

Question 1 from Cllr Eylem Yuruk to Cllr Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

Can the Leader of the Council explain how the new proposals of Enfield Town project will benefit Residents in the Borough?

Answer:

The Enfield Town public realm project has included 4 phases of community engagement, resulting in 5 community led design principles which are:

- Making Enfield Town safe for all
- Developing a vibrant economy in Enfield Town
- Helping Enfield Town to be a great place
- Offering transport choices to, from and around Enfield Town
- Celebrating the heritage of Enfield Town

Improving the quality and accessibility of our town centres will enable a range of economic and health benefits for residents of the Borough. Residents and visitors will be able to get around more directly, and safer, with clearer access to Town Park. The Council will shortly be publishing the outcomes of the Phase 4 engagement which concluded towards the end of 2022.

Question 2 from Cllr Julian Sampson to Cllr Chinelo Anyanwu, Cabinet Member for Public Spaces, Culture and Local Economy

Why, in the re-furbished Enfield Museum in the Dugdale Centre there is no mention, in the section on Production, of the Royal Small Arms factory, probably (historically) the area's largest employers and whose products were synonymous with Enfield worldwide?

Answer:

The exhibits and themes at the Dugdale will be refreshed on a regular basis. The Royal Small Arms factory is something that we plan to display. The Council already has some objects linked to the factory in its archive. We will be working closely with the Royal Small Arms Trust to create a co-curated display as part of the upcoming Industry exhibition opening in the Summer. This will highlight their Heritage Centre at Enfield Island Village.

Officers will include a few RSAF objects in the Production case later this year. As Enfield has a huge industrial heritage, we will at be highlighted as many as possible both in the Production case at DAC, across our satellite displays in the hub libraries, and within the industry exhibition.

Question 3 from Cllr Margaret Greer to Cllr Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

Following the Government’s failure to grant Enfield Council funding through the Levelling Up Fund, letting down our residents, can the Leader provide an update on future plans for the two sites identified and further engagement with government on the Levelling Up Fund process?

Answer:

We are disappointed that the Government has not supported either of our two levelling up bids for Enfield Chase and Angel Edmonton. The Government might not believe in our borough, but the Council will continue to invest in Enfield and will be finding other ways to deliver on our ambitious plans for our borough and residents.

Enfield Council has recently been successful in achieving a £536k grant for the Enfield Chase Landscape Recovery project by the Environment Agency to carry out project development, including development of a business plan to enable further cultural and environmental investment in the north of the Borough. For the Angel Edmonton bid I have asked officers to explore alternative grant funding sources.

More broadly, I support the Local Government Association’s calls that communities should not have to go cap-in-hand for grant funding to the Government while our budgets are cut every year thanks to their mismanagement of the economy. These ‘bidding bingo’ rounds are not a helpful approach. Councils need long-term, sustainable funding and powers to help deliver vibrant local economies.

Question 4 from Cllr Hockney to Cllr Leaver Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement

Can the Portfolio Holder detail all the business grants from the Government we received during Covid to date? Please provide a table detailing how many businesses were helped by each fund, amount of money provided by the Government on each fund and % percentage of funding that was deployed in each fund.

Answer:

The Council has distributed £86m of government-funded grants since Covid across the following grant types. This was funding provided for by the Government and distributed by Enfield Council to local businesses, and was not additional resource to the Council.

Grant	Value £	Grants
Small Business Grant	20,415,000	2034
Retail Hospitality & Leisure Scheme (RV Up to £15k)	2,210,000	221

Retail Hospitality & Leisure Scheme (RV Between £15-51k)	21,785,000	872
Discretionary Grant Fund	2,485,500	315
Local Restrictions Support Grant (Open)	642,325	908
Local Restrictions Support Grant (Sector)	2,620	4
Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) & Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) Addendum: Tier 4 (combined reconciliation),	1,262,815	1557
Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) Addendum (November)	1,456,316	865
Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) Addendum: 5 January onwards- first six week payment	6,862,056	7401
Closed Business Lockdown Payment	6,691,000	1285
Restart	9,720,784	1354
ARG	11,216,524	3303
Wet Led Pubs	27,000	27
Omicron	1,226,037	326
Total	86,002,976	20,472

Question 5 from Cllr Nicki Adeleke to Cllr Nesil Caliskan Leader of the Council

Can the Leader provide the most recent figures on the number of homes built in Enfield and the latest allocation of New Homes Bonus from the Government?

Answer:

According to the Council Tax Base, from October 2021 to October 2022, 795 net new homes were added to the borough's housing stock. Following the government's calculator, the Council will receive £723,090 in a New Homes Bonus for the 2023/2024 financial year. This is an increase on the previous four years, which ranged from 254 to 632 homes added, showing once again, that Enfield Council is delivering the homes our residents need.

Question 6 from Cllr Alexandrou to Cllr Leaver Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement

What is the total cost on wages for staff/directors at Energetik in the last 3 years with a yearly breakdown?

