety confirm whether or not the allotments at the back of Ladysmith Road are statutory allotments?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Non statutory.

Question 18 from Councillor Hasan to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development please update the Council on the progress with the Lee Valley Heat Network?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

Following the successful launch of the Lee Valley Heat Network at City Hall in July 2014, work is progressing well. The team of expert consultants is in place, with the project on track for its main investment decision this summer. It will then go live, with the first 40 customers at Ladderswood set to receive heat in September 2015.

Question 19 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

The Corporate Performance Report was tabled at the last Cabinet meeting for Quarter 3. It stated that residual waste was still rising. Please set out what action plan has been put in place to combat this issue?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The main sources of waste impacting on this indicator are the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) and the kerbside tonnages from households. To this end a new HWRC contract has been let with challenging key performance indicators to address this. On the kerbside services options are being reviewed which will take into account reducing waste arisings and increasing recycling.

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

An illegal encampment has been brought to the Council's attention. Can the Cabinet member for Environment and Community Safety tell the Council what action has been taken to remove this?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Councillor Jiaage is referring to Hermitage Lane. The Council deals quickly and

decisively with illegal encampments, working with landowners and using local bylaws to ensure a smooth and effective result. This has now been fully cleaned up by the Council.

Question 21 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety update the chamber on when lights will finally be installed in Forty Hall car park?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The installation of the lighting in the Forty Hall car park is being delivered through the Heritage Lottery Fund project, via leisure. The lighting will require a planning application which will be submitted in April 2015, with works commencing in the summer and ready for next winter.

Question 22 from Councillor Maguire to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Sir Hue Orde, President of the Association of Chief Police Officers, has warned that the risk to citizens of the Tory plans to cut a further 20% from police budgets would rise exponentially. Will Enfield be safe under a future Tory Government?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Enfield is never safe under a Tory Government. Public services require a Government that values them.

I feel that Enfield's police allocation should be greater than the current 558 (this is the revised figure for police officers- now that some core functions such as custody are managed centrally) - loss of 112 (as an average cost/rank) potentially would surely make the already challenging role of the police extremely difficult.

It is worth noting that Community Safety budgets have also been cut by this Government which would leave the partnership with less flexibility to provide extra support for our local officers. Enfield Council continues to support policing levels by funding additional Police Community Support Officers (PCSO)s.

With extra demands on the police around ensuring domestic security and tackling serious and organised crime, such a reduction would place strains on local areas which will not go unnoticed by local residents.

Question 23 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

I was informed that Enfield Council was present at the February 'Sitematch London' event. This was described as 'putting developers in touch with councils and public bodies to discuss London's priority development sites'. However I am very confused

as you made great play in the local press about Enfield Council's refusal to go to MIPIM UK towards the end of 2014, an event geared towards putting councils in touch with developers. Can I ask what has caused you to change your mind, or did you not know that officers were going to the Sitematch London event?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

Sitematch is a different proposition to MIPIM. It is supported and hosted by the Greater London Authority to facilitate meetings between development partners and public sector bodies. It does not carry the expense of MIPIM and it is not a place where deals are struck.

Question 24 from Councillor During to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Development please update the Council regarding land assembly at Meridian Water?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

A delegated authority report has been approved which authorises the acquisition of the three National Grid sites; contract completion is scheduled for early April 2015. The Council's agent is currently negotiating the acquisition of two further sites at Meridian Water with a view to reaching a deal by the summer.

Question 25 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Sitkin Cabinet Member for Economic Development

How many conversations has he had with anyone involved with Tech City to see how Enfield can look to emulate the growth of the technology sector in and around Shoreditch/the Olympic Park

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

Overlooking Councillor Dines' further confusion about Enfield's distance from the Central London cluster, to which he refers, this administration is indeed working with counterparts to develop the high-tech capabilities that will benefit Enfield's future. Conversations are being planned with Tech City to identify how Enfield can benefit from this model. Actions in this area range from the work we are doing to improve broadband connectivity borough-wide; specific technology investors we have been targeting; and the excellent progress we are making in building up our workforce's STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) capacities. Likewise and working with London and Partners, the Greater London Authority (GLA) and UK Trade and Investment we are looking at a range of other sectors for growth to ensure Enfield is well positioned and has a good balance of sustainable industry sectors for the future.

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

Many complaints have been received from schools about parking outside schools at drop off and pick up times, can the Cabinet Member advise the Council what action is to be taken outside the schools to combat this?

Reply from Councillor Bond

There are a minority of parents that continue to flout parking and traffic restrictions which can be a danger to parents, children and residents. We currently enforce outside of schools using our current resource. In the coming weeks we will also be introducing a more targeted enforcement approach to deter motorists from parking inconsiderately at problem schools.

Question 27 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Oykenner, Cabinet Member for Housing & Estate Regeneration

Do you lead on the Meridian Water development, or is it Councillor Sitkin?

Reply from Councillor Oykenner

If Councillor Dines reads the cabinet papers/decisions closely, he will know who is responsible for the Meridian Water project and who is accountable for each element of it.

