

Council Questions for 24 February 2016

Question 1 from Councillor Chamberlain to Councillor Daniel Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Please set out the number of staff employed whose jobs include direct contact with Park Friends as liaison officers for each year since 2010 and the predicted number by the end of 2016.

Reply from Councillor Anderson

2010/11	5
2011/12	5
2012/13	5
2013/14	5
2014/15	3
2015/16	3
2016/17	1

Question 2 from Councillor Levy 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 outcome of the London Regeneration Fund bid made by Building Bloqs and supported by the Council?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

The Council has been successful with its bid to the London Regeneration Fund. The project – working in partnership with Building BloQs and the Association for Cultural Advancement through Visual Art (ACAVA) - will be receiving £1.35m from the Greater London Authority (GLA) matched by £1.35m of private contributions secured through Meridian Water procurements. The project will see the development of Open Workspace and Artist studios in the heart of Meridian Water as well as a Meridian Water viewing gallery (Sky Café), new cycle routes, and the infrastructure for the new Meridian Water Built Environment Training Centre. The implementation of this project will lead to the creation of 300 jobs whilst training thousands of local people.

In addition, the GLA chose to launch the London Regeneration Fund at Building BloQs' current Enfield operation (Anthony Way, Edmonton), which is testament to the quality of our bid and the impact it intends to have on the local economy and community. Mayor Boris Johnson met with a selection of successful projects at Building BloQs, as well as our own project team, senior Council Officers and took a tour of Building BloQs accompanied by the Leader Doug Taylor. The visit provided regional and national coverage for our successful bid and is an exciting early development for Meridian Water. The aim is to have the new operation open by the end of 2016.

Question 3 from Councillor Chamberlain to Councillor Oyken, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Please set out for the following figures for 2014, 2015 and so far in 2016:

1. The number of inspections of private landlord properties.
2. The number of warnings or notices in regard of issues at those properties
3. The number of legal actions taken.
4. The number of successful legal actions.

Reply from Councillor Oyken

The private sector housing enforcement team typically receive between 1,500 and 1,700 complaints about conditions in privately rented accommodation each year (2013/14 – 1,651, 2014/15 – 1,490 and 2015/16– 1,380 so far). The majority of these are concerning disrepair (such as dampness, leaks, no or inadequate heating, poor electrics, inadequate kitchen or bathroom facilities) and overcrowding.

Initially, these complaints are brought to the attention of the landlord or agent for them to take action. However, if the matter is serious or the issues are not dealt with then inspections are undertaken. Data on inspection numbers prior to January 2015 are not easily retrievable due to the database recorded on at that time. Since April 2015 to 31 January 2016, 312 inspections have been undertaken. Intervention by housing enforcement officers has resulted in approximately 500-600 category 1 and 2 hazards being dealt with each year.

In many cases, the deficiencies and hazards identified by housing enforcement officers to landlords are dealt with without formal enforcement action. However, where the issues are serious or there is an unwillingness or delays in getting works done – formal action is taken. In 2013/14, 106 formal notices were served, 2014/15 – 75 and 2015/16 to 31 January 2016 – 118 so far.

There have been no prosecutions since 2013/14, but recent enforcement activity has identified matters which are likely to lead to prosecution. However, the team has undertaken works in default (approx. 10 cases per year) in serious cases where landlords have not complied with notices and left families with broken boilers, dangerous disrepair or electrics. The cost of taking this action is fully recovered from the landlord.

We were recently successful in attracting £360K of funding to tackle rogue landlords. The Housing Enforcement and Planning Enforcement Teams will undertake joint inspections and raids with partners to identify and enforce 'beds in sheds', illegal conversions and substandard and overcrowded privately rented accommodation.

Question 4 from Councillor Jemal to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection

Would the Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection join me in congratulating her staff in Enfield Catering Services for their successful

implementation and drive in delivering a diverse, healthy and exciting new menu each year to schools across Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

I am absolutely delighted to join you in congratulating my staff in the catering service. You will be pleased to hear that all menus are compiled by our relatively new Development Chef, who has been visiting schools to bring further creativity and innovative dishes onto their menus. These dishes are tried and tested by children and parents at school taster sessions to ensure they will be popular and reflect the diversity of the borough. The food is freshly cooked on site using quality ingredients, and including seasonal and locally-sourced produce. Furthermore, their qualified Nutritionist oversees the menus to ensure they meet the mandatory school food standards, are adapted to meet special dietary needs, as well as having appetising and healthy choices for pupils. All this is implemented by the dedicated team with their onsite staff, and in working in partnership with schools. I am naturally very proud of the team's achievements.

Question 5 from Councillor Alessandro Georgiou to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services and Protection

Does Councillor Orhan now support Free Schools?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

As Councillor Georgiou knows, the introduction of Free Schools is part of the current Government's legislative framework for education and I can re-assure him that as Lead Member for Education and Children's Services, I always comply with the law.

Question 6 from Councillor Pite to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Could the Cabinet Member for Environment update the Council on progress with the Albany Park Improvement Plan?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

Following a consultation in early 2015, where a range of enhancements were proposed and endorsed by the community, the Parks Service has developed an improvement plan that will be delivered in three phases. The aim of the project is to create a destination park in the north-east of the borough.

The first phase of the project will focus on three elements:

- Enhanced access into the park
- Improvements to the car park
- Creation of a new fully inclusive flagship play facility

Work has commenced on the enhanced access into the park, where the Parks Service is introducing soft landscaping and entrance signs to bring more people into

the park. The car park resurfacing works are currently being tendered and we are expecting the improvements will be delivered this Spring. The main focus for the first phase of the project will be the installation of a new fully accessible play facility that will become a flagship for the borough. The Parks Service has been working with partners from the Cheviots Children's Centre and those with disabilities to design a fully inclusive play facility that would cater for both able bodied children and those with disabilities. The Council is through to the final stage of a £150,000 bid to the London Marathon Community Trust that will fund the new play facility.

Question 7 from Councillor Alessandro Georgiou to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services and Protection

Will Councillor Orhan support any Free School that makes a bid for a location in the London Borough of Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

As Lead Member for Education and Children Services and Protection, I want all schools in Enfield to offer good and outstanding provision for our children and young people. My support for any school would not be determined by its designation but by the evidence of the outcomes it has achieved for young people. I have to say that it would be good if this Government consulted fully with myself and my teams before agreeing to the bids from any new school provider.

