

## **Council Questions and Responses for 27 February 2019**

### **Question 1 from Councillor Savva to Councillor Dogan, Cabinet Member for Environment**

Would the Cabinet for Environment give us the figures in percentage of the amount of recycling achieved in the last 12 months?

#### **Reply from Councillor Dogan**

The latest validated and published figure is for 2017/18 is 35.9% (41,978.55 Tonnes).

### **Question 2 from Councillor Joanne Laban to Councillor Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Housing**

Would Councillor Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Housing, confirm whether the homes being built at Jasper Close will have to be pulled down again?

#### **Reply from Councillor Lemonides**

Jasper Close will not have to be pulled down again. There has been an unavoidable delay as described in the January 2019 Cabinet report, but the works are now progressing well with the main building superstructures in place and internal fixtures in progress and with an anticipated completion this summer.

### **Question 3 from Councillor Chibah to Councillor Achilleas Georgiou, Cabinet Member for Children's Services**

Can the Cabinet Member inform the Council of the attainment of the borough's 'looked after' children and how performance compares to the national average for 'looked after' children?

#### **Reply from Councillor Achilleas Georgiou**

Comparative data on the attainment of looked after children is collated annually by the Department of Education (DfE). The measures collated for national comparison include performance at key stages one and two and at key stage four with a focus on Maths and English GCSEs. The number of children in each Enfield cohort is small as they have to have been in care for over a year to be eligible for inclusion in the DfE returns.

#### **In 2018**

##### **Key Stage One**

37.5% of Enfield LAC (Looked After Children) were assessed to be working at, or beyond, age expected standards across reading, writing and maths. This compared to a performance of 39% for all LAC nationally.

## Key Stage Two

50% of Enfield LAC were assessed to be working at, or beyond age expected standards across reading, writing and maths. This compared to a performance of 35% for all LAC nationally.

## Key Stage Four – GCSE year (Twenty-Nine students in the eligible Enfield Cohort.)

27.5% Enfield LAC gained a 4-9 pass in both English and Maths with 17.2% of Enfield LAC gaining a 'strong pass' scoring 5-9 in the new GCSE grading system. This compared to a performance of 9.6% for all LAC nationally gaining a 'strong pass.'

The performance of Enfield LAC at Key Stage Four is particularly impressive given that 7 of the eligible cohort were unaccompanied asylum-seeking children with developing literacy and numeracy skills, 4 were at special schools and 11 had EHC plans to support their additional special educational needs.

The Head of the Virtual School for Looked After Children presents regular performance reports to the Corporate Parenting Board, providing detailed breakdowns of attainment data, the wide range of support strategies in place and action plans developed to improve attainment still further. Progress against these plans is monitored by the Board.

## Question 4 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Maguire, Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement

Would Councillor Maguire, Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement state in pounds and pence how much Enfield Council has spent in total on consultants excluding agency staff since 2010?

## Reply from Councillor Maguire

Please see below the figures for consultancy expenditure for the last eight financial years as recorded on the financial ledger. However, please be advised that these figures represent a mixture of both service provision and consultancy services as these are not separately identified in our financial ledger system. For example, the 2017/18 total figure of £5.7m, includes expenditure incurred with Ernst & Young providing the co-sourced Procurement & Commissioning hub service, which was in the region of £1.5m.

2010/11 £	2011/12 £	2012/13 £	2013/14 £	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	2016/17 £	2017/18 £	Total £
6,515,515	5,514,560	5,842,373	5,868,715	5,234,851	7,323,033	9,590,456	5,731,589	51,621,092

**Question 5 from Councillor Greer to Councillor Achilleas Georgiou, Cabinet Member for Children's Services**

Can the Cabinet Member briefly set out the main elements of the Council's local offer to care leavers?

**Reply from Councillor Achilleas Georgiou**

The Children and Social Work Act 2016 introduced a new duty on local authorities to extend the offer of leaving care support beyond the previous age of 21 up to the age of 25. Each local authority was required to publish a Core Offer by January 2019, setting out an overview of the support available to its care leavers. Enfield published its own offer in December 2018 following an extensive consultation process with looked after children, foster carers and key workers, staff, partners and elected members. The draft offer was reviewed by a workstream of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel focussing on transition to leaving care and was approved at the Corporate Parenting Board.

The structure of a Local Core Offer was pre-determined by the Government and must include sections on Finance, Health, Relationships, Education, Employment and Training, Accommodation and Participation. The Enfield offer also includes a section for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

A copy of the core offer has been given to every Enfield care leaver and it is available on the Council website.

**Question 6 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Oykener, Cabinet Member for Property & Assets**

Would the Cabinet Member for Property & Assets state how many properties under the council's ownership are currently vacant?

**Reply from Councillor Oykener**

Within the commercial property portfolio there are currently: no industrial voids (other than properties been held void pending redevelopment at the Montague Industrial Estate and Meridian Water), no commercial (office or similar) voids, and voids in retail properties are running at 2.37% (based on rental value) which is significantly below the national average for most retail centres and most private sector landlords.

We have 20 vacant sites or buildings awaiting development or sale.

Within the HRA estate there are 36 voids awaiting reletting.

**Question 7 from Councillor Barnes to Councillor Achilleas Georgiou, Cabinet Member for Children's Services**

Can the Cabinet Member inform the Council of how the fostering allowance rate for in-house carers compares to the fees charged by external fostering agencies?

**Reply from Councillor Achilleas Georgiou**

In-house foster carers are recruited, assessed, trained and supported by the Fostering Service within Enfield's Children's Services. Payments received by in house carers comprise two elements – a maintenance allowance for meeting the costs of a child in placement and a fee which is paid to the carer for the work they do in looking after the child. The total amount of money received by the carer varies depending on the age of the child/ren they are caring for. The level of the maintenance allowance is based on the Department for Education (DfE) recommendations on the cost of caring for a child in outer London.