Question 28 from Councillor Levy to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Does the Leader believe that Enfield residents would like to see the Prime Minister debate on TV with Ed Miliband or is he chicken, as suggested by a National newspaper, for appearing unwilling to debate?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

As a highly paid servant of the people the Prime Minister should make himself available to debate with the Leader of the Opposition during the General Election campaign. The public will draw their own conclusions if he refuses to meet what I consider to be a democratic requirement.

Question 29 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Do you lead on the Meridian Water development, or is it Councillor Oykenner?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

If Councillor Dines reads the cabinet papers / decisions closely, he will know who is responsible for the Meridian Water project and who is accountable for each element of it.

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

Given reports in the local press about 'racers' on the A10 on Sundays, can the Cabinet member for Environment and Community Safety advise what has happened recently to combat this activity?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The issue on the A10 has been occurring on and off for around the past six years. The section of the A10 primarily affected on Enfield is between the junction with Lincoln Road and the M25, in both directions. Transport for London (TfL) have primacy for this section of road and they are also responsible for the cameras in this location, for this reason the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) Traffic Unit are scheduled to meet with TfL.

In response to recent complaints, Enfield Police supported by colleagues from the MPS Traffic Unit have been providing additional patrols at the location. This has resulted in a number of arrests, speeding tickets and court summonses being issued. Several cars have also been seized for not having insurance. In addition, over the past few years the Local Neighbourhood Policing Team have worked with businesses on the local retail parks to identify what can be done to prevent large numbers of drivers gathering into car parks, for unofficial car cruising events and have successfully disrupted planned gatherings.

We are aware that Automatic Number Plate Recognition is being put in by the retailers and the Council welcome this.

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

Given the seeming inability of either Councillor Oykenor or Councillor Sitkin to deliver the Meridian Water development shouldn't someone else be leading on it?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

I have confidence in the ability of the Cabinet Members to deliver a successful development.

Question 32 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Taylor Leader of the Council

Does Councillor Taylor agree with the Leadership of Greater Manchester that devolution of the NHS Budget to the Council is a good thing or does he agree with Andy Burnham, Shadow Secretary of State for Health, that is a bad thing? If he thinks it is a good thing, will he be lobbying the Shadow Health Secretary to change his mind and look at what powers can be devolved to Enfield Council?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Councillor Dines appears to have not followed the Shadow Secretary of State's comments with the required rigour if he is to make assertions about the tenor of those statements. Mr Burnham did not question the principle of integration but raised questions about NHS reorganisation which the current Government have totally botched.

For my part more devolution of public services to borough and sub-regional partnerships without costly additional bureaucracy are to be welcomed.

I, with Mayors and Leaders of other boroughs, will be encouraging a public debate on this issue.

Question 33 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance

Do you agree with Ed Balls (Shadow Chancellor) that a Labour Government would be correct to cut £3.3bn from Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) in 2015/16? If not, have you written to him to explain that in your opinion this is a bad idea? If you do think this is a bad idea but have not written to him, why haven't you given your Leader's endless comments that Coalition cuts have been too excessive to date? If you haven't written to him, is this for political reasons?

Reply from Councillor Stafford

Whilst Mr Balls and indeed Ms Cooper have both been to Edmonton Green to assist me, I would never presume to advise them on how to do their respective jobs. As we all know Mr Balls will shortly be running the nation's finances. This administration will continue to run Enfield.

Question 34 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Taylor

Can you give a categorical assurance that through the strategic review of the Green Belt Portfolio that I understand the Council is soon to begin, Enfield Council will not be looking to alter the categorisation of any Green Belt land in the Borough, making some of it available for development?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

The strategic review of the Green Belt will form part of the review of the Council's Local Plan. In advance of public consultation on the key issues and options for the Plan, it would be premature to determine the extent to which this review will encompass.

Question 35 from Councillor Rye to Councillor McGowan, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care

Following the judgement by Care Quality Commission (CQC) on North London Asian Care (NLAC) - extract shown below:

The report concluded the centre failed to provide safe, effective, caring and responsive care, and was not well led.

In their report, inspectors wrote: "Not all staff at the agency could demonstrate that they understood their responsibilities in relation to some areas of their work and therefore this indicated that training was not always effective.

"This included a lack of understanding around the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and staff responsibilities in relation to supporting people to make their own decisions."

Detailed assessments of people's conditions were not always provided and direction for staff was not always clear.

Sally Warren, deputy chief inspector of adult social care in London, said: "Although we saw some improvements from our last inspection it is concerning that North London Asian Care have failed to take further action to deal with the concerns which we identified; this is not acceptable as people are not being provided with a service which is safe.

"It is positive that staff feel supported but it is essential that people have comprehensive care plans and that when an incident happens there is a process in place for staff to learn from it in order that people are protected in the future.

"Our inspection report sets out the action the provider and the registered manager are required to take to address the concerns we have identified. We will inspect again and if action has not secured improvements we will have no alternative but to take further enforcement action."

Would the Cabinet Member inform the Council how much council money has been allocated to this organisation in the past three financial years? In addition would he inform the council what due diligence was undertaken on this organisation if any monies were awarded?

Reply from Councillor McGowan

North London Asian Care (NLAC) provide personal care, sitting services to allow breaks for carers, domestic assistance, live in care and activities aimed at providing information and advice about healthy living as well as social activities. The Council has been working with NLAC through the provision of grants since 2008 and through directly commissioned services since 2002.