Question 8 from Councillor Jiajge to Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Sport

Could the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Sport update Council on activities within the five priority wards to promote health and wellbeing?

Reply from Councillor Keazor

The Public Health Core offer team coordinates the measures aimed at reducing health inequality. There has been a significant improvement in reducing the health inequality gap, but there have remained significant challenges to life expectancy across the borough. It was determined that 5 wards (Upper Edmonton, Chase, Ponders End, Enfield Lock and Jubilee) should receive discrete interventions in order to tackle this.

Public Health representatives have been attending GP surgeries for practice visits since July 2015. This is part of an ongoing process to spread good practice and to address the underlying causes of variation in performance across the borough surgeries. Also, newsletters for local health professionals focusing on hypertension, cardiovascular risk, and diabetes have been produced and delivered to all GP practices in Enfield. Members of the Public Health team have participated and spoken at two whole day workshops about preventative healthcare which were held at Community House. These were facilitated by the Department of Health, Housing and Adult Social Care (HHASC). Discussions are ongoing with the Community Development Team to recruit and train volunteer health champions to help spread health messages in the community and to promote community action on healthy

living. This is vital, because evidence shows that deprived communities tend to listen to and follow individuals from their own community. An agreement with Stroke Action to facilitate community events to develop awareness of high blood pressure and stroke issues in communities at higher risk is being negotiated. We are seeking agreement with two large general practices in the priority wards, to participate in “Hilo” initiatives to improve blood pressure and cholesterol control. Encouraging compliance with prescription medications intended to help with hypertension and high cholesterol levels is an ongoing challenge but can bring significant rewards. Not least in reducing the personal and family impact of stroke and heart disease. The Public Health team is also supporting the CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group) in developing a prevention business case targeted at reducing the cardiovascular burden across Enfield as a whole but will be proportionately focussed on the five priority wards.

The five priority wards have been targeted by the smoking service and healthchecks clinics have been run in each of these five wards. In addition, a Health Trainer has been based on the Chase Farm site. The Smoking quitter targets for this year are fully expected to be met across the borough.

All five priority ward members were invited to a meeting on Monday 25th January 2016 to highlight the health inequalities facing these wards. Members were asked to act as champions in their communities to promote physical activity for health benefits. In Spring 2016, community led walks will be introduced to parks in the five wards as an entry level activity to promote health as well as promote community cohesion. Other activities and facilities available in the priority wards include: outdoor gym, tennis courts, trim trails, Albany Leisure Centre and Edmonton Leisure Centre. Health trainer outreach sessions are also available in some of these wards. In addition there are 20 sports clubs, 11 existing cycle ways and 12 proposed cycle ways in those five Wards for local people to use. A full list of clubs and cycle routes has been placed in the Member’s Library.

Levels of physical activity in the borough are below those requisite for maximal health. Objective measurement indicates that some 95% of the population does not meet physical activity guidelines. Cycle Enfield which will go through four of the priority wards will not only help to make physical activity part of everyday life but by moving people out of motorised transport help to reduce air pollution. Academic evidence shows that physical activity reduces all long-term conditions by 20 – 40% and that people who cycle for transport rather than sport purposes are four times more likely to meet physical activity guidelines than those who don’t.

Enfield Council’s Public Health Department have recently funded a Community Resilience & Public Health Outreach Officer to work within the Councils “Strategy, Partnership and Consultation Team”. The role is focusing on engaging with residents, community groups and projects in priority wards which have been identified as deprived and with specific public health challenges, supporting them with activities and interventions that will build community resilience and capacity, including activities that will assist with the achievement of measurable Public Health objectives. The Community Resilience & Public Health Outreach Officer has been working very closely with senior stakeholders including Elected Members and residents from the local community and community based organisations in the field

to establish an evidence base of needs across a range of relevant indicators in targeted wards. Currently they have been focussing on the following projects. However it is anticipated that this range of work will develop over time.

Health Champions	The promotion and recruitment of the Health Champion volunteer project- focussing on the priority wards
Edmonton Schools Partnership-Mini Health lifestyles project	Supporting the Mini Masterchef challenge events for the cooking and enterprise project involving 12 Edmonton schools
Parent Engagement Panel (PEP)	Support PEP members on the Public Health Antenatal programme to take up specific health related placements in the priority wards
Youth Parliament	Create a sub-group to develop a health related project in conjunction with Spacehive (Crowdfunding company)
Youth Parliament	Engage with and support the Youth Parliament to carry out their priorities relating to health
Market Place Events	To hold three public health market place events bringing health services to residents in the priority wards
Walking routes	Identify walking routes in the priority wards Complete Walker Leader Training and train residents to coordinate the walking routes themselves
Well Being Community Groups	Support the 6 community groups with their objectives and hit their outcomes
Health Checks	Promote the health and support the coordination of checks to the communities in the priority wards

Question 9 from Councillor Alessandro Georgiou to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services and Protection

Can Councillor Orhan update the Council on progress made about the purchase of land on the Chase Farm site for a new school?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

The Council has agreed Heads of Terms with the Royal Free Trust for the purchase of site C on the Chase Farm site and legal representatives acting for both parties are still in discussions. I will continue to update the Council on further details.

Question 10 from Councillor B Charalambous to Councillor Taylor, the Leader of the Council

Is it true as noted in the national press that Tory grassroots are in revolt on British

membership of the European Union and what impact will this have on Enfield residents?

Reply from Councillor Taylor?

Europe is a damaging issue for the Conservative Party which appears to have a leadership disconnected from its party base on this issue. The continued factualism, and protracted uncertainty about our future, is damaging to the UK and therefore Enfield.

David Cameron needs to get a grip and show some leadership.

Question 11 from Councillor Alessandro Georgiou to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services and Protection

Is Councillor Orhan confident Enfield will meet primary school places need by 2020?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

As the Councillor very well knows, the last annual report on pupil places and supporting delivery plans cover the period up to September 2019. Given this Administration's successful delivery of new permanent high quality primary school places since 2010, I have every confidence that we can continue to meet the need for primary school places by 2020 and beyond.