Weekly Maintenance Allowance – 0-10 years = £163 PW. 11-18 years = £216 PW.

Training Fee – 0-10 = £162.29 PW. 11-18 years = £234.66 PW

**Total cost of an in-house placement**

**0-10 years = £325.29pw**

**11-18 years = £450.66pw**

The cost of an Independent Fostering Agency placement depends on the rate set by the individual agencies, but the costs of a standard foster placement ranges from **£750 to £875pw rising to £1500pw for specialist placements.**

In 2017/18 Enfield was successful in recruiting a higher number of in-house carers than any other North London borough.

**Question 8 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council**

Would Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council confirm whether or not a meeting was held at Whitewebbs Golf Course in the last 3 months to discuss the future of the site?

**Reply from Councillor Caliskan**

Officers have met with the Friends to discuss the cafe on site. Several officers have recently visited site in preparation for marketing, but there have been no meetings on site with third parties to discuss the future of the site.

### **Question 9 from Councillor Jewell to Councillor Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care**

With increasing homelessness across the capital, what housing related support are we providing for young people who find themselves without a place to live?

### **Reply from Councillor Cazimoglu**

Last year we retendered the Young Persons accommodation pathway. We wanted to focus the budget available on maximising supported accommodation, delivering a clear transition pathway for young people aged 16 to 24. The tender was won by Christian Action who deliver over 103 units of supported accommodation for our young people.

For the youngest age group, the service provides intensive 24-hour support for 16-18-year olds in a safe environment. The accommodation also provides a crash-pad to cater for young rough sleepers or sofa surfers. At this point Enfield staff work with the young people to undertake mediation and reconciliation in help reunite them safely with their families.

Once they turn 18 the young people can seek independent accommodation but most move into one of the other Christian Action schemes in order to continue developing their life skills.

A lot of these young people supported by Christian Action would be considered Looked After Children or classified as previously being on the edge of care. We are pleased to be working with Christian Action as a provider who deliver additional value to this contract. The units have computer suites, a sound studio with mixing desk, sports and leisure equipment available. They also work in developing people's life skills, helping the young people into employment, education and training: In the last quarter alone, they have:

- Employed a young person in Christian Actions accounts team which has led them into gaining employment with an accountancy firm.
- Helped a young person complete a CV that has led to 2 possible interviews for business administration work.
- Begun a 12-week apprenticeship at a construction academy.
- Enrolled a young person at Waltham Forest college
- Helped someone start a Duke of Edinburgh award.
- Three young people were nominated by the Foyer Federation Sparks Award in November with one YP receiving massive recognition in the 'Advantaged Thinker' award which has led onto the award sponsors Mitie meeting them again in their offices in the Shard and setting up a traineeship for one of the YP.
- A total of eleven young people went on to University in the Autumn term of 2018 which is a fantastic achievement for young people who have been faced with homelessness.

- Overall twenty-nine young people have gained employment or education opportunities so far in this financial year.

### **Question 10 from Councillor Laban to Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council**

Does Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council agree with the Planning Inspectorate's comments regarding the Edmonton Leaside Area Action Plan that Meridian Water can only accommodate 5,000 homes if the SIL (Strategic Industrial Land) is not de-designated?

### **Reply from Councillor Caliskan**

The 5,000 number refers to a scenario where the east bank of Meridian Water is not re-designated, and the land remains designated industrial land and used entirely for employment uses. In the scenario where SIL could not be de-designated what the Council would seek to do is co-locate residential alongside the intensification and modernisation of employment uses across Meridian Water meaning more than 5,000 homes could be achieved across the whole site. The emerging new local plan will look at a borough-wide approach to SIL designation which provides an opportunity to consider industrial land on the east bank of Meridian Water.

### **Question 11 from Councillor Bedekova to Councillor Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care**

Can the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social in her role as Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board, provide a progress report on the development of a new Health and Wellbeing Strategy including feedback from the recent event held in Edmonton?

### **Reply from Councillor Cazimoglu**

Enfield Council, NHS, Healthwatch and the local voluntary sector are developing a new Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The proposed new strategy will be focused on tackling health inequality through a preventative approach which is clear, simple and evidence-based.

The proposal for the new strategy has been developed by the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB).

The HWB has considered achievements against the current strategy and discussed what all partners, including the voluntary sector, wanted to achieve through a new strategy. Partners agreed on a proposed strategy centred on behaviour change, which focuses on a small number of behaviours which we know have the biggest impact on health outcomes including positive mental health. The proposed vision is to make the healthy choice the first choice for everyone in Enfield. By doing this, we want all Enfield residents to:

- Be active

- Eat healthily
- Be smoke free

To further inform and develop the strategy we conducted a public consultation from 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018 to 17<sup>th</sup> February 2019. The consultation included an online survey and face to face interviews, and we have received 643 responses. The consultation report is now being produced and will be taken into consideration for the further development of the strategy.

In addition, we held a conference together with Enfield Healthwatch on the 14<sup>th</sup> February where 104 participants, including residents, voluntary groups and board members, took part.

Workshops discussed what specific actions could be taken locally to help us achieve our aims. The findings will help us determine further details of the strategy and setting out the action plan. A full report from this conference will be produced by Healthwatch in the coming days.

We will use the results of the consultation, including the report from the Healthwatch conference, to further develop the new strategy and action plan. These will be discussed further at the HWB meeting in March and the final strategy and its action plan will be approved and signed off at the HWB meeting in May before going to Cabinet in the summer.

The new strategy will be effective from 2019 and will run to 2023. The Health and Wellbeing Board will be responsible for the delivery, monitoring and reporting of our new strategy.

#### **Question 12 from Councillor Neville to Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council**

Does Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council agree that with 32 million people now taken out of tax altogether, alongside the recent changes to tax thresholds and an extra £billion allocated to Universal Credit means that the vast majority of people in Enfield will be better off in the next tax year?