Over the last three years Adult Social Care has, either through voluntary sector grants or directly commissioned arrangements, spent £791,000 with this

organisation. There will be additional spend with this organisation through direct payment arrangements where service users and their families choose to contract directly.

The Council undertakes regular reviews of people who use services in order to determine whether the services provided are meeting the needs and goals identified within assessments and support plans.

Following the CQC Inspection in July 2014, Enfield Council instigated the Provider Concerns Process to support NLAC to improve standards of care from August 2014. An improvement plan was set out by NLAC, which is regularly monitored.

Question 36 from Councillor Rye to Councillor Don McGowan, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care

Former Labour councillor and Ex Mayor Chaudhury Anwar Chief Executive Officer of North London Asian Care stated to the local press on Monday 16th February <http://www.northlondon-today.co.uk/news.cfm?id=24609> “that in fact when Enfield Council carried out an inspection they found that 98 per cent of the users were very satisfied with the service and the Care Quality Commission findings in fact related to the administration and paperwork of the company.

“We provide care for a very hard to reach group of people – those older people who speak very little English and who would otherwise not get a good service.”

“The inspection itself was carried out eight months ago and in that time we have made major improvements to our paperwork processes.”

Could the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care make the Council’s report available?

Reply from Councillor McGowan

The Council does not inspect Domiciliary Care agencies. The regulator for Domiciliary Care is the Care Quality Commission and they have responsibility for regular inspections and publishing their inspection reports.

Question 37 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

The Save Trent Park Campaign has garnered wide ranging public support, with thousands of Enfield residents expressing their concern over the future of the former Middlesex University campus by signing the online petition.

What steps are they/Enfield Council taking to ensure the demands in the petition are met – namely:

1. For Enfield Council to grant the former Middlesex University campus the status of an Asset of Community Value (as per the application submitted by

the Friends of Trent Country Park and Christ Church Cockfosters).

2. For Enfield Council to amend planning rules to grant permanent public access across the grounds (as enjoyed for decades during Middlesex University's ownership).
3. To actively encourage a long term public use for the listed mansion and grounds which will also promote the important role the Estate played in World War II.
4. To re-evaluate the management and strategic vision of Trent Country Park as a whole with a focus on improving public amenity and promoting the Park's historic and natural qualities?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

1. The Council can only formally consider a nomination for an Asset of Community Value if it is submitted by an eligible organisation with appropriate supporting information. The burden to provide information rests with the eligible organisation making a nomination. You will be aware this is the process designed by the current Government.

The Council received two nominations for Trent Park on the 4 March 2015, and officers are currently evaluating the nominations in accordance with legislative requirements, national guidance and the Asset of Community Value process that Cabinet approved in January 2014. Officers will need to systematically review the nominations to ensure they meet the necessary criteria, and if the nomination meets these criteria, then can it be added to the successful nominations list.

2. The importance of public access is recognised with the adopted Planning Statement and continued access will be considered when looking at any proposals regarding the re use of the site. However, the Council does not have planning powers to confer public access across the site.
3. The Trent Park Campus Planning Statement adopted in 2012 states that 'The Council's foremost priority is to secure an appropriate long term use for the site that delivers the protection and enhancement of both the site's built and landscape heritage'. Any discussions with prospective or new owners will follow the agreed planning statement.

One of the Planning Statement's overarching principles, that will govern the Council's considerations for the site, is Heritage Value. Paragraph 3.2 of the statement refers to 'The Council's requirement for heritage led redevelopment to preserve *and* enhance the Borough's heritage'.

It also states that 'Redevelopment opportunities should aim to:

- Conserve and improve the heritage value of the Mansion and its setting.

- Repair and enhance the structures, features and statues that characterise the Mansion and Park, with priority given to those heritage assets that are At Risk.
- Restore key landscape features both structures and designed landscape.
- Explore appropriate uses for the Mansion and associated buildings, including potential demolition of inappropriate recent buildings to ensure long term conservation and enhancement.
- Improve management, maintenance and security of the Mansion and the Park as a whole.
- Increase the range of park visitors and audiences.
- Improve greater understanding and accessibility to the heritage value of the Mansion and Park.

The Council seek to conserve the heritage asset, which includes all significant phases of the heritage assets history from the Jebb Mansion, through the C20th Sassoon house to the important role the Estate played in World War II.

The planning statement also acknowledges at paragraph 3.8 'Coupled with the heritage element is the continued expectation to secure public access to the heritage assets for future enjoyment. The University currently offers permissive public access arrangements throughout the grounds, albeit with restrictions in place overnight. The Council would look positively at any future uses that would continue such arrangement, and would also wish to extend opportunities by way of negotiating managed access arrangements to some of the key assets such as the Orangery, Lido, Mansion and daffodil lawn, possibly through potential annual 'open house' events. Measures such as reinstating existing footpaths together with the creation of new footpaths and bridleways, links to other green networks and, where appropriate, urban fringe areas should also be explored to help promote the creation of wider green infrastructure, and ensure compliance with the Council's planning policies.

