

Council Questions – Council 28 January 2021

Questions from Cabinet and Associate Cabinet Members

Question 1 from Councillor Dinah Barry to Councillor Gina Needs, Cabinet Member for Social Housing

At the last meeting (Nov 20 Q26) I asked a question about council tenants in unsuitable properties. The answer concentrated on adapting properties and the private rented sector.

However, I specifically mentioned one family who have been living in council-owned accommodation for some years that officers have agreed is unsuitable and dangerous for them.

It is not a matter of their home needing adaptation, nor should they be forced out of secure council housing into the private rented sector, because we cannot offer them a safe place to live until properties at Meridian Water finally become available.

Therefore, will Councillor Needs now please tell us what she is doing to ensure that families like the one I have mentioned will soon be offered safe accommodation.

Reply from Councillor Needs

The new allocations scheme was launched in December last year following approval by Cabinet. This prioritises households in unsuitable accommodation including council tenants. A high health and wellbeing assessment gives them 1000 points which is the highest level of priority on the housing register. In recognition of the urgency behind these applications, the Council will make a direct offer rather than expecting applicants to go through the bidding process.

Question 2 from Councillor Joanne Laban to Councillor Mahtab Uddin, Cabinet Member for Public Health

Would Councillor Uddin, Cabinet Member for Public Health, confirm that the mass testing centres are being funded by Government grant?

Reply from Councillor Uddin

General taxation in this country is received by the Treasury Department, which is then allocated to different government departments, including the MHCLG. The Local Government funding settlement(s) is ultimately determined by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Since 2010, savings and income generation of £193m have been made to offset reductions in grant funding and unfunded demographic ad cost pressures over this time. The situation is exemplified when we consider our current Public Health allocation from Government. Enfield receives less public health funding than

neighbouring boroughs.

The Council has been highly effective in setting up the Mass Testing Centres at pace. The local authority will receive £14 per test from the government in grant funding, however, the total costs are also supported by the Council through providing leadership, mass testing promotion campaigns, project management and Council building space in over several locations across the borough not covered by the £14 per test grant.

In the current financial year, Covid19 costs exceed the grant funding by £6m; the Council has received Covid-19 grants of £54m against expenditure of £60m in year as reported in the quarterly budget monitor to Cabinet.

In 2021/22 in terms of overall Covid related costs for the council, the government has provided support through grant notification to support cost pressures (including Council Tax Support), sales fees and charges losses up to June 2021. However, members should note that Enfield Council is estimated to receive from government only £18.6m or 62% of the estimated financial impact of Covid-19.

In a recent letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer from Leader of the Council, Enfield Council request further funding from central Government to help the local authority meet the financial impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. A copy of this letter will be attached to these papers. I understand that Cllr Laban was given the opportunity to co-sign this letter but declined. Letter attached as Appendix A

Question 3 from Councillor Claire Stewart to Councillor Caliskan, Leader of Enfield Council

The Government has recently renegotiated its affordable housing development settlement with the GLA. Can the Leader describe the impact on housing delivery in the borough?

Action: Joanne Drew (Director of Housing and Housing Regeneration)

At a time when we need to invest in economic recovery the settlement made by MHGLG to GLA is frankly disappointing. Against an ask of £4.9bn per annum for much needed additional affordable housing supply in London, the Government has allocated £4bn for 5 years.

This is going to have a serious impact on our supply in Enfield. With the discontinuation of funding of replacement homes, Section 106 and developer led housing schemes are set to produce less affordable housing.

Cabinet will be receiving a full report on our own direct delivery programme and how this is affected by the new settlement in February. I can say that this will reduce the number of homes we can deliver over our 10 year strategy period and it will make it much harder to deliver estate regeneration programmes as the Government has said that grant cannot be applied to schemes. This is especially

disappointing as it fails to recognize that some of our homes has reached the end of their lives and need to be replaced. The fact that the importance of a good home has not been recognized by Government in this funding round is of real concern.

I shall be lobbying on these matters and working to ensure that Enfield is recognized with the funding and support it needs to deliver the potential it has for growth meeting the needs of our residents.

Question 4 from Councillor Dinah Barry to Councillor Ian Barnes, Deputy Leader of the Council

In July, Councillor Barnes wrote to a resident who had enquired about calculations made in respect of traffic in the Fox Lane LTN area, to say that “*The analysis carried out for the proposed Fox Lane trial assessed through trips*” whereas “*the (earlier) interim report compares the single busiest hour over the surveyed week*”

Please explain how the peak hour interim data that includes both through traffic and non-through traffic, can show lower volumes of traffic than the later peak hour data that only includes through traffic.

Reply from Councillor Barnes

A range of data has been shared which provides information collected at various stages through the long history of community engagement for the Fox Lane Quieter Neighbourhood project. Data reported from an earlier Fox Lane trial refers to busiest single hour during the week but in the consultation, material used for the latest trial we used an area wide morning and evening peak hour, to compare against the Origin and Destination surveys. This explains why some of the 2019 Automatic Traffic Counters (ATC) survey values used in the earlier trial monitoring are slightly higher than the band widths shown in the latest consultation material.

There are two locations (Greenway and Meadway) which a resident has referred to, where the flows used in the consultation material appear higher than in the interim monitoring report. Both these roads had ATC surveys at more than one location (Meadway had 2 ATC survey points, Greenway had 3). In the earlier trial, the maximum average value across all the sites was used. In the Consultation material for the latest trial, because we were comparing the ATC surveys with the Origin and Destination data which was collected on the entry points to the area (e.g. for Meadway this was at the junction with High Street), we only used the values from the ATC site nearest the Origin and Destination survey site, rather than the average.

Question 5 from Councillor Joanne Laban to Councillor George Savva, Cabinet Member for Licensing and Regulatory Services

Would Councillor Savva, Cabinet Member for Licensing and Regulatory Services, confirm what date Enfield's COVID-Marshalls started patrolling the streets and

engaging with local businesses?

Reply from Councillor Savva

You will recall that we had first introduced these patrols during Wave 1 of the covid pandemic to patrol parks and offer advice to the public about social distancing etc.

The covid marshalls were re-introduced on 17 December 2020. The covid marshall patrols were re-introduced as one of the responses to Enfield (and London) being placed into Tier 4. The covid marshalls patrol high streets (and parks as needed) to disperse gatherings, offer advice to businesses and refer any non-compliance to the Environmental Health and Trading Standards Officers for follow up and enforcement. Between 17 December and 18 January, the covid marshalls have visited 4,643 businesses and dispersed 478 groups of people.

Our Environmental Health and Trading Standards officers have been engaging with and inspecting businesses throughout the whole pandemic and undertaking enforcement as needed.

Question 6 from Councillor Hass Yusuf to Councillor Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care

Can the Leader and the Cabinet Member please explain the current plans for rolling out the Covid Vaccine to Enfield Population, as well as the NCL area, and does she have any views about the prioritisation list?

Reply from Councillor Cazimoglu

Plans for the roll-out of the Covid vaccine are following the priorities as set out by the Joint Committee on Vaccines and Immunisations (JCVI). This week this extended to the fourth priority group for which coverage is expected to be completed by 15th February.

1. Residents in a care home for older adults and their carers
2. All those 80 years of age and over and frontline health and social care workers
3. All those 75 years of age and over
4. All those 70 years of age and over and clinically extremely vulnerable individuals
5. All those 65 years of age and over.
6. All individuals aged 16 years to 64 years with underlying health conditions which put them at higher risk of serious disease and mortality^[footnote 3]
7. All those 60 years of age and over
8. All those 55 years of age and over.
9. All those 50 years of age and over

Roll-out is currently through Primary Care; Carlton House, Palmers Green and Winchmore Hill, with pharmacies coming on board this week. It is anticipated that

the Dugdale Centre will be the mass vaccination site which is due to come online on 1st February with a capacity of 1000 vaccines a day. We expect approval for the Ark Royal at Lee Valley as a second site this week which will have capacity of 1,500 a day. It should be noted that as of yesterday some 13k first vaccines had been delivered in Enfield, the most in North Central London which is itself has the greatest roll-out in London. I would add that I am very happy to support the roll-out of the vaccine programme.

