

## **COUNCIL QUESTIONS FOR 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016**

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

With reference to the Meridian Water Development, he will recall that at a 2.5 hour meeting held on 8 March, attended by the Chief Executive, relevant directors and Leading Counsel, it was confirmed that although it had been legally possible to process a compulsory purchase order in respect of approximately half the site that was already zoned for housing, no such order had been made. We also learned that the remainder of the site was still designated for industrial use following revisions to the London Plan some four years ago, which had not been challenged by the council, notwithstanding that the whole site was required predominantly for housing.

It was said by officers that there might have been some legal advice at the time, against such a challenge, which now appears not to be the case. The following questions arise:

1. Can he confirm the total size of the Meridian Water development site?
2. How much land is currently designated for housing, and how much of that land has been acquired, and what is the total sum spent acquiring that land to date?
3. How much of the site currently has non-housing designation, and how much of that land has been acquired, and what is the total sum spent on that land to date?
4. Given that it has now been established that no legal advice exists, on whether the London Plan revisions were challengeable, can he tell the council why no action was taken by members or officers to challenge the London Plan revisions insofar as they related to Meridian Water before the Secretary of State, or at least to pursue expert legal advice to safeguard the council's position and the viability of the scheme?

### **Response from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council:**

1. I can confirm that the total site area is 85 hectares but this is not all developable land.
2. None of the land will be designated for housing until an approved plan is in place. The Council has acquired circa 15 hectares of land. The Council has spent circa £50m on purchasing sites. Other land will be purchased in due course.
3. As above.
4. Had the London Plan released the Strategic Industrial Land it would have increased landowners expectation in relation to the value of their respective sites.

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

Would the Leader of the Council congratulate Sadiq Kahn on his election and indicate how he would expect the new Mayor to work with London boroughs.

### **Response from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council:**

I would very much like to congratulate Sadiq Khan on his stunning and definitive victory in the recent mayoral elections. It is hugely reassuring that Londoners voted in such huge numbers to elect a Labour Mayor with a positive and inclusive message for change and chose to reject the divisive, reckless and scaremongering campaign of the Conservative Party candidate so decisively.

I know we are amongst a number of London Boroughs who see his election as an opportunity to work even more closely with City Hall to deliver a better future for our residents. I fully expect the new Mayor to engage positively with London boroughs and I will be working hard with my member colleagues and senior officers to ensure Enfield develops a strong and productive relationship with the new Mayor and his officers.

Of course I must also congratulate Joanne McCartney on her appointment, after a spectacular election result, as the Statutory Deputy Mayor.

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

The Cabinet received a report on 18 May 2016 requesting urgent authority to purchase a significant piece of land within the Meridian Water development site. The basis of the urgency was that the owner of the particular site was about to sell it to a third party. Does the Leader agree that this is yet another example of the folly of neither putting in place a Compulsory Purchase Order where it was possible to do so and/or challenging the failure of the Greater London Authority Planners to recognise the need to reserve the industrial section of the site for housing, both of which were confirmed in a meeting attended by the Leader and myself, 3 members of the Council Management Board (CMB) including the Chief Executive and Leading Counsel?

Secondly will the Leader explain how it came to be that this site had not been acquired in a more timely manner, given that there was clearly a willing seller, irrespective of the lack of a Compulsory Purchase Order?

### **Response from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council:**

What the expedited report to Cabinet shows is how rapidly the Council can respond in order meet commercial demands. A CPO can be promoted at any time; however, the probability of actually securing CPO powers prior to selecting a development partner is extremely low.

By expediting a report to Cabinet the Council could not have moved more quickly to

secure this site.

However Councillor Neville is mistaken on the point of a willing seller – a seller at any price does not make the seller a willing seller.

**Question 4 from Councillor Chibah to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment**

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment please update the Council on the progress with our SUD (Sustainable Urban Drainage) schemes?

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

Enfield Council has incorporated policies into its Local Plan which ensure that all new developments include SuDS measures, this ensures that a new development is safe and does not increase flood risk elsewhere. The Council is leading the way in delivering large-scale SuDS projects in open spaces to manage flood risk – projects at Firs Farm and Bury Lodge Wetlands have been completed this year. Enfield is also making the most of opportunities to deliver SuDS through its capital programme for footway and traffic schemes by integrating SuDS measures into these works.

At a recent meeting with the water charity Thames21, they commented that Enfield is one of the most proactive boroughs when it comes to delivering SuDS. Indeed, Firs Farm is one of the largest SUDs schemes in Europe.

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

At the last Council Meeting on 23 March 2016 in answer to Question 8, you said in respect of the proposals for cycle lanes in Enfield Town that you were continuing to analyse the 2707 responses with a view to confirming what, if any, alternative proposals you have in mind. Are you in a position to make a statement on this?

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

Officers are still considering the consultation responses and further traffic modelling work is being undertaken. Whilst we remain committed to a transformational scheme for Enfield Town, this work needs to be completed before we move forward with proposals.

**Question 6 from Councillor Levy to Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community, Arts & Culture**

Can the Cabinet Member for Community, Arts & Culture give us details of any extra Arts funding that has been secured?

## **Response from Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community, Arts & Culture:**

Millfield Theatre along with a consortium of 5 partners including the Greater London Authority, The Albany Theatre in Deptford, Watermans Arts Centre in Hounslow, Stratford Circus in Newham and the Independent Street Arts Network, have secured £583,228 over the next three years to tour high quality outdoor arts to Outer London. The focus of Enfield's part of the project will be in Edmonton Green.

The project is called Circulate and will feature in the Enfield Festivals and Events programme. The first events take place in the North Mall of Edmonton Green Shopping Centre this summer on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> and feature Circus, Dance and Live Art.

The strategic aims of the project include:

- Increasing the provision of high-quality outdoor arts in Outer London
- The Development outdoor arts programming which has public engagement at the centre of its creative vision
- The Development of national and international relationships to support excellence, innovation and diversity in outdoor arts programming around Outer London
- The Development of new audiences for outdoor arts, especially in areas which currently have lower levels of engagement in the arts
- The Development of an Outer London ring of partners and locations to extend the opportunities for, and long term development of, outdoor arts touring
- The Development of outdoor programmes which extend the existing programmes of the venues and support their further engagement with local communities

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

In reply to Question 20 at the 23 March 2016 Council Meeting dealing with the London Fire Brigades response to the cycling proposals for the A105, you acknowledged that the Borough Fire Commander had advised that the Fire Brigade had not replied to the A105 consultation but went on to say that council officers met with Fire Brigade Officers in November and did not "raise any concerns".

Does he accept there is a difference between meetings with officers that are not minuted and a formal response to a consultation by emergency services? Does he also accept that it is imperative that the Council, in going forward with these proposals, must ensure that none of the emergency services is anyway impeded by the Council's proposals and that it is his and officers' responsibility to ensure that everyone is clear about the requirements of the emergency services.