#### **Reply from Councillor Caliskan**

I am surprised that Councillor Neville would wish to try and champion a minor change to the taxation system as somehow making amends for the best part of a decade of austerity and ideological warfare waged against the low paid, vulnerable and poor in Enfield. Similarly, his cheerleading of the broken, discredited and loathed Universal Credit system would be laughable if it weren't playing such a corrosive and harmful role in the lives of thousands of our Enfield residents.

One could conclude from his question and its accompanying pretext that he is at best somewhat out of touch.

Sadly, it is typical of the spin machine that is the Conservative Government that this kind of empty rhetoric is put forward by Tory politicians as some victory for ordinary people.

It is, of course, nothing of the sort and a ludicrous assertion to make. He would be better off asking why is his Government of choice not doing more to close tax loopholes that allow the friends of the Conservative Government to be encouraged to avoid paying their fair share of tax.

Everyone in Enfield will not be better off next tax year and many have become progressively worse off under his Conservative Government. A cursory and untargeted tweak to the taxation system won't remedy a decade of underinvestment, stagnating wages and a rising cost of living.

His blithe assertions ignore the fact that despite the increase in tax thresholds, low income remains a serious issue for families living and working in Enfield with over 40.9% of all jobs *in* Enfield (over 28,000 jobs) paid at less than the London Living Wage of £10.55 per hour. This is the third highest proportion of all London boroughs.

As for more money for Universal Credit, I must tell him that this local authority and our partners in the local community sector are supporting local people dealing with the failure of Universal Credit daily.

This council and many others are trying to help those dealing with the consequences of ongoing and utterly unacceptable waiting times of up to 5 and 6 weeks before people are receiving Universal Credit. This unfair and ill-conceived system is leaving vulnerable people facing intolerable hardship.

There are over 11,000 UC claimants in the borough and of those over a third (4040) continue to claim Council Tax Support. The pressure families are feeling is evidenced by a significantly disproportionate number of council tenants on UC that are in rent arrears. Our residents who receive UC represent 10% of council tenants but account for over 40% of the total Council Tenant arrears.

Would he like to tell our local people who are struggling to make ends meet to be grateful to a Conservative Government that has systematically victimised the low paid, the working poor and the disabled through its ideologically driven assault on their living standards via the welfare benefits system?

Would he like to tell the increasing number of people forced to use local Foodbanks that they should be grateful to a party wedded to a philosophy that cares so little for them? A party that has spent the best part of a decade trying to break or sell-off every public service it can get its hands on?

I think we are a long way from joining Councillor Neville in any of his false posturing.



### **Question 13 from Councillor Hamilton to Councillor Anderson, Deputy Leader**

Can the Deputy Leader update the Council on the Borough's contingency planning for Brexit?

### **Reply from Councillor Anderson**

In November 2018, an Enfield Brexit Panel was convened of which I Chair. The Panel consists of senior officers from across the Council with membership now extended to include key local service providers, such as the Police, Fire Service and the Citizens Advice Bureau. We are also making contact with our NHS/CCG colleagues and other providers, such as representatives from small, medium and large-scale businesses, to ensure we have wide representation from across the borough to best understand and plan for the potential impact of Brexit on the local landscape. A work programme centred around an overarching risk register and individual workstreams headed by senior responsible officers has been agreed and these areas are being taken forward to identify risks and determine appropriate mitigating actions.

In addition, we are also coordinating with partner local authorities via London Councils and the London Resilience Network to ensure a consistent approach and that we are party to regional discussions as we prepare for Brexit in whatever form it may take.

Nonetheless, our planning is presently geared towards a 'No Deal Brexit', which has the widest potential ramifications, as per advice received and our assessment of the wider political environment. 'Preparing for the worst' scenario ensures that we will be in the best possible position should the UK crash out of the European Union without a deal.

In terms of supporting the local EU community, particularly the most vulnerable, a group of officers, along with Councillor Brett, met with representatives from the Bulgarian Community to discuss their concerns. Officers are currently working on some agreed outcomes from that meeting.

The Council also has a dedicated Brexit webpage on the Council website to signpost local residents to the latest Government advice and we are continuing to assess how best any additional community support could be made available to those affected in need of further help, advice and support. It is, of course, most important that we continue to reassure the local EU community during these uncertain times.

The Council has also been successful in bidding for funding from the Government's Controlling Migration Fund, which enables us to fund enhanced housing enforcement on rogue landlords. On top of £230k secured in 2016, and £460k secured for 2017-2019 we have now secured a further £233k for another 12 months. As a result of this work we are finding and enforcing a number of substandard and overcrowded private rented properties and unlicensed Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO)s; often occupied by vulnerable Eastern

European nationals.

Finally, I have asked that regular member update reports are provided that will highlight progress made and share key messages as we get closer to the deadline for leaving the European Union.

**Question 14 from Councillor Rawlings to Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council**

Last year Enfield council advertised an auction through Solar Together London so that residents could have solar panels. Can you let me know the following:

How many residents took part in the auction, how many decided to go ahead and have solar panels installed and, to date how many have actually had their panels installed?

**Reply from Councillor Caliskan**

The figures for Enfield are not currently available as the project is still in progress and runs until the end of March 2019.

The Solar Together London briefing session being held to review the project is scheduled for mid-April, when the project has finished, and the data will be available at that time.

**Question 15 from Councillor Greer to Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council**

You recently spoke to residents about how we can shape the future growth of the area. Please can you provide an update following this public meeting which took place in Edmonton Green on the 16 February 2019?

**Reply from Councillor Caliskan**

I called the meeting at Edmonton Green Towers Community Centre on February 16 to address concerns from residents about the quality of repairs and maintenance on the towers above Edmonton Green shopping centre which are owned and managed by London and Quadrant (L&Q) and Metropolitan Thames Valley (MTV) Housing Associations. The meeting was attended and chaired by the Edmonton Green Ward Councillors Councillor Ergin Erbil, Councillor Mahym Bedekova and Councillor Tolga Aramaz.