The JCVI is comprised of experts in medicine, infectious disease, healthcare and epidemiology. I am happy to accept their recommendations as to the prioritisation of the first four vaccine groups. I would remind councillors that in December I wrote to the Minister for Social Care asking for the vaccine programme to prioritise those with a learning disability and their carers. I am pleased to note that this is now happening. Going forward the administration believes that there is a strong case for consideration of prioritisation of front line services such as teachers and the Police.

Question 7 from Councillor Dino Lemonides to Councillor Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

Many members of the public who have extensive knowledge and experience of council finances, including previous senior members of staff, question the presentation of the financial figures for Whitewebbs i.e Business rates / overheads and capital charges / so called direct costs and therefore bring into question whether Whitewebbs golf course really does make a loss.

Please explain why these members of the public are wrong in their analysis?

Reply from Councillor Caliskan

Facts, rather than speculation and poor understanding of council finances (regardless or perceived knowledge and experience), indicates that cost of running Whitewebbs Golf Course is at a loss. Additional income raised through the letting of Whitewebbs will increase the overall net income to the Council.

Question 8 from Councillor Joanne Laban to Councillor Ian Barnes, Deputy Leader

Can Councillor Barnes, Deputy Leader, confirm whether or not the Council has offered students, who do not have computers at home, the use of the IT facilities in our Covid secure libraries so they can access online learning?

Reply from Councillor Barnes

The IT facilities in the flagship Libraries are open to all residents from Monday through to Saturday. We have also promoted the facility to headteachers, to direct students that they think may need this facility, at a meeting in early January. This provision has been particularly important given the government's help with

technology programmes has not met need.

Question 9 from Councillor Christine Hamilton to Councillor Caliskan, Leader of Enfield Council

Could the Leader describe the benefits of the new Lateral Flow Tests and how these are being deployed in the Borough?

Reply from Councillor Caliskan

The benefits of Lateral flow tests (LFTs) are that they give a result in 30 mins compared to up to 48 hours for the PCR tests which need to be sent for laboratory testing.

The Council has been incredibly effective in setting up the Mass Testing Centres at pace, delivering one of the highest number of Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) in the country. As of yesterday (19th Feb 2021) Enfield had done over 27k tests. This will allow us to identify where the virus is and advise and support individuals to self-isolate so as to break the chain of transmission.

Enfield Council has also set up a test site operating twice a week at Morson Road depot for our frontline refuse collection teams. In the coming weeks Enfield Council is working to also deliver additional LFT sites across the borough at a number of business sites who have large workforces.

Question 10 from Councillor Dinah Barry to Councillor Katherine Chibah Associate Cabinet Member for Enfield West

In March 2019 a statement about Broomfield House said that “further feasibility work (would) be undertaken into the viability of delivering a shell reconstruction of Broomfield House. This would be cost neutral to the Council with funding arising from the disposal of the redundant fire damaged stable block / yard which was formerly used for staff accommodation for repair and development and without reliance upon obtaining grant aid.”

How much has Broomfield House cost the Council in the financial years 2019-20 and 2020-21 and what is planned for its future?

Reply from Councillor Chibah

Broomfield House has cost the council £315,466 over the two years requested including staff time. The costs are spent on maintaining the hoarding in a safe manner, as well as feasibility design and heritage work to consider options to facilitate redevelopment options.

COVID pressures including property service supporting the NHS, staff capacity, and budget constraints mean that the feasibility options work to facilitate repair and

redevelopment were paused in the summer without a fixed proposal. Officers have informed me they have plans to resume options evaluation, including engagement with Historic England and local residents, in the late spring.

Question 11 from Councillor James Hockney to Councillor Nneka Keazor, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion

Bush Hill Park residents are very concerned about the level of burglaries, motor vehicle crime and the ever increasing speeding and dangerous driving in the community. At the same time there is very limited CCTV / speed enforcement coverage. What is the Council doing to ensure that CCTV camera and speed camera coverage in Bush Hill Park is increased as a matter of urgency?

Reply from Councillor Keazor

The Community Safety Team have installed 4 cameras at Bush Hill Park, all with pan/ tilt/ zoom capability located as below:

- 1714 - Bush Hill Rail/Dryden road, PTZ
- 1718 - Bush Hill Rail/Dryden Road Static
- 1715 - 1716, Bush Hill Rail/First Avenue PTZ
- 1428 - 1429, Bush Hill Road/Ridge Avenue PTZ

The team are also working with the police to distribute burglary prevention items such as timer switches and property marking kits, but this has been paused due to the current restrictions for prevention of spreading the Coronavirus. We have historically placed a domehawk camera for extra support, although these are subject to requests for shorter term issues. These requests are generally received via the police or the local CAPE meeting.

The Community Safety Team do not manage speed cameras.

Safety cameras in London are provided by Transport for London (TfL), working closely with the Police and the Boroughs. TfL had been working to develop a new methodology for identifying locations to be prioritised for new safety cameras, focussing on locations where a camera could have the greatest safety benefit, rather than solely targeting sites that have experienced historic casualty trends. However, the delivery of all new safety cameras in London has been put on hold due to TfL's current funding position.

As you know, the Council was instrumental in the introduction of average speed cameras on the northern section of the A10 and we will continue to work with TfL to ensure that a fair, evidence-led approach is taken to the deployment of future safety cameras.

Question 12 from Councillor Elif Erbil to Councillor Alev Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health & Social Care

The Government have published their Integrating Care Consultation. Could the Cabinet Member please provide a summary of the key points and what this might mean for NHS Services Locally?

Reply from Councillor Cazimoglu

NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSEI) has set out guiding principles for the future of integrated care systems (ICSs) in England and outlined two proposals for how ICSs could be embedded in legislation by April 2022, subject to parliamentary decision.

The document sets out the following purposes for integrated care:

- Improving population health and healthcare;
- Tackling unequal outcomes and access;
- Enhancing productivity and value for money; and
- Helping the NHS to support broader social and economic development

The document also sets out four key expectations for health and care systems working together as Integrated Care Systems:

- **Stronger partnerships** in local places between the NHS, local government and others with a more central role for primary care in providing joined-up care
- **Provider organisations** being asked to step forward in formal collaborative arrangements that allow them to operate at scale
- **Developing strategic commissioning** through systems with a focus on population health outcomes
- **The use of digital and data to drive system working**, connect health and care providers, improve outcomes and put the citizen at the heart of their own care.

Locally these changes could mean a significant amount of disruption caused by reorganisation of the NCL CCG/ICS at a time when NHS Services are already challenged.

The ICS proposals have the potential to focus on population health providing a much needed focus on tackling health inequalities but this will work best if local government is in a partnership of equals in the health, wellbeing and social care system.

It is currently unclear what the role of the Health and Wellbeing Board will be if proposals are taking forward and it is therefore important requirement on ICSs to involve health and wellbeing boards (HWBs) in the development of plans and to devolve the development of place or locality plans to HWBs.

The consultation is silent on the issue of private health care providers and the future

role envisioned for them. This is particularly important given the proposal to change the arrangements around the Public Contracts Regulations.

Removing the internal marketplace from within the NHS is welcome through removing them from the scope of the *Public Contracts Regulations 2015*. However, Local government will remain subject to the public contracts regulations, so this proposal creates a barrier to existing or new joint commissioning arrangements and risk Public Health and Social Care commissioning being inappropriately channelled through the NHS.