## **Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

The Council has gone to great lengths to consult with the blue light services and the Mayor's cycling design code was followed when designing the routes. Furthermore, the Mayor's Office and TfL accept that the blue light services views and concerns

have been taken into account in drafting our proposals.

**Question 8 from Councillor Barry to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development**

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business please update the Council on his recent meeting introducing a youth computer training club to the borough?

**Response from Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development**

Plans are in place to run free computer coding classes for young people aged 8-14 with the in recognition that ICT training in schools does not include in-depth training in coding.

Classes will be led by a voluntary organisation and will run on Saturday mornings with volunteer tutors who are industry professionals (all DBS checked). Through Council intervention, space has been secured with Barnet & Southgate College in Edmonton Green in order to establish a base for delivery in the borough.

The model has been very successful elsewhere with training sessions currently in Islington, Hackney and Tower Hamlets. Now a base has been identified, an advertising campaign will promote the club to young people and parents in the area.

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

In connection with his cycling proposals for the A105, will he acknowledge that Transport for London are currently having to carefully monitor the bus stops on the cycle highway at Elephant and Castle to prevent alighting passengers stepping into the path of cyclists, and that hospital chiefs at St Thomas' Hospital are concerned about a similar proposal for Westminster Bridge insofar as they believe patients and others attending the hospital will be at risk of an accident?

Does he also acknowledge that Vauxhall Labour MP Kate Hoey has called on the new London Mayor to intervene as she believes that the bus stops are "potentially dangerous"?

Can he tell the Council how his proposals will differ from those at Elephant and Castle, and if there is no difference, what steps will he be taking in the light of this information to safeguard pedestrians?

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

TfL have confirmed that they are monitoring the overall performance of the road improvements at Elephant & Castle, but not specifically at bus stop by-passes. There are only bus stop by-passes on this route. To date, there have been no reported

collisions. In terms of education, travel ambassadors were on site for the first week after the scheme opened to advise bus passengers and cyclists on how to use the infrastructure.

We are aware from recent articles in the Metro and local papers that managers at St Thomas's Hospital are concerned about the safety of patients and others attending the hospital and have started a petition, calling on TfL to change its bus stop by-pass proposals at Westminster Bridge (part of the East-West Cycle Super Highway).

Nonetheless, bus stop boarders and by-passes have been successfully introduced in Lewes and London e.g. CS2 and Great College Street. People soon got used to the new infrastructure and there has been no increase in accidents.

Our bus stop boarder and bus stop by-pass designs incorporate various features to prevent cycle/ pedestrian conflict including:

- Ramps on approaches to make cyclists slow down;
- Signage informing cyclists that they are entering an area used by pedestrians and must give priority to bus stop users;
- Distinctive paving to alert cyclists that they are entering an area used by pedestrians;
- Tactile paving to assist people with visual impairments; and
- Buffer strips so that people don't step straight into a cycle lane

#### **Question 10 from Councillor Pite to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection**

Despite Government cuts to valued Council services, such as libraries, will the Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection inform the Council of the steps that she has taken to refurbish libraries?

#### **Response from Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection**

This administration has chosen not only to protect libraries but continue to invest in them, ensuring they are at the heart of the local community and an inspirational place to visit, learn and enjoy.

In the last three years, the Council has invested in the Ordnance Unity Centre, creating a joint library, health centre and community space and Palmers Green Library, a transformational project for a flagship building in the south west of the borough, part funded by residential development.

The Council is now about to embark on a project to transform Edmonton Green Library and bring it up to the same high standards as the Council's other flagship libraries.

Enfield's busiest library will undergo a £4.2 million top-to-toe refurbishment as part of the Council's ambitious plans to provide an unparalleled 21<sup>st</sup> century library service for residents.

Work at Edmonton Green Library will create a two storey library and digital access centre, with extra computers, free wifi, extra study space and customer access kiosks as well as fantastic resources for students and children and a dedicated local history and museum space to celebrate the area's rich history.

There will also be online training resources at the library, which will be open seven days a week and a huge range of books and other resources. Enfield Council's housing services will remain on the top floor of the building.

Over the coming weeks we will be consulting local people on what they would like to see in the new Edmonton Green Library so I would urge people to participate. We will also be setting up alternative arrangements to ensure people who use the library can continue to access the services they rely on whilst the refurbishment takes place.

#### **Question 11 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency**

At the Council Meeting on 23 March 2016 your predecessor Councillor Stafford answered Question 24 in which I had raised questions about how many staff would be retiring, resigning or being made redundant. He said that he was unable to predict the numbers that would be retiring, resigning or being made redundant as the consultation had only just commenced. Could the new Cabinet Member now confirm how many staff will be retiring, resigning or being made redundant before the 30 June 2016, shown by department and grade?

Will he clarify how many posts that have been made redundant or otherwise terminated between March 2015 and March 2016? How many have been replaced by Agency Staff and at what cost?

#### **Response from Councillor Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency**

For the period 1 April 2016– 30 June 2016 the number of redundancies by department and grade were as follows:

Department	Grade	Number
HASC	RASC	2
HASC	1	2
HASC	3	28
HASC	4	1
CEX	SO2	1
ENV	6	1
ENV	SO1	3

ENV	PO1	1
ENV	PO2	3
FRCS	4	5
FRCS	5	4
FRCS	6	10
FRCS	SO1	5
FRCS	PO2	2
FRCS	MM1	1
FRCS	HOS1	1
SCS	SO1	1

For the period 1- 30 April 2016 (the data for May is not available at the time of this response), the numbers of resignations and retirements were as follows:

Count of Pers.no.	DEPT				
Grade	CEX	FRCS	HHASC	RE	SCS
APPRENT	1				
ASSTDIR2				1	
HOS11-26		1		1	
LEAD'SHP					1
LLW1A					1
LLWSC2				1	
MM2					2
PO1				1	1
PO2		2			
SC2				1	
SC3			1	2	
SC5		1	1		
SC6			1		
SO1		1	1	2	
SO2		2			
SUPPORT1					1
SW2C&F					1
SW3C&F					1
Grand Total	1	7	4	9	8

349 posts were made redundant during the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016. In accordance with employment legislation posts that are made redundant are deleted and therefore cannot be replaced by agency staff.

**Question 12 from Councillor Simon to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment**

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment please update the Council on the current investment in our parks and open spaces?



**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

I can confirm that the Council has been able to deliver significant investment within our parks and open spaces over the past twelve months. This includes the Parks Capital programme, of £1.7 million, which has delivered significant improvements to our parks, with nearly £500k assisting new play equipment within the borough. To complement our investment the Council has also secured over £250k of external funding to improve play facilities at Tatem Park, Hazelwood Sports Ground and Albany Park; and significant investment in our sports pitches via the replacement of every goal post within the borough and the purchase of new machinery that will enable the Parks Service to prepare better pitches for our customers. Moving forward we will diversify the number of ways that the Council secures funding so that we can continue to invest in our parks.

