Questions 11 November 2015

Section 1: Questions for Cabinet Members

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

Can the Leader inform Council:

1 The cost of the full page advertisement placed in the local newspapers under the heading "Improving Enfield"?

2 To whom is the advertisement directed?

3 What purpose he believes the advertisement serves?

4 His justification for this purposeless expenditure when only two weeks ago he was bleating in his Advertising column about the necessity to make cuts in services?

Reply from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Thank you for the question. I am, of course, happy to respond to this question although it should have been directed to the appropriate Cabinet Member.

Given the massive scale of Tory cuts to Enfield which I tabulate below being clear on spending purpose is important. However the Council can not only cut – it also needs to invest to safeguard the future and encourage confidence in Enfield as a place.

Government Funding in real terms £m	Year
91	2018/19
102	2017/18
114	2016/17
126	2015/16
147	2014/15

Massive cuts in support can only have severe consequences. With regard to the specifics of the question:

1. £350 per advert
2. Residents, businesses, investors via newspapers with a combined 120,000 copy circulation.
3. To publicise the new and important section of the website. As with all adverts placed in local newspapers and magazines the purpose is to inform and offer opportunities for further connection. The advert signposts people to the right place
4. Does the Councillor deny the fact that cuts to Enfield of tens of millions of pounds necessitate significant service cuts? In order to stimulate the local economy it is important to promote Enfield as a place where business is

done. The Improving Enfield campaign pulls together much of the regeneration and economic development activity we do throughout the local authority under one banner - allowing us to keep residents informed about and involved in huge areas of Council activity through one cost-effective integrated campaign.

It also encourages and attracts engagement from potential investors and developers, both from inside the borough and from the wider audience, to work in partnership with the Council to help grow the local economy and create jobs for local people. This is more important than ever at a time when Government funding for local authorities is being cut.

The campaign has been well received by key stakeholders. Feedback from local people surveyed at the Enfield Town show when the Improving Enfield campaign was launched indicated that 89% of respondents thought the campaign was a good idea. Businesses and developers have also been supportive with one developer commenting that, "The Improving Enfield campaign has helped raise the profile of this scheme with local people as well as providing a professional borough-wide regeneration brand with which to promote our partnership work to a wider audience."

Question 2 from Councillor Chibah to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment update the Council how Enfield fared in the recent Clean Britain Awards?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

I am pleased to advise you that Enfield Council has won a 'Gold' Clean Britain Award from the Chartered Institute of Waste Management (CIWM). In fact, the borough was selected as the BEST large local authority in the United Kingdom.

The CIWM recognised the Council's commitment to keeping the borough clean and the excellent work that our staff do in clearing litter, fly tipping and graffiti promptly and effectively. They also recognised the innovative ways this Council directs its resources to target the areas most needed.

Question 3 from Councillor Vince to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

What is the administration doing to ensure that necessary reductions in staffing are implemented so as to:

(a) Protect front line services;

(b) Retain expertise in the provision of key services.

Would the Leader agree that services could be better protected by supporting a reduction in the number of councillors from three to two per ward?

Reply from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

As a Council we have been subject to the enormous pressure of cuts imposed by this Tory Government since 2010. We have sought throughout to protect services but the impact of Tory cuts makes this an increasingly impossible task. I am sure that you will join with me in objecting to the level of Tory cuts imposed on residents of Enfield.

On your last point the level of councillor representation required should be a reflection of purpose. The numbers were set following the last independent review, and it should be for such a pan London review if it was to be changed.

Question 4 from Councillor Abdullahi to Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community Organisations and Culture

Can the Cabinet Member for Community Organisations and Culture say how many families are likely to be affected by the new child tax credit changes and what kind of impact will this have in Enfield. Given legislative loss by the Government should this policy be scrapped?

Reply from Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community Organisations and Culture

The Government are in a mess on this policy. A policy not flagged up to voters in the May 2015 General election.

According to a Local Government Association (LGA) impact study modelling the impacts of all of the Government's welfare reforms, 36,100 households are likely to be affected by the tax credits changes, losing on average £837 a year. This equates to a total of £30.2m per annum. The greatest losses are anticipated to be among the 22,900 working households who will lose on average £1,404 a year.

The impact model shows that Enfield is among the top 10% of areas negatively affected by the Government's welfare reforms, placing significant financial burdens on low income households and the local authority.

The government really need to go back to the drawing board with this one. All parties state they are keen for working families to be strengthened and supported. This policy will not only fail them but plunge more people into poverty and adversely impact the lives of children growing up in these families. Don't punish them for the financial crisis.

Question 5 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Can he tell the Council why he declined the invitation from David Burrowes MP to attend one or more of the three public meetings called by him in response to public pressure to discuss the Council's proposals under the Cycle Enfield umbrella, and why failing his attendance, he declined to send any officers to promote/defend the councils proposals?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Though I was, in principle, more than happy to co-operate with David Burrowes MP on his plans for public meetings to further promote the facts about Cycle Enfield, unfortunately, his office was not as forthcoming. For the record, officers emailed his office on the 17th August 2015 asking for clarification as to the likely format of the meetings and assurances that the attendance would be balanced. To that end it was asked how the meetings would be promoted. The email went unanswered. A follow-up email was sent on the 2nd September 2015. Again, this went unanswered. A further email was sent on the 10th of September 2015 - one week prior to the first scheduled meeting - to which a partial response was received. It simply informed us that the meetings would involve panels and that these would predominantly be made up of those who were opposed, in principle, to the Cycle Enfield programme. It was on this basis that it was decided not to participate.

In further correspondence with David Burrowes, I made clear to him that though I was more than happy for officers to attend any additional public meetings outside of the formal consultation process, which itself does already involve direct public engagement, this was on the basis that they are able to present the technical details of the scheme in alignment with that process and address any points that the general public may raise in summation.

In response, David Burrowes agreed to the conditions I stated above, and I, therefore, agreed that officers would attend the third and final scheduled meeting, which they then did.

As to my own non-attendance at any of the meetings, including the final one even after David Burrowes's assurances, unfortunately, he chose to schedule two of the three meetings on Jewish festivals. The second one took place on Kol Nidre night, which is the onset of Yom Kippur (The Day of Atonement), whilst the final one took place on the second night of Succot (Tabernacles). It, was therefore, extremely disappointing that David Burrowes, who is regularly engaged with the Jewish community, due to insensitive scheduling, necessarily excluded myself and other members of the Jewish community who may well have wished to attend. However, be that as it may, after discussing the matter with my colleague Councillor Achilleas Georgiou, Deputy Leader of the Council, he kindly agreed to step in for me and attended the third and final meeting in my place.

Question 6 from Councillor Fonyonga to Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community Organisations and Culture

How many police are likely to be lost as a result of government cuts to London Metropolitan police budgets and what impact will this have in Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community Organisations and Culture

These Government cuts were raised at the last Council meeting although Conservative members had limited concerns.

The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) Commissioner has indicated publicly that the reduction in the Policing Grant is estimated to be between 25% and 40%. He has also stated that extensive savings have been achieved already, without too much direct impact on the front line. Further cuts however seem certain to have a direct impact on what communities will see from their police services locally.

Nationally Police Service chiefs seem likely to desist from making officers redundant but Police Community Support Officers (PCSO)s who are classified as police staff can be. The future of PCSOs will not be decided until after the results are known from the Government's Autumn Spending Review.

News bulletins recently suggest that some forces will now need to consider sponsorship from the private sector to retain numbers and there are suggestions that police patrolling routinely will be a thing of the past. Craig Mackey, Deputy Commissioner, stated that "just because we're talking about possible changes, it does not signal that we will inevitably implement them. Decisions will depend entirely on the pace and scale of Government spending cuts.