In addition, the ICSs cannot become another vehicle on the road to privatisation and fragmentation of the NHS, following the government's decision this week to include the NHS in International Trade Deals

The proposals have a clear commitment on the distribution of finances based on local need rather than historic allocations. This would if delivered address the underfunding our health care services have faced for decades in Enfield.

The arrangement for provider collaboratives needs to be understood more fully in the context of ensuring a continued focus on local need. Additionally, that provider collaborations protect local assets (land) for local populations.

The Leader of the Council wrote to the Secretary of State earlier this month to set out Council's view on the proposals and asked for assurances on a number of areas including in relation to the protection of local land and assets for the benefit of local communities. A copy of this letter is attached as Appendix B.

Question 13 from Councillor Derek Levy to Councillor Mustafa Cetinkaya, Associate Cabinet Member for Enfield South East

The Government rejected an application to build an incinerator in a leafy part of Cambridgeshire last summer, but NLWA (North London Waste) are planning to build one in Edmonton. As well as contributing to Enfield's carbon emissions wherever the rubbish it burns comes from, residents fear it will cause noise, dirt and pollution Edmonton.

Please list the meetings you have attended at which this incinerator was discussed and tell us what you have done to support the people of Edmonton.

Reply from Councillor Cetinkaya

The current energy from waste plant at Edmonton EcoPark does not have the capacity to dispose of all of North London's residual waste, meaning that tens of thousands of tonnes are transported away from the area for disposal. In addition, the current facility, the oldest in operation in Europe, requires more frequent reductions in capacity for maintenance than would be the case with the new modern facility. Without the capacity of this new facility, we would have to send waste to third party Energy from Waste (EfW)s and landfill sites.

The proposals for a new facility are not new and have been developed over a number of years. Public documents and reports, both from Enfield Council and NLWA, detail the progress to date and further details of the project. As such, this has been an agenda item for discussion at many public meetings over the years.

I was appointed ACM for the Edmonton area in May 2019 and have consistently put the North London Waste plans on the agenda for the Area Ward Forums, including on the 25th September 2019 when project managers David Gullen and Ursula Taylor were invited to present and answer questions from residents. Members will note that the Covid crisis has restricted the number of Council and community meetings in 2020. However, I have consistently kept up to date with developments at the NLWA and ensured any Edmonton resident that contacts me with enquiries is appropriately responded to.

Question 14 from Councillor Lindsay Rawlings to Councillor Guney Dogan, Cabinet Member for Environment

Due to lockdown restrictions Friends of Parks have not been able to do as much work as they would like. As a lot of work can be undertaken during the coming months, what additional help will the Council be giving to Friends groups who already do a considerable amount of work keeping our parks and open spaces looking so beautiful?’

Reply from Councillor Dogan

A percentage of our volunteers from the friend’s groups have continued to visit and volunteer within the parks, although they are only able to do so if they follow the current government guidance and are Covid safety compliant. Parks operations officers have continued their meetings with groups where compliance can be maintained and in limited numbers on site, or through virtual media platforms, agreed programmed works and improvements.

I have been informed that parks operational teams will continue to undertake maintenance throughout the lockdown period and when restrictions and guidelines permit, we will return to our ‘big dig’ initiatives, where both friends groups and parks teams work collaboratively. The ‘big dig’ initiative has been a successful model for supporting the parks and friends’ groups and it develops a positive relationship between the volunteers and the parks team.

Question 15 from Councillor Susan Erbil to Councillor Mahtab Uddin, Cabinet Member for Public Health

Can Councillor Uddin update members on the Current Covid-19 infection rates in Enfield, particularly in our more vulnerable groups and over-60s. Please also advise on what measures are being taken to prevent spread in these groups and in the wider community.

Reply from Councillor Uddin

As of 16th January 2021, the borough's infection rate was 708 per 100k. This compares to 732 per 100k on 15th Jan. In those aged 60+ the infection rate was 701 per 100k.

Measures to prevent infection transmission include adherence and enforcement of the national lockdown, the roll-out of the Lateral Flow testing programme, the roll-out of the vaccine programme, contact tracing by Council Officers, education and enforcement actions by Council officers and the Police and a comprehensive communication programme by our comms team through all media.

Question 16 from Councillor Derek Levy to Councillor Mustafa Cetinkaya, Associate Cabinet Member (ACM) for Enfield South East

It is now almost three years since the previous local elections. So when can we expect the ACM for South East Enfield (Edmonton) to make his maiden speech to Full Council, demonstrate pro-active involvement and representation, and venture a comment on matters such as the largest regeneration project this Borough has ever seen, or any other key issues which fall within his direct geographical area of responsibility?

Reply from Councillor Cetinkaya

I was appointed ACM for the Edmonton area in May 2019 and have lived in the borough for much longer. I may not have been born or grown up in this country, but Enfield is now home to me and my family. I am an active community member, with longstanding relationship with residents and local businesses in the Edmonton area, not least the ward where I have been elected to represent.

As a member of the Labour Group I am proud to support the commitment and agenda of the administration in delivering improvement for the Edmonton area, including the Meridian Water project and plans to reinvigorate the Fore Street area. The details of projects are set out in public reports which are shaped by the political agenda set by Labour Group. These reports have been discussed at informal and formal Cabinet meetings that I attend as well as presented to Full Council to be voted on. Proposals to deliver more affordable housing, better employment prospects and support to the lowest paid are all things the majority of Edmonton residents want to see delivered and that I support.

Question 17 from Councillor Lindsay Rawlings to Councillor Guney Dogan, Cabinet Member for Environment

At a recent online workshop for the Enfield Town station frontage mention was made of the proposed Enfield Town to Broxbourne cycle route. To my knowledge this is still in planning stage and has not gone out to any final consultation with

residents. Would Councillor Dogan, Cabinet Member for Environment confirm that this is the case and that further consultation will be undertaken before any roads closures etc along the proposed route are undertaken?’

Reply from Councillor Dogan

I can confirm that this cycle route is still in the planning stage and that further consultation will occur if this project progresses. This project is been taken forward in partnership with Thames Water and Highways England. Highways England, the potential funder of the project, have confirmed that this scheme will be considered further for funding in the funding year 2022/23. Any proposals for a closure at St Andrews Road are part of the wider Enfield Town plans and are been consulted on as part of that project. I am pleased with the progress of the Enfield Town public realm improvements; significant engagement has already taken place, but there will be more consultation for the Enfield Town project, currently anticipated towards the end of 2021.

Question 18 from Councillor Sinan Boztas to Councillor Gina Needs, Cabinet Member for Social Housing

What is the Council doing in response to the Social Housing White Paper which has recently been published?

Reply from Councillor Needs

I am pleased to see the publication of the long-awaited Social Housing White Paper on 17 November 2020. It forms part of Government's response to the Grenfell Tower tragedy. It comes 2 years after the publication of the Social Housing Green Paper in August 2018.

The White Paper maps out the future for social housing regulation and is predominantly focussed on residents' safety, consumer protection and redress.

The White Paper sets out its new Charter for Residents of Social Housing through seven headline promises:

1. To be safe in your home - we will work with industry and landlords to ensure every home is safe and secure.
2. To know how your landlord is performing - including on repairs, complaints and safety, and how it spends its money, so you can hold it to account.
3. To have your complaints dealt with promptly and fairly - with access to a strong Ombudsman who will give you swift and fair redress when needed.
4. To be treated with respect - backed by a strong consumer regulator and improved consumer standards for tenants.
5. To have your voice heard by your landlord - for example through regular meetings, scrutiny panels or being on its Board. The Government will provide help, if you want it, to give you the tools to ensure your landlord listens.
6. To have a good quality home and neighbourhood to live in - with your

landlord keeping your home in good repair.