3. The park is of green flag status and as such has a comprehensive management and maintenance plan in place.

Question 38 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Will he ensure Enfield Council grants the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park the status of an Asset of Community Value as per the application submitted to Enfield Council by the Friends of Trent Country Park and Christ Church Cockfosters?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

A successful nomination for Asset of Community Value status is dependent on the strength of the bid received, which will need to provide a cogent argument demonstrating that the asset is of community value as defined by national legislation.

Subject to the nomination being judged by officers to meet the necessary criteria, the

asset will indeed be added to the successful nominations' list.

Legislation suggests that the evaluation panel and indeed the appeals panel should consist of officers. The evaluation panel consists of officers from Property Services, Neighbourhood Regeneration, and Communities and External Relations. Officers will be using the criteria and procedures stipulated in legislation to evaluate nominations.

The Council has published information on its website

<http://www.enfield.gov.uk/info/1000000236/property/2756/assets>

The website includes an overview of the process, the nomination form and the evaluation criteria that will be applied to a nomination.

Question 39 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

There is considerable concern over the condition of the heritage assets at the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park. The terrace of the Grade II listed mansion together with the listed landscape is on English Heritage's "At Risk" Register and English Heritage (at the time of writing) have confirmed they are seriously considering adding the house to the "At Risk" Register too and that this site is top of their list of priorities. Since Middlesex University moved out in 2013 the condition of the assets have rapidly deteriorated due to:

- A lack of maintenance and attention.
- Commercial activity including filming that is taking place on a regular basis across the site.
- A lack of electricity to the site which suggests damp may be prevalent (which, if the case, suggests potential structural risk and potential damage to the Rex Whistler murals). and
- Concerns over the condition and (at the time of writing) the whereabouts of some of the valuable and listed statues.

What has Enfield Council done since the campus was sold in 2013 to date to ensure that the heritage assets will be protected from future harm; and what steps will Enfield Council take to mitigate any future harm or damage?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

English Heritage categorise entries on their at risk register against a rate of deterioration identified as A – F (with A being Immediate risk of further rapid deterioration or loss of fabric: no solution agreed, to F, repair scheme in progress and (where applicable) end use or user identified; functionally redundant buildings with new use agreed but not yet implemented. Officers from English Heritage have arranged to inspect the buildings before the end of the month and will form their own

view.

The commercial filming does not appear to have caused any physical damage to the fabric of the buildings to the best of our knowledge.

When officers inspected the Mansion at the end of last year (Nov 14), the electricity supply was still connected. There was no evidence of structural failure or decay to the Whistler murals. There was an area of water ingress on the upper floors (to the west of the Mansion) which needs to be investigated and addressed. Again, English Heritage has arranged to inspect the buildings before the end of the month and will form their own view.

In regards to your point about statues, can I please refer you to the response to question 41.

Since vacated by Middlesex University, the site has been visited by various Council officers on numerous occasions and an ongoing dialogue with the owners representatives has taken place.

Question 40 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Due to the very vulnerable state of the heritage assets at the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park, in particular the subsiding terrace at the rear of the mansion which appears on English Heritage's At Risk Register - will Enfield Council issue an Urgent Works Notice to ensure repairs are carried out to prevent future harm and damage? If not, what assessment and evidential conclusions is the decision based on?

Reply from Councillor Bond

In terms of the Terrace, there is a need to treat vegetation rooting in the building fabric, treat and clear vegetation from around the structure to facilitate inspection access and to prevent moisture penetrating the brickwork and check against further growth. The temporary props should be checked to ensure continued support to the defective retaining walls until such time that permanent repairs are undertaken. The doors to the storage rooms beneath the external steps should be secured to prevent theft.

English Heritage is visiting with a specialist structural engineer to advise if any urgent works are required. The owner will be asked to do them. If the owner fails to do them the Council can consider serving an Urgent Works Notice (and the associated identification of funds to undertake the works in default should the owner fail to do so). This is restricted to the minimum works that are urgently necessary to preserve the structure, rather than repair. It would be necessary to follow due process to pursue an Urgent Works Notice.

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

Please list all Enfield Council enforcement visits, including the dates of such visits, to the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park since the site was sold to ACMS Trent Park (M) SDN BHD in 2013, and please state:

1. What prompted each visit?
2. What conclusions were drawn?
3. What actions were demanded and of whom? And
4. What actions were taken to ensure compliance by the owners or any other party?

Please also confirm:

5. Whether planning permission was sort to demolish the wooden class rooms in the Stable Block yard, which is in a conservation area and Green Belt?
6. Whether enforcement have visited the site to ensure the services to the demolished block have been correctly and safely terminated and whether any visit is scheduled and when? And
7. Whether any debris from the demolition has or will be been removed from the site in accordance with Enfield Council requirements?

Reply from Councillor Bond

August 2014 –

1. Complaints from residents and users of the Park.
2. Visit carried out with regards to the alleged hoarding off of the site to prevent access to the general public.
3. No breach found.
4. No actions required.

November 2014 –

1. Complaints from residents.
2. Visit carried out to fully assess the condition of Listing and impact on the site due to filming.
3. No damage to the Listing due to the filming on site, however it was noted that remedial works would be required to repair certain areas of the Listing.
4. The managing agents were requested to provide regular updates on times of filming and proposed activity on site. Regular contact with the managing agents has been established to arrange inspections and to obtain updates on activity.