In the meantime, we're working hard to secure a fair settlement for London from Government and to protect the Metropolitan Police's budget from a redistribution of police grant to rural forces through the Government's review of the police funding formula."

Perhaps the Conservatives in Enfield should protest more about these policing cuts.

Question 7 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Could he tell me and the council how many responses the Council received to the consultation on the A105 Cycle Enfield proposals up to 9th October, and given the poor publicity for the scheme relative to its size, is he prepared to extend the period of consultation to ensure the maximum numbers of the public have an opportunity to respond?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

I do not accept the premise of the question. The scheme was well publicised and, as a result of which, the Council's 12-week consultation on the draft proposals for the A105 resulted in 1,646 responses. This is an excellent return and, therefore, I see absolutely no need to extend the consultation.

Question 8 from Councillor Dogan to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development

Could the Cabinet member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development update the Council on the Enfield Expo promoting sales and exports by Enfield companies?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development

Can I refer you to the website http://enfieldexpo.co.uk "Now in its second year and hosted at the Dugdale Centre, the Enfield Expo brings together hundreds of business owners and decision-makers to network, attend seminars, build new business relationships and shop from suppliers that provide unique products & services to help grow their business." The origin of this expo is my sense that in addition to the successful work that this Labour administration has been doing in recent years to address companies' production-side needs (one major factor in the dramatic recent improvement in Enfield's employment statistics), we can also support business on the sales-side. It is unusual for local authorities to engage at this level, and also very well-received by the business community, as evidenced by the very large turnout we saw on the day.

Question 9 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

In his answer to Question 35 on the last council agenda, the Cabinet Member asserts that it was not possible to do a detailed economic assessment of the proposed cycling arrangements along the A105 until the consultation exercise was completed. I reject that assertion.

Does he not accept that the route A105 is and always was the route of the cycle scheme as far as the administration is concerned, and as such that it was entirely possible and eminently desirable that an economic assessment in order to assess the impact on the commercial businesses and shops along the route, was carried out along that route prior to the consultation? If he disagrees, will he confirm to the council that he will undertake a further consultation exercise after an economic assessment has been done?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Based on the success of similar schemes elsewhere it has always been the Council's expectation that the proposed improvements to the A105 will revitalise our high streets, thereby making them more attractive, which will further encourage people to spend more time and money in local shops and restaurants. However, it has always been our intention, once the consultation process is completed and the feedback has been analysed, that we carry out a thorough economic assessment that will inform the Council's decision-making process and if the scheme is adopted the final design. Businesses, along with residents, have had ample opportunity to comment on the proposals, and all thoughts, ideas, opinions and concerns that have been raised will be carefully considered, which will help us ensure that the any eventual scheme adopted works best for Enfield, and I, therefore, see no need to carry out any further consultation.

Question 10 from Councillor McGowan to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment outline the Council's approach to maintaining trees in Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Enfield recognises the importance of trees and the contribution that they make to the urban environment, wildlife, conservation, and climate change. The Council's approach to managing trees in the borough is set out in our corporate tree strategy, which is based on the Forestry Commission's recommendations to ensure compliance with relevant legislation and the Council's legal duty of care. It ensures compliance with national best practice as far as is reasonably practicable taking into account current financial constraints.

The strategy provides a risk-based approach to managing trees on a Council-wide basis. Trees on our public highways and other busy public spaces are classified as being in the highest 'risk zone' in the borough. These trees are therefore managed to a higher specification, which includes pruning, pollarding and stemming as part of cyclic programmes.

The Council has a specialist in-house arboriculture client team supported by an in-house operations team and external contractor.

Unfortunately, when trees are identified as being significantly decayed or deteriorating, the Council has to make difficult decisions regarding their removal in order to ensure public safety. Whenever trees are removed, we aim to plant a replacement tree in a nearby location.

We are, however, on target to plant in excess of 400 new trees in the borough this financial year as part of the borough's renewal and replacement programme.

Question 11 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Further to the report at Agenda Item 10 at last Council on proportionality arrangements, can he confirm that Councillors Ulus and Erbil are now Labour group members, or if not explain their current political status?

Reply from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Both councillors referred to are administratively suspended from the Labour Group, which prohibits attendance at Group meetings or participation in Group matters. However, National Party rules require them to remain registered as Labour members while any investigation progresses. This is why we needed to amend the proportionality percentages. Council officers informed us that the Council had a legal obligation to make these changes even though we indicated that we would not seek to utilise the extra positions this created.

Question 12 from Councillor Pite to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection

Can the Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection please clarify the decision making role of the Local Council on sites identified by the Department of Education or another body who decides to set up a free school or an academy on land not owned by the Council?

Reply from Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection

I can clarify that the Council has no role apart from its planning role in this process. It is quite straight forward.

If the request comes from an academy or free school or from any other trust or provider then they have to identify if they have a site or tell the Education Funding Agency (EFA) that they need help to find one.

Councillors may be aware, that the Council may not be consulted or even informed about the acquisition of the land or the site.

Therefore, as you can see the Council is not involved in the decision making process at all. It may only find out as part of the planning application process, which as you know is an independent process.

Question 13 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Further to the report at Agenda Item 10 at last Council on proportionality arrangements, I understand from the report that both Councillors Erbil and Ulus were the subject of internal Labour Party investigations. Have those investigations been concluded and with what result?

Reply from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

No, the investigations have not been concluded. The local Labour Group has no control over the processes or timescale.

Question 14 from Councillor Lemonides to Councillor A. Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care

Can the Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care report back on concerns being raised about the sustainability of the social care sector ahead of the forthcoming spending review and set out what impact she feels this will have in Enfield?

Reply from Councillor A Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care

Given the scale of Tory cuts this is a fair and relevant question.

The increasing pressures on Adult Social Care both in Enfield and more widely are well documented and evidenced. In Enfield we have seen and will continue to see significant population growth more generally and in particular, amongst our more vulnerable population. Our population is getting older and living longer but those increased years of life are very often limited by poor health and increased levels of disability. We are working with colleagues in health, across the Council and with the voluntary sector to place greater emphasis on the types of preventative support that help people to remain independent for longer without the need for ongoing care and support from the Council. We are integrating services to provide more efficient,

joined up responses to people who need help. We are working to ensure that the services we do buy for people represent value for money and to ensure that the social care market continues to be sustainable.

However, even with those measures the number of people who need our help will continue to increase and with the pension and living wage reforms, this will provide additional challenges and financial pressures for the Council. In addition to that this department will by 2020 have seen a 45% net budget reduction compared to 2011 so I am extremely concerned about the impact on the many thousands of vulnerable adults, older people and carers with whom we work. Budget reductions of this significance will mean reducing services for people who receive care and support, increased stress on unpaid carers (family members and friends). This will also impact on health services both within the community and within hospital settings so more emergency admissions to hospital. Of course we will continue to do our very best to review our vulnerable people and work to keep them safe from abuse but let me be absolutely clear about this, there will be significantly increased risk with budget reductions of this significance. I'll end, if I may, with a quote from a Local Government Association press release made on 28th October last year:

"Services for elderly and disabled residents are in danger of spiraling into crisis after new analysis reveals a £4.3 billion funding black hole by the end of this decade, social care experts are warning."

Question 15 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Will the Leader of the Council support an amendment to the Local Government Act 1972 the effect of which would be to immediately disqualify from membership or election, anyone sentenced to a term of imprisonment of any length, following conviction for a criminal offence, regardless (as now) of whether that sentence was suspended?

Reply from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

I would not wish to be the victim of the law of unintended consequences and any changes to an Act now 43 years old would need to be properly researched. On a personal note, and not my group policy, any changes to disqualification from office, should extend to the House of Commons, House of Lords, Greater London Authority and Police Commissioners. There are examples of individuals who have served custodial sentences sitting in the House of Lords in recent times and in my opinion there should be equitable treatment across all the elected components of the state, local and national.