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

I refer to your answer to Question 44 at the Council Meeting of 23 March 2016 in connection to Council owned companies and representation by Opposition on the board of such bodies. While his answer was helpful, up to a point, it failed to specifically deal with the question that I had asked namely “what steps he proposed to take to ensure proper accountability of those companies by arranging for representation from the Opposition on their boards”? I appreciate that normal governance arrangements apply to any limited company but it is important to ensure in a democratically elected body that Opposition members are given the ability to hold the board to account on matters of public finance.

**Response from Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council:**

As Cllr Neville acknowledges in his question, there is no requirement for local authority trading companies to include representation from the opposition on their boards. The response to question 44 at the 23<sup>rd</sup> March Council Meeting clearly sets out the governance arrangements for the Local Authority Trading Companies and demonstrates that the composition of the boards is robust and is able to ensure prudent management of public funds. The governance of Enfield’s Local Authority trading companies is very much in line with the governance of other councils’ local authority trading companies. There is an opportunity for further review by the reporting arrangements to full Council annually and in the usual financial reporting requirements of company law. In addition, officers are always available to provide further detailed briefings to councillors as and when requested.

**Question 14 from Councillor Stafford to Councillor Alev Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care**

Could the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care please provide an update on the plans to establish a Local Authority Trading Company for Adult Social Care Services?

**Response from Councillor Alev Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care:**

Significant progress is being made with the development of the Council's Trading Company, Independence and Well Being Enfield. A Shadow Board has been established to oversee the implementation, and a Steering Group is in operation to advise and contribute to the design of the company.

Whilst a number of Stakeholders have been engaged with communications regarding the LATC to date, there will be an upscaling of communications during a consultation period which will run from 6<sup>th</sup> June to 5<sup>th</sup> July 2016. This will involve engagement events with staff, presentation at Enfield Carer's Centre, revisiting of Partnership Boards and Focus groups with existing users.

Work will continue through the summer months to prepare for current proposed launch date of September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Question 15 from Councillor Rye to Councillor Alev Cazimoglu Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care**

A constituent of mine who is an adult carer with an adult child with a learning disability wrote to you in early March 2016 to express concern that the budget cuts the Labour Council was imposing may result in her adult child being moved from supported living to residential care. After my constituent complained that you had not replied, I intervened and you wrote to my constituent on 31 March 2016 stating that you would reply "in a few days". My constituent contacted me again on 10 May 2016 to inform me that Councillor Cazimoglu had still not responded.

Could you define what a "few days means"? Would you agree that your failure to reply in a timely manner caused unnecessary stress for my constituent and their family? Will you apologize for your failure to respond promptly and ensure my constituent (who's details I have already supplied to the Director for Health, Housing and Adult Social Care) now gets a full response within 24 hours of this Council Agenda being published?

**Response from Councillor Alev Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care:**

As Cllr Rye will be aware, Government funding to Enfield will have dropped from £191m in 2010 to a forecast £99m by 2019. Such a significant reduction in Council budgets inevitably means difficult decisions have to be taken about local services.

Earlier in the year I had a meeting with your constituent personally and I want to acknowledge the contribution they make as a carer.

Carer representatives on the Learning Disability Partnership Board, of which your constituent is a member, first wrote to the Council in February to which a response was provided in February.

As a consequence of this response a presentation and discussion took place at the Learning Disability Partnership Board on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

A letter was subsequently received from your constituent, raising similar issues and seeking further clarification on the 4<sup>th</sup> March, which was responded to on the 31<sup>st</sup> March.

On the 31<sup>st</sup> March a further email was received by me from your constituent. A draft response was prepared in April, but due to an error over who was sending this to you constituent, it did not happen. I do of course apologise that this has not been responded to in a timely manner and am ensuring this is corrected.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> May the Assistant Director attended the Partnership Board to discuss the issue with Board Members.

**Question 16 from Councillor Maguire to the Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community, Arts & Culture**

Could the Cabinet Member for Community, Arts & Culture advise us of what became of Ian Duncan Smith MP's plan to examine further help to disabled people following the £30 Employment Support Allowance cuts he rammed through and the impact this would have on disabled people in Enfield?

**Response from Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community, Arts & Culture:**

From April 2017, new claimants of ESA who are placed in the Work-Related Activity Group (WRAG) and new claimants in the Universal Credit Limited Capability for Work (UCLCW) group will receive the same rate as those claiming Jobseeker's Allowance. This is currently around £30 less per week than current claimants receive.

In Enfield we have a total of 6380 households receiving ESA and who are also in receipt of Housing Benefit/Council Tax Support but unfortunately we are currently unable to determine how many of these are in the affected Work-Related Activity Group.

Only those claiming for the first time from April 17 will be affected, with their benefit income pitched at the same level as someone who is available for work on Job Seekers Allowance.

Those unable to work and receiving the ESA Support component will be unaffected.

**Question 17 from Councillor Rye to Councillor Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care**

What action have you taken to challenge the performance of The North Middlesex Hospital Trust given:

- That for many months it has not met the government waiting time in their Accident & Emergency Department (unlike other local hospitals), is it acceptable that patients were told “go home unless you are dying”?
- That the hospital accepted liability for the death of the new born K J following a senior coroner’s judgement on this tragedy;
- That many residents have expressed concern to Ward Councillors about their experiences at the hospital.

**Response from Councillor Alev Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care:**

I am grateful to Cllr Rye for highlighting the pressures our NHS is under as a result of government funding. The 20 billion efficiencies required of the NHS nationally, are compounded by the financial underfunding of Enfield CCG, which has to find an additional £7 million in savings on top of £14 million already planned this year, which is in addition to an underlying £49 million structural deficit.

The issues and performance of North Middlesex Hospital is indeed of concern to the Council and local people. The death of anyone, especially a new born is of course a tragedy and not one that I wish to play politics with. My thoughts go to the family.

The Council wants to see improvements at North Middlesex Hospital, which is under considerable strain not least as a result of a lack of Emergency Department Consultants - an issue which is replicated nationally with a shortage of appropriately qualified, trained and experienced individuals.

The Council has been in communication with North Mid Hospital, NHS commissioners, regulators and neighbouring trusts to ensure a whole system response and support required by the Hospital is provided. The Council will continue to engage with stakeholders to support North Middlesex Hospital, with one of the busiest Emergency Departments in London in one of the most deprived areas of London. Last year the Health Scrutiny Panel also received a presentation from Julie Lowe CEO on the performance and quality issues at North Middlesex Hospital

I want to acknowledge the hard working front line NHS staff and will continue to seek ongoing assurance and work in partnership with North Middlesex Hospital.