November 2014 –

1. Concerns were raised with regards to the statues.
2. Visit carried out to catalogue the statues, their location and current condition.
3. All Statues were accounted for except for 2. Further investigations are ongoing and will be concluded as part of the English heritage site meeting in March 2015.
4. No action has been taken at this time pending a final visit with English Heritage.

February 2015 –

1. Concerns from Councillors and local residents regarding ongoing filming and graffiti.
2. Visit carried out to establish the extent of filming on the site and record locations of all graffiti.
3. It was established that the filming was taking place in the main house and externally adjacent to the old campus buildings. Graffiti was found on the listed wall at the west entrance and on signage located on Snakes Lane. The Graffiti Action Team subsequently removed all graffiti from the western entrance and signage on Snakes Lane. The managing agents of the site removed all graffiti from the film set on completion of the filming.
4. No further action was required.

March 2015 –

1. Concerns from councillors and local residents.
2. Visit carried out to review the collapsed listed wall and the erection of scaffolding to the stable block.
3. The site visit established that part of the listed wall has collapsed and works are required to re-instate the wall including attention to the condition of wall still in place. The scaffolding was no longer in place and was removed after filming had been completed. The scaffolding was not attached to the fabric of the listing, therefore no damage had occurred. Further investigations are ongoing and will be concluded as part of the English heritage site meeting in March 2015.
4. No action has been taken at this time pending a final visit with English Heritage.
5. The hut that formerly stood in the centre of the yard has now been removed. Heritage officers have reviewed the demolition of the hut. Its removal is acceptable as it did not form part of the original listing, returning the court yard to its original context, albeit Development Management records do not show any prior agreement of these works.
6. I can confirm that no services or cabling had been left open at the location.
7. The hut had already been removed from site and therefore the location was clear of all resulting materials and therefore no further action was required.

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

Please list all visits by Enfield Council conservation officers, including the dates of such visits, to the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park since the site was sold to ACMS Trent Park (M) SDN BHD in 2013, and please state:

1. What prompted each visit?
2. What conclusions were drawn?
3. What actions were demanded and of whom? and
4. What actions were taken to ensure compliance by the owners or any other party?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The campus site and buildings have been visited on numerous occasions by various staff, including officers from English Heritage, the conservation / heritage officers and planning enforcement officers. A major internal and external site inspection of the heritage buildings and grounds took place at the end of 2014. The Council share the local community's concerns to ensure that the heritage assets are safeguarded whilst the site is unoccupied and it is this that prompted the visits.

The planning enforcement team (assisted by other relevant conservation, heritage and planning officers) have been leading on inspection and dialogue with the owner's representatives. However, Officers from the Council's heritage team and English Heritage will be meeting the owner before the end of March to take stock of the current condition of the heritage assets and discuss management, maintenance and safeguarding arrangement for the historic buildings and landscape. In particular:

- Terrace To ensure continued support to the defective retaining walls until such time that permanent repairs are undertaken.
- The Mansion The cause of the water ingress needs to be investigated and remedial action programmed.
- Filming What safeguards the Managing Agent has put in place to ensure that film crews using the site do not damage the listed buildings and structures and are made aware of the legal protections governing them.
- Former Kitchen Garden Wall and Wisteria Walk. The former kitchen garden wall is heavily overgrown and has partially collapsed. Lead caps to the marble pillars at the head of Wisteria Walk (also listed Grade II) are now missing, exposing them to the possible effects of freeze thaw action.
- Registered Historic Landscape Details of any movement plans the Managing Agent has agreed with film crews as a condition of their use of the site. This is in order to ensure that key elements of the landscape are not damaged by the movement of heavy vehicles and equipment and associated ground compaction.
- Listed Statuary The Managing Agent will be asked to identify ongoing arrangements for the safekeeping and protection of the statues.
- Site Security The ongoing security of the overall site is of serious concern. The Managing Agent will be asked to set out what the ongoing security arrangements are for the Mansion, other listed buildings and structures within the grounds to

protect them whilst the site remains unoccupied.

Agreed actions will be followed up by monitoring by Council and English Heritage officers.

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

Please list all Enfield Council health and safety visits, including the dates of such visits, to the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park since the site was sold to ACMS Trent Park (M) SDN BHD in 2013, and please state:

1. What prompted each visit?
2. What conclusions were drawn?
3. What actions were demanded and of whom; and
4. What actions were taken to ensure compliance by the owners or any other party?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The Health & Safety Executive are responsible for health and safety at educational establishments.

Question 44 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Taylor Leader of the Council

Please confirm what contact Enfield Council has had with ACMS Trent Park (M) SDN BHD, the current owners of the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park, or any of their agents or representatives (and if so please state the name of any such party) since the Enfield Independent reported in November 2014 that they would be forced to sell the building due to financial problems. Please also confirm what Enfield Council knows about the recently reported potential sale, including who the potential new buyers are and what their intentions are for the site?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

I am not aware of any contacts and I have no knowledge of any new buyers of this private land. However I intend to check further if any junior officers have had any contacts.