Question 16 from Councillor Chibah to Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Public Health & Sport

Could the Cabinet Member for Public Health & Sport say what are the Council and local NHS are doing to prevent strokes and dementia?

Reply from Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Public Health & Sport

Tackling the risk factors which lead to dementia and stroke is a priority for Enfield, not least due to the fact that the emergency admissions rates, due to strokes in the Borough in 2013/14, is 20.4% higher than would be expected. Around 130 people die from strokes in Enfield. Although we know around 1,400 people have dementia, around half of them need support by Enfield Adult Social Care.

Essentially the measures that help protect you against heart disease and heart attacks will also protect you against strokes and dementia.

1. Managing medical conditions such as high blood pressure, cholesterol and atrial fibrillation.
2. Stopping smoking.
3. Drinking less alcohol.
4. Eating a healthy diet.
5. Doing more exercise.

As a Council we are committed to help people live healthy lifestyles. Cycle Enfield is a wonderful example. I'm really pleased that over the years, Public Health has worked closely with partners of the Health and Wellbeing Board to commission or to deliver health kiosks, the Hilo project to control high blood pressure and cholesterol, GP newsletters, local media campaigns and the atrial fibrillation pilot to help to reduce the risk of stroke and dementia. I am delighted that we have helped thousands of people stop smoking, control blood pressure, reduce their cholesterol levels and receive NHS health checks. Smoking prevalence is down to 15.8% in over 16's, and 3% in 15 years and below groups.

Question 17 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Orhan Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection

Will the Cabinet Member confirm that rooms in libraries will, as now, be available in 2016/17 for Councillors to book for their surgeries?

Reply from Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection

Unlike many other authorities, Enfield Council has sought to protect its libraries and retain all 17 libraries, many of which have rooms for hire. These facilities will continue to be available for councillors to use for surgeries as now.

Question 18 from Councillor Hamilton to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Could the Leader of the Council say what has happened since 2010 to the lower quartile figure for household incomes in Enfield.

Reply from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

This has decreased by 4% since 2010. So much for booming Britain. But why would the Tory Government care?

The figures for the lower quartile household income in Enfield are:

2010 £18,422

2011 £18,422

2012 £15,939

2013 £16,530

2014 £17,276

2015 £17,624

Question 19 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Given the scale of the Cycle Enfield proposals and the impact across significant sections of the borough, why has he not authorised/ instructed door to door leafleting similar to that employed for traffic schemes costing very much less and usually of much more limited impact; can he also explain how he expects those residents with no access to the Internet to request hard copies of a consultation document if they are not in fact aware that a consultation is taking place.

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Actually, we have. Tens of thousands of leaflets were distributed throughout the A105 corridor informing residents and businesses of the consultation and making it clear that if they wanted hardcopies of the plans they only had to ask or view them at the Civic Centre. Indeed, a number of people did just that and we, of course, happily obliged. However, the implication of the question is that we should have sent all 17 plans to tens of thousands of households, which would have been hugely wasteful. Also, at A3 size, the plans would not be as clear as those that could be viewed online. Prioritising an online format provided a much more flexible and efficient way of consulting that the majority of residents found easier to engage with.

Question 20 from Councillor Doyle to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection

Can the Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection please tell this Council if she or the Council has any powers to stop the Department of Education from approving funding for a Free School or an Academy to open on Green Belt land?

Reply from Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection

The first point to make in answering this question is that the Council has very little influence and no decision making power when it comes to approving the funding for free schools or an academy with the Department of Education (DFE) or of the Education Funding Agency (EFA).

As Councillors will know the Education Funding Agency (EFA) was set up by the current Government to support applications and approve the funding to academies

and free schools.

Ideally the Council should be consulted but the EFA does not have to ask for our views or even tell us about the proposed site at this point. In fact as we know academies and free schools both locally and nationally have been given permission to open without an identified site.

Our role as a Council is then limited to the statutory planning process and I do not have any powers in that regard as you know planning is an independent process.

Question 21 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

In his reply to Question 43 at the last Council meeting he acknowledged that out of 57km of existing cycle provision, it was only possible to take spot counts during peak travel periods in summer 2014 at 46 sites where "significant numbers of cyclists were expected either currently or in future years..", the results of which he annexed to his answer.

Was he surprised at how little use is made of the existing provision and do these results not show that in reality there is little demand for increased provision and as a result the Cycle Enfield proposals, which have a massive price tag, could in fact prove to be a massive white elephant for the borough, to say nothing of the inconvenience to residents and motorists alike arising from increased congestion and even poorer air quality resulting from that congestion?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Cycle Enfield was the result of a successful £30m cross-party bid signed both by the Leader of the Council and the then Leader of the Opposition on behalf of both parties, both of whom recognised it was a tremendous, once-in-a-lifetime, opportunity to transform and rejuvenate this fantastic borough.

The facts are that over the last decade, over 40,000 more people have moved into Enfield - a 14.2% increase, and this trend is continuing. Enfield cannot cope with ever more cars on our roads and with it worse air quality that will detrimentally affect thousands of people, young and old alike.

Cycle Enfield is an opportunity to start addressing these problems by enabling residents to consider making short trips by bike instead of car. Currently only 0.9% of residents cycle - one of the lowest ratios in London - and the main reason that many won't do so is because of safety. Cycle Enfield will change that and projections suggest that we will see at least 5% of residents, of all ages, cycling within 5 years.

It is, therefore, clear to me, and the current Mayor of London, that getting more people cycling is a cost-effective way of addressing the borough's future transport needs, improving people's fitness and improving air quality**.**

Question 22 from Councillor Hasan to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment say what activities Enfield Council has undertaken to encourage residents to take-up cycling over the last 12 months as part of the Cycle Enfield campaign?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

We have put in place a varied package of measures to encourage people to take up cycling. For example between April and September this year:

- 1,300 young people and 250 adults received cycle training;
- 1,120 cycles were fixed by 'Dr Bike';
- 36 Sunday bikes rides took place;
- 180 people took part in our £10 cycle loan scheme

In addition, we are continuing to extend our network of Greenway routes to provide safe routes that are suitable and appropriate for novice cyclists.

Question 23 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

In his reply to my question on Members' access to documents and information at the last Council (Question 43) the Leader stated that in respect of so called "super Part 2 reports" it may be necessary for a Member to sign a confidentiality agreement.

Can he explain to the Council how it can ever be necessary for a member demonstrating a "need to know" and therefore having a statutory right to see the relevant papers, to sign such an agreement which local government law neither authorises or requires?

Reply from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

The Council is procuring a master developer partner under the negotiated procedure in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR). In the context of the information being provided to elected members in connection with the procurement of the master developer, Regulation 21 of the PCR is relevant.

Regulation 21 provides that a contracting authority shall not disclose information which has been forwarded to it by an economic operator and designated by that economic operator as confidential, including, but not limited to technical or trade secrets and the confidential aspects of tenders. This is a duty placed upon the Council. In order to ensure that information it receives from bidders which is being made available to elected members, either under the Access to Information provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 or under the general common law "need to know" principle, the Council must ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place for it to satisfy the duty imposed upon it under Regulation 21 of the PCR.

I, and my colleagues and officers have signed the confidentiality agreement to display the highest public perception of integrity. I think that residents would simply not comprehend why any member would have a problem in doing that as it displays a level of diligence which I think we should all aspire to.

Question 24 from Councillor Uzoanya to Councillor Achilleas Georgiou, Deputy Leader

What new communications initiatives are being undertaken by Enfield Council to help grow the local economy, support local commerce, encourage residents to shop and do business locally and increase visitor numbers and spend in the borough?