Discussions were also held about how to plan for future good growth in Enfield and how residents wanted to see Edmonton Green's and other town centres develop and evolve in the future. Officers from L&Q and MTV Housing Associations were on hand to answer specific queries from residents.

I told attendees that the Council was developing a Local Plan to meet future housing needs in the borough and was committed to working with developers and other housing providers in Enfield to ensure there were enough homes for

its growing population. I also pledged action on bringing existing, sub-standard properties up to standard.

I said it was important that everyone in the borough lived in a warm, dry property which met their needs and that repairs were carried out promptly, regardless of whether they were a Council, private or housing association tenant.

I informed the meeting where there are problems with the condition of a property, I want the Council to take the appropriate action to tackle those problems, or to make sure the landlord does as quickly as possible and I want the Council to work more closely with our housing associations to set serviced standards and collaborate – if these organisations want to build new homes in our borough, we want to be assured that they are of the highest quality.”

We are committed to improving the quality of life for our residents, central to those plans is raising the standard of our housing. We know we cannot do that alone and so we will be working tirelessly with our partners to identify and tackle the problems residents identify.”

Discussions also took place about how town centres should be improved. I outlined the work that was being done to create a new Town Centre Development Team and future work to develop Town Centre Action Plans to make the borough’s key shopping areas more attractive places to visit.

The local plan consultation closes on 28 February and can be accessed at <https://new.enfield.gov.uk/services/planning/planning-policy/local-plan/>

### **Question 16 from Councillor Smith to Councillor Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Housing**

Given the concern by council tenants about widespread delays with housing repairs, would Councillor Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Housing inform the Council of the percentage of the total number of current building contracts for the refurbishment of council stock that have been let to the current construction contractors.

### **Reply from Councillor Lemonides**

All major works are currently procured through our major works framework which delivers works such as Decent Homes, heating upgrades and environmental improvements. Works currently on site or due to start imminently broken down by contractor. The % represent the number of contracts but does not reflect the contract sums or properties positively impacted by the works:

Mallalley	1 project	16.6%
Engie	3 projects	50%
Lakehouse	1 project	16.6%
Durkan	1 project	16.6%

1 other package is currently out to tender on the framework, we have yet to appoint a contractor.

**Question 17 from Councillor Aksanoglu to Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council**

Please can the Leader provide us with an update on how the Council is working and in dialogue with traders across the borough?

**Reply from Councillor Caliskan**

Supporting and developing our town centres is a priority for the Council and we are setting up and resourcing a Town Centre Development Team to work with residents and businesses to develop Action Plans for each of the borough's key centres. The team sits with the new Director of Property & Economy and a Town Centre Development Manager has been appointed and will start this spring.

The following is some of the work we are doing to support our town centre businesses.

Supported by the Deputy Leader and Director of Property and Economy I chaired a very productive meeting earlier this month with a number of Enfield Town Traders, the Town Centre Manager and The Market Trust. A subsequent meeting with officers has identified a number of short-term opportunities to increase activity in the centre including the Google Digital bus which visited the Market square two weeks ago.

We have submitted a bid to the Liveable Neighbourhoods programme to secure funding for major improvements to the public realm to create a better environment for shoppers and improve footfall.

Regular meetings are being held with Deutsche Bank, owners of the two shopping centres in Enfield Town to bring forward exciting plans to bring a wider range of retail, leisure and employment uses as well as new homes to increase footfall. They are working with existing traders and wider consultation should commence in late spring.

The Director of Property and Economy has met with business and community groups in Palmers Green and this will lead to the establishment of a steering group to develop an action plan.

Earlier this month I addressed a residents meeting at Edmonton Green attended by the new shopping centre owner and their centre manager. Following this a further 4 consultation sessions within the centre to engage with shoppers and traders on areas for immediate investment or improvement have been held.

An officer group has been established to look at improvements in Edmonton Angel/Fore Street alongside proposed redevelopment of The Snells and Joyce Estates. A possible bid to the High Streets fund is being considered and engagement with traders being planned.

Similar engagement is planned for Southgate following recent walkabout with the Director of Property & Economy and Ward councillors.

**Question 18 from Councillor Vince to Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion**

Due to recent events in Enfield Town will Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion consider restoring the Community Help Scheme which provides safe havens for Young People who feel vulnerable?

**Reply from Councillor Keazor**

Apart from Barclays Bank, Enfield Town shop owners have been reluctant to sign up to the CHPS scheme having originally given assent on the introductory visits by the Police.

The CHPS scheme is continuing to run through the voluntary efforts of Enfield Children and Young People Service (ECYPS), which has meant a much-reduced service, however, recently the scheme has expanded in Southgate and Palmers Green, in partnership with local community groups which undertook liaison with businesses.

The council has in partnership with the police allocated additional police to support the school at peak times.

There are also youth workers providing outreach work in The Town to support our young people.

**Question 19 from Councillor Uddin to Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council**

Public Health Director, Duncan Selbie, recently visited Enfield. Please can the Leader provide us with an update following his visit?

**Reply from Councillor Caliskan**

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019 the Chief Executive of Public Health England, Duncan Selbie, and the Deputy Director for Health Protection, Deborah Turbitt, visited Enfield to better understand how the public health function and responsibilities have been integrated into the Council and how the Council as a whole is working to improve the health of Enfield residents.

Mr Selbie's visit started by cycling to the Civic, allowing Enfield to show off its Cycle Enfield programme and infrastructure, which is a very visible example of how we are promoting active travel and its contribution to reducing levels of

inactivity and obesity in the borough.

Members and officers then met with Mr Selbie and impressed upon him how public health is being integrated into all the work that the Council undertakes through the development and implementation of its Health in All Policies (HiAP) programme, which is an important part of our new Corporate Plan.

As Public Health England is the body responsible for the distribution and governance of the Local Authority Public Health Grant from the Department of Health & Social Care the opportunity was also taken to raise the issue of the comparative underfunding of the public health grant to Enfield and the proposed Local Government funding review which would be inequitable and disadvantageous to Enfield due to the exclusion of deprivation as a key predictor of need.