**Question 18 from Councillor Savva to Councillor Achilleas Georgiou, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Public Service Delivery**

Can the Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Public Service Delivery give an update on the Enfield Heroes campaign to encourage and celebrate residents to become more active citizens, to create even stronger local communities?

**Response from Councillor Achilleas Georgiou, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Public Service Delivery:**

The Enfield Heroes campaign which celebrates local volunteers and promotes community cohesion is a fully integrated marketing campaign which has included a targeted mailshot to 13,000 properties, a press advertising campaign and a digital marketing campaign including a Google adwords. The campaign generated 925 website hits in a four month period and helped achieve a 133% increase in volunteer placements when comparing performance in the third quarters of 2014 and 2015.

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

Can the Cabinet Member please update me on any conversations that have been held with the Wren Academy since March of this year?

**Response from Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member Education, Children's Services and Protection:**

Once the announcement was made by the DfE that the Wren had been successful in their bid to open a free school in Enfield there have been a number of conversations between Council officers, officers from the EFA and also representatives from the Wren regarding aspects of identifying and acquiring a site for the school and also the planning process that will follow once the site has been confirmed. I am sure Cllrs do not need reminding that the whole process is led by the DfE and then EfA just as it has been for the opening of all the Free schools in Enfield. As far as I am aware the site has not been finalised so there is little to update Cllr Dines at this moment.

**Question 20 from Councillor Kepez to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment**

Given the high standards this Council sets on food, environmental hygiene and trading standards, will the Cabinet Member for Environment please inform the Council of what action this Administration has taken to protect the public?

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

Regulatory Services discharge a number of the Council's duties with regard to protection of the public, often some of our most vulnerable residents. We ensure that the public have safe food, privately rented housing that is safe, a safe and clean neighbourhood and are protected from scams and rogue traders, illegal money lending and dangerous products.

Here are some recent examples of the enforcement that Regulatory Services have delivered to protect the public:-

- Over 125,000 illegal cigarettes and over 10 tonnes of illegal hand-rolled tobacco

were seized on raids and we successfully sought the revocation of 4 premises licences for this criminal activity;

- Supporting the Illegal Money Lending team's arrest and prosecution of 4 loan sharks operating in Enfield;
- Successfully bid for £360k of DCLG funding to tackle rogue landlords letting beds in shed and unsafe and sub-standard private rented homes, which resulted in surveying over 2,200 streets and targeting over 1500 properties. It led to the serving of over 300 notices, and the demolition of 4 illegal and substandard accommodations;
- Closed down 13 food businesses due to very poor hygiene and pest problems posing a risk of food poisoning to the public;
- Investigated over 13,000 complaints about abandoned vehicles, littering, untidy front gardens, dog fouling, street trading, car repairs/sales on the street etc. Which led to over 12,000 enforcement actions; and
- Prosecuted rogue traders, which have collectively resulted in over 10 years in prison terms, 38 weeks of suspended prison sentences and the recovery of £500k through the Proceeds of Crime over the last 4 years. We have stopped £1.5 million and two houses from being handed over by residents to rogue traders.

**Question 21 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member Education, Children's Services and Protection**

Can the Cabinet Member please state if her department (or anyone in the Council) has been in contact with the Government over the purchase of land in Enfield for the provision of a new Secondary School for North Enfield since March of this year?

**Response from Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection:**

**I refer you to my response on question 19**

**Question 22 from Councillor McGowan to Councillor Sitkin, the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development**

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business please update the Council on the work his Department is doing to improve consultation with high street retailers?

**Response from Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development:**

The Council consults widely with its business community and seeks to engage with the borough's high streets to ensure that retailers are able to engage with major initiatives. Additionally I, and senior officers, are always happy to hear from high street retailers about the issues affecting their businesses

The main formal consultations recently have been led by Strategic Planning and Cycle Enfield, every effort is being made to hear the concerns of retailers in a

consultative manner. The next stage of the Cycle Enfield consultation takes place with a launch event in the north east of the borough on A1010 proposals.

We are keen that high street retailers come together in their town centres to form representative bodies to share their views and we want to hear what they have to say. We call this town teams and we accept that this is a new way of thinking for many town centre stakeholders. We plan to pilot this approach in Edmonton Green then help other areas become self-representing.

We know that retailers' time is precious and we are planning to use the skills of our IT professionals to pilot webchat function that will enable us to host online discussions which increases the opportunities for engagement and should allow us to have a broader range of discussions.

**Action:** Ian Davis (Director of Regeneration and Environment)

**Question 23 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member Education, Children's Services and Protection**

What date is now being used for the delivery of a new Secondary School for children in the North of Enfield? The Wren Academy has told me they have been told 2018, whereas documentation produced by the Council says 2020.

**Response from Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection:**

As far as I am aware the date given to the Council by the EFA for the opening of the Wren Academy has not changed. As I am sure Cllr Dines is aware they have not yet announced their permanent site or any temporary arrangements until a permanent site is ready. I am not sure which documentation Cllr Dines is referring to and so am not able to comment on the change of date that is mentioned in his question.

**Question 24 from Councillor Stewart to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development**

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business please update the Council on the work his department did to facilitate Camden Town Brewery's move to Enfield leading to the creation of scores of new manufacturing jobs?

**Response from Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development:**

The Council has helped considerably to facilitate Camden Town Brewery's move to Enfield and has offered to support the Brewery with any recruitment needs. We are told that there could be up to 100 positions available at the new facility.

**Question 25 from Councillor Hurer to Councillor Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency**

Can I please be told:

1. How many members of staff at Enfield Council have a corporate credit card?
2. What the clearance process is for any expenditure on the credit card?

**Response from Councillor Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency:**

1. The Council does not have any corporate Credit Cards, but uses Purchase Cards 371 staff currently have a Purchase Card.
  2. Purchase Cards are limited via the bank to block certain categories of spend:
    - Alcohol
    - Fuel
    - Telecommunication
    - Staff
    - Financial services
    - Utilities
    - Computer Equipment
    - Cash
- The application process asked for potential card holders to state why they need a purchase card, and the types of expenditure that they need to spend on the card. This is then approved by nominated officer who will be responsible for the approval of expenditure and the AD responsible for the service area. The form is then approved within Procurement & Commissioning Hub and then approved by Director of Finance, Resources & Customer Services.
  - Cards are limited to a transaction limit and a monthly limit
  - The bank provides statements of activity on each card. This must be reconciled by the card holder and receipts and justification provided. This is approved by the approver; ensuring that it is in line with service department needs
  - Procurement & Commissioning Hub monitor expenditure and the Purchase Card programme is audited regularly.

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

Will the Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection inform the Council of the work that has been progressed with the library service to support young people affected by mental health?