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

Please confirm how the repairs to the very well used, but dangerous and badly potholed Snakes Lane (which forms part of the estate owned by ACMS Trent Park (M) SDN BHD) have recently come about including:

1. Who the repairs were carried out by?
2. Who paid for the repairs and their cost?

3. The terms of any agreement between Enfield Council and any other party to carry out the repairs?

Reply from Councillor Bond

As previously advised to Councillor J Charalambous

1. The Council commissioned the works through our highway works contractor, Ringway Jacobs, to undertake the repairs to the large potholes near the start of Snake Lane and also the larger patches further along;
2. The Council has invoiced First Call Secure Group (FCSG), the management company currently responsible for the site for the cost of the works, approximately £10,000.
3. The work was agreed between Highway Services officers and FCSG.

Question 46 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Please confirm whether Enfield Council has made any agreements with First Call Secure Group Limited (or any of its agents), which is based at the former Middlesex University Campus in Trent Country Park and please confirm the terms of any such agreement.

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Please see response to question 45.

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

Based on the recent commercial filming taking place on a regular basis at the former Middlesex University Campus in Trent Country Park could he confirm that this will not result in any change of use for the site? Could he also confirm whether any permits/permission from Enfield Council would have been required for such activity and if so if any have been obtained?

Reply from Councillor Bond

No planning permission is required for the current level of filming activity. There is no statutory definition of 'material change of use'; however, it is linked to the significance of the change and the resulting impact on the use of land and buildings. Whether a material change of use has taken place therefore is a matter of fact and degree to be determined on the individual merits of a case.

In assessing this, it will be necessary to judge the impact of the filming on the use of the land or building including frequency, through an assessment of its effect on amenity, the character of an area or of course, the setting of a listed building. Impact can also be measured taking account of intensification of use as well as cumulative impact, and the character of place. The permanence of associated works /

operations will also be a factor.

In this case, although there has been an increase in filming activity, no material change of use has occurred because of the temporary /transient nature of the works and the limited impact. However, the situation is being kept under review.

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

Could he confirm why the graffiti I discovered on the listed gates at the entrance to Trent Park on Cockfosters Road was not discovered sooner by Enfield Council despite being plainly visible from the Park side and appeared to have been there for some time? And in the event that it was discovered, before I reported it, could he confirm why it was not removed sooner?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Although we do proactive surveys throughout the borough's streets and in our parks and open space it is challenging to cover the entire borough regularly. Whilst the majority of our graffiti removal is proactive, we focus on main roads, areas where there is a high footfall and visible from the public highway. We also rely on the eyes and ears of the community to report these incidents to us. This particular piece of graffiti was first brought to the Graffiti Action Team's attention 2nd February 2015 and removed 4th February 2015. This is within our five day response target for non-offensive graffiti.

Question 49 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance

Could he confirm if Enfield Council is in receipt of business rates or other dues from the owners of the former Middlesex University campus in Trent Country Park, ACMS Trent Park (M) SDN BHD, or from any other party relating to this site? If not please confirm when Enfield Council was last in receipt of such dues and what steps have been taken to recover any debt?

Reply from Councillor Stafford

The Council has not received payment in respect of Trent Park since the ACMS acquired the site. The Council has instigated recovery action and is currently pursuing insolvency proceedings against the ratepayer.

Question 50 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

What steps is Enfield Council proposing to take to improve public amenities in Trent Country Park, namely what proposals currently exist for:

1. The unused and overgrown tennis court near the animal sanctuary.

2. The promotion of fishing and other sporting pursuits.
3. Infrastructure improvements to car and pedestrian roads or paths.
4. Improving signage promoting the natural and historic qualities of the Park.
5. Cycling.
6. Ensuring the commercial activities in the Park such as Go Ape and the café operate sympathetically to the environment including (but not limited to) in relation to their visual appearance.
7. Reducing litter which is often commonplace, particularly on weekends. And
8. Any other proposed improvements to public amenity.

Please outline the proposals for each of the above items, the budget and the timescale.

Reply from Councillor Bond

- Introducing BBQ facilities.
- The unused and overgrown tennis court near the animal sanctuary - The courts are not Council assets
- The promotion of fishing and other sporting pursuits - We have worked with a volunteer who has run angling sessions as part of the Council's support of Love Parks Week introducing many people to angling within the park. The Parks Service also works with a range of organisations e.g. Trent Park Running Club to facilitate sporting activity within the park.
- Infrastructure improvements to car and pedestrian roads or paths - Repairs have been completed on a reactive basis and there are no planned infrastructure improvements at present
- Improving signage promoting the natural and historic qualities of the Park - We are currently reviewing all of the signage within the park and have recently delivered new signage for the entrance to the park. We have also supported the delivery of a very successful programme of free walks within the parks that have given residents the opportunity to learn more about the natural and historic qualities of the park.
- Cycling - Cycling is currently controlled within Trent Park through the Park Byelaws. However, this will be reviewed ahead of the extension of the greenway cycling route towards Trent Park.
- Ensuring the commercial activities in the Park such as Go Ape and the café operate sympathetically to the environment including (but not limited to) in

relation to their visual appearance - this is managed through the lease and working with the leaseholders

- Reducing litter which is often commonplace, particularly on weekends - Increased staff will be allocated to weekend litter clearance starting this weekend. These resources will be reviewed as park usage increases.
- Any other proposed improvements to public amenity - A range of short, medium and long-term improvements are being considered. These can be viewed within the park's management plan, which is available on the Council's website.