Question 12 from Councillor Fonyonga to Councillor Taylor, the Leader of the Council

Could the Leader update the Council on devolution within London and its impact on Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Although London is not included in the Cities and Local Government Devolution Act, there is a considerable amount of pan-London and sub-regional work on further devolution to the area in which Enfield is actively involved.

Following the submission of the London Proposition to Government and the announcement of a new Health and Work Programme with specific responsibilities for the Mayor of London and the boroughs, London Councils continues to co-ordinate a range of discussions with Government around employment, skills and adult education devolution in which sub regional borough groupings will play a major role. Enfield is represented on the relevant officer groups.

Enfield is part of Local London, a group of east and north-east London Boroughs who have been working together for the past year. Seven of them, Barking and Dagenham, Enfield, Greenwich, Havering, Newham, Redbridge, and Waltham Forest are starting the process of formalising this arrangement to ensure there is the appropriate governance and capacity in place to enable devolution of particular services.

Health is the other major area of work on devolution. A London Health and Care Collaboration Agreement sets out London's aspirations and objectives for better care including devolution to sub-regional and borough level as appropriate.

Enfield is participating as part of the North Central London Partnership (Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington) in one of five pilot programmes that will contribute to this transformation. This pilot focuses on how the health estate in the sub-region can be developed and optimised to deliver the new models of care efficiently and effectively.

Question 13 from Councillor Alessandro Georgiou to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services

Can Councillor Orhan tell the Council what the projected figures are for parental first choice for both primary and secondary schools in 2019?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

There is no reliable way of predicting the figures for parental first choice for primary and secondary schools in 2019. However we can be confident in the fact Enfield has consistently been able to offer over 95% of parents, places at one of their preferred schools, there is no evidence to suggest this will be any different for parents in 2019.

Question 14 from Councillor Simon to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development inform the Council whether the employment rate in the London Borough of Enfield continues to outperform the average for all London boroughs?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

After years, of languishing several points below the London average, Enfield's employment rate has shot above in the recent period. For October 2014 through September 2015 the Enfield rate is 72.6% in comparison to 72.3% for London. Over the past three months, we have been at 72.7 vs. 72.2 for London as a whole.

This marked improvement is commensurate with the consistent drop in Enfield's Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) claimant figures, with the latest figure standing at 3,746 (January 2016).

- Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claims have shown a decrease by 0.7% on last month, the lowest on record since Jan 2006
- Number of unemployed young people has decreased by 4% on last month, the lowest on record since Jan 2006
- Long term unemployment remains static and continues to be the lowest since October 2009 and those over 50 have increased by 0.5%

Question 15 from Councillor Alessandro Georgiou to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection

How many extra Special Educational Needs (SEN) school places will be created in the Borough by 2020?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

It is very clear from an analysis of our increasing level of need in Enfield that we need more special school places. Our current Special Needs strategy has identified that we have a shortfall in provision for pupils with Autism, behaviour difficulties and severe learning difficulties in particular. We are currently prioritising the expansion of autism provision and are planning to deliver 125 new permanent special school places with the development of the Minchenden Farbey Building.

We review the need for special places annually in the same way as we do for primary and secondary places and I am confident that we will continue to provide the places we need by 2020 and beyond. I will be happy to continue to update Councillors as I always have done.

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

Could the Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection update this Council on Enfield Catering Services recent success in receiving Awards and Accreditation and in gaining national recognition?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

Enfield Catering are proud to have received several awards in the last year; these include the full borough accreditation from the Marine Stewardship Council for purchasing fish certified as sustainable, and thus not contributing to over-fishing. Furthermore, they were also awarded the Good Dairy Commendation from Compassion in World Farming for commitment to using dairy products which enable farm animals access to pasture, with organic milk being used as standard. They have maintained their silver Food for Life Catering mark for use of fresh, ethically-sourced food with commitment to high animal welfare. As a result Enfield Council is now rated fifth in the Good Food for London table; the annual league table reflecting the level of participation of the 32 London boroughs in key healthy and sustainable food initiatives. Enfield Catering have greatly contributed to the positioning on this table with its recent awards.

Question 17 from Councillor Alessandro Georgiou to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services

Can Councillor Orhan update the Council on any planned future expansions on existing schools in the Borough?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

As I have said in a previous question, the last annual report on the demand for pupil places covers the period up to September 2019. It outlines our current plans to ensure that we have sufficient places for our children and young people. It covers primary, secondary and special schools. As this is reviewed annually any change or additions will be added as the need for new places emerges.

Question 18 from Councillor Nesil Cazimoglu to Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Sport

Could the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Sport inform the Council how much smoking costs in terms of adult social care costs for Enfield Council, and what Enfield Council is doing to minimize this cost?

Reply from Councillor Keazor

The Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) calculation, estimates that the cost of smoking to the social care system in England is £600 million a year and that Enfield's estimated spend is £2.5 million. This is based on the increased chances of smokers needing care and that smokers need care approximately 9 years earlier than non-smokers. However the cost of smoking to the Local Authority is not confined to social services, it is estimated that each year in Enfield smoking generates 23 tonnes of waste annually, including 5 tonnes of street litter and 18 smoking related fires and that local businesses (including Enfield Council) lose approximately 46,461 days of productivity. None of these costs include any costs to the NHS.

Enfield has done exceptionally well in reducing smoking prevalence in the past 3 years. Smoking prevalence has reduced from 18% in 2012 to 15.8% in 2013 and to 13.6% in 2014. This means that there are approximately 10,500 fewer smokers in the borough than would be expected in 2012. We are also doing very well in stopping young people from starting smoking – we have the second lowest rate of current 15 year old smokers in the country.

It is a well-known fact that people are much more likely to do something if they believe that 'everyone else does it'. Work in the Council has therefore focused on restricting the example of smoking, particularly to children in areas such as smoke free parks and play areas as well as a general emphasis that the vast majority of people do not smoke. Public Health has centred around not just the health effects of smoking but also the financial and cosmetic effects. We have also worked with schools through initiatives such as Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programmes and no-smoking outside school gates. We are now working with the Turkish community and are planning a conference with this community planned for May 2016 to reinforce a similar approach.