The visit concluded with Duncan meeting with the Public Health team and receiving a presentation on Meridian Water and its positive implications and opportunities for health improvement and the reducing health inequalities.

This visit to Enfield was highlighted in Duncan's weekly blog where he commented on the 'excellent leadership team for Enfield'.

**Question 20 from Councillor Vince to Councillor Achilleas Georgiou, Cabinet Member for Children's Services**

I have recently attended training on Foetal Alcohol Syndrome (FASD). The neurological effects can't be seen but there are a number of invisible characteristics such as attention and memory deficits, hyperactivity, confused social skills, poor impulse control plus many more. Without the appropriate support people with FASD have a high risk of developing secondary problems such as psychiatric problems, disrupted school experience, and alcohol and drug problems. Would the Councillor Georgiou, Cabinet Member for Children's Services commit to finding resources to raise awareness and train all professionals within Children's Social Care including Foster Carers, in recognising this syndrome and how to obtain a diagnosis so that those children suffering this condition are given the necessary support for their future wellbeing?

**Reply from Councillor Achilleas Georgiou**

The recent training day was organised and funded by the Council and delivered by the FASD UK Alliance. It was attended by all members of the Enfield Virtual School and the CAMHS team for looked after children. It was attended by over 100 people including foster carers, social workers, LAC nurses, school SENCOs and elected members. It has been agreed that the learning from the day will be extremely helpful for a wider audience and that further sessions will be delivered during 2019, using the information provided by FASD UK. The additional sessions will be delivered to foster carers and social workers by a Senior Clinical Psychologist and the Head Teacher of the Virtual School.

The sessions will also be open to school SENCOs. Delivering these sessions using our in-house expertise will allow the content to be focussed on the specific needs of looked after children in Enfield and looking at practical strategies for managing the impact of FASD.

**Question 21 from Councillor Demirel to Councillor Brett, Cabinet Member for Public Health**

Can the Cabinet Member for Public Health tell us how Enfield might be affected if the funding allocation for Public Health is changed by the Government?

**Reply from Councillor Brett**

In December 2017, the Government announced it's aim to increase business rates retention to 75% by devolving grants of equivalent value, including the Public Health grant. The Government is continuing to engage stakeholders on the implementation of this aim. This includes consideration of what more needs to be done to build a full range of assurance arrangements for delivering public health services and outcomes. The Government will take a final decision on these matters in 2019. We are awaiting this decision.

**Question 22 from Councillor Hockney to Councillor Dogan, Cabinet Member for Environment**

Would Councillor Dogan, Cabinet Member for Environment inform Council to date, how much spending has been used on consultants in the review of the bin collection service and going forward is there any additional spending budgeted in the next financial year.

**Reply from Councillor Dogan**

The amount spent on consultants in the review of the bin collection service since is £66,420 excluding VAT. This has been funded from the recycling invest to save fund. There is no additional spend budgeted in the next financial year.

**Question 23 from Councillor Brown to Councillor Anderson, Deputy Leader**

Can the Deputy Leader update the Council on its latest thinking on the proposed Southbury Road Cycle Enfield scheme?

**Reply from Councillor Anderson**

The original proposal was for a segregated cycle route along the full length of Southbury Road. However, in response to concerns raised by residents, to minimise disruption to bus services and to ensure better town centre connections, a new alignment is being considered that will connect into improvements planned for the A10/Lincoln Road junction. Consultation on the proposed new alignment is due to take place towards the end of 2019/20.

The alternative alignment will allow us to continue to build a network of safe cycling routes that connect our town centres, transport hubs and schools, so that people can make different, healthier transport choices for some of their shorter journeys through Enfield.

**Question 24 from Councillor Hockney to Councillor Maguire, Cabinet Member for Finance & Procurement**

The Divest Enfield Campaign reports that the Council has investments in fossil fuel companies through its pension fund. Would Councillor Maguire, Cabinet Member for Finance advise Council whether the authority is investigating divesting in these funds to alternative non-fossil fuel investments that could realise similar returns?

**Reply from Councillor Maguire**

I have spoken to the Chairman of the Council's Pension Policy & Investment Committee who has provided an update on behalf of the members of the Committee. The Fund has recently considered its approach to the issue of Environmental, Social and Governance issues as they impact upon the Enfield Pension fund.

The approach has been to follow the approach of the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF) in engagement and influence with companies. This is on issues including climate change but not restricted to climate change. For example, the LAPFF raised issues such as problems with company audits, poor employment standards, Board composition, remuneration and cyber security.

In November the LAPFF issued a climate change investment policy framework to help member funds approach the investment implications of climate change in line with the Taskforce on climate related financial disclosure recommendations.

However, it is recognised that there are differing views on the benefits of engagement versus divestment and that climate change is not only impacted upon by fossil fuel companies but also transport, utilities, finance, plastics and other sectors.

As a result, the Pension Policy & Investment Committee has agreed to review its Statement of Investment Principles which is the basis of how it considers investments. In doing this the intention is to consider all of the ESG matters and consult with the members of the pension fund. It will be an approach that marshals together best advice, financial consequences of choices and legal implications going forward.

The Fund takes this matter very seriously and in discharging its fiduciary and moral duty it wants to have a framework for consistent and evidence-based



decision making. Being custodians of a fund of over £1 billion created to ensure that there is a guarantee to pay the pensions of current, future and past staff, it is right and proper that there is full confidence in decision making.

I can reassure you that in 2019 the issue of ESG matters in the Pension fund's investment decisions will be a high priority. Within that climate change is a major component.

**Question 25 from Councillor Jewell to Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion**

Can the Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Cohesion confirm how the Council promotes positive alternative activities as a means of crime diversionary measures?

**Reply from Councillor Keazor**

Our Arts and Cultural services provide great opportunities for our community to engage in positive activities whether at one-off events or regular activities such as weekly dance, music, art or drama classes in our cultural venues.