7. To be supported to take your first step to ownership - so it is a ladder to other opportunities, should your circumstances allow.

The Council has already taken steps to prepare for the future. Cabinet will be considering a number of important reports that will provide the foundation in February – the Better Council Homes report considers the strategy for Council housing including investment in existing stock and services, the update on fire safety in Council Housing demonstrates the progress being made in this area and the review of the Housing Ombudsman complaints code.

I have also instigated a review of resident engagement methods to ensure we are continuing to listen and put residents at the heart of the service.

We are developing a more detailed response which I will bring forward to Cabinet this year. This will include addressing areas such as the following:

- Tenant satisfaction measures - to be designed by the Regulator for Social Housing (The Regulator) with consultation from the sector. Outline measures are included in the White Paper itself the onus will be on local government to shape these based on best practice. Officers are heavily engaged in creating the measures internally and will be rolling out enhanced satisfaction surveys following transitional dealings with residents, for example, satisfaction with the handling of anti-social behaviour
- Revised Consumer Standards and an accompanying Code or Practice – to be developed by the Regulator and applied to all social landlords. The serious detriment test will also be removed allowing early and proactive intervention by the Regulator. The Council will work with peers and the ministry to influence the work.
- Decent homes standard (DHS) –Proposals are to include community and green spaces as well as energy efficiency standards. There will be technical consultation as to what is to be included in that.
- Inspections - landlords with more than 1,000 homes will be inspected every four years, and the Regulator will carry out inspections at more frequent intervals where a routine inspection finds a breach or significant risk of a breach of its consumer standards.
- Stigma of social housing – this was one of the key points from the listening exercise conducted for the social housing green paper in 2018.

We have already reported to the Housing Scrutiny Panel on the content of the White paper.

Question 19 from Councillor Dino Lemonides to Councillor Guney Dogan Cabinet member for the Environment

£50,000 was set aside for the consultation on the Events Strategy and the resulting document, the Parks and Open Spaces - Outdoor Events Policy claims to provide clear advice to organisers and residents.

However much of that document is devoted to declaring aspirations with which no one can disagree and with the exception of the size of events, it contains few quantifiable specifics.

Therefore please explain in precise, quantifiable terms what is meant by: “unacceptable impact” (p.15) and “long period of time” (p.15), and explain why post event consultation to gain feedback on the event and to identify any event related problems is not a requirement and why Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) have not yet been developed so that progress could be measured and further improvements made where required in the next events season.

Reply from Councillor Dogan

An unacceptable impact in respect of infrastructure and biodiversity refers to irreparable damage. Officers assess the potential risk and impact of a possible event, determining whether or not the event organiser has suitable resources and methods to deliver their project without unacceptable impact and damage, mitigation and actions. If it is determined that they do not, the application will be denied.

A ‘long period of time’ refers to when a proposed event has an extended ‘live’ period in comparison to others of similar description within our events schedule. Officers actively benchmark any proposed event against our existing programme.

The policy applies to all outdoor events taking place in the Council’s parks and open spaces. For small activities, post event consultation would not be a proportionate approach to their continued development. The Council reserves the right to make it a requirement for certain events and as the policy denotes, large and major event organisers are required to attend ‘debrief’ meetings with the SAG (Safety Advisor Group) and stakeholders, supporting the continual improvements on our event schedule.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created considerable impact on the borough’s programme of events during 2020. The Council is currently reviewing appropriate KPIs and will expect to have these in place, post-COVID.

Question 20 from Councillor James Hockney to Councillor Ian Barnes, Deputy Leader

I have been advised by officers that there are no pollution monitors in Bush Hill Park Ward. What actions is the Council taking to ensure pollution monitors are installed across the Ward?

Reply from Councillor Barnes

The Council has both real time monitoring stations (for nitrogen dioxide and particulates) and diffusion tube sites (nitrogen dioxide) across the borough; all sites

are strategically located to provide air pollution concentrations at both road side and background locations. A mixture of both types of site is important to evidence not only where the highest concentrations are, such as the monitoring station at Bowes Primary School, but also to tell us what the background concentrations are away from major roads. The data is used to feed into any dispersion modelling officers undertake for air quality, as the data is used to calibrate any model to ensure accuracy. Modelling can predict pollution concentrations across the whole borough.

Not all wards in the borough have monitoring points as this is not necessary to provide adequate cover of the borough. Although Bush Hill Park ward does not have any monitoring points, there is a real-time monitoring station at John Jackson Library, which is just outside Bush Hill Park ward and is one of the oldest sites in the London Air Quality Network, established in 1996.

Officers are currently reviewing the diffusion tube locations and it is possible that a tube could be moved into the ward, if strategically appropriate to do so.

Question 21 from Councillor Kate Anolue to Councillor Gina Needs, Cabinet Member for Social Housing

What progress has been made on the rehousing of rough sleepers?

Reply from Councillor Needs

Enfield's Rough Sleeping Service have housed and supported 276 verified rough sleepers found bedded down by Outreach Workers in Enfield since the first Covid-19 lockdown was announced on 23rd March 2020. As of 20 January 2020, 159 rough sleepers have moved on from their emergency accommodation. 102 of these were supported by us into longer term accommodation. Officers have successfully bid for government funding to in order to secure this accommodation and support, including our 21 unit "One Housing Supported Housing Scheme", our 20 unit "Housing First" high support scheme, and deposits for private rented accommodation. In addition, the Council has commissioned employment support and secured funding for workers to support rough sleepers who remain in emergency accommodation and to help move them on.

Officers have worked closely with the North London Sub Region to open a joint hub for rough sleepers in Finchley, a cold weather hub for rough sleepers with high support needs and have expanded the Central Eastern European Housing Advice Service to support street homeless EEA nationals. The next steps are to work with the North London Housing Partnership to launch our Immigration Advice Scheme for rough sleepers who have no recourse to public funds. I am pleased to report that officers have secured our first Housing Gateway property to house rough sleepers into long term accommodation through the Rough Sleepers Accommodation Programme. Through this programme we have secured funding to purchase 73 long term Housing Gateway properties, together with support, by April 2021. The Councils' remodelled "Somewhere Safe to Stay Hub" will open on Monday 25th January 2020. The hub will provide rapid access, assessment of need,

intensive 24hour support, and help to secure longer term accommodation.

In addition to the above, as part of our response to the Covid Pandemic, Enfield has housed 124 single homeless people who were at imminent risk of rough sleeping. To date, Enfield have helped secure longer-term accommodation for 26 of them.

During the current lockdown, officers will continue to house and support rough sleepers found bedded down in Enfield. The Council will prioritise those who are clinically vulnerable, as well as those with a history of rough sleeping, protecting them against COVID-19 in a safe environment.

Question 22 from Councillor Derek Levy to Councillor Ahmet Hasan, Associate Cabinet Member (ACM) for Enfield North

In what will soon be three years since the ACM started to receive a responsibility allowance in respect of the cross-constituency role conferred upon him, I have yet to detect the slightest evidence of any initiative he has taken or meetings he has presided over on issues of relevance to me and my fellow locally elected Councillors, and the my fellow residents of Chase, which include such major developments such as Whitewebbs Park, the woodland and replanting project on land adjacent to The Ridgeway, even the well received School Street project on Lavender Road - or taking the lead to address the long-standing total lack of GP practices in Chase Ward and the related north-south public transport disconnect.

In what way can Councillor Hasan demonstrate that such evidence actually does exist by sharing with Council the extent of his leadership and representative role to date, how his responsibilities have been fully discharged, and the outcomes he has secured from his involvement in the examples I have cited and other spatial issues, because the liaison and communication with Chase Ward Councillors, and by extension our their constituents, myself included, has been totally non-existent?