Question 19 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children’s Services and Protection

When were you informed by Council officers that the application for Enfield Road was not going to be pursued by Fairview?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

Neither Council officers nor myself have received any formal notification that an application for the redevelopment of Enfield Road isn’t being submitted.

Question 20 from Councillor Abdullahi to Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community Organisations and Culture

What does the Cabinet Member for Community Organisation and Culture think of recent press articles suggesting Universal Credit will leave families worse off on average and the impact that this will have on residents in Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Brett

The impact on local residents of the implementation of tax credits is untested as yet, but if the experience of the implementation of welfare reform over the past 2 years gives us any insight – the roll out of Universal Credit will cause great difficulty for local people, who depend on benefits to live.

As a reminder of what is coming, if a local resident currently gets help from the Government to pay rent, or claims benefits while looking for work, or if they claim get tax credits while working, they will soon be claiming [Universal Credit](#). Single people in Enfield have been assessed in this way, since last year.

The rollout across the Country which brings everyone onto Universal Credit concludes in 2021, so for a period of time some residents will receive the ‘old style benefits’ and other will receive Universal Credit. This system is intended to streamline benefits administration, but has only been rolled out for single people with no housing costs in Enfield, but if a person moves to Enfield from another area where Universal Credit has been implemented they will continue to be paid under this new system.

We remain unclear as to the date when Universal Credit will be rolled out across Enfield, which contributes to the uncertainty felt by the community, local agencies and the Council who are preparing for this.

This very long transitional period will cause a challenge for agencies, the Voluntary and Community Sector, landlords, and the Council as professionals navigate their way through two sets of benefits legislation to ensure that residents have enough money to meet all of their obligations.

The main issue is that Universal Credit is paid monthly and in arrears. For most people the first payment will arrive 6 weeks after a claim. If a successful application

for an advance loan is not made or is not successful – local people may be forced to survive on nothing for more than a month, waiting for their benefits to be assessed.

The single payment which covers both housing costs and living expenses capped at a maximum value of £23,000, will present budgeting challenges for hard pressed households, who will have to prioritise their housing costs or risk arrears and eviction.

As we all know, many in the local community have little or no financial resilience and therefore this type of in-built delay and high housing costs - because so many local low income people live in privately rented homes - will place the most tremendous pressure on individual families. This will mean that many people already financially disadvantaged will face no alternative but to borrow money to live on, choose between paying their bills and rent or feeding their families.

I think that we will be faced with many more local people looking to the hard pressed Council for help, when they are in the most dire of circumstances.

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

When were you informed by Council officers that the application for Enfield Road was not going to be pursued by Fairview?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

Neither Council officers nor myself have received any formal notification that an application for the redevelopment of Enfield Road isn't being submitted.

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

Could the Leader as Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board explain what the Zika Virus is and the link to Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Zika virus is a virus spread by infected mosquitoes (*Aedes aegypti*) and associated with mild disease in humans. Neurological and autoimmune complications have been reported, but are infrequent. The current cluster of microcephaly cases and neurological disorder reported in Brazil has led to the declaration of a Public Health Emergency of International Concern while any epidemiological link to Zika virus disease in pregnancy is investigated.

Zika virus is spread by a species of mosquitoes that does not survive in the UK and so the disease does not usually circulate in the UK. Zika virus disease is seen rarely in travellers returning to the UK and people travelling to affected countries are encouraged to seek advice from a GP or Travel Clinic prior to travel (so that they can get the right advice on vaccinations etc.) and advised to take precautions to avoid mosquito bites.

Councillor Bond might also be interested to know that public health is leading a multiagency emergency preparedness exercise next week to rehearse plans for dealing with a virus outbreak in the borough.

Question 23 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Can you confirm when officers in the Planning Department were informed by Fairview that they were not going to pursue their application for the Enfield Road site?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

I refer you to my response to question 21.

Question 24 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 advancement of work creating a Business Portal?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

The Enfield Business Portal is on track to go live in the spring. It will provide a one-stop shop for all Enfield businesses to access Council regulatory services and they will have the option of providing additional information to populate an entry for them in a business directory. As more businesses are registered then we will use the portal to support the Enfield network of businesses as a communication tool. At the recent Employment and Enterprise Board meeting, business support agencies including the North London Federation Small Businesses were impressed with the functionality of the portal and have made recommendations on behalf on their members which will be incorporated into its design. This initiative is part of the ongoing work being done by this Administration to modernise the Council and more broadly Enfield as a whole, in part by advancing with our digital agenda.

Question 25 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Were the planning officers at Enfield Council copied in to the pre application advice that Fairview received and if so, can you please confirm the date of the letter and the date it arrived at the Council?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

Fairview, as promoters of the proposed development, arranged the pre-application discussions directly with the Greater London Authority (GLA). Any feedback, therefore, would have been provided directly to them. Council officers were not copied into any pre-application advice that may have been received in response to this request.

Question 26 from Councillor Bakir 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 Meridian Water?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

The Meridian Water Development continues to move at pace. The current headline position is as follows:

- **Master Developer procurement** – On February 8th 2016 the Council received final submissions from its three potential Master Developer partners for Meridian Water – Barrett and Segro, Berkeley Homes and Pacific Capital Premium Developments (PCPD). The bids will be assessed and recommendations made to Cabinet mid-April, with public announcements to follow soon after. These bids represent the final stage in an OJEU process, and specifically follow in-depth dialogue discussions with the final candidates in autumn/winter 2015/16.
- **London Regeneration Fund** – The Council has been successful with its bid to the London Regeneration Fund. The project – working in partnership with Building BloQs and ACAVA - will be receiving £1.35m from the GLA matched by £1.35m of private contributions secured through Meridian Water procurement (forward funded by the Council). The project will see the development of Open Workspace and Artist studios in the heart of Meridian Water as well as a Meridian Water viewing gallery (Sky Café), new cycle routes, and the infrastructure for the new Meridian Water Built Environment Training Centre. Mayor Boris Johnson also launched the fund at Building BloQs' current Enfield operation.
- **Phase 1 planning application** – By March 2016, the Council is due to submit an outline planning application for 725 new homes on the Willoughby Lane site in Edmonton. This represents Phase 1 of Meridian Water, with the first set of new homes scheduled to be open by 2018.
- **New Meridian Water Train Station** – Alongside the outline planning application for Willoughby Lane, the Council will be submitting a planning application for the new Meridian Water station at the same time. This will replace the existing Angel Road station (moving it south 100m) and enable the arrival of a more frequent and reliable service.
- **Land Acquisition** – The Council has taken a lead in acquiring land to enable the Meridian Water development. To date it has secured approximately 15 hectares of land, and is in an exclusivity agreement for a further 4.5 hectares. Together this has the potential to deliver approximately 4,500 new homes, the train station, the main connecting boulevard and a range of supporting mixed use employment development. A plan is being developed for the acquisition of the remaining land parcels, and this will be seeking endorsement from Cabinet in due course.
- **Community engagement** – The Council continues to produce a series of newsletters to keep local residents informed of progress on the ground. These have been delivered to around 9,000 homes in the local area. In addition the