Question 51 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Regeneration

The Hadley Wood Association through the establishment of the Hadley Wood Neighbourhood Planning Forum has commenced the process of establishing a Neighbourhood Plan under the Localism Act 2011. David Burrowes MP and I have offered our full support to this effort and I would like to know what steps Enfield Council is taking to promote Neighbourhood Planning Forums to other parts of Enfield which could clearly benefit from this valuable and powerful community lead initiative.

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

There is one constant in the questions that Conservative councillors are asking me tonight, and it is their confusion. On one hand, Councillor J Charalambous correctly calls Neighbourhood Planning Forums community led initiatives. On the other, he is asking me what the Council is doing to lead on them. I suggest that Councillor J Charalambous clarifies things in his mind and then revert. What I can say is that Enfield Council responds to any such initiatives in accordance with the letter and spirit of the law.

The Council over time has received a number of enquiries in relation to Neighbourhood Planning including the establishment of neighbourhood forums. Council officers have met and advised organisations interested in proceeding with Neighbourhood Planning and assisted as necessary in explaining processes and guiding them through the application stages. The Council has a Neighbourhood Planning page on its website to assist with making advice available on this subject.

Question 52 from Councillor J Charalambous to Councillor Bond, Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Safety

Traffic along Cockfosters Road is often at a standstill due to poor traffic management by Enfield Council. With the scheduled arrival of 231 new homes at the former Middlesex University campus at Cat Hill in 2016 what steps is Enfield Council taking and proposing to take to ensure congestion along Cockfosters Road is better managed before the arrival of the new homes?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The government's poor track record on an integrated transport policy that underpins our already congested roads is to blame for congestion on our roads.

As I have previously advised Councillor Charalambous, 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 coalition government's National Planning Policy Framework and the Core Strategy developed by the last Conservative Administration. Last time Councillor Charalambous asked the same question I made it clear that I would be interested to hear his specific ideas on what he thinks can be done to ease traffic flow – I am still waiting for his response. However, one thing guaranteed to make the situation worse is to encourage more commuters into the area, so I am a little surprised by Councillor Charalambous's question about the need to provide more parking for commuters driving to Cockfosters station.

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

With the loss of a considerable number of parking spaces at the Cockfosters tube station car park due to the recent emergence of a new Transport for London building, what steps are being taken by Enfield Council to increase parking provision around Cockfosters tube station?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Please make up your mind. Do you want less congestion in Cockfosters or not? More parking provision will encourage more cars and therefore more congestion. Good quality housing situated close to tube stations i.e. Cat Hill development, will reduce it.

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

The street scene and pavement at the Hadley Wood shopping parade is in a very poor state of repair and needs urgent attention. What steps are Enfield Council proposing to take to carry out improvements and when are any works scheduled to take place?

Reply from Councillor Bond

The publicly adopted footway along Hadley Wood Shopping Parade is asphalt. Its overall condition does not justify inclusion in the footway renewal programme when compared with many other higher priority locations. It should be noted that the paved area immediately outside the shops is privately owned and not publicly adopted highway.

The adopted highway area is inspected on a monthly basis. It was last inspected on 26/02/15 and is due to be inspected again on 28/03/15. Two defects were found during the inspection and have been issued to our highways contractor Ringway Jacobs.

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

Will he support a minimum of 20 minutes free parking across all of Enfield high streets and parades of shops?

Reply from Councillor Bond

Another suggestion by the Opposition Group to encourage yet more congestion on our roads.

We have no plans to introduce a minimum free parking period across all the borough. We are however, currently trialling stop and shop bays in the borough's main shopping areas which allow for motorists to park for 15 minutes for free.

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

Residents along Duchy Road and surrounding roads have been demanding Enfield Council introduce parking restrictions at the top of Duchy Road, close to the junction with Lancaster Avenue, since 2013. This is due to dangerously parked vehicles, mostly commercial, parked close to the junction which makes turning in and out by car extremely dangerous and creates considerable pedestrian and public safety risks.

Furthermore, as a well used junction for the school run (due its close proximity to Hadley Wood Primary School) this highlights the extra serious safety concerns for young children.

After a year of demands a consultation was issued in November 2014 to which 96% of 103 respondents expressed their desire for double yellow line parking restrictions as outlined in the consultation. We have now reached March 2015 and there has been no indication when these simple and inexpensive measures will be introduced that will dramatically improve public safety.

I understand that the report has now been presented to him for approval, so will he urgently approve the works and seek that they are carried out as soon as possible?

Reply from Councillor Bond

I think Councillor Charalambous is rather overstating his case. There have been no road casualties recorded on Duchy Road in the last 5 years and the current parking is only causing some fairly minor delays. His statement that 96% of respondents

support the extensive double yellow lines consulted on is rather misleading as there was considerable disagreement on how long the yellow lines should be. However I have now approved a report that introduces double yellow lines at the junction of Duchy Road and Lancaster Avenue. These will improve visibility, keep the pedestrian crossing point clear and reduce congestion at this junction.