Reply from Councillor Achilleas Georgiou, Deputy Leader

Enfield Council is producing a new lifestyle publication this month which aims to promote Enfield borough as the place to be to residents and those living in surrounding areas - to help increase expenditure with local shops and businesses and increase visitor numbers.

The magazine will be distributed to every home in the borough as well as being made available at local council access points, cultural venues and community spaces. There will also be hand-to-hand distribution at key transport hubs in neighbouring boroughs.

The first edition is timed to come out in the run-up to Christmas. It will be a high quality magazine that people will want to keep.

Topics and local attractions that will be covered will include:

- Shopping in Enfield/Edmonton/Southgate
- Arts and culture
- Eating and Drinking
- Shopping and Enterprise
- Parks and Recreation
- History and Heritage
- Leisure and Outdoors

Even before publication local shops and businesses have been responding positively to this new initiative, with many establishments providing interviews and content for the features, and some taking out supporting adverts. We know residents love the borough for many different reasons and we intend to spread the word for the benefit of all local people, businesses, shops and the local economy.

Question 25 from Councillor Vince to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member Education, Children's Services and Protection

In a letter dated 25/09/15 from Bob Griffiths (council ref: BG/Sept151391.cc) it states:

"Fairview has been in touch with the Council in terms of its function as Education Authority. This was to obtain information on the level of need for secondary school places across the Borough to inform their proposals."

Please can Councillor Orhan share with the council any reports and statistical information her department has provided to Fairview. In particular can she please provide for the Council:

- GLA statistics for demand for secondary school places (year 7) for years 2015 – 2025 further subdivided into the 3 or 4 planning areas they use for secondary school places;

- Statistics for actual planned capacity numbers for years 2015-2025, again subdivided by planning area

- Statistics for additional demand with parental choice in the above figures; and

- A copy of the GLA projections as at 2014 for comparative purposes.

Reply from Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection

Of course I am happy to share this information with councillors. In fact, we have done so already. As you know we produce a report annually that gives the Greater London Authority statistics and our analysis of the future demand for places. This year's report was made public very recently. link http://goo.gl/SD6PLt We can of course make previous reports available on request so that councillors can see the progress year on year and make the comparisons as required

When Fairview contacted my officers about the land owned by the diocese, we gave them the same information that we would give to all enquiries from providers and we told them that the report would be available in the autumn.

Question 26 from Councillor Fonyonga to Councillor Achilleas Georgiou, Deputy Leader

What communications activity has been delivered in the last 12 months by Enfield Council in partnership with the Safer Stronger Community Board, to help support a safer borough?

Reply from Councillor Achilleas Georgiou, Deputy Leader

Enfield Council has delivered an extensive and integrated Safe Enfield Communications Campaign over the last 12 months aimed at helping reduce crime through crime prevention advice and giving messages of reassurance including highlighting successful initiatives to help reduce anti-social behaviour and criminal activity.

The Safe Enfield strand targeted at young people has included a 'Your Safety Matters' campaign providing advice on preventing 'schoolboy/girl robbery' and a 'Think Again' campaign warning of the reduction of life-choices resulting from entering into gang activity. A strand celebrating positive role models for young people has also just been launched. All of these campaigns have been delivered to

young people through the communications channels that they use and at the places and events they frequent. As well as resulting in a big increase in traffic to the relevant digital media sites promoted in these campaigns, the 12 month campaign period has seen a reduction of 10.2% in 'schoolboy/girl' robbery.

More general burglary and robbery prevention advice campaigns have included Christmas and summer burglary prevention campaigns and a generic 'Your Safety Matters' campaign. Again these campaigns have resulted in a big spike in visits to the relevant website sections for further information, and the 12 month campaign period has seen a reduction of burglary by 10.3%.

Campaigns aimed specifically at reducing vehicle crime and theft have included 'Operation Spyder' and 'Don't be a victim of car crime'. Volumes for burglaries were 6.4% lower between July and September this year compared to the same period in 2014.

We will be delivering an extensive 'Domestic Abuse' campaign in the run up to White Ribbon day. Encouraging awareness and reporting of domestic abuse has led to a 23.7% increase in the number of reports. Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) and Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) referrals have also increased in the last 12 months.

Question 27 from Councillor Vince to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member Education, Children's Services and Protection

Has the borough undertaken any investigations as to possible sites for an eight form entry secondary school? What work has been undertaken to see whether any of the existing secondary schools in the borough are able to expand?

Reply from Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection

As our recent Cabinet report explains we are now at the point where we have investigated every possible site that we are aware of. This activity has been ongoing since we first developed our Pupil Places Strategy and even though we were focussing initially on primary school expansions Council will be aware that we identified the site for Oasis Hadley, provided Ark John Keats with Bell Lane and the new site for Ark North Enfield. Councillor Vince will know that large sites that are required for secondary schools are increasingly in short supply, if not exhausted. However, we continually audit existing sites and their potential for expansion and that includes the work we have done to ask secondary schools to become all age and take primary pupils. This includes exploring the possibility of expanding secondary schools to take additional secondary pupils.

I should remind councillors that our strategy for delivering and funding secondary places is robust and well planned. You will also know just how determined I am to ensure that we have sufficient high quality schools places in Enfield. I assure you that I will explore all our options as long as the government gives us sufficient basic need funding that we need to do this.

Unfortunately, as we have seen, there is a concerning gap in funding between what

the government gives us and the actual cost of providing the high quality schools that we can all be proud of and that this administration is committed to delivering.

Question 28 from Councillor Bond to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Can the Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration update the Council on progress by Housing Gateway Services in relation to number of houses purchased and savings achieved consequent to the Temporary Accommodation (TA) budget.

Reply from Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Housing Gateway has purchased 132 properties to date. We are currently in the process of purchasing a further 46.

The council has achieved £550K actual savings to date by moving homeless households from expensive emergency accommodation into these properties.

The average yearly projected saving for each property purchased is £8,642 compared to emergency accommodation.

The total full year savings on the properties purchased so far is projected to be £1.14m.

Question 29 from Councillor Vince to Councillor Orhan Cabinet Member Education, Children's Services and Protection

At a public meeting on 1 October, Rob Hannan from the London Diocesan Board for Schools, working with Fairview as the educational establishment, stated that he would publish on their website the figures that the LBE have provided them. Would the Cabinet Member give the Council independent confirmation of these figures as it states "Shading shows Enfield Council's assumption that 8 full time equivalents will be added on the Enfield Road site".

Reply from Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection

This administration was not represented at this meeting and therefore I cannot comment on what this person said or didn't say.

Let me assure colleagues that we are committed to meeting our statutory obligations in providing school places and are still actively investigating possible new secondary school sites and the possibility of expanding existing secondary schools. Our Annual review of the need for new places is very clear about any assumptions we have made, however these would only be confirmed once any new development has been agreed and confirmed with all parties. As far as I am aware any proposals for the site in question remain exactly that, just proposals.

Question 30 from Councillor N. Cazimoglu to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Can the Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration update the Council on the requirements imposed by Government in relation to the sale of void properties and how the proposed 1% rent reduction affects Council Housing?

Reply from Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

The position in relation to the sale of void properties remains unclear – originally, the Government set threshold valuations above which Councils would be required to sell properties when they became void. At that point, none of Enfield's properties were valued in excess of those thresholds, so the impact on this Council would have been zero. However, there were then rumours that all Councils may be required to sell, say, their top third highest value properties. The Housing and Planning Bill indicates that the Government will decide, through a "determination", which authorities will be required to pay and how much each will need to pay each year. Our interpretation of this is that the Government will require us to pay over a lump sum and they will tell us how it is calculated, but this will just be an amount of money based on the number of properties that they deem we should sell and when we sell them - ie. not necessarily connected to when they actually become vacant and when the actual sale takes place. We await further information on this and will report to Cabinet the impact on the 30 Year HRA Business Plan, once it is known.