Council has hosted events/exhibitions where the project team have met with local people to talk through plans, ideas and listen to concerns. The next newsletter will be for February 2016, and the next public exhibition/event is planned for May 2016 (following the announcement of the Master Developer Partner).

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

Did the Cabinet Member know ahead of the School places event that was held in Chace Community School in January, that Fairview were not going to pursue their application for the Enfield Road, making it exceedingly unlikely that the Wren Academy School would not be happening at that location? If you did, why was this information not shared with parents at the event?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

As I have explained in a previous question we have not been informed that Fairview are not pursuing their application. The timing of the schools places event is not relevant.

Question 28 from Councillor Hamilton to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Could the Cabinet Member inform the Council on the level of investment in parks since May 2010?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

Since 2010 this Labour Council has invested almost £8.5m in our parks and open spaces. This despite the major cuts imposed on us.

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

Do you now regret the School Places Cabinet Paper of 21 October 2015 saying that the housing development in the West of Enfield - i.e. Enfield Road - was an example of best practice as to how a housebuilder can provide a school?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

The report did not cite the Enfield Road housebuilder led proposal as "best practice". It stated that it, along with Meridian Water, were good examples of the most realistic source of additional secondary school places, ie that the places are delivered as part of residential development. It is unfortunate that current Government policy forces us to rely on these methods of delivery and I know that the Education Funding Agency (EFA) still consider the Wren Academy proposal as a serious prospect for delivery. I also know that for Meridian Water, where the Council is rightly involved, that the schools will be delivered in line with the increased population from the much needed new housing.

Question 30 from Councillor Stewart to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Could the Cabinet Member for Environment update the Council on our investment programme for local roads?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

Despite the Government cuts, since the last local election in May 2014, we have resurfaced/reconstructed 42km (26miles) of roads and 18km (11miles) of pavements funded from the Council's own capital programme, supplemented by funding from Transport for London (TfL) for principal (A class) roads. We have repaired over 2,000 defects to roads and pavements each month, which has helped residents and commuters to go about their daily business safely. Enfield Council is investing a further £7.45m in 2016/17 to improve the condition of public roads in Enfield.

Furthermore, we are continuing with a programme of removing unnecessary and redundant street furniture, including signs, posts and guard-railing, which will help improve the street scene. We are also continuing to implement improvement schemes funded by Transport for London in support of the Mayor's Transport Strategy. These schemes include road safety, bus stop accessibility, improving pedestrian crossings, junctions and Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ)s. We have a number of large schemes to deliver, such as improvements to Ponders End High Street and, of course, have a large Cycle Enfield Programme to deliver over the next few years.

Question 31 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection

Can the Cabinet Member please confirm (or not) that the Education Funding Authority (EFA) can purchase land for a school to be built upon? The consequence of this (as I understand) is that the EFA takes the lead in deciding which school operator will go on the site. Is that understanding of the process correct?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

I can confirm that the EFA can purchase land and that this has happened in Enfield with regards to Enfield Heights and with Heron Hall Free schools for example. If this happens then the Department for Education with the EFA takes the lead in selecting the provider

Question 32 from Councillor During to Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Public Health and Sport

Could the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Sport inform the Council how many people with undetected high blood pressure are there in Enfield and what is Enfield's Health and Wellbeing Board doing about it?

Reply from Councillor Keazor

72,600 people in Enfield are estimated to have high blood pressure/ hypertension. 42,300 of them are diagnosed and 33,200 have their high blood pressure under control by their local GPs. 30,300 people are estimated to have hypertension without being recorded by their GPs.

	Enfield CCG	Haringey CCG	Barnet CCG	Comparator Group	England
Diagnosed with hypertension	58.3%	48.7%	54.0%	56.0%	55.8%
Controlled	45.7%	37.4%	42.9%	44.1%	44.9%

The Public Health team at Enfield Council and the communications team have conducted a number of awareness campaigns including community events. The Public Health team has engaged both GPs and the commissioners to promote diagnosis. Enfield Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has sited health kiosks to diagnose and monitor blood pressure at almost all GP practices in Enfield. A pilot scheme called Hilo has also been jointly designed to improve control, and this will be continued as it has seen good results. NHS health checks are also key in diagnosing new hypertension cases.

Management of blood pressure amongst patients with hypertension has been improving. 33,239 people with diagnosis of hypertension (80.9% of all those with diagnosis) had their blood pressure controlled effectively, which was an increase of 5,230 since 2008/09.

Question 33 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection

Can the Cabinet Member please confirm that the Council could donate land within its holdings (and I acknowledge that this could be some of the Green Belt portfolio within its holdings) and then request the Education Funding Agency (EFA) fund a school on the land? The realistic outcome of this would be the Council then has far greater control over choosing who the academy or free school provider would be on the site rather than the alternative process of the EFA buying the land.

Reply from Councillor Orhan

It would seem from this question that Councillor Dines is encouraging the council to 'donate' Green Belt land 'within its holdings' for a school to be built.

Let me try, once again, to explain the process to Councillor Dines. In most instances there are now only 2 ways in which a 'new' school can be established. In both cases it starts with the identification of a need for pupil places.

1. If the Council identifies the need it should have been submitted to the Department for Education (DfE) and then the places funded via the basic need allocation. The council is then expected to provide the site and pay for the building of the school, which will almost certainly cost more than the basic needs funds secured. The DfE will still approve the provider through the usual bidding rounds.