Reply from Councillor Hasan

I provide feedback to Cabinet Members on emerging plans from the administration, including on the projects cited in your question. I am pleased to have been elected by fellow Labour councillor colleagues to the role of ACM and I continue to be committed to utilise my 20 plus years' experience as a local councillor for the London Borough of Enfield.

Question 23 from Councillor Maria Alexandrou to Councillor Ian Barnes, Deputy Leader

Would Councillor Barnes inform Council how many electric charge points will be installed this year and explain why Enfield has only planned to introduce 250 electric charge points over 5 years when Islington is implementing 400 in half the time and Wandsworth has brought in 500 with another 300 planned?

Reply from Councillor Barnes

In line with the Council's Climate Action Plan target, at least 50 additional electric vehicle charging points are scheduled for installation in 2020/21.

The Climate Action Plan target is a starting point and the Council will take a pragmatic approach, with the potential for additional provision where resources allow and where there is evidence of demand.

This means we can take into account changes to national policies, such as Government proposals in respect of vehicle licensing from 2030, and the electric vehicle market, which is rapidly evolving with larger batteries and faster charging rates requiring different infrastructure. We are clear that we want to avoid building in obsolescence, which could leave us with stranded assets that have been paid for using public money.

Alongside public investment, we are also looking at how the private sector can play a growing role, for example by delivering high capacity charging hubs.

Whilst the Council will support the switch to lower carbon emission vehicles, it must be acknowledged that, as set out in the Mayor's Transport Strategy, the only way that London can grow sustainably is to reduce the number of trips made by private vehicles.

To do this, Enfield has been leading the way in encouraging people to use active and sustainable transport, with investment in high quality walking and cycling routes as well as the introduction of school streets, now protecting pupils, parents and staff at around 10% of our schools, and Low Traffic Neighbourhoods. This is alongside working with Transport for London to secure a new bus route (the 456 which is due to launch in March) and also secure contributions towards active and sustainable transport from new developments.

As for what is planned in other London boroughs, their programmes, like ours, will reflect different local circumstances such as the impact of the extension of the Ultra-Low Emission Zone in October this year (Islington and Wandsworth are entirely covered by this whereas Enfield only has three wards that are affected), the availability of off-street parking (far more prevalent in outer London) and things like the location of lamp columns (the majority of which in Enfield have been moved to the rear of footways under our PFI contract; this makes it harder to introduce cost effective lamp column chargers).

Question 24 from Councillor Katherine Chibah to Councillor Nneka Keazor, Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Cohesion

Could the Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Cohesion describe what action the Council and its partners are taking to reduce crime in our parks?

Reply from Councillor Keazor

The Community Safety Unit have installed public safety cameras in Pymmes Park in July 2020 and since then, a reduction in crime inside the park has been recorded. 8 cameras were initially installed using funding from the GLA (Violence Reduction Unit) and augmented with a further two cameras using council funding.

Analysis shows that 56% fewer crimes took place between July and November 2020, as compared to the previous 5 months, with a minimal displacement to the surrounding area.

We will continue to measure the impact through the violence reduction group.

A further Council funded scheme for Jubilee Park is now underway and columns, radio links, licences and cameras have all been ordered.

Additionally, site visits and quotes have been obtained for Broomfield Park.

Both will form part of a programme of situational crime prevention by the Council, to significantly support the police in tackling crime in open spaces and encourage positive use of parks, which is so important and of increasing value to the wellbeing of residents in the current context.

Question 25 from Councillor Daniel Anderson to Councillor Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

Councillor Caliskan praised the recent Drive-In Cinema programme at Meridian Water, which sees hundreds of cars turn up on site to watch a film, stating that she was 'pleased Enfield Council has supported this initiative' whilst at the same time, her own Deputy Leader, Councillor Barnes, is intent on imposing so-called 'Low Traffic Neighbourhoods' arguing that 'people will have to get out of their cars if the UK is to meet its climate change targets so we want residents to leave their vehicles at home and start using public transport'.

Will the Leader of the Council please explain which of them is correct and why?

Reply from Councillor Caliskan

The Drive in Cinema ran for a few months creating local employment, contracts for local business, and light relief from the stress and adverse impact on mental health caused by the pandemic. Not only has it been the most popular cinema in the UK during 2020, it has also hosted religious ceremonies, comedy and shows for children. Over 2000 tickets have been given away for free to NHS and care workers in recognition of the incredible act of public service they have carried out during the pandemic. Members will also note that this cultural experience for our residents was in cars was at a time when no other form of cultural entertainment was safe during a pandemic.

Enfield Council' is commitment to improving air quality by encouraging residents to not use their cars for short journeys. Various traffic schemes, including Low Traffic

Neighbourhoods and School Streets seeks to see more people walking and cycle for shorter journeys and reduce the number of vehicles in our residential areas.

Question 26 from Councillor Maria Alexandrou to Councillor Ian Barnes, Deputy Leader

Does the Council have any plans to introduce e-bikes or bike hire schemes as an alternative travel option?

Reply from Councillor Barnes

The Council believe that that a bicycle hire scheme could form an important part of a wider set of measures to enable an increase in active travel across the borough. Enabling more walking and cycling and reducing the volume of private car journeys is necessary to help contribute towards improving the health and wellbeing of our residents and achieve the targets set in the Climate Action Plan. These are ideas and proposals we continue to actively explore.

Question 27 from Councillor Birsen Demirel to Councillor Nneka Keazor, Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Cohesion

Could the Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Cohesion confirm how the Council will be celebrating Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 Jan 2021?

Reply from Councillor Keazor

Enfield Council will host and broadcast a special event this year to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD). The planning of this year's HMD event and involvement of many colleagues, particularly participation from our schools, has been disrupted by ongoing lockdown restrictions. However, Enfield's Head of Corporate Strategy, Shaun Rogan and Events Officer, Caroline Baker, have pulled together a pre-recorded online event which is based on the 2021 HMD theme 'Be the Light in the Darkness'. The event is scheduled to be streamed via the Council's You Tube channel on Wednesday 27th January 2021, from 7pm to 8.30pm; it will continue to be publicly available into February allowing more people to reflect on the real meaning of the Holocaust.

The programme for the event will include spoken contributions from faith leaders and elected members, leading on to a screening of a short film, 'Be The Light', which has been sensitively produced by a small local business film company, who have been extremely accommodating in meeting all of our needs for the production from researching and including archive materials to planning and scheduling the needs of each contributor to production of a final trailer and 30 minute film. We have also received invaluable assistance from local Synagogues and the Jewish Museum.

Initial invitations were distributed on Monday 18th January to 150 HMD contacts

from previous years, 100 Faith Forum members and around 500 Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations. Details will also be included in Staff Matters and the Members Newsletter (both planned to be distributed on Friday 22nd January). The Council's social media accounts and local media will also feature a press release to ensure we raise maximum awareness. The link to join the event included in all communications: <https://www.enfieldfestivals.co.uk/whats-on/hmd2021be-the-light/>

The restrictions of lockdown have prevented so many events from taking place however we hope to continue our online streaming of future events to allow them to become all inclusive: enabling those to feel part of the commemoration or celebration who wouldn't usually be able.

Additionally, with the invaluable help and advice from SACRE and RE Today colleagues, an informative and educational schools pack was compiled and sent to all secondary schools last week, commencing 11th January 2021. Pack content includes subject knowledge for teachers about the Holocaust and other genocides, information on how to approach teaching about the Holocaust and links to lesson plans and ideas. Enfield SACRE encourages schools to deliver at least 3 lessons to Year 10 students throughout the month of January, allowing additional activities to be used with students; schools may choose to use 1 or more of these in tutor time. This is a positive piece of work which will continue to be a valuable resource for our schools. The link for access to the full pack is here: <https://traded.enfield.gov.uk/news/2021/jan/holocaust-memorial-day-pack-for-secondary-schools>.