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



At a time when 1 in 10 young people have a diagnosable mental health issue, I had the pleasure of launching a new initiative in Enfield's libraries recently aimed at supporting them with expert endorsed books available to borrow for free.

"Reading Well for young people" is part of the hugely successful "Reading Well Books on Prescription Scheme" and will provide 13-18 year-olds with high-quality information, support and advice on a wide-range of mental health issues such as anxiety, depression, eating disorders and self-harm, and difficult life pressures, like bullying and exams.

The collection of 35 titles is available at the four flagship libraries and reflects the valuable role libraries can play in supporting children and young people.

### **Question 27 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Oyken, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration**

I am sure that Councillor Oyken agrees with me and many residents in Chase Ward that housing and its availability is a crucial issue.

Can I please be informed when the small site houses are now expected to be completed in Chase Ward?

Can I please also be told what the timetable was when the small site programme began?

### **Response from Councillor Oyken, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration**

The original contract programme long stop date for Kier to complete all 94 properties, built across the Small Sites including those in Chase Ward, was 20<sup>th</sup> July 2016. However as I informed Council last October Kier planned to complete the sites to Tudor Crescent, Holtwhites Hill, Forty Hill, St Georges Road and Lavender Hill by Spring 2016.

In response to Climate Energy going into administration, and a subsequent question on a revised programme (January 2016), I outlined the following three points. Firstly that Kier had since appointed Airey Miller Construction Management (AMCM) to work with them to deliver the seven sites at the earliest opportunity. Secondly that unfortunately there would be a period where there is no activity on site while the due diligence review is completed. Finally once the review is complete we would receive a revised programme for completions

I am pleased to be able to confirm that the review is now complete and construction works have recommenced on five of the seven sites. Works will commence on the remaining two sites in the coming weeks. The revised timetable to complete the scheme, including those sites in Chase Ward, is June 2017. However handovers will be on a phased basis, with the first properties to be handed over being the 3 four bedroom houses at St Georges Road August 2016.

**Question 28 from Councillor Nesil Cazimoglu to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development**

Is it true that the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government has changed the nature of Green Belt designation for housing?

**Response from Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development:**

The SoS has not recently changed in any way current planning policy or guidance for the Green Belt. However, the Government's proposals for starter homes include provision for building them on brownfield sites in the Green Belt. This was consulted upon recently by the Government in a package of technical planning changes and the Council has raised strong concerns at unplanned developments in the Green Belt, not supported by infrastructure, which may result should this proposal become national planning policy. The Green Belt is a policy, not an area designation, like a National Park, or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and so the Government may change it without primary legislation, although in this instance it would need weighing up against the approved development plan (the Local Plan and London Plan) that would resist development in such unsustainable locations.

**Question 29 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment**

Can I please be informed:

1. Which junctions in Enfield have a yellow box that is enforced by a camera?
2. The breakdown in fines from each of these cameras per week, dating back to April 1st of 2016. Can any cameras which have come on line since this date please be included from when they went live?

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

1. Carterhatch Lane EN1/Service Road, Great Cambridge Road. Green Lanes N13/Sidney Avenue
- 2.

	Carterhatch Lane/Service Road Gt Cambridge Rd 29 April 2016	Green Lanes/Sydney Avenue N13 30 November 2015
01-08 April 2016	-	85
08-14 April 2016	-	50
15-21 April 2016	-	168

22-28 April 2016	-	159
29 April-5 May 2016	562	194
6-12 May 2016	941	133
13-19 May 2016	638	152
20-23 May 2016	259	106

**Action:** Ian Davis (Director of Regeneration and Environment)

**Question 30 from Councillor B Charalambous to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment**

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment please update the Council on the feedback from the introductory Association Cabinet Members' meetings with the Friends of the Parks?

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

The introductory regional Friends meetings that were held in late April and early May were very well supported with 60% attendance and from the initial feedback, we have gained, groups are keen to work with the Council on the transition from the current arrangements. The Council acknowledges that there are concerns around the changes, though moving forward the new approach aims to maintain the same outcomes, but deliver them in a more efficient and effective manner. These regional meetings will now be the only formally recognised and supported meetings the Council will hold with the Friends of Parks. And through these meetings we will support volunteering, capital improvements and external funding bids. We look forward to working further with the Friends of Parks, as our main objectives are the same in seeing our parks and open spaces flourish and this can only happen with the hard work, dedication and efforts provided by all parties.

**Question 31 from Councillor Dines to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment**

Can Councillor Anderson please provide an update on how much work has gone into looking at alternatives to Southbury Road for a Cycle Enfield route over the past two months?

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

Southbury Road remains on the table as an alignment for the Cycle Enfield route. We have commissioned further parking surveys in response to residents' concerns about the loss of parking and are having on-going discussions with Transport for London. Alternative options have been investigated and the pros and cons of each will be carefully considered before any final decision is made.

**Question 32 from Councillor Ekechi to Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community, Arts & Culture**

Given pupils are no longer expected to attend live theatre performances as part of many GCSE syllabuses what does the Cabinet Member for Community, Arts & Culture think the impact of this is likely to be for pupils and theatres?

**Response from Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community, Arts & Culture:**

Our arts and cultural services at Millfield Theatre, Forty Hall and The Dugdale Centre have strong established relationships with schools with strong attendances at events like the annual pantomime at Millfield Theatre when more than 7000 local primary school pupils attend one of 24 performances specifically for schools, and the Education programme at Forty Hall which sees 3 to 4 schools a week attending curriculum focused programmes on Heritage. We are encouraging schools to ensure that they continue to take full advantage of the many opportunities offered to pupils in Enfield and to visit and attend the theatre as part of their studies in Drama and Theatre. We are confident that they will continue to include the experience of live performances in their curriculum and extra curricula activities. It is too early to say if there will be a negative impact but we will obviously monitor the attendance at our live performance spaces in Enfield and I would be happy to feedback at a later date.

**Question 33 from Councillor Smith to Councillor Oyken, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration**

Further to recent reports in the local press regarding charging leaseholders in a council owned block in Bycullah Road £30,000 per flat for proposed works to their block, would he inform the Council:

- a. Whether the leaseholders were consulted under s.20 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 and what was the outcome?
- b. Was the specification for the works was approved at a senior level before the leaseholders were informed?
- c. Does he think that the specification was excessive and will he review it?
- d. Does he think that a charge of £30,000 per flat is a reasonable sum to charge individual leaseholders some of whom may be in straightened circumstances?
- e. Will he ask officers to reconsider charging this sum, review the process and reach an agreement with the leaseholders on a more sensible level of works?