2. If a provider wishes to open a school in Enfield it also has to demonstrate the need through the DfE bidding process. It does not have to have found a site before applying to DfE. If it is successful the EFA will find the site either by buying or leasing land.

The Council has almost no involvement in this process other than through the planning application.

The scenario suggested by the question does not fit either route as it starts with the land and not the need for pupil places.

Question 34 from Councillor Savva to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Could the Cabinet Member for Environment provide an update on the Council's Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUD)'s programme which further reduces flooding risk for our residents?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

Since April 2015, Enfield Council, as a Lead Local Flood Authority, has been a statutory consultee for major planning applications in relation to surface water drainage. To facilitate early engagement with developers, the Structures and Watercourses team have been providing pre-application advice with respect to SuDS as an additional paid for service. We have commented on more than 30 'pre-apps' to date. This system is beneficial for everyone as it increases the likelihood that new developments in Enfield will include well designed SuDS systems that are constructed in accordance with Enfield's requirements and integrated into the overall landscape design.

The Council also works with internal and external partners to retrofit SuDS where opportunities exist. This can involve constructing SuDS features in a variety of different locations as the examples below demonstrate:

- Alma Road Rain Gardens – a series of SuDS features are being constructed within the public highway;
- SuDS for Schools – SuDS features installed at several schools in Enfield including Oakthorpe Primary School; and
- Firs Farm Wetlands – large-scale SuDS project in public open space

Installing SuDS features reduces surface water run-off by increasing infiltration into the ground, storing water and slowing the rate at which it enters the drainage

system. Consequently, SuDS measures at any location in Enfield will have a benefit on flood risk both locally and at locations further downstream, such as the Meridian Water development.

Question 35 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection

Can I please be informed how many meetings officers at the Council have had with the Education Funding Agency (EFA) since January 2015 to specifically talk about how the purchase of land or the construction of a Secondary School for central Enfield could be funded?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

I am not aware that officers have had any meetings with the EFA to specifically talk about how the purchase of land or the construction of a Secondary School for central Enfield could be funded. I am quite sure staff at Department for Education (DfE) know how they need to purchase land and how to construct a school; but as always I hope they pay due regard to our pupil places figures.

Question 36 from Councillor Kepez to Councillor Taylor, the Leader of the Council

Could the Leader comment on the financial settlement for local Government and the impact that this will have on Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

The Government's cash contribution to Enfield will fall by £37m or nearly 57% by 2019/20. Local residents and businesses will be expected to contribute an additional £33m (20%). These two components make up a 1.7% overall reduction. Full details of the financial settlement and the impact on Enfield are included in the Council agenda item - Budget Report 2016-17 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17 to 2019/20 (Section 5).

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

How many meetings have the Head of Education and the Head of Planning had explicitly to deal with finding a site for a new Secondary School in Central Enfield? If formal meetings have occurred can I please be provided with the dates?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

There have been no formal meetings between the Head of Education and Head of Planning to deal with finding a site for a new Secondary School in Central Enfield.

Question 38 from Councillor Lemonides 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 Lee Valley Heat Network?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

The Lee Valley Heat Network (now rebranded as '*energetik*') is on track to supply heat to its first customers in the next year. This exciting project will make a real difference to local residents and businesses. It is a major part of the London Borough of Enfield being shortlisted by the Local Government Chronicle for UK Sustainability team of the year.

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

Can the Cabinet Member please give a written commitment that an alternative west-east crossing point for Cycle Enfield to Southbury Road will now formally be considered? If not, why not?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

We will review the A110 (Southbury Road) cycle route design once we have completed analysis of all the responses to the public consultation.

Question 40 from Councillor Stafford to Councillor Taylor, the Leader of the Council

Does the Council Leader think that Tottenham Hotspur have become a better football team since relocating their training facilities to the London Borough of Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Of course. The modern state of the art centre, I suspect, adds to the performance of the team.

Question 41 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development

Does the Cabinet Member stand by his previous assertion that the reason Croydon has a far more advanced tech start up scene than Enfield is because they have trains that go to London Bridge Station? If so, just out of interest, does he know the difference in distances between London Bridge and Silicon Roundabout when compared to the distances between Bethnal Green, Liverpool Street, Moorgate and King's Cross Stations and Silicon Roundabout given they are the overland destinations most trains that Enfield residents get go to?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

I am bemused that Councillor Dines doesn't know any better than to over-emphasize something that was presented as being nothing more than a minor factor in a broader analysis discussed the last time he showed interest in our work raising Enfield's digital capabilities. It is pretty obvious that the distance between rail stations and office locations is only one aspect of a much wider consideration of accessibility for businesses. Having said that, the great work being done by this administration will improve Enfield's transport infrastructure and clearly contribute to Enfield's further integration into the Greater London technology sector.

Question 42 from Councillor Hurman to Councillor Oyken, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration

Could the Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration inform the Council of the analysis of the impact of 'Pay to Stay' policy on Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Oyken

There is very little detail on this proposed policy forthcoming from Government. It is clear that the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) have no clarity yet on how to define income and what new rent levels will be. Officers will model how this may work once guidance is provided.

On the broad thrust of this policy however, it is likely to increase "Right to Buy" applications, disincentivise working and further reduce the stock of affordable properties available to local people.

At a time of harsh cuts in Government funding to local authorities it is wrong to impose a policy which will be expensive and complex to administer for no apparent gain.

Question 43 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business Development

Is the Cabinet Member satisfied that since 2010 every possible step has been taken to encourage a flourishing tech start up scene in Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Sitkin

The short answer is yes. In contrast to the inaction characterising the team to which Councillor Dines belongs when it was last in power, this Labour Administration is pulling out all the stops to nurture tech start-ups in Enfield. Above and beyond the great work we did to get London Regeneration funding to an Enfield entity – and further efforts we are making to ensure that deprived Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) populations in the Edmonton Green area benefit fully from our borough's modernisation - discussions are taking place with the local Further Education College, and other grass-roots community organisations to explore what's best for Enfield.

Using the Tech City definition of digital companies Enfield has seen a nearly 40% growth in the number of tech businesses since 2010. It's nice that Councillor Dines sporadically pays attention to our ongoing efforts in this area.