Regular creative classes for our children and young people take place in venues throughout our borough including our own Millfield Arts Centre which is home to six performing arts schools attended by over 1000 children and young people every week. Members met one of those schools a few weeks ago when Platinum Performing Arts were invited to perform for us by the Mayor. We should be so proud that Platinum Performing Arts were voted the Best Dance School in the UK last year and that their pupils and graduates are now entering some of the best dance schools in the country and appearing in West End Shows, TV and film, providing positive images of our young people achieving success. I am delighted that Platinum have just received a grant from the Community Lottery Fund for a project that specifically encourages young people most at danger of falling into crime to instead take part in positive activities. This project will start in September this year and run for 5 years, and I look forward to updating members on the specifics of this project soon. What is particularly important is that this project is based in the East of the borough where it most needed and that Millfield Arts Centre continues to provide an oasis of safety and creativity for our community.

But of course, it is not only needed in the east of the borough and I am delighted that a new performing arts schools which is dedicated to inclusion has now taken root at The Dugdale Centre in Enfield Town. Both the Dugdale Centre in Enfield Town and Millfield Theatre in Edmonton provide the platforms for all of our performing arts schools and local amateur and community companies to perform and share their hard work and talent with their families, peers and the rest of the community. These positive shared experiences help us build civic pride and provide a valuable tool from promoting and encouraging the community to engage in positive activities.

**Question 26 from Councillor Alexandrou to Councillor Brett, Cabinet**

## **Member for Public Health**

According to the charity London Hearts, statistics show that where a defibrillator is used and effective CPR is performed within 5 minutes of a heart attack, the chance of survival increases from 6% to over 74%.

The charity London Hearts supply the defibrillators and provide free CPR and defibrillator training.

Would Enfield Council ensure that defibrillators are available at council buildings and other public places such as shopping centres, perhaps also in schools since there are young people with heart conditions?

## **Reply from Councillor Brett**

Thank you for raising an important issue. As alluded to by Councillor Alexandrou defibrillators can be very effective if they are used in the right circumstances. To this end the Council is part of the London Ambulance Service (LAS) accreditation scheme and has already deployed 14 defibrillators in its buildings with staff trained in their use and maintenance. It will be for other public bodies to approach London Hearts should they wish to deploy defibrillators on their premises.

I feel however it should be recognised that defibrillators are not cost-effective in terms of NHS funding. Evidence therefore is that defibrillators cost £800,000 per life saved compared to the NHS threshold of approximately £30,000. I would therefore argue that much more cost-effective use of Council resources would be to continue our current work of preventing heart attacks wherever possible through our work to reduce smoking, increase physical activity, improve diet and encourage sensible alcohol consumption.

## **Question 27 from Councillor Aydin to Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion**

Can the Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Cohesion confirm any additional resources for young people for the Easter holiday to keep young people safe?

## **Reply from Councillor Keazor**

There are activities at 6 youth centres:

### **Ponders End Youth Centre**

129 South St, Enfield EN3 4PX

### **Unity Hub @ Craig Park**

2 Lawrence Road, Baxter Road, Edmonton N18 2HN

### **Croyland Youth Centre**

1 Croyland Road, Edmonton, N9 7BA

**Allan Pullinger Centre**

1 John Bradshaw Road, Southgate N14 6BN

**Enfield Island Village Youth Centre**

Unit 52 Island Centre Way, EN3 6GS

**Bell Lane Youth Centre**

Bell Lane, Enfield EN3 5PA

Opening time and details of specific work will be available in advance of the holidays at the "Youth Enfield" webpages.

Outreach youth work will take place at Ponders End Park sponsored by the Community Safety Unit and delivered by Oasis.

As part of a series of community events we will be welcoming residents, especially young people, on Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> March (12.00noon at Community House) where we are hoping to announce the detail of additional boxing coaching and basketball sessions.

**Question 28 from Councillor Alexandrou to Councillor Anderson, Deputy Leader of the Council**

Will the Council confirm when the proposed pedestrian crossing near the Fords Grove junction will be implemented to facilitate crossing by pedestrians, wheelchair users, and buggy users?

Currently they have to navigate their journey, crossing in such a way that leaves them vulnerable regarding safety.

**Reply from Councillor Anderson**

Subject to final approvals, I can confirm that work to construct a new pedestrian refuge in Fords Grove is due to start in April 2019.

**Question 29 from Councillor Leaver to Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion**

Can the Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Cohesion confirm what action plan is in place to tackle the recent increase in youth crime in Enfield Town?

**Reply from Councillor Keazor**

As a first step the Youth Development Unit (YDU) deployed outreach Youth Workers into Enfield Town, for 2 sessions per week, on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019 and this increased to three sessions per week on the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019. The YDU are also exploring the potential of developing a partnership with the local organisations such as St Andrews Church to deliver open access youth support sessions in Enfield Town. This will augment the existing work with partners in the Youth Offending Unit, the Behaviour Support Team, the Police and

Community Safety Unit regarding improving the multi-agency approach to the problems in the town centre. Additionally, they have introduced earlier opening of the youth centres in Edmonton and Southgate, as is already the case with the Ponders End Centre, to divert young people from coming into the town centre.

The Youth Development Unit is also approaching Enfield Grammar, Enfield County and St Anne's schools to discuss the possibility of setting up a joint patrol rota (Teachers and Outreach Youth Workers) for Enfield Town between 3:30pm to 5 PM. Additionally, in regards to those young people aged 18 and under who are arrested and convicted of offences of violence in the town, the Youth Offending Unit is liaising with the Youth Court to try and ensure that in future these young people have exclusion elements to their orders that stop them coming into the town centre without a parent or carer. The Community Safety Unit are surveying identified areas of the town to assess the feasibility of further CCTV.