**Response from Councillor Oyken, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration:**

- a) Full Statutory Leaseholder Consultation was undertaken as required under Section.20 of the Landlord and Tenant Act.  
The dates and process relating to the blocks on Bycullah Road were as follows :

- A Stage 1: Notice of intent: sent out on the 11<sup>th</sup> October 2013 notifying Leaseholders of the intention to award future works under a proposed Framework of Contractors. This was sent to all Leaseholders in Enfield with a broad indication of works that would be considered under a major works project. All formal responses at that stage were noted and/or replied to as required.
- A further Stage 1 notice: was sent out on the 18<sup>th</sup> June 2015 included a scope of works under consideration on a block by block basis. This was an additional information stage sent out as a courtesy to specific Leaseholders affected by the intended call off contract (there is no legal requirement to present a further stage 1 notice other than the one served at the award of the Framework). Leaseholders were again asked to submit any comments or observations on the proposed scope of works.
- A Stage 2 Notice of Estimates was sent out on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016 following a competitive tendering exercise. Results of the two lowest tenders with a detailed breakdown of the lowest estimates were included in this notice together with a justification for the scope of the works.

In addition to these written stages the Council's Officers also engaged with residents at meetings both pre and post tender. Consultation meetings were held on the 24<sup>th</sup> August 2015 to explain the process and scope of works and then again on the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2016 after the tenders had been received.

The August meeting was held prior to tendering of the works and allowed residents the opportunity to come along and discuss the proposed works with both Officers and the Consultants. All feedback from this meeting was considered and responded to by Officers. The most recent meeting in April was held post tendering and following the issuing of Notice of Estimates. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the estimates, offer payment options where relevant and also to respond to any specific concerns of leaseholders.

- b)** The specification and scope of the major works programme (for all Council Housing stock) is formulated by externally appointed professional surveying consultants engaged by the Council. They utilise site specific surveys as well as industry recognised component depreciation profiles, to assess the options for repair, renewal or upgrade.

The Council undertakes 'day to day' repairs to its buildings until such time as the building elements are considered to be beyond economic repair. Each element within a building is measured against an anticipated lifespan, after which the replacement or renewal would be required or recommended. The component lifecycles are based on professional experience and Industry standards. Regular stock condition surveys and repair / maintenance records are held on an asset database that is used to prioritise components and blocks likely to require works each year.

On this scheme the decision to undertake all the works proposed now was arrived at using the parameters explained above. The type, nature and scope of the works are those that have been adopted by the Council throughout the entire programme of Decent Homes works from 2009

onwards. The project was approved in line with the Council's scheme of delegation with the input of Senior Officers at the relevant stages.

- c) As stated in the response to 'b' above, the works were defined using external professional advisers.
- d) All Leaseholders who have purchased under 'Right to Buy' legislation will have received full information on their responsibilities for payment of any further major works costs. This would also have been reiterated by their own solicitor in the purchase. In addition, lease holders will have received an estimate of annual charges and details of any major works activity that Enfield intended to carry out during the first 5 years of the lease, (via a section 125 Offer Notice). There are a number of payment options for Leaseholders and the information leaflets explaining the financial assistance packages were sent out to all Leaseholders with their Notice of Estimates. Leaseholders are welcome to make individual appointments with our Home Ownership Officers to discuss all available options in person. Purchasing a leasehold property comes with obligations to contribute to major works on the block under the terms of the lease. The value for money point regarding these recharge costs is covered in point 'e' below
- e) The estimated costs for the works to a very small number of units on the Bycullah Road blocks are at the top end of the level of re-charges anticipated by the Council. More generally these recharge costs fall into the £10k - £20k band. Officers have already undertaken detailed consultation with the residents in this block to suggest reductions in the scope of the works wherever possible, which will see this recharge price reduce. Items such as redecoration of common areas and external landscaping improvement works have been suggested as omissions which will bring down the costs considerably. Discussions have also taken place with the Leaseholder representatives for this block with a view to them purchasing the freehold from the Council at which point they would become liable for fully maintaining the block for themselves with no recharge costs at all from the Council.

I can advise Councillor Smith that I am currently reviewing leaseholder charges and if improvements can be made to the process which benefits leaseholders while safeguarding tenants I will consider such changes.

**Question 34 from Councillor During to Councillor Alev Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care**

I should like to congratulate the Cabinet Member for Health & Adult Social Care on the progress that has been made to build a care home at Old Road, EN3. Will the Cabinet member inform the Council how many people will be accommodated at the new home?

**Response from Councillor Alev Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care:**

The build of the new care home is well underway and remains on target for practical completion at the end of October 2016. This month the window installation and external brickwork will commence and internal partitioning will continue. A topping out ceremony was held on 12<sup>th</sup> May to celebrate the build reaching its highest point.

The new care home will provide residential and nursing care for 70 service users, with the first residents transferring from Bridge House and Coppice Wood Lodge.

**Question 35 from Councillor Chamberlain to Councillor Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency**

Please set out the level of council tax arrears by month for the past three years from the most recent figures?

Please set out the number of council tax debtors by month in the past three years from the most recent figures?

**Response from Councillor Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency:**

Please find attached appendix 1 the council tax system summary from 2012/13 to 2015/16 by amount and number of accounts. The outstanding amount includes court costs. The number of accounts for the year does not show the number of customers in arrears as a customer may have arrears in multiple years.

The summary sheet shows a year on year reduction in arrears from £32,165k in 2013/14 to £23,883k. Arrears collection of £7,152k was the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in England in 2014/15 according to Government statistics and increased to £7,923k in 2015/16. Given that Enfield has the 9<sup>th</sup> highest council tax support caseload in England this represents an excellent achievement and I am sure Councillor Chamberlain will congratulate officers on their successful endeavours.

**Question 36 from Councillor Abdullahi to Councillor Alev Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care**

Could the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care provide an update on activities within Enfield throughout Carers Week please?

**Response from Councillor Alev Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care:**

Please find attached the programme of events appendix 2:-

### **Question 37 from Councillor Delman to Councillor Fonyonga, Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Public Health**

A recent analysis of crime figures in Enfield highlighted that there were over 140 crimes committed per year in our parks. Could Councillor Fonyonga provide us with a breakdown as follows:

1. Number of crimes committed at each park?
2. Types of crimes committed at each park?
3. How many people were prosecuted for their crimes?

### **Response from Councillor Fonyonga, Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Public Health:**

The crime in parks represents a very small proportion of the crime on the Borough, at just **half of one per cent**.

I am able to provide you with numbers of crime for the 10 parks with the most crimes recorded, with data from the 8<sup>th</sup> of February 2015 to the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2016 in the table below:

Park	Count of crime
TRENT PARK	21
ENFIELD PLAYING FIELDS	17
WHITEWEBBS GOLF COURSE	16
DURANTS PARK	14
FORTY HALL PARK & ESTATE	10
PAULIN SPORTS GROUND (LEASED)	9
CHURCHFIELDS RECREATION GROUND	7
ALBANY PARK	6
ST DAVIDS PARK	6
COCKFOSTERS SPORTS GROUND	6

I am not able to provide detail on the types of crime, nor the number of people prosecuted. This response would have to come from the police or CPS.