Question 44 from Councillor Celebi to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection

Without answering with a simple yes or no answer does the Cabinet Member concede that following the new libraries strategy for 13 of our Enfield Borough libraries there will be a fundamental change in the way our libraries are operating for the worse?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

No. Unlike some other councils, and despite the cuts made by the Government, Enfield Council has committed to maintaining 17 libraries, the highest number in any London borough, despite the scale of funding cuts facing the Council. With significantly less funding, the Council now needs to deliver library services differently if the service is to be sustained.

The Library Development Strategy followed a comprehensive consultation with local people and is aimed at ensuring libraries have a sustainable future in times of financial austerity. Co-location provides many benefits to customers, the Council and the partner organisations and two of the 13 community libraries are already in shared premises. The remaining sites will seek to increase footfall through the delivery of other local services, the opportunity to increase the total number of opening hours per week and added benefits to the local community, such as children's centre activities, digital learning or older people advice sessions as well as bringing in an income to cover the costs of running the premises.

The Council will still run the library element within the shared buildings and library account holders will be able to use their card to access the range of physical and online resources, access the internet for free and have space for study/social inclusion.

Question 45 from Councillor Celebi to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection

Without answering with a simple yes or no, does the Cabinet Member concede that with the new libraries strategy for 13 of our libraries, the administration will effectively be handed over to volunteers and voluntary organisations?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

Enfield Council is committed to running the library element within a shared building and is not handing over control to any third parties. There are a range of partner organisations we will be sharing premises with and a service level agreement sets out roles and responsibilities clearly. This shared premises arrangement has worked well at Millfield Theatre for some years now with customers seeing the benefits of co-location. These partnerships and co-location are essential to ensuring the financial

sustainability of the 17 libraries in the face of savage Government cuts.

Question 46 from Councillor Celebi to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection

Without answering with a simple yes or no, does the cabinet member concede that the shorter opening times, under the new Library Strategy, will be ineffective for those students who rely on the later and weekend opening hours?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

No, all of the community libraries will be open for the same or more hours per week than currently. Wherever possible we are seeking to maintain Saturday and evening opening but we are dependent on the operating hours of the partner and therefore some changes to opening hours may occur. The four hub libraries will see extended and consistent opening hours with all of them moving to 7 day a week opening later this year.

Question 47 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Would the Cabinet Member not agree that the Associate Cabinet Members (ACMs) new role with Friends of Parks groups is the administration's blatant attempt to politicise the friends groups?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

The ACMs will work strategically with both the Cabinet Member for Environment and Assistant Director to deliver the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy and retain great parks for Enfield's residents.

However, let's be clear the reasons for the significant changes affecting all levels of service are due to the savage cuts imposed upon all councils across the country by the current Government, which, in Enfield's case, means a further £50m of cuts between now and 2019/20 on top of £118m of cuts we have had to make since 2010/11.

Question 48 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Would the Cabinet Member not agree that the Associate Cabinet Members (ACM)s new role with the Friends of Parks groups is the administration's blatant attempt to take away the independence of the Friends Groups?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

The ACM's already work with many of the Friends groups and will continue to do so in a more strategic way to retain the standard of parks our residents expect. I also refer you to my answer to question 49 for the rationale behind the service changes affecting all services.

Question 49 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Would the Cabinet Member for Environment not agree that the Associate Cabinet Members (ACMs) new role with the Friends of Parks groups is just an administration trying to justify the ACMs allowances to the tax payer?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

The ACM's will have an oversight for the friends of parks groups in their area and be able to work collectively with them on strategic issues as well as being a conduit for the groups to the Cabinet Member and management teams. Let us also be clear that the creation of the ACM roles did not involve any increase in the budgeted councillor allowances, but simply involved a redistribution of the existing allocation.

Question 50 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community Organisations and Culture

Would the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Community Safety confirm whether or not that the Parks Police will be a thing of the past under the new budget proposals?

Reply from Councillor Brett

The Council's intention is to continue funding additional police resource within the borough. However this will be in the form of Police Officers rather than Police Community Support Officers. As highlighted at the recent Budget Scrutiny meeting that you attended, this resource will be a flexible borough wide resource prioritising high crime areas and problem themes. This is a value for money intelligence led approach.

Question 51 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Given the proposed reduction in high intensity street cleaning, please could the Cabinet Member for Environment set out the number of street cleaning staff across the borough on a ward by ward basis?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

Street cleansing staff are allocated to mobile work programmes across the borough and are not ward specific, which is the most efficient way of operating. Mechanical sweeping programmes, for example, cover every ward in the borough.

Question 52 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Would the Cabinet Member for Environment not agree that charging for larger recycling wheeled bins is no incentive to residents who wish to recycle more?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

We are keeping these charges under close review and will revisit them if evidence suggests it damages recycling levels.

Question 53 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment advise how many front line staff and how many managers will be lost as a result of this budget?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

We would hope to offer redeployment opportunities to any staff displaced. However any staff reductions are a direct result of Government cuts.

Question 54 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment explain in detail the £28,000 reduction in Regulatory Services?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

The proposed reduction of £28K in Regulatory Services will not be taken, to ensure that the Council continues to take robust action against those rogue traders and individuals whose actions have a detrimental impact on our residents.

Question 55 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Does the Cabinet Member for Environment not agree that given the increase in grave digging fees, his department is pricing local people out of being buried in Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

As you are aware the cemetery fees and charges are annually reviewed and benchmarked. The Council's grave digging fees are on par with the average across London local authorities and considerably lower than private providers' fees and charges.

Question 56 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Does the Cabinet Member for Environment not agree that the increase in bulky waste collection is a disincentive to use the service, as it will only make fly tipping economically attractive?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

It has been stated many times before that there is no correlation in charges for bulky waste services and incidents of fly tipping. The facts probably don't get in the way of your assertions.

Question 57 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Does the Cabinet Member for Environment not agree that the inclusion in the budget proposals of an increase in income from Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) permits in advance of the call in on the outcome of the statutory consultation to amend the fees being considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 9 February 2016 has been heard, is a presumption of the decision making process?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

No. The budget proposal is to ensure that the CPZ permit scheme is self-financing rather than having to rely on taxpayers having to subsidise it as they do presently. The budget proposal would therefore apply irrespective of whichever permit system we have in place. The Council is, however, consulting on possibly changing the charging model from one based on CO2 emissions to one based on engine size.