With regard to the 1% rent reduction, the headlines are that:

- The Council will lose £325m in revenue balances over the life of the current 30-Year Business Plan
- There will also be capital shortfalls of £81.6m
- The rent loss in 2016/17 will be £2.2m, rising to £4.4m in 2017/18, then £6.6m and £8.8m in the following two years

However, steps have been taken to address this problem by making year on year revenue savings of £1.5m, reviewing the Capital Programme and re-profiling debt. A paper setting all of this out, in more detail, will be going to November Cabinet as an appendix to the Budget Monitoring report.

Question 31 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson Cabinet Member for Environment

Residents have complained about the limited amount of promotion regarding the need to enter Barrowell Green Household Waste and Recycling Centre with a permit when taking large items to be disposed of with a van. Would the Cabinet Member for Environment commit to increasing the promotion of this policy so that residents are more aware of this requirement?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Van permits were introduced on the 31st March 2015. In the run up to that the pre-

launch communications included:

1. Leaflets distributed to all site users from December 2014 to April 2015.
2. Information on the website, including the home page carousel, during January 2015.
3. A banner on-site from mid-March 2015.
4. 'Our Enfield' in early February 2015.
5. Adverts were also placed in the local press (all 4 papers).
6. A-frames were used on-site in the lead up to and during the start to advertise the changes.

It is our intention is to re-advertise in the New Year to remind residents of the need to re-apply for permits on their expiration.

Question 32 from Councillor Simon to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment say how successful he has been in encouraging local people to take part in Cycle Enfield engagement and consultation events?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

A number of well attended exhibitions have been held for both businesses and residents. The most recent A105 and Enfield Town exhibitions at the Fox Pub and Dugdale Centre respectively, each attracted over 400 people, with the vast majority reporting that they found them useful.

I can also report that the A105 consultation attracted 1,646 responses, of which 84% were from within the borough. Whilst there is always room for improvement, I have no doubt that our consultation will give a good indication of the views of both local residents and businesses.

Question 33 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Recently I have had several complaints about the policy of requiring permits for those who have hired large vehicles to dispose of bulky waste items at Barrowell Green Household Waste and Recycling Centre in particular the turnaround time of applications for permits being weeks rather than days, leaving many to either delay disposal or hire a van for a second time. Would the Cabinet Member for Environment commit to reducing the amount of time it takes to consider and process applications for permits so that large vehicles can enter Barrowell Green?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Indeed, I will.

Question 34 from Councillor B. Charalambous to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection

Would the Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection please join me in thanking her department, the manager and all staff at the Millfield Theatre for a showing of the pantomime this year on behalf of our Looked After Children, their Carers and for the first time this year the Young Carers**?**

Reply from Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection

Yes indeed Councillor Charalambous. I would be honoured to thank staff for such a wonderful opportunity for our looked after children, young people and their carers in Enfield.

Question 35 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment commit to having a review of the administration of the permit service for entering Barrowell Green Recycling Centre as residents who have used the service have complained that repeatedly after applying the paperwork returned by his Department has had the incorrect details for them including the wrong registration number and colour of vehicle and the wrong contact email address of the service?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Indeed, I will

Question 36 from Councillor Levy to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development

Can the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development provide an update on the Local Plan Review?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development

Like all local authorities, Enfield has a duty to keep its core plans up to date. This is not only statutory but in our interest as well. It means there is a robust legal framework underpinning our responses to the different development demands we face. To that extent, renewing the Core Plan empowers the Council.

One of the main lessons we have already learnt during the current review process is that Enfield needs to respond to, and plan for, accommodating the rapid demographic and economic growth that our borough is experiencing at present – and which, according to some Greater London Authority estimates, means that over the next 20 years, as many as 100,000 more residents might put down roots here: incomers; but above all future generations of existing Enfield families.

That being the case, we all have some hard thinking to do about how to prepare for our communities of tomorrow. The Local Plan Review is an early consultation getting residents and all stakeholders thinking about the full range of conceivable choices.

Some are less palatable than others, but all should be discussed to do our duty to present and future residents.

Question 37 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Would the Cabinet Member for Environment commit to notifying Friends of the Parks Groups as part of the consultation process conducted by his department, when organisations apply for licenses to hold events in the parks that they are involved with?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Yes we will include Friends of Parks as part of any consultation carried out in accordance with a licence application. In addition, the Parks Events calendar is sent on a monthly basis to all Friends of Parks.

Question 38 from Councillor Pite to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development update the Council on his department's collaboration with Enfield Town Market?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development

The Business and Economic Development team has been collaborating with and supporting the Enfield Charitable Trust from the very outset on the New Enfield Town Market, which is clearly popular with residents so far. There are further activities planned for the run-up to Christmas with events on Small Business Saturday expected to draw more people to the town. Council will be aware of the non-stop efforts made by this Labour Administration to revive our town centres, in large part by reversing years of neglect when certain members opposite quite unbelievably quashed Enfield's footfall through their policy of turning our borough into a sleepy dormitory. We see things very differently on this side and are pulling out all the stops to revive footfall – including by sparking a night-time economy. The new Enfield Town Market fits into this broader effort.

Question 39 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Would the Cabinet Member for Environment commit to not closing off anymore roads during this Council term in order to stop people being forced on to the main roads that are already congested?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

I will not support any measures that simply move a problem from one street to another, as is often the case with road closures. That said, each situation needs to be carefully considered on its merits, taking into account the views of residents and

other stakeholders.

Question 40 from Councillor During to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development update the Council on the impact this Government's draconian cuts is having on the London Borough of Enfield's employability capabilities?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development

Despite the pressure placed on our employability provision by this Government's insane 60% cut in Enfield's funding, the Business and Economic Development team will continue coming up with efficient and effective ways of supporting our job seeking residents. This will largely revolve around partnership work with Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Public Health and third sector providers. We will also maximise the job and apprenticeship opportunities that are becoming available through our construction sector S106 agreements, and by the Community Benefit package this administration has put together to govern procurement operations affecting other sectors of economic activity.

Question 41 from Councillor Smith to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Would the Cabinet Member list the visits he has undertaken to Council Estates managed by the London Borough of Enfield between May 2014 and October 2015?

Reply from Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Over the last 18 months I have visited the following estates:

Manor Court
Dover House
Scott House
Beck House
Cherry and Bouvier Estate
Firs Lane
Four Hills Estate
Joyce Avenue Estate
Snells Park
Elsinge Road Estate
Oakthorpe Road
Curtis House
Exeter Road Estate
Beaconsfield Estate
Channel Islands Estate
Parsonage Lane

Forty Hill
Tudor Crescent
Lavender Hill
St Georges Road
Jasper Close
Moree Way
Fore Street Estate
Alma Estate
Highmead
Leighton Road
Ayley Croft

Question 42 from Councillor Jemal to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on all the work that the Council is currently doing to implement sustainable drainage schemes in the borough?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

In accordance with our role as a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), Enfield takes a very pro-active approach, not just to implementing sustainable drainage schemes in the borough, but also to promoting their use as part of the ongoing development of the borough. Our planning policies include requirements for sustainable drainage and we are very active in offering pre-planning advice to developers to ensure Sustainable Drainage Schemes (SuDS) are considered right from the start of any new developments.

We have recently been very successful in gaining additional funding from DEFRA to construct SuDS schemes in locations such as Firs Farm and Bury Lodge. These schemes create wetland areas, which hold water and, therefore, reduce the potential for flooding problems downstream. They improve the quality of the water through natural processes and provide recreational and amenity benefits to the public. The wetland areas recently excavated and planted within Grovelands Park are another example of this.