Section2 – Questions to Associate Cabinet Members

Question 57 from Councillor Chamberlain to Councillor Savva, Associate Cabinet Member for Enfield South East

Could the Assistant 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 Chamberlain for his question and interest about what I have been doing over the last 4 weeks or so, although I did include a note of these as part of my answer to the same question at the last Council meeting.

If he is interested, I'd be happy to offer Councillor Chamberlain a role as my diary keeper, so he can gain first-hand experience of the varied engagements, activities and people that I meet in my role as an Associate Cabinet Member.

Since the last Council meeting, I would like to inform you that I have been to a variety of interesting activities, engaging with officers and the community, associations and organisations and have been invited along with Cabinet Members to visit a number of organisations. Other engagements were as follows:

Edmonton Councillors advice surgery, CAPE meeting with police and safer neighbourhood groups.

Cycle Enfield Exhibition at Community House along with the Council officers and TfL reps met residents and explained what the scheme is all about.

Part of the consultation exercise there will be another exhibition around Cycle Enfield soon in the South East Area.

Have met Ian Davis, Andrea Clemons, Neil Isaac, Peter George, Mo Lais, Cabinet Members to have updates on crime and to discuss various issues concerning Edmonton.

Met the North London Credit Union reps and the African Women's Association.

Met the Leader of Young Farmers of Edmonton.

A tour with the voluntary sector representatives of various sites in Edmonton.

Have helped a group in asking Transport for London for bus diversion due to an event which will see over 5,000 people participating. This event will take place on Friday 10th of April and Saturday 11th April 2015 in the Lower Edmonton Ward.

Watch this space for future activities.

Question 58 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Uzoanya, Associate Cabinet Member for Enfield North

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

Response from Councillor Uzoanya

Since the last Council I have attended the following meetings:

26/02/15 - Overview & Scrutiny - whilst my name does not appear in the minutes of this meeting I did attend for the purposes of observing an important item on the meeting's agenda, the introduction of the Care Act, which will have a significant impact on residents in Enfield North.

16/3/15 - DJMC Academy to discuss employment and training opportunities for young people

NB: On 3/3/15 I was due to attend a Strategic Leadership Forum, but did not attend due to an error in the calendar invitation sent which failed to appear in my Outlook Calendar. I raised this with the relevant parties and the matter has been resolved.

Question 59 from Councillor Neville to Councillor B Charalambous Associate Cabinet Member for Enfield West

Could the Assistant 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 I have attended the following meetings:

3 March 2015 - Winchmore Hill Community Forum

11 March 2015 - Cabinet

16 March 2015 - Broomfield House Partnership Board

17 March 2015 - Southgate Green Community Forum

18 March 2015 - Palmers Green Community Forum

I have also had a number of informal briefings on a range of matters concerning issues relevant to Enfield West from senior officers of the Council.

Question 60 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Uzoanya, Associate Cabinet Member for Enfield North

Nearly one year in to your well remunerated position as Associate Cabinet Member, do you think that the governance of Enfield would come crashing down if the position of Associate Cabinet Members was abolished, saving tens of thousands of pounds of taxpayers money in the process?

Reply from Councillor Uzoanya

I think the creation of the post of Associate Cabinet Members (ACM) for Enfield has so far been of benefit to residents in that it provides immense value to residents by supporting Enfield Council (officers and cabinet members) to roll forward strategic plans to improve Enfield's infrastructure across the borough, which under two successive Labour administrations has begun to take shape: namely Enfield's transport strategy and Enfield's area partnership strategy of which the ACMs have a key role in championing.

Both of these strategies to which I have alluded (above) will provide substantial social and economic benefits to Enfield residents and will make Enfield a more fairer and sustainable place to live, work, visit and do business.

I know Councillor Dines is keen to see that ACMs provide value for money evidenced by a second invitation I have received from him and his two fellow ward Councillors to attend Chase Ward Forum. Sadly, however, I cannot say the same for the majority of his other Conservative colleagues (elected members) from whom I have received no invitations to attend their ward forum to meet residents and discuss the strategies above.

May I congratulate Councillor Dines in showing the type of diligence that is needed in local politics and continuing to pay an interest in the work of ACMs, which will be reviewed by Full Council in due course. Only then will Council know the full benefit of ACMs.

Section 3 Questions to Scrutiny Workstream Chairs

Question 61 from Councillor Barry to Councillor Smith, Chair of Temporary Accommodation Scrutiny Workstream

Given the situation with temporary accommodation in Enfield and the number of councils placing people in the borough, does Councillor Smith agree with the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, when he criticised councils that are moving housing benefit claimants out of the capital, saying he will not have "Kosovo-style social cleansing" of the poor in London?

Reply from Councillor Smith

No. The basic principle is that people should live where they can afford to live. Many of us might like to live in the smarter areas of Camden or Chelsea but we can't

afford to. The idea that the state should subsidise at huge expense large numbers of the often workless poor in such areas is absurd.

That is not to say that we don't need any subsidised housing in central London. The life of large urban areas depends on a multitude of workers to provide necessary services, many of whom are low paid. These families need subsidised rented housing to prevent the areas in which they live turning into slums and because it is the right thing to do.