This Administration remains firmly committed to tackling crime and anti-social behaviour in the borough. This is why in addition to the officers allocated to us through the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime, this Administration has committed £1.6m over the next 3 years to fund additional police officers.



**Question 38 from Councillor Bond to Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community, Arts & Culture**

Could the Cabinet Member for Community, Arts & Culture let us know how many people in Enfield have used foodbanks in the past year, and whether it is a growing trend? Have government sanctions against claimants contributed to this?

**Response from Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Community, Arts & Culture:**

I thank my colleague for his question. Whilst the information the Council has at its disposal in terms of final numbers is not definitive, we are certain that food bank usage in the borough continues to be high and is viewed as a vital support mechanism for many families in the borough. The main Food Bank service in Enfield delivered by the Enfield Food Bank on Lincoln Road, continues to report high levels of access since coming into being 4 years ago. This is evidenced by their having recently relocated to larger premises to meet demand and is considering further extending its opening hours.

They have also extended their offer to local people beyond food to include providing clothing to families in need with children in the 0 to 5 age bracket. This is in response to feedback from the local community. I would like to congratulate and thank those volunteers working to provide services such as these to our most vulnerable local people.

It seems to me this is clear evidence that austerity measures continue to hit the poorest hardest and that the numbers affected are growing. I have little doubt that this continued victimisation of the poor by the Government will only prolong the agony for many of our most vulnerable families.

**Question 39 from Councillor Delman to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member Education, Children's Services and Protection**

Would Councillor Orhan confirm:

1. How many permanent salaried staff and how many volunteers there are at the John Jackson Library in Bush Hill Park?
2. Are the volunteers able to provide every library service that the permanent staff provide?
3. What are the opening hours of the library?
4. What is the 'Management Structure' there?
5. Finally what are the implications of the 'Enfield Library Development Strategy' for this library?

**Response from Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection:**

1. There are four volunteers allocated to John Jackson Library with assistance from permanent staffing as and when required. As Councillor Delman will know,

volunteers have always been a crucial part of our library service and we are very grateful for the first class contribution they make to their local communities.

2. Volunteers are able to assist library customers with most requirements. The key elements the volunteers cannot do are:

- Handle cash
- Join people to the library (although we are exploring how this can be achieved in community libraries)
- View service users accounts
- Interrogate the catalogue
- Make reservations

3. Monday, Wednesday and Friday – 8am to 4pm

Tuesday and Thursday – 8am to 6.30pm

Saturday – 9am to 12 noon

These opening hours reflect an increase of 9 hours per week compared to the previous opening hours.

4. A clear service level agreement is agreed with each co-location partner setting out the agreed opening hours of the building and the standards of operation expected to support universal access to library services. The community libraries are overseen by a Team Leader who reports into Customer Services Manager. The Team Leader ensures the SLA is adhered to, maintains an effective relationship with the co-location partner, resolves issues as they arise and works with the volunteer co-ordinator role to ensure training, advice and specialist support is offered to people working/volunteering in the co-located space.

5. The Library Development Strategy sets out a vision for a financially sustainable library service that maintains 17 physical libraries, four of which would be hub libraries offering the full range of library services with the remaining 13 being community libraries. John Jackson Library was designated as a community library. Community libraries continue to be run by the Council's library service and library card users can access library services and resources from them. In order to bring in income, partners have been sought to share the space and deliver mutually beneficial services. John Jackson Library was among the first community libraries to open with a partner, Eldon Infants School, who are offering children's centre activities through the library.

#### **Question 40 from Councillor Dogan to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development**

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business please confirm to the Council that for the sixth month in a row, Enfield's employment rate as per Job Centre Plus statistics remains above the London average?

**Response from Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development:**

The employment rate for Enfield during 2015 and to date in 2016 has remained relatively stable against a more changing profile across London and nationally.

This is supported by key out-of-work benefit figures decreasing month on month with the latest figures showing a further drop indicating that the gap between London and Enfield claimant figures is closing.

Through the proactive partnership work with DWP across the borough's three job centres, and with interventions to assist with recruitment for new employers – eg M&S in Brimsdown, the Council is making as much effort as possible with limited resources to support mainstream providers address issues around claimants figures. Indeed, it is worth noting that the latest (April 2016) JCP statistics even show Enfield increasing the positive differential between our employment rate (now up to 73.6%) and the London average (now 72.9%). Alongside of this, our unemployment rate has dropped to 0.2% below the London average. All of which provides further strong empirical evidence that Enfield's economy is benefiting under the current Labour administration.

**Question 41 from Councillor Delman to Councillor Fonyonga, Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Public Health**

Would Councillor Fonyonga inform the Council exactly how the withdrawal of the provision of free swimming for all children and young people and free gym use for 14 - 15 year olds in the school holidays, will enable her to provide effective and efficient services to the children and young people in this borough? importantly the disadvantaged children that she usually reminds us that she aspires to help.

Could she also tell us how many children and young people used the free swimming and free gym facilities at the local leisure centres per year and what was the total cost?

**Response from Councillor Fonyonga, Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Public Health:**

In order to achieve our savings targets in line with massively reduced government funding to local authorities we have needed to take a more targeted approach to resourcing health interventions to ensure our reduced discretionary resources are effectively utilised for those communities where deprivation is highest and where health is poorest. This has led to the following activities now taking place:

1) Reception Year (5 year olds) who are identified as overweight or very overweight in this year's National Child Measurement programme will receive a swimming subscription which would allow them to go swimming during the summer holidays

2) Year 6 (11 year olds) who are also identified in these categories will receive a junior membership which would allow them to use the activities on offer including

gym, swimming, classes and sporting activities during the summer holidays.

The previous universal offer of free swimming and free gym during the school holidays had the following number of visits (not the number of young children and young people) over the last 3 years:

- 2015/16: 42,530 free swims and 4,891 uses of the gym.
- 2014/15: 75,454 free swims and 5,928 uses of the gym
- 2013/14: 31,763 free swims and 4,038 uses of the gym

The swimming is now charged at £2.10 and we have now introduced a junior membership for 8-15yr olds at £23.00 per month.

**Question 42 from Councillor Hurman to Councillor Achilleas Georgiou, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Public Service Delivery**

Can the Cabinet Member for Public Service Delivery give an update on Enfield Council's highly successful campaign to keep residents informed about the new jobs, training and apprenticeship opportunities for the benefit of local residents, businesses and organisations?

**Response from Councillor Achilleas Georgiou, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Public Service Delivery**

The Unlock Your Potential campaign has generated a huge amount of local interest, with an average of 10,000 visits being made to the dedicated webpage every month which signposts residents to job opportunities in Enfield.