Many of our streetscene improvement schemes now provide SuDS facilities through the creation of additional grass and soft landscaping features. A recent scheme at Houndsden Road involved re-profiling the grass verge to provide a small wetland area. The Council's Watercourses' Team is currently working with designers for Cycle Enfield to investigate options for incorporating sustainable drainage features within the new proposals, including soft landscaping and permeable areas.

In August, we took a number of people from various partner organisations including the Greater London Authority (GLA), Environment Agency, Thames21 and other London boroughs on a tour of Enfield's SuDS schemes. It was a very successful event, which allowed us to make some useful contacts as well as helping promote the work we are doing here in Enfield.

Question 43 from Councillor Smith to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for

Housing and Housing Regeneration

Would the Cabinet Member explain the rationale behind the selection by the Council Housing Department of tenants and leaseholders for the Housing Board?

Reply from Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

This was agreed by residents when Council Housing looked at a new resident involvement structure. A Steering Group was set up called the "Resident Involvement Review Group", which was made of Enfield Homes Board Members, residents and officers. When Enfield Homes Board was established, residents were on this Board. The Resident Review Group agreed that the involvement of residents had been good practice and they would like this to continue. This was endorsed by the Cabinet Member for Housing. Due to Enfield Homes' Services being brought back in house, and the new Customer Voice being established, it was agreed by residents and the Cabinet Member for Housing that Customer Voice members would be given the option to sit on the Housing Board.

In answer to the specific question, Councillor Smith knows that it is residents on the Customer Voice, not the Council Housing Department that selects representatives from among its number onto the Housing Board.

Question 44 from Councillor Bakir to Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Public Health & Sport

Could the Cabinet Member for Public Health & Sport describe how we are helping the NHS to manage diabetes?

Reply from Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Public Health & Sport

LBE is helping the NHS manage diabetes by facilitating prevention and assisting the mobilisation of the community for awareness and better diabetes care including empowering self-care.

For prevention, we are encouraging and supporting people to have access to healthy food and to become more physically active through use of parks, open spaces and leisure services. Conferences and other public events have been held and a sugar awareness campaign was launched in October 2015. Public Health also funds additional physical activity and cooking lessons for the children in Yr1 & Yr6 who have been identified as obese/overweight, together with support for their families.

For early recognition we commission an NHS health check programme which includes a rapid HBA1c test. The Public Health team also helped design the Clincal Commissioning Group's (CCG) three-pronged diabetes pathway that specifies the evidence based management from early recognition and prevention to management of complex cases.

To inform Enfield CCG strategies, public health publishes Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, summaries of Commissioning for Value reports, Ward profiles and GP

practice profiles that have included diabetes management. A Public Health consultant sits on many CCG executive groups, raising the importance of diabetes, improving clinical pathways, and supporting new models of care.

Question 45 from Councillor Smith to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Would the Cabinet Member list the names of the tenants and leaseholders and the estates on which they live who were appointed to the Customer Voice and Senate, when they were appointed and for what term of office?

Reply from Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Members of the Customer Voice are as follows:

Barbara Fry
Philip McIntyre
Janet Billingsley
Cassandra Blackwood
Tom Devine
Ben Harrington
Ryan Hebbs
Mary Clifford
Andreas Stavrinos
Elaine Sanders
Peter Williams
Vincent Konyeaso
John Theodore

Members are drawn from the three housing areas West, East and Edmonton. This was the approach agreed by the Resident Involvement Review Group who led on the development of the current resident involvement structure for Council Housing. The estates/areas represented are: Pevensey Avenue, Gilpin Cresent, Merry Hills Court, Park Road, Buckfast House, Bullsmoor Way, Crawford Gardens, Beale Close, Scott House, ALMA Road, Princes Avenue, Dunholme Road (Hyde Estate) and Langhedge Lane. Customer Voice members have a 3 year term of office.

The Customer Senate comprises:

Barbara Fry
Janet Billingsley
Peter Williams
Vijaya Bhopalsingh
Kiran Gosai
Bekir Bekir

Customer Senate members were recruited following a borough-wide marketing campaign and competitive interviews. Members come from the following areas of the borough: Pevensey Avenue, Gilpin Cresent, Scott House, Bullsmoor Way, Leyton

Road, London Road, Princes Avenue and Brittany House, Harington Terrace, Firs Lane and Dene House. They have been appointed between April 2012 and July 2014. Their term of office is for 3 years and is currently being reviewed by the Customer Voice.

Question 46 from Councillor Stewart to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment describe how has the Cycle Enfield campaign encouraged more schools, workplaces and community groups to actively promote cycling and to become more cycle-friendly in the last 12 months?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Enfield Council has run a number of successful programmes to support schools, workplaces and community groups to actively promote cycling and to become more cycle-friendly in the last 12 months.

These have included:

For schools:

- 'Bikeability' cycle training has been delivered in 46 primary schools to over 1,800 pupils in the last 12 months.
- 81 schools now have an active School Travel Plan, with 18 at Gold status.
- During 2014-15 210 individual cycle parking spaces were installed in 17 schools, together with 10 cycle shelters each providing 10-20 bike parking spaces.
- A full time 'Bike It' officer from sustainable transport charity 'Sustrans' is working with two 'hub' areas each comprised of one secondary school and five primary schools, delivering a wide range of activities.

For workplaces:

- The Council continues to develop its own workplace travel plan and invest in improved cycle facilities for staff.
- New developments in the borough are required to provide secure and covered cycle parking.

For the whole community:

- The Inclusive Cycling scheme in Bush Hill Park has been running four times and has engaged over 1,000 participants, which has included a variety of disability groups as well as individual referrals.
- Bikes are available for free hire at Forty Hall.
- Cycle Enfield has taken part in four large festivals, namely, The Pageant of Motoring, The Edmonton Festival, The Palmers Green Festival and The Enfield Town Show.

- Officers have given numerous talks outlining the Cycle Enfield scheme to specific community groups, including the 'Over 50s Forum' and local disability groups.

Question 47 from Councillor Smith to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Would the Cabinet Member commit to holding elections across our estate communities in order to give a democratic mandate to tenant and leaseholder representatives who sit on the Housing Board, Customer Voice and the Senate?

Reply from Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

The current resident involvement framework was established in the last year following a major piece of work led by residents themselves via the Resident Involvement Review Group. The residents did consider holding elections but were concerned that this would be expensive and time consuming. As an alternative they chose instead to initially build capacity from existing resident involvement structures. Now the Customer Voice is established with terms of reference for 3 years, members are considering future options for recruitment including the possibility of elections.

Question 48 from Councillor Lemonides to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Can the Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration update the Council on progress with addressing fuel poverty, reducing bills for residents on the Exeter Road Estate and working with partner agents for securing funds to support fuel poverty?

Reply from Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

The Exeter Road estate works currently on site will be completed by the end of November 2015. The high-rise blocks in this scheme will have works which includes new external wall insulation and replacement windows, alongside the Decent Homes works such as structural repairs and asbestos removal (where applicable). These measures will significantly improve the thermal efficiency of these blocks.

The works were funded from the Councils Housing Revenue Account and also additional grant funding of just under £1million, which has been provided by British Gas as part of their Energy Company Obligations (ECO).

The next phase of the planned works on the estate is the replacement of the failing underfloor electric heating system.

Despite the funding pressures that the Council currently faces, we have been seeking innovative heating solutions which would allow the Council to meet a number of its policy aims including not only the "Decent Homes" targets, but also

tackling issues such as the alleviation of fuel poverty on the estate and increasing our environmental sustainability outputs.

A major parallel target for the heating renewal was to also attract external grant (partial) funding for this heating wherever possible, to offer better solutions for tenants at lower capital costs to the Council.

The heating solution chosen will entail the drilling of a number of bore holes under both Housing Revenue Account land and a small area of adjoining land in Durants Park to install the new 'Ground Source Heat Pumps', which will in turn power a new central heating system in the flats.