**Question 30 from Councillor Alexandrou to Councillor Anderson, Deputy Leader of the Council**

I understand that the cycle counters cost approximately £2,500. According to figures from Liz Rhodes, these cycle counters indicate that in Palmers Green, we have 10,000 + journeys per month. Would the Councillor Anderson, Deputy Leader of the Council confirm that these cycle counters are checked regularly for accuracy as residents believe these figures are highly inflated.

**Reply from Councillor Anderson**

I can confirm that independent surveys have been carried out that confirm the accuracy of the automatic counters.

**Question 31 from Councillor Needs to Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion**

How has the Council supported and promoted the LGBT Month?

**Reply from Councillor Keazor**

I thank the member for her kind enquiry regarding the Council's approach to ensuring LGBT month is celebrated and given due recognition this year. Despite these tough times meaning that financial resources were at premium we were able once again to ensure LGBT month was visibly supported by the local authority again this year.

You will have noticed that the 'Rainbow Flag' has been flown outside the Civic Centre throughout February and will do so until the end of the month. We have also attached posters for displayed in all Council noticeboards and our foyer in the Civic Centre has been decorated with materials to remind everyone that LGBT Month is on and we are fully supportive of it.

We have also created additional dedicated newsletters to be included in each edition of Staff Matters this month.

Importantly, our staff have used the opportunity presented to think imaginatively and positively about how we can raise awareness of LGBT issues and give support to people who may feel less engaged. Our LGBT lead officer, Caroline Baker in our excellent Corporate Consultation and Resident Engagement Team had an idea to create a discreet 'business card' for staff to let them know that if they face any issues pertaining to being LGBT that our own LGBT Staff Group as well as the Enfield LGBT+ Network sponsored through our Third Sector Development Team are on hand to offer advice and support should it be needed. I understand that already feedback has been very favourable, and this has been evidenced by an increase in membership of the LGBT Staff Group.

I would like to use this opportunity to thank Tim Fellows, who runs our Enfield LGBT+ Network who helps ensure that support is available to the wider local community year-round. Without dedicated community figures like Tim, I believe Enfield would be a poorer place and I am proud that despite the cuts we are still able to offer his organisation some support to provide vital services in the community.

As we reach the end of LGBT Month, it is reassuring to reflect that Enfield Council remains committed to supporting our LGBT community who give so much to community life and who I believe deserve all the love and respect we can give them in return.

### **Question 32 from Councillor De Silva to Councillor Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care**

Would Councillor Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care join me in welcoming the additional 3.2-million-pound Social Care Support Grant which the Conservative Government has given to Enfield to support services?

### **Reply from Councillor Cazimoglu**

The Conservative government has spent the last 9 years running down the NHS and Social Care, imposing the biggest funding gap squeeze in its history, with swinging cuts to public health services and social care slashed by £7billion since 2010.

In Enfield, our net budget has reduced by £30m since 2011 from £99m to 68.8m. Due to the rising cost of services every year, the real terms reduction is closer to £40million.

The grant Councillor De Silva is referring to is a one off grant for both Children and Adult Social Care with Adult Social Care receiving £2.3m of this.

The additional funding will contribute towards the costs of increased cost of services (£1.4m) and increased demographic pressures of around £1.7m

I do not share Councillor De Silva's enthusiasm and I do not welcome this attack on the most vulnerable in our society, especially when, according to Age UK over 50 thousand people have died waiting for social care and 1 million are living with unmet care needs.

**Question 33 from Councillor Pite to Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion**

What are the Council's plans to promote International Women's Day?

**Reply from Councillor Keazor**

I thank Councillor Pite for her question.

Enfield Council remains very committed to ensuring that International Women's Day is marked in a fashion that reflects and celebrates the remarkable and transformational role women have played and continue to play in our society. Indeed, Enfield Council's commitment to this agenda is demonstrated by our historic decision to appoint a female Leader of the Council in May 2018.

This year we will be reflecting on how women have and can successfully challenge stereotyping in the arts, sport and the workplace. The event entitled, 'Balance for Better: Women Challenging Stereotypes' will be held at the Dugdale Centre on Friday 8 March 2019. It will begin at 9.00am and is free and open to everyone. It will feature a variety of speakers and interactive sessions for local people to come to and listen and engage with.

Simultaneously, the Council will be hosting a regional event for public sector workers facilitated by our 'Women into Leadership in Enfield' programme team. This will consider the question of how our public services can be influenced to ensure greater opportunities for women to play a leading role in their respective fields of employment.

I look forward to sharing the outcomes from these exciting activities in due course. I am sure you will join me in thanking our dedicated staff who make events such as so memorable.

**Question 34 from Councillor Smith to Councillor Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Housing**

Would Councillor Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Housing inform the Council of the cost of setting up the Red Lion Housing Association in terms of fees to advisors plus any other payments and when he expects to wind up this body.

**Reply from Councillor Lemonides**

Red Lion Homes Limited has incurred set-up costs of £56k and an additional £134k of advisory fees. We are currently considering the future options for Red Lion Homes and any potential role it may have in the delivery of our evolving

Housing Strategy.

**Question 35 from Councillor Eren to Councillor Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Housing**

Can Councillor Lemonides confirm the outcome of the funding bid for more resources to tackle rough sleeping recently submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) under the Rapid Response Pathway Initiative?

**Reply from Councillor Lemonides**

On 7 February 2019, Enfield received confirmation from the MHCLG that we were successful in our bid for funding from the Rapid Rehousing Pathway initiative. Enfield has been chosen to become a Rapid Rehousing Pathway “early adopter” borough, and we have been awarded funding for a “Navigation Officer” to tackle rough sleeping in Enfield.

From April the Navigation Officer will offer specialist support to all rough sleepers in Enfield, working with them from first contact, through to settled accommodation and support. This officer will provide co-ordination support, working with, and building upon, existing relationships with a range of multidisciplinary teams, including London Street Rescue, Housing Options and Advice, Community Safety, Strategic Property Services, Floating Support Services, Mental Health Services and Drug and Alcohol Services. In addition, they will work with accommodation providers such as local registered providers, St Pauls Staging Post, private landlords and suppliers of local emergency beds.