Question 28 from Councillor Daniel Anderson to Councillor Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

Does the Leader of the Council agree with me that members have a right to abstain on any issue in Full Council without fear of recriminations for abstaining on a matter of conscience and if not, can she explain why?

Reply from Councillor Caliskan

Councillors must always vote using their own free will and those of us who have voluntarily joined a democratic political party, and were elected as representing that political party, also choose to stick to the basic democratic principle of collective responsibility.

The Labour Party's aim is to govern and to uphold democracy, including a fundamental convention of the UK Constitution - collective responsibility.

Therefore, we believe it is important that we show, wherever we are in power, that we can be trusted to uphold this fundamental convention of our democracy.

As is important for our democracy, political parties are free to organise and agree their own rules.

Question 29 from Councillor Chris Dey to Councillor Alev Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care

Would Councillor Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care confirm what percentage of our care home residents and staff have been vaccinated against Covid-19 (Figures as close as possible to the meeting date please.) and are we on track for all residents and staff to be vaccinated by the 15th February? Within that figure does she know what percent of residents and staff have indicated that they will decline the vaccine invitation and explain the significance of this number?

Reply from Councillor Cazimoglu

The vaccination programme is NHS led with Council support. Enfield Council is however continuing to monitor all of our providers both to support with making arrangements for vaccine visits and to track the uptake of the vaccination for both residents and staff. Although initially progress was slower than we would have liked due to limited supplies of the Pfizer vaccine and the very particular arrangements required to store and transport, the Oxford vaccine is also now available and is much easier to deploy, particularly across our care homes.

I can confirm that the latest information we have indicates that at least 30% have received the first dose of the vaccine. For staff this figure is likely to be higher as for them, the vaccine was and continues to be available through multiple routes, for example the GP hubs or the hospital sites. We have limited information with regards to the number of residents and staff declining the vaccine. The numbers here can be affected by absence or by the fact that at the time of visiting the care home, residents may have been Covid positive, which means of course that the vaccine cannot be administered. Where staff or residents have declined or expressed concerns about having the vaccine, we are of course providing information, advice and guidance to address any concerns that people may have. I am sure that we would also all agree that we, as community leaders, have a role to play in supporting the vaccine programme to ensure that as many people as possible take up the offer. However, have said that, the current programme is anticipating that all care homes will have been covered by the end of January for the first dose of the vaccine.

I am sure Councillor Dey and colleagues will join me in offering our heartfelt thanks to all the health and social care staff whose hard work has made this positive progress possible.

Question 30 from Councillor Christine Hamilton Councillor Nneka Keazor, Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Cohesion

Could the Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Cohesion describe how Community groups are being supported to access local policing support and feedback?

Reply from Councillor Keazor

A Youth Independent Advisory Group has been formed through which a 4-6 week meeting cycle is facilitated, listening to young people from Enfield and the wider BCU.

The group includes some police cadets, college students, young people from Enfield Youth Offending service, young people engaged with the care system, the Enfield Young Mayor and Deputy Young Mayor.

Guest speakers are invited, and discussion focussed on the perception and experience of young people of crime and policing in Enfield and Haringey Boroughs.

Topics have included, stop and search, Black Lives Matter, policing of Covid and recruitment into the police service. The next meeting will include input from guest speakers from the IOPC (Independent Office for Police Conduct).

There are currently 134 Enfield young people involved in the police cadet scheme (13-18 years).

The Cabinet member for Community Safety is additionally supporting the police in identifying other black community members who are may not be currently linked in with established or organised groups, to join discussions with the BCU commander and her Leadership Team.

The BCU Commander has recently been sharing a regular newsletter with partners about activities across the BCU and she and other senior officers embarked on the first of a series of all Councillor briefing sessions.

Question 31 from Councillor Daniel Anderson to Councillor Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

The starting salary for police constables is between £20,880 and £24,177, whilst a newly qualified NHS nurse earns £24,907, and a newly qualified teacher earns £25,714. Can the Leader of the Council therefore explain to a starting police constable, a newly qualified NHS nurse and a newly qualified teacher how she can justify Enfield Council appointing a cabinet support officer on a salary of between £33,945 and £36,711?

Reply from Councillor Caliskan

Cllr Anderson's fixation on the status of employment, and the salaries of women in roles at the council is disturbing.

Please note that the Cabinet Support officer role reports to officers of the Council and not to politicians. Indeed, the recruitment and appointment of the role was made by the Head of Corporate Strategy.

All posts at local authorities are evaluated through set and established criteria to ensure that a degree of consistency is achieved and can award salaries aligned with the roles required.

As for the salaries for other public sector workers – I don't believe there should be a race to the bottom. I don't set the salaries for heroes in the NHS, the Police and other vital front-line, but if I did, they would be paid more. Sadly, the Conservative Government has consistently failed to recognise the value of our public sector workforce. As Labour Party and Trade Union member I am proud to support campaigns for the public sector workers to receive the pay rise they deserve.

Question 32 from Councillor Edward Smith to Councillor Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

Will Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council, state what impact the recently announced reduction in the Council's affordable homes programme from 3,804 to 3,561 to be developed over 15 years (formerly 10 years) will have on the Council's forecast peak borrowing requirement over the next 10 years?

Reply from Councillor Caliskan

Cabinet has agreed a financial framework to judge the affordability of debt carried in the HRA (Housing Revenue Account) and it is important to note that all borrowing is for income generating schemes (new homes) which pay back the debt over the life of the Business Plan. This borrowing has been incorporated into the Council's capital programme and treasury management strategy. As in previous years, the overall impact of the affordable housing programme on the Council's borrowing will be set out transparently in the finalised HRA business plan to Cabinet on 4th February 2021 and subsequently in the Ten Year Treasury Strategy to Council on 2 March 2021.

Question 33 from Councillor Ergin Erbil to Councillor Ian Barnes, Deputy Leader

Could the Deputy Leader outline how the progression of low traffic neighbourhoods in Enfield might help improve road safety across the borough in the same way that report recently published by Professor Rachel Aldred, Professor of Transport at the University of Westminster, details?

Reply from Councillor Barnes

Road traffic accident data is collected across the Borough. Where any current Low Traffic Neighbourhood projects are made permanent, in future years we will be able to determine the impact on road traffic injuries. The research mentioned is promising, looking at data from 2012 – 2019 it has shown a three-fold decline in numbers of injuries inside low traffic neighbourhoods that have been implemented

in Waltham Forest. This research also concluded that there was no evidence that injuries on those boundary roads surrounding the low traffic neighbourhoods increased.

Question 34 from Councillor Daniel Anderson to Councillor Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

Can the Leader of the Council explain how and why she thinks a cabinet support officer is best placed to offer “expert policy advice to cabinet members and/or the leader” and “to lead on the design and drafting of new research reports with the assistance and input of senior officers from across the local authority and from national best practice and Government sources to create recommendations that can inform future strategy and new policy development for the local authority”?

Reply from Councillor Caliskan

The role being referred to is a well-established one that is successfully employed in many other local authorities, should the elected member care to research the matter.

Questions and remarks made by both Councillor Anderson and Councillor Laban to local press is an unfair attack on a council officer and the members ought to be ashamed.

As part of our compact and highly effective Corporate Strategy Service that is evidentially producing top class work as well as giving expert support and advice to this local authority. I am content that the Cabinet Support Officer role adds great value to how this Council operates.

Question 35 from Councillor Elif Erbil to Councillor Ian Barnes, Deputy Leader

Could the Deputy Leader, give further details concerning the collaboration between the Enfield Council Climate Change Task Force, London Councils and Waltham Forest Council on the retrofitting homes project?

How will this ultimately benefit our climate whilst at the same time making London homes warmer and reducing fuel poverty?