This innovative solution attracts funding under the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) scheme and upon completion of the works the scheme should attract nearly £1m of additional ECO funding for the Council as well as Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) payments of between £2.0m and £2.8m over the 20 year post completion period (subject to the amount of heat actually used).

Although the 'bore' drilling and heat pump installation is being carried out by a specialist contractor, the domestic plumbing works in the blocks and individual flats has been sub-contracted to an Enfield based plumbing and heating contractor thereby protecting local jobs, creating further training opportunities and also adding income back into the local company. This is in line with another of the Council's stated policy aims.

ECO Funding from 'EDF' has now been agreed to help deliver this heating initiative and we believe this investment will help to tackle significant 'Fuel Poverty' issues for around a further 750 people in the Borough. These combined insulation and heating measures are estimated to save in the region of 60% of the total fuel bill, which could be as much as £600 per family, per annum.

The Domestic Ground Source Heat Pump system on this scale, is a first in England (one previous scheme is currently underway in Glasgow) and it will therefore be a high profile project for the Council.

Question 49 from Councillor Smith to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Would the Cabinet Member agree that appointing tenant and leaseholder representatives to serve on the Housing Board, Customer Voice and the Senate for four years with a job of scrutinising the spending of millions of pounds worth of public money without any democratic mandate is unacceptable in modern Britain?

Reply from Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

The current arrangements do indeed have a democratic mandate.

The nomination process to the Customer Voice and Customer Senate was carried out amongst existing resident groups and committees and was successful in

attracting enthusiastic residents some of whom had no history of being engaged in this way.

The Customer Voice now has a good geographical spread as well as nominees from:

- Tenant and Resident Associations
- Leaseholder Forum
- Customer Senate
- Access for Services Forum
- Sheltered Housing Forum

Future membership to the Voice and Senate will be reviewed in consultation with residents towards the end of their 3-year term in office.

Question 50 from Councillor Abdullahi to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Could the Leader of the Council say what % of Enfield households have an income below £15,000 per annum?

Reply from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

The latest figures from CACI LTD show that across the Borough, 25,257 households (19.87%) have gross household incomes of £15,000 p.a. or less. The wards with most households having incomes of £15,000 p.a. or less are:

Edmonton Green	33.6%
Upper Edmonton	28.7%
Ponders End	26.7%
Lower Edmonton	26.5%

Question 51 from Councillor R. Hayward to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

How many acres of brown field land is there within the London Borough of Enfield for possible housing development?

Reply from Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

The Council's Housing Trajectory (2014) indicates there is 110 hectares of brownfield land available for residential development in the borough.

Question 52 from Councillor Doyle to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing & Housing Regeneration

Given the impact on Enfield, Could the Cabinet Member for Housing & Housing Regeneration say what has been the price increase in private rental properties in the past 12 months up to 31 March?

Reply from Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing & Housing Regeneration

Room size	% increase in rent
1 bed	4.6%
2 bed	1.6%
3 bed	8.5%
4 bed	9.8%

Increase in the Consumer Price Index for this period was 0%.

Question 53 from Councillor Hurer to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Does the Leader of the Council believe it is appropriate for sitting Councillors to appear in radio shows broadcast by pirate radio stations such as Bizim FM?

Reply from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Enfield Council's Communications Team is responsible for organising radio and television interviews for designated spokespeople for the authority. No interviews have been arranged with Bizim FM. I must confess however that I have never heard of this radio station.

Question 54 from Councillor N. Cazimoglu to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development

Could the Cabinet member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development update the Council on the London Regeneration Fund bid promoting digital entrepreneurship, particularly in BME communities and how this will impact on Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development

The bid to the Mayors Regeneration Fund will look to develop small business and training opportunities at Meridian Water which include bespoke entrepreneurship for excluded communities as part of the strategy to ensure that Meridian Water developments reach the wider community, starting in Edmonton. This Labour administration has long been convinced of the need to support incubation efforts, addressing the failure of certain markets to nurture infant industries. Hence the work we have been doing with Building Bloqs in the makespace business, which we now hope to expand to propel our Silicon Enfield initiative.

Question 55 from Councillor Celebi to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Does the Cabinet member concede that more houses have been built in London under Boris Johnson's term as Mayor for London than under the former Labour Mayor Ken Livingstone and can he outline how this will have impacted on Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Total housing completions figures for London are published in the Greater London Authority's Annual Monitoring Reports available at

https://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/planning/research-reports/monitoring-london-plan

Ken Livingstone was London Mayor for eight years but figures are only available for five years, while six years of figures are available for Mayor Boris Johnson. Taking an annual average of housing completions for both mayors, figures indicate that housing delivery in London was higher for the years 2004 to 2008 (under Ken Livingston) than for the years 2009 to 2014 (under Boris Johnson). The housing figures for Enfield over this time also reflect this trend. During the overall period of 2004 to 2014 it should also be noted that market conditions were affected by the market crash and recession of 2008.

The average figures are as follows:

	Annual Average 2004-2008	Annual Average 2009-2014
Completions London	24,382	22,943
Completions Enfield	725	404

Question 56 from Councillor Maguire to Councillor A.Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care

Can the Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care please provide an update on the recent launch of the revised multi agency Safeguarding Strategy?

Reply from Councillor A Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care

The Safeguarding Adults Board became statutory from April 2015 under the Care Act 2014; the recent launch of the Board's Safeguarding Adults Strategy 2015-2018 represents the commitment of all partners to work together to achieve outcomes for adults at risk to prevent abuse from occurring and responding robustly when harm does occur. The strategy will be reviewed annually through consultation with local people, service users and carers and the action plan is monitored on a quarterly basis at all meetings. Members may wish to note that the launch event included the Multi Agency Safeguarding Adults Hub, which provides a single point of access of professionals to share information and agree the best course of action for a safeguarding adults' enquiry; this will be done with regard to the wishes and views of the adult at risk. The launch of the new London Safeguarding Adults Policy &

Procedures has been delayed across London until Feb 2016 and the Enfield Safeguarding Adults Board is preparing in advance for this implementation.

Question 57 from Councillor Celebi to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Does the Leader of the Council accept that the proposed cuts to the Archives, Museum Services, and access to the Archives by appointment only, will undermine Enfield's culture?

Reply from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Not at all. Enfield has a proud heritage and its people and past have connections around the world. Providing more images and documents on Enfield's history online will increase the reach of Enfield's culture to those based around the world who cannot attend the Local Studies Centre. For those able to attend the centre, the full collection will continue to be available to view with support from a specialist officer. The Council has received funding this year from Heritage Lottery Fund to undertake digitisation of its resources so I believe, rather like the national archives service, that increasing digital access enhances rather than undermines our culture.

With massive Government funding cuts affecting every Council service, the Council has to ensure it uses its resources effectively. Appointment based services are proposed so that the service operates effectively and efficiently with specialist staff available to provide customers with expert knowledge as required and are commonplace in other authorities including our neighbouring Conservative controlled Barnet Council.

Question 58 from Councillor Celebi to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

Does the Leader of the Council accept that the proposal to scan the resources from the Local Studies Centre, making them available online, will prevent access to those who don't have computer knowledge and/or internet facilities?

Reply from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

There is no intention to close the Local Studies Centre or dispose of any of the Local Studies Collection. Those able to attend the centre will continue to be able to browse and receive specialist help with their searches. There is simply a proposition to extend our current programme of digitisation, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, to more images and documents so that those who have an interest in Enfield but cannot attend the centre, can also explore Enfield's diverse and fascinating history online. This increases access to a global audience on a 24/7 basis.

Question 59 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Oykener Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

In a written reply in May to a question about the 'small site' plots in Chase Ward and when work is set to start, you said:

"Development works are programmed to start on site at Tudor Crescent by the end of next month (May 2015) and complete by November 2015, and at Forty Hill &

Lavender Hill the following month (June 2015) with completion planned at these two sites in December 2015."