Enfield recently submitted a further bid for funding from the Rough Sleeper Initiative fund. This bid includes a Rough Sleeper Coordinator and two dedicated outreach workers as well as further specialist accommodation to support rough sleepers. If successful, the navigation officer will work in conjunction with these additional resources to support people off the streets.

**Question 36 from Councillor Smith to Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council**

In light of the decision by Overview & Scrutiny on 12th February 2019 to confirm the decision to extinguish the Overage agreement with National Grid on the Willoughby Lane site, would Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council inform the Chamber who were the property and legal advisors who originally advised the Council to enter into this agreement, would she provide a copy of their advice and how much were they paid?

**Reply from Councillor Caliskan**

The Council’s advisors on the purchase of the National Grid sites were JLL and Glenny’s providing property advice and Nabarro’s providing legal advice. Hard

copies of all available advice will be made available to the member. The total cost paid for the advice is £180k. It should be noted that following the Overview and Scrutiny meeting the decision was taken to send back the original decision to the portfolio holder.

**Question 37 from Councillor Brown to Councillor Maguire, Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement**

Would the Cabinet Member for Finance & Procurement comment on the impact of the Government’s financial settlement for 2019/20?

**Reply from Councillor Maguire**

The Final Local Government Finance Settlement 2019/20 was announced on 29th January 2019. This outlined the Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA) and Core Spending Power (CSP) allocations for local authorities for 2019/20, which is the final year of the current Spending Review period and the last year of the four-year settlement for 2016/17 to 2019/20.

SFA is composed of the Government's estimate of locally retained business rates, the business rates top up, and revenue support grant. Enfield’s SFA for 2019/20 is £92.6m including compensation for under-indexing the business rates multiplier (s31 grant). This represents a reduction of £6.3m (6%) over 2018/19 figures.

Table 2 in paragraph 3.5 of the 2019/20 Budget Report shows how the funding for Enfield has reduced over recent years.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Settlement Funding Assessment*	130.5	115.4	104.3	98.7	92.6
Annual cash reduction on the previous year		-15.1	-11.1	-5.6	-6.3
Annual percentage reduction on the previous year		-12%	-10%	-5%	-6%
Cumulative cash reduction on 2015/16 settlement		-15.1	-26.2	-31.8	-38.1
Cumulative percentage reduction on the 2015/16 settlement		-12%	-20%	-24%	-29%
Source: Provisional Local Government Financial Settlement, December 2019, Core Spending Power					

**Question 38 from Councillor Dey to Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Cohesion**

Would Councillor Keazor, Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Cohesion report to Council what is being done to tackle the huge increase in break ins and car thefts in the N21 post code?



### **Reply from Councillor Keazor**

As you are aware the Council provides High Quality CCTV coverage to support police investigations.

There are 10 cameras monitored by the CCTV station in Grange Ward and 355 cameras across the borough.

All burglary is an upsetting and intrusive crime and Enfield has suffered an increase in burglary and vehicle crime.

The increase in Grange Ward is just under half of the borough rate of increase but we are conducting a survey of the area that has been raised with the community safety unit to see whether a further camera is feasible.

The MetTrace property marking scheme, run by the Metropolitan Police and supported by the Council, through the provision of signage has very recently been extended for a further year. The deterrent effects have proved successful where applied previously and we are making representation for areas where burglary has increased to be targeted by the police in the next phase.

Car thefts have reduced over time due to industry improvements in design and security, so high value vehicles which are stolen are often taken using the keys, sometimes as a result of a burglary. The MetTrace scheme can have an impact on this type of theft in addition to the burglary rate itself and we will continue to support local police to deliver this through provision of signage and communications campaigns.

### **Question 39 from Councillor Bond to Councillor Maguire, Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement**

Would the Cabinet Member for Finance & Procurement give an update on the Government's fair funding review?

### **Reply from Councillor Maguire**

The Government's Fair Funding Review is making progress, but it has been slow since the original commitment back in 2013/14 to undertake such a review and the call for evidence in 2016. A consultation was launched in December putting forward proposals for measuring the relative needs and resources of councils in order for Government to allocate funding. There is more work to be done and the Council will be lobbying for deprivation to be recognised in the base funding and for there to be a specific needs formula for homelessness. Also, Enfield is currently losing £12m of funding through the transitional arrangements locked in to the old system and will push where there are similar arrangements in the new system for these to be rolled out in a maximum of four years.

The outcome of the review won't be known until the autumn and this combined with no financial settlement beyond 2019/20 does mean there is a huge amount of uncertainty ahead. It does underline the need for a resilient, sustainable budget for 2019/20.

**Question 40 from Councillor Dey to Councillor Dogan, Cabinet Member for Environment**

Would Councillor Dogan, Cabinet Member for Environment inform Council on what action is being taken to stop fly tipping in Sarnesfield Road and could CCTV be installed to identify the culprits?

**Reply from Councillor Dogan**

We have received seven fly-tipping reports for Sarnesfield Road since July 2018, three of which were from 8 January 2019 onwards.

Although it is clear that fly-tipping has become a problem at this location, it is not amongst the top 25 locations with the highest volumes of fly-tipping across the borough, so we are currently unable to allocate a CCTV camera at this time.

In the first instance, it is important that we try to establish who is responsible for the fly-tipping by means of inspection of the rubbish. The street cleansing crew inspects the sacks of rubbish for evidence.

In relation to the fly-tip reported on 8 February 2019, the street cleansing crew fully inspected the sacks before they were removed, however no evidence of the perpetrator was obtained. However, evidence was found in a fly-tip on 15 February 2019 and a formal interview is being arranged with the suspected perpetrator with a view to issuing a fixed penalty notice or prosecution.

The crews continue to look through the waste and any evidence found will be passed onto the waste enforcement team to follow up with enforcement.