Reply from Councillor Barnes

The Retrofit London programme is one of the 7 priority strands identified as part of London Councils Transport and Environment Committee (TEC) and London Environment Directors' Network (LEDNet) joint work on areas where rapid and coordinated action is needed to deliver against climate action ambitions.

In order to develop and effectively oversee delivery, the Council has partnered up with our neighbours in Waltham Forest to lead the Retrofit London strand of work

on behalf of the other London local authorities and sponsored by London Housing Directors. Both boroughs view the programme as an opportunity to scale up the retrofit ambition in London. It is also an excellent way to share knowledge, showcase our work (for example the significant investment in deep retrofit at our council owned high risk block Walbrook House in Edmonton) and demonstrate leadership.

The programme is initially focused on homes because they are where a significant amount of carbon emissions come from (in Enfield they made up around 38% of energy emissions in 2018).

The quality of people's homes and the level of thermal comfort they experience has impacts on a wide range of other things, including health and income. As you will be aware the Council has prioritised tackling poverty; for homes this means bringing people out of living in fuel poverty, which in contrast to the rest of England, is a growing problem across London.

The Retrofit London programme aims to broadly do this by:

- Improving the thermal efficiency of homes, for example by replacing single glazed windows and installing insulation in lofts and walls. This reduces the amount of energy needed to heat a home, which has benefits in terms of costs and emissions.
- Decarbonising heat by installing new sources such as heat pumps and connecting to energy networks, like Energetik. This significantly reduces carbon emissions and also removes the safety issues associated with gas supplies, particularly in higher density housing.

Currently consultants are assessing household-level retrofit needs and starting to develop a related action plan.

Key challenges for the action plan to address include capacity of the retrofit sector and related skills gap, delivering in the private rented sector and funding the programme. It will also identify priorities for policy change and investment, which can inform London-wide messaging and lobbying for investment both from Government but also from the private sector, where there are significant opportunities for job creation and reskilling.

This aligns with our active lobbying of Government for funding for the retrofit of our council housing to achieve improved carbon and comfort outcomes. The Retrofit London work is another way in which we can lever in funding for the improvement of homes for the benefit of residents in Enfield.

In terms of bringing forward the London-wide action plan, a draft is due in spring 2021 with a final version in the summer.

Question 36 from James Hockney to Councillor Mary Maguire, Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement

Would Councillor Maguire, Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement, inform Council of the security costs of vacant council buildings. Please provide the costs broken own by financial year since April 2018 to date.

Reply from Councillor Maguire

The expenditure for vacant properties is summarised below (including Meridian Water);

Year 2018 -2019	£984,683
Year 2019-2020	£836,531
Year 2020-2021	£414,573 (up to Dec 2020)
Totals	£2,235,787

We are actively continuing to review sites to accelerate for development or disposal where appropriate and have consistently reduced these costs over the last three years. The Council has a legal responsibility to its staff and to the public to ensure that its properties are safe, and that Health & Safety is properly considered. This applies equally to empty sites and buildings where access by the public could lead to injury or worse. Adequate protection through both passive and active security measures are required to meet those obligations. There are currently no buildings that are empty or not being redeveloped at Meridian Water.

Question 37 from Councillor Edward Smith to Councillor Gina Needs, Cabinet Member for Social Housing

Will Councillor Needs, Cabinet Member for Housing provide a statement on how she intends to improve engagement with the Customer Voice (CV) in the new year?

Reply from Councillor Needs

I truly value the role that the customer voice and all involved residents play in driving improvements in services and delivery and look forward to hearing the views and working with the CV and others to deliver improvements in our approach

The Customer Voice is a strategic engagement group of experienced involved residents that plays a significant role in holding council housing accountable and supporting the drive for service improvement designed with residents at the heart.

The Customer Voice is one of a number of involvement opportunities available for residents including and not limited to:

- Housing Advisory Group
- Repairs Stakeholder Group
- Tenants and Residents Association's
- Leaseholder Forum
- Regeneration Involvement Groups
- Building Safety Committee to help shape approaches to resident and

building safety.

In addition, the Social Housing White Paper proposes future policy measures which must be taken account of with regards to the need for open and transparent sharing of information and accountability to residents, whilst offering genuine and meaningful opportunities to influence and shape current and future service design.

As a result of the above I have asked officers to review all options for engagement of tenants and leaseholders and to have a consultation exercise about how we may structure arrangements going forward with the aim of the review being completed and any changes in place from late spring.

Question 38 from Mahym Bedekova to Councillor Ian Barnes, Deputy Leader

As Enfield Council has been awarded £1.5 million from Tranche 2 of the Government's Emergency Active Travel Fund, one of the largest portions of the fund in London. Could the Cabinet Member and Deputy Leader give further details of how this money will be allocated going forward?

Reply from Councillor Barnes

These funds can be used for Low Traffic Neighbourhoods and strategic cycle routes, as part of the government plans to help prevent a move back into cars and to promote alternative forms of travel for short journeys, following the COVID-19 crisis.

The funding is for:

- Bowes Low Traffic Neighbourhood Phase 2 - £160,000 has been allocated to this project which will enable further design and implementation (subject to approvals) on the bus gate proposals along with any associated changes to Phase 1
- Completion of Cycleway 1, the section between Ponders End and the A1010 / Southbury Road junction - £690,000 has been allocated to this project
- Progression of the Enfield Town to Ponders End cycleway - £700,000 has been allocated to this project

The Council will now finalise the engagement and consultation plan for each of these projects, details of which will be published on our [Let's Talk](#) project pages.

The Department for Transport (DfT) has confirmed that this funding does not come with the eight week implementation constraints that were imposed on the Council for the first tranche of funding. This is welcomed and will allow the Council to apply our normal process of engagement with the community before any implementation. The Bowes project will progress in conjunction with Haringey Council and their own Low Traffic Neighbourhood plans, along with Transport for London. These continue to build on our ambitions to create a sustainable network of active travel routes.

Question 39 from Councillor Edward Smith to Councillor Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

A recent call-in by the Conservative Group regarding a Cabinet decision authorising expenditure to relocate a Pressure Reduction Station on the Meridian Water 1 site was disqualified by the monitoring officer. Does Councillor Caliskan, Leader of the Council consider that concern over a cost increase in the works from £3.2m in 2015 to £9.1m in 2020 can be dismissed as a matter of opinion?

Reply from Councillor Caliskan

All attempted call-ins of Cabinet, Portfolio Holder and Officer Key-Decisions must satisfy the rules set out in the Council's Constitution and wider legal and statutory guidance. The Monitoring Officer is required to assess any call-in and determine whether it is acceptable. On this occasion, your call-in did not pass the necessary test and was rejected by the Monitoring Officer. I know that the Monitoring Officer makes himself available to assist any Councillor with call-ins in advance of the deadline and has assisted you personally and members of your group on several occasions.

Question 40 from Councillor Charith Gunawardena Chibah to Councillor Mary Maguire, Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement

Would the Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement please provide and update on help provided to Enfield businesses and details of the amount of business grants distributed so far?