A key strand of the Unlock Your Potential campaign is the promotion of jobs fairs in the borough. The most recent jobs fair held in April 2016 attracted the highest number of job seekers to date – 527 compared to 432 who attended in September 2015 - with over 30% of attendees stating they had heard about the event through Enfield Council's marketing channels and activity including social media posts, newspaper ads, flyers, posters and the council website. Feedback from local businesses and organisations was also very positive with one company alone recruiting 18 people on the day.

The Unlock Your Potential campaign has also supported the Council's drive to recruit apprentices. This strand has included promotion in Our Enfield as well as targeted bus panel and till receipt advertising. This promotional activity led to a spike in the number of web hits – up from 7,858 in August to 10,397 in September 2015.

**Question 43 from Councillor Celebi to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment**

Can the Cabinet member for Environment please answer why they have decided to show the proposed amended scheme for Cycle Enfield in Palmers Green Library for only one day, therefore not giving interested parties enough opportunity to view and have the added benefit of an officer present to explain said scheme?

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

Palmers Green library was an excellent venue for the exhibition, being within easy reach of all on the A105 corridor by all modes of transport. The event was well publicised in advance with adverts in both local papers, 17,647 leaflet drops in the surrounding vicinity of Green Lanes. 130 people attended during the exhibition hours (3pm to 8pm). Whilst the vast majority of interested parties clearly had the opportunity to attend the exhibition, it was made clear to those who couldn't attend that the material is available on the Cycle Enfield website. This is being promoted on social media.

**Question 44 from Councillor Bakir to Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services & Protection**

Will the Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection inform the Council of what success has been achieved in the teaching of community languages to children and the recognition the Council has achieved?

**Response from Councillor Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection:**

I am happy to give Council some feedback on this area as I recognise the importance of our children being fluent in English, being fluent in their first language if it is not English and that they have the opportunity to learn other modern foreign languages appropriate to their age and ability.

I have always been very proud to hear about our primary and secondary schools response to the teaching of languages. Schools always ensured that we have met the changes to the curriculum and the introduction of language teaching at Key stage 2. I am continually impressed by the number of young people in Enfield who have entered and been successful in the range of modern foreign languages at GCSE. I think it is been particularly important to give our young people the opportunity to study their own community language to GCSE. As you know when this was under threat from the government I instigated a cross party response to challenge this move and am delighted to inform Council that the government has agreed to the continuation of community languages in the examination offer for our young people. Council may be glad to hear that I received a letter from Nick Gibb thanking me for my tireless effort in the campaign to restore community languages to the range of subjects offered from external examination.

**Question 45 from Councillor Celebi to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development**

Does the Cabinet Member for Environment admit that this administration intends to build on our Green Belt in order to appease the housing needs of our borough rather than using Brownfield land and other suitable lands?

**Response from Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development**

The pressure for housing and population growth in Enfield is very considerable. If we are to meet London wide and national indicators of future housing need, then we will need to increase the number of new homes built every year from just over 500. At the same time, the market pressure for new businesses, waste facilities and schools is intensifying, such that availability of industrial brownfield and industrial vacant sites is decreasing. We have no plans to build in the Green Belt for housing growth needs but we are duty bound to consult on all of the potential options to meet housing need. It would be negligent not to do so, and point out where growth could take place.

**Question 46 from Councillor Jigge to Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development**

Could the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Business please share with the Council his thoughts on the renewal of the Montague and Claverings industrial estates?

**Response from Councillor Sitkin, Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration & Business Development:**

The Council has an extensive property portfolio and it is good estates management practice to review the state of its holdings, to determine if it is still fit-for-purpose, if it achieves the Council's desired returns, and if it meets the Council's stated objectives such as the ability to promote growth and sustainability.

A review of the Claverings and Montagu Estates suggests that these assets are not being optimised and could be used more efficiently and effectively. For example, certain buildings are in need of improvements, as their design life has been exceeded, and certain buildings no longer meet modern employment use requirements. This needs to be considered against a backdrop of rising demand for scarce employment use land within the M25, increasing property values and the desirable location of these two Estates for businesses within London's economic and geographic landscape.

We are therefore now looking at a variety of options of how best we should configure these Estates so that they support an increase in jobs and enterprise activity within the borough. I am pleased to report that significant progress is being made by officers on these two sites. In particular plans for Claverings are maturing and we will shortly be reporting to Cabinet on a preferred way forward, which will not only promote new jobs and support the retention of a strong and vibrant economic base in the borough, but will provide the Council with a fit-for-purpose income producing commercial property portfolio.

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

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment provide the recycling rates for each ward for 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015?

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

We don't hold or compile recycling rates at a ward level

**Question 48 from Councillor Hasan to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment**

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment please update the Council on improvements to Albany Park.

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

I am happy to confirm that the park improvements are progressing well. The car park has been formalised and resurfaced, two of the parks entrances have been spruced up through new landscaping and the planting of an avenue of trees, and I'm delighted to announce that the Parks Service has secured a £150,000 grant from the London Marathon Community Trust to create a new fully inclusive play area that will be the first of its type in London.

Officers will now look to secure funding that is required for a second phase of the project where we will improve sport and recreation provision within the park. This will include the installation of an artificial cricket wicket, table tennis tables and a cycle track.

**Question 49 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member of Environment**

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment provide the recycling rates for the whole borough for 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015?

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

Household recycling rates are reported by financial year through the National Waste Data Flow database:

2012/13	38.8%
2013/14	39.1%
2014/15	38.5%
2015/16	37.6% (three quarters data)

**Question 50 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member of Environment**

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment provide and explain the recycling contamination rates for 2013, 2014, 2015?

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

The contamination rates refer to the amount of non-recyclable materials contained within the kerbside collected comingled dry recycling delivered for processing at the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) at Edmonton.

2013/14	7.52%
2014/15	7.30%
2015/16	10.95%

In October 2014 amendments under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations, came into force relating to sampling and quality testing of comingled dry recyclables delivered for processing. These regulations prescribed standard approaches and replaced the local systems used previously. This has resulted in an increase in the reported levels of contamination both in Enfield as well as nationally which has been reported in the trade press ([letsrecycle.com](http://letsrecycle.com) 26th January 2016).

**Question 51 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member of Environment**

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment commit to the people of Enfield that refuse collection will continue to remain weekly?

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

Yes, as set out in the DCLG commitment.

**Question 52 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member of Environment**

Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment commit to the people of Enfield that dry recycling collection will continue to remain weekly?

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

Yes.

**Question 53 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member of Environment**



Please could the Cabinet Member for Environment commit to the people of Enfield that green waste collection will continue to remain weekly?

**Response from Councillor Anderson, Cabinet Member for Environment:**

Officers are currently reviewing options to reduce the cost of this non-statutory service to meet future savings targets. A public consultation will follow in the near future.