Can the Cabinet Member please update me on whether these targets either have or are going to be met? If they are not going to be met can he please tell me why not and what the new dates are?

Reply from Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Partners have been working closely with utility companies, planners and/or members of the Conservation Action Group to address service issues and agree external materials to satisfy planning conditions across these sites.

Careful selection of the materials for the external envelope of the buildings (including the bricks, roof tiles, guttering, windows and front doors) will safeguard the character and appearance of the area, particularly with regard to Forty Hill Conservation Area, and materials can be replaced/replicated in the future without adding financial burden to this or future schemes.

I am pleased to advise that matters are now sufficiently resolved so work has commenced on site at Tudor Crescent and Forty Hill, is imminent at Lavender Hill and all three sites are expected to be completed Spring 2016.

Question 60 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency

Does the Cabinet Member still believe that spending £3.5m on a farm in Enfield's Green Belt, despite it yielding less than 1% when fees are taken into account, to be good value?

Reply from Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance & Efficiency

Yes and, as you are fully aware, the independent report requested by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee clearly stated that this was a good purchase at this price.

The yield quoted at 1% is not a true reflection of the return you would achieve from this or any other asset as in this scenario all the costs associated with the purchase have been front end loaded and would not normally be included in yield comparisons.

Once the farm has been fully let (greatly delayed by the fire) we will be able to set out the yield, which we expect will compare favourably with other Council owned Green Belt assets.

Question 61 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency

Does the Cabinet Member believe that Enfield's Green Belt portfolio is managed exceptionally and is being maximised to its full potential?

Reply from Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency

Yes although there is always room for improvement and Knight Frank work hard with the Council to seek feedback on the management of the estate and various projects they are involved in.

Knight Frank are market leaders in the management of rural assets. As an example they are currently in advanced discussions to generate a one off large income stream to the Council, which without their skills and expertise would not have been possible.

They react very quickly to issues on the portfolios and they seek to resolve potential issues in an efficient and considerate manner.

Question 62 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency

Once agents fees are taken into account, can the Cabinet Member advise what is the yield applied to Enfield's Green Belt Portfolio?

Reply from Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency

This information is commercially sensitive but I am happy to brief the member outside of the meeting.

Question 63 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency

At auction in 2014 Enfield Council capped its bid for 36-38 London Road at £2,465,000. The rental income was £248,500. The building sold at auction for £2.75m. Earlier this year the Council purchased Sloemans Farm for £3.5m. The publicly available figures indicate a rent in the region of £50-£70,000 a year. Can he please try to give a justification to NOT purchasing 36-38 London Road given the price it was sold at and the rental income it produces AND the development value of the land given the high price paid for Sloemans Farm and the very low rental income it produces?

Reply from Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency

The Council had its Property Procedure Rules (PPR's) approved November 2013 that govern property acquisitions, and has to adhere to them. These procedures are in place to protect the Council and Officers from over bidding on properties and in hindsight the units on London Road are still vacant.

To comply with this, the Council obtained independent valuation advice from an RICS Registered Valuer to justify the acquisition as 'Best Value' under s120 of the Local Government Act 1972 and in this instance the advice received showed that subject to a set of assumptions and the current income levels attributed to the Property the upper figure set the bid level of £2.465m.

As you are also aware we obtained an independent valuation advice from an RICS Registered Valuer for the acquisition of Sloeman's Farm and the price paid reflected the valuation received.

Question 64 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency

Why did the Council cap its bid for 36-38 London Road at the price it did?

Reply from Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency

The Council capped its bid as the independent valuation received dictated what the Authority could bid up to in the auction room.

Question 65 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency

Prior to bidding for 36-38 London Road what internal assessment was undertaken as to the development value of the land?

Reply from Councillor Stafford, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency

The valuation process necessarily looks at development opportunities in the light of current and emerging planning policies and legislation. These were therefore considered in arriving at a suitable valuation. A title search and report on title were also undertaken, along with full legal due diligence.

Question 66 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Does Councillor Anderson agree with me that whilst improving cycling conditions along Southbury Road is desirable, taking out the left-filter lane from Southbury Road on to the A10 will make conditions considerably worse for drivers? In a written response on October 14th to questions by me about the proposed changes to the Southbury Road/A10 junction thanks to Cycle Enfield, officers admitted that the proposals will increase congestion for motorists by reducing the green time that vehicles have to turn left onto the A10 and letting four fewer cars per cycle of lights through.

Given this is a major arterial route in Enfield and one used by people for journeys that are exceedingly unlikely to be used by people who can swap their car journeys for bikes, would he agree that this particular aspect of the Cycle Enfield proposals appears to be an alteration too far and that officers should therefore urgently reassess their current proposals for this junction?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

As I have repeatedly said, the proposals for each element of Cycle Enfield are draft and will be reviewed and amended in light of the consultation process. Therefore, the

response Councillor Dines received has to be understood in that context. That said, it should also be borne in mind that the proposals need to be seen within the wider context of improved safety and convenience that will be afforded to cyclists and pedestrians. Furthermore the traffic modelling, which Councillor Dines indirectly refers to makes no allowance for the reduction in queues afforded by some motorists switching from car to bike.

Question 67 from Councillor Chamberlain to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection

Will the Cabinet Member set out the following information:

1. The number of documents held by Enfield Museums and Archives service;

1. The number of those documents currently digitised

3. The cost of digitising the remaining documents

4. The budget assigned to continuing to digitise those documents

Reply from Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection

1. The number of documents held by Enfield Museums and Archives service;

Local Studies and Archives collections are represented and reported in cubic metres. We have 27 Cubic Metres of records including photographs, maps, archives, oral histories, deeds, books, ephemera, newspapers and other publications.

The Museum currently holds an extensive collection of social and local history objects relating to the people of the borough – around 15,000 items including 2,000 handling items. It includes archaeology, costume, natural history, fine and decorative art, furniture.

2. The number of those documents currently digitised

The Heritage Lottery Fund funded 2000 images to be digitalised.

3. The cost of digitising the remaining documents

There is no intention to digitise the whole collection as this would be impractical and unlawful in some cases (e.g. where we do not own the copyright or the physical size/frailty of the item). We simply wish to extend the current programme of scanning popular images and documents, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, so that we can offer a richer online experience for those people with an interest in Enfield's history who cannot attend the centre. A final decision has not been made following the consultation. If it is agreed to extend the digitisation programme and move to appointments, the specialist officer will be undertaking this work alongside caring for the collection when they are not engaged with appointments.

4. The budget assigned to continuing to digitise those documents

See answer to point 3 above – the cost of digitisation would be staff time.

Question 68 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Is the Cabinet Member aware of the dire experience of businesses following the introduction of cycle provision in Waltham Forest, similar to that planned in Enfield?

In Waltham Forest, businesses claim that over a period of two years, they have seen a 50% decline in profits. I'm sure he would agree that any loss of profits on anything approaching this level would be catastrophic for Enfield businesses, many of whom are already struggling. Is he content to take a risk on a similar outcome in Enfield, or will he now publicly abandon the present proposed schemes and return to the drawing board to produce something which avoids that risk and meets the most significant points voiced by our residents?

Reply from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Councillor Neville should be careful of relying on hearsay. Indeed, given that Waltham Forest have only just started implementing their 'Mini Holland' proposals, it is stretching credulity to believe that it is responsible for businesses seeing a 50% decline in profits over the last two years. However, the recent demonstration he is indirectly referencing in his question was over the closure of some residential roads in Walthamstow Village, a measure that we are not proposing. I am, therefore, confident that the improvements we are planning here in Enfield will revitalise our high streets and help businesses increase their profits.