Reply from Councillor Maguire

Since March Enfield has paid over £93m in business grants and rates relief to business, as shown below:

Initial Business Grant Scheme (Small Business Support Grant & Retail, Hospitality & Leisure)

Over 3,000 grants, totalling £43.5M

Retail Discount & Nursey Business Rate Relief

Over 1,800 businesses received a total rates holiday for 2020/21 totalling £46.5M, including 29 Ofsted registered early years nurseries worth £0.5M

Discretionary Phase One Grants (B&B's, Small Charities, Market Traders and shared spaces)

Over 130 grants, totalling £0.5M

Discretionary Phase Two Grants

189 grants paid out, totalling £2M

Since October 2020 the Government has introduced a further 10 Local Restrictions Grant Schemes (LRGS), for different periods and different types of businesses, some which are closed (CLOSED) and some which continue trading (OPEN) as shown below:

1. Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) – the councils' discretionary scheme to operate until March 2022
2. LRSG Closed Addendum Scheme (Applicable 6 Nov – 1 Dec 2020)
3. LRSG Sectors – for nightclubs closed since March
4. LRSG Open – for Hospitality & Leisure
5. LRSG Closed – (Applicable 9 September to 5 November 2020)
6. LRSG Closed – (Applicable 2 December onwards)
7. Christmas Support Payment - for 'Wet-Led' Pubs
8. LRSG Closed Addendum Scheme (Post 5 January 2021)
9. Business Support Package for January 2021 Lockdown
10. LRSG Support Grant (Closed) Addendum: Tier 4 – Applicable 19 December 2020 onwards

Each scheme has its own rules, guidance and funding. Grant payments the Council makes to business need to be separately accounted for and auditable under each scheme. No guidance has been published by Government yet for schemes 8, 9 and 10. Payments exceeding £1.7M have been made for businesses closed from the 6 Nov – 1 Dec 2020 as shown above.

To ensure the accuracy and transparency of the Local Restriction Grant scheme and to meet the complex requirement of recurring grant payments the Council has purchased a bespoke system from our existing software supplier to administer the grants. This has had to be produced from scratch and has only become operational in mid-January. To date 821 LRSG Closed grants (scheme 2 above) have been paid for the period 5th November to the 2nd December 2020 for non-essential retail and sports, leisure and hospitality business for a value of £1.7M. Any business forced to close during this period will be eligible for further grants. These grants can now be processed automatically by the council using information already provided. Any business that has not yet applied for the LRSG Closed grant can do so by visiting the Business Section of the Council website. Council staff are working as quickly as possible to expedite these grants to support businesses.

Help provided to Enfield businesses

Since March 2020, the Economic Development team have requested the redeployment of colleagues from across the Council to form a business response team as required when demand increases, e.g. when new Government grant schemes are announced. Officers are responding on demand to requests for information from business owners on eligibility for the various grant schemes currently available, and also signposting to other support available outside the

Council. Business owners have also been assisted with completing grant applications when required; and the team will also check submitted applications carefully so that they are processed efficiently. This service will be provided as long as necessary to ensure that businesses are supported throughout these challenging times.

Question 41 from Councillor Lindsay Rawlings to Councillor Guney Dogan, Cabinet Member for Environment

Would Councillor Dogan, Cabinet Member for Environment inform the chamber of the increase in disposal costs for the extra waste produced due to the Covid pandemic lockdowns?

Reply from Councillor Dogan

Officers monitor this constantly throughout the year and worked with their counterparts at the North London Waste Authority to review the effects of Covid-19 on residual waste. Like other boroughs within the NLWA area, lockdowns have meant that a greater proportion of the public have been at home, causing tonnages of household waste to rise while residual waste collected from other sources such as businesses (non-household waste) as well as schools and health centres (chargeable household waste) have decreased due to periods of closure. The tonnages in the table below compare the budgeted figures for 2020/21 with the latest tonnage forecast agreed with NLWA in the last few weeks. It should be noted that the budget included estimates for changes to the Enfield waste contract.

Enfield Tonnages	Budget	Forecast	Variance	
	2020/21	2020/21		
Menu Priced Based Levy (household & core costs)	78,326	81,289	2,963	3.78%
Non-household waste - S52(9) EPA	9,625	7,193	(2,431)	-25.26%
Chargeable household waste - S52(9) EPA	1,431	572	(859)	-60.00%
Enfield Overall	89,382	89,055	(327)	-0.37%

Question 42 from Councillor Tim Leaver to Councillor Mary Maguire, Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement

Can the Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement give her assessment of the impact of the Chancellor's delayed one-year spending review on Enfield's finances?

Reply from Councillor Maguire

It is disappointing that the fair funding review has been delayed for a third year. For over a decade Enfield's funding has not reflected our needs due to historic damping. These funding needs considered in the Fair Funding Review have not gone away and long-term solutions for local government funding must be addressed as soon as possible. We will continue to press for these funding reforms to be implemented for 2021/22 alongside campaigning for increasing the overall

funding levels for local government.

Questions to other members

Question 43 from Councillor Dinah Barry to Councillor Hass Yusuf who holds a Special Responsibility Allowance for representing Enfield on the board of North London Waste Authority (NLWA)

At the last meeting (Nov 20 Q44) I noted that NLWA's Monitoring report makes it clear that the proposed incinerator in Edmonton will increase the amount of waste being transported by road and I asked about the measures NLWA will be taking to mitigate for the damage this will cause to the environment.

However, the lengthy answer did not tell me what percentage reduction in emissions the mitigation measures are expected to achieve. Please answer that question.

Reply from Councillor Yusuf

The current energy from waste plant at Edmonton EcoPark does not have the capacity to dispose of all of north London's residual waste, meaning that tens of thousands of tonnes are transported away from the area for disposal. In addition, the current facility, the oldest in operation in Europe, requires more frequent reductions in capacity for maintenance than would be the case with the new modern facility. By building the new facility in north London, we are ensuring that there is no need to export north London's waste to other disposal sites across the country. The majority of these sites would require longer journeys by road increasing the impact on road emissions significantly.

Without the capacity of this new facility, we would have to send waste to third party EfWs and landfill sites. In the case of landfill, most these sites are between 80 – 200km away. In replacing the facility in Edmonton we are able to reduce these extra vehicle journeys as well as realise local benefits for the communities in Enfield by providing low carbon heating and hot water for thousands of local homes.

In regard to the percentage of vehicle emissions that will be reduced by managing waste in north London, rather than transporting it over long distances to other sites - this depends on a range of future factors, including plans by individual boroughs to transition to low or zero-emission vehicles as part of their Reduction and Recycling Plans. This is the responsibility of boroughs rather than NLWA. A precise figure cannot be provided at this stage, but it is very clear, for the reasons set out in this response, that major emissions savings will be achieved by managing non-recyclable waste within London. It would not be responsible in a Climate Emergency to transport north London's waste to other parts of the country.

Question 44 from Councillor Dinah Barry to Councillor Kate Anolue who holds a Special Responsibility Allowance for representing Enfield on the board of North London Waste Authority (NLWA)

The new incinerator is due to open in about four years time, and its size has been modelled on achieving 50% recycling.

Given that recycling has decreased from 33% to 30% in the last five years, what will you be doing to ensure that NLWA meets its target?

Reply from Councillor Anolue

Enfield Council has set out their ambitious measures to increase recycling in their RRP here: <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/enfield-waste-and-recycling-plan>

The range of materials that north Londoners can put in their recycling bins is the largest of anywhere in the country. Detailed information about what can be recycled is fully available on both the Enfield and NLWA websites.

NLWA supports boroughs to champion the circular economy. In addition to its waste prevention outreach campaigns, NLWA encourages its residents to recycle as much as possible. This includes our #BinYourNappy campaign which focuses on reducing the contamination of recyclable materials. The campaign is highly successful and has featured on social media and in regional press.

That said, NLWA operate in a challenging urban environment. North London has a more transient population than many other parts of the country. Fewer properties have access to gardens which results in a lower rates of weighty green waste. Like the rest of London, recycling rates continue to be around 30 per cent.

Higher recycling rates will require a fundamental cultural shift across society. As a single waste authority, we campaign vigorously on this issue, but we can't do it alone. Urgent reforms are needed from Government to promote sustainable behaviour and make producers responsible for the packaging they create.

Even with all our efforts to promote the circular economy and increase recycling, NLWA still has to deal with the waste that cannot be recycled which is produced by residents. That is why it is essential to build the NLHPP (which includes a brand new household recycling centre) which will safeguard essential, hygienic waste management services for another generation of north Londoners.