Question 58 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment explain how many fewer roads will be resurfaced due to the reduction in the highways capital programme?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

We are on programme for 2015/16 to resurface/reconstruct 17km (10.6miles) of roads and 8 km (5 miles) of pavements. This includes funding from Transport for London (TfL) for resurfacing principal roads as well as the Council's own capital allocation for highways.

The Council's allocation of capital funding for 2016/17 is being reduced by TfL by £1m compared with 2015/16. I am currently reviewing the allocation for 2016/17 into specific work streams such as carriageways, footways, bridges and other important areas, and the exact reduction will, therefore, depend on how the budget is divided. As it stands, I estimate that the reduced budget will mean a reduction of approximately 1.5km (1 mile) of roads and 1km (0.6 miles) of pavements that will be resurfaced.

Question 59 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

The fee charges section of the budget report states the new events offer. Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment state what events are not acceptable in our parks?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

The Council reviews all applications for park events referring to the agreed policy framework "The Event Guidance 2012-2017". The guidance provides the criteria to inform the decision making for accepting or refusing an event. The Council does not hold a list of events that are unacceptable for parks as decisions are made on an individual event application basis and by referring to the criteria set out within the guidance. This approach ensures that events, when agreed, are appropriate to the park they are being proposed for.

Questions 60 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment

Would the Cabinet Member for Environment not agree that the decision to change to menu pricing is more about flattering the other boroughs within the North London Waste Authority to make them more conducive to the Lee Valley Heat Network rather than getting a better deal on waste disposal for Enfield?

Reply from Councillor Anderson

This was fully discussed at the recent Overview and Scrutiny Committee call in and I have nothing to add.

Question 61 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Ayfer Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection

Given that the Council has yet to acquire the land at Chase Farm Hospital site, for which outline planning permission was given for a three form entry primary school, will she confirm that the Council will support an application by the Lime Trust who have expressed an interest in developing this site as a free school?

Reply from Councillor Orhan

If the acquisition of the Chase farm land is successful by the Council, I can assure you that there is no way that the Council will support any application or proposal that does not demonstrate that it can offer the highest quality education for the pupils of Enfield and has a track record of doing just that. This would hopefully be evidenced in any providers bid to the Department for Education (DfE).

Question 62 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the Budget Consultation, was held on Monday 1 February 2016. The papers for the Cabinet to consider the budget were published on Wednesday 3 February 2016. Does he consider that the short space, literally one day, between the deliberations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the publication of formal papers with recommendations, do justice to the process of consultation? Would he not agree that such poor timing shows what scant regard his administration pays to the process?

Reply from Councillor Taylor

Information for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had been prepared in advance of the meeting based on the public responses to the consultation. The high level outcomes were then included in Appendix 1 of the budget report. I am very pleased with the strong response from our communities, and I am entirely satisfied that, within the tight resources available, all views from our local community have been considered.

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

Can he tell the Council the total amount of borrowing and the amount of financing charges, charged to revenue on the Council's Capital Programme, for each of the financial years 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, and prospectively 2016-17 ?

Reply from Councillor Stafford

The last 6 years of Capital spend has invested £632m across the borough. Approximately 35% of this funding has been invested in schools in the borough, 20% in Environment and Regeneration projects and a further 36% in Council Housing. The remaining spend has contributed to Social Care investment and Corporate projects.

The amounts of borrowing and financing charges are set out in the table below. The estimates for 2015/16 and 2016/17 are the revenue costs to be met by the Council and exclude financing costs to be reimbursed by Housing Gateway Limited or capitalised as part of commercial schemes to be financed by the sale of developed assets and future revenue flows. The costs below are contained within the General Fund Medium Term Financial Plan and HRA Business Plan.

		HRA Debt	GF Debt	Cost of Capital GF	Cost of Capital HRA	GF Cap Exp Actuals	HRA Capital Exp Actuals
		£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
2009/10	Actual	74.1	146.3	17.8	2.93	41.5	21.8
2010/11	Actual	91.5	126.7	17.4	3.64	49.7	53.9
2011/12	Actual	92.5	171.6	18.3	4.33	87.3	26.9
2012/13	Actual	157.7	136.5	17.7	5.75	90.1	36.5
2013/14	Actual	157.7	140.9	18.5	5.74	59.5	46.8
2014/15	Actual	157.7	155.3	17.3	7.32	78.1	40.5
2015/16	Estimate	157.7	238.4	18.8	8.16	184.3	55.8
2016/17	Estimate	157.7	358.3	22.4	8.16	215.3	46.3

Section 2 Questions to Associate Cabinet Members

Question 64 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

Thank you to Councillor Chamberlain for giving me the opportunity to provide an update on my activities and to inform him of what is taking place in Enfield.

I have chaired the Area Ward Forum for Edmonton Green, Haselbury and Upper Edmonton. Items on the Agenda included the presentation and exhibition on Healthy Enfield, Cycle Route and Local plan, questions to Ward Councillors and much more.

Local residents listened with interest and asked questions about Cycle Enfield Routes and the local Plan.

I also chaired the Eastern Enfield Area Partnership Board. In line with the other partnership boards in Enfield North and West, this is not a talking shop but we get things done. We have had a lengthy discussion on the Meridian Water project, plus the work this authority is doing in helping poor families with their energy bills by giving them advice and any other assistance they may need. There was yet another presentation on the Healthy Enfield Cycle Route for the A 1010.

In addition, I have attended 2 Cabinet Meetings, 2 Planning meetings and the Corporate Asset Management meeting with Cabinet Members and Officers.

I have been to Meridian Water and Lee Valley Heat Network updates.

I have also met residents who are clearly in support of Cycle Enfield Routes, and who told me how much they would like to have them so they can cycle in safety and reduce accidents.

I have visited 2 parks - Tatem Park and Hollywood Gardens, Pymmes Park and saw the work that has been done and what more needs to be done.

I joined the junior doctors' campaign outside the North Middlesex Hospital to save the NHS and for better working conditions.

I have attended quite a few other events and plan to visit Bury Lodge Park soon among other parks in the area.