Answer:

The following tables break down the annual cost of staff over the three full financial

years, with the applicable split between Directors and Non-Directors. They include the total cost, as well as the amounts applicable to capitalised activities (i.e. design and build of the network), and the remaining net cost attributable to operating activities (i.e. normal day-to-day business of the company).

Please note that the figures include on-costs, e.g. employer's National Insurance and pension contributions, apprenticeship levy, and any other applicable charges, and that the staff of Energetik are employed directly by the company.

Total Pay cost - all staff

Year to 31 March	2020	2021	2022
Gross cost	£827,712	£883,408	£934,768
<i>of which:</i> Capitalised	£587,889	£651,866	£339,406
<i>of which:</i> Revenue cost	£239,823	£231,542	£595,362

Total pay cost – Directors

Year to 31 March	2020	2021	2022
Gross cost	£401,188	£434,812	£524,112
<i>of which:</i> Capitalised	£230,541	£276,962	£167,531
<i>of which:</i> Revenue cost	£170,647	£157,850	£356,581

Total pay cost – non-Directors

Year to 31 March	2020	2021	2022
Gross cost	£426,524	£448,596	£410,656
<i>of which:</i> Capitalised	£357,348	£374,904	£171,875
<i>of which:</i> Revenue cost	£69,176	£73,692	£238,781

Question 7 from Cllr Eylem Yuruk to Cllr Ergin Erbil, Deputy Leader of the Council

Can the Deputy Leader set out how the Council has supported local efforts to raise donations of goods and funds for those impacted by the devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria?

Answer:

Enfield has a large and vibrant community from Turkey and the surrounding region. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone impacted by the recent earthquake.

Enfield Council has been helping support the local and national response to the disaster by engaging with local communities and organisations with links to the areas impacted by the earthquake to understand and communicate the best ways local people can contribute to the relief effort.

Due to the considerable logistical issues created by the huge volume of goods and items initially donated to earthquake appeals, Enfield Council has been urging residents to make financial donations instead, no matter what size. We have been sign posting residents to donate money to trusted organisations. We have co-ordinated this work with our neighbouring London Boroughs of Haringey and Hackney, that also have large Turkish and Kurdish communities.

Links to further national fundraising pages have also been included on the Council's dedicated Earthquake Appeal webpage.

There has been an incredible response from across the borough and we continue to keep local people updated on the best ways to help and show their support.

Question 8 from Cllr Alexandrou to Cllr Jewell Cabinet Member for Environment

When will the new waste recycling centre be built and at what location and what would be the full building cost?

Answer:

This is a manifesto commitment spanning the term of the administration, after the previous Conservative administration closed a much-needed recycling centre. Officers are in the early phase of trying to identify any suitable locations for consideration, and associated costs.

Question 9 from Cllr Chris James to Cllr Ergin Erbil, Deputy Leader of the Council

Can the Deputy Leader set out how the Council has marked LGBT+ History Month this February, and how it is promoting LGBT+ equality to its staff and residents?

Answer:

The LGBTQ+ Staff Network and Internal Communications team have been promoting LGBTQ+ History month with information pages and articles on our internal communication channels such as our staff intranet and internal newsletter Staff Matters as well as external social media communications and events.

Events running during the month include the following:

Start of LGBTQ History month

- The Council marked the start of the awareness month with social media posts showing the flying of the 'rainbow Enfield beast' and signposting residents to the awareness month's website.
- The CEO intranet landing page has the following articles:
 - What is LGBTQ+ History Month
 - LGBTQ+ History month information
 - Link to [LGBTQplushistorymonth.co.uk](https://lgbtqplushistorymonth.co.uk) Event calendar

LGBTQ+ Stories (internal)

- LGBTQ+ Network are asking all staff for personal stories during LGBTQ+ History Month which are being shared on the LGBTQ History month intranet landing page. Staff are encouraged to share their stories to help others understand the struggles some people can face and overcome either being a part of the LGBTQ+ Community or as an Ally/Family Member. These stories will not be shared outside of the council.

Email Signatures

- We encourage everyone – including Allies – to place the LGBTQ+ Staff Network Logo on email signature to help increase our visibility and show staff support of the community.

Question 10 from Cllr Maria Alexandrou to Cllr Ergin Erbil, Deputy Leader of the Council

With emissions from homes accounting for 35% of the borough's total CO₂ emissions, what action is the council taking to support households to encourage more greener homes such as installing solar panels?

Answer:

The Council recognises decarbonisation of homes as one of the largest challenges for reaching our carbon neutral target. In recognition of this challenge, Enfield,

along with Waltham Forest, took on the role as joint leads for the London Councils Retrofit London workstream, recognising this is a priority area not just for Enfield but for London and the entire country.

The Council continue to support initiatives for households to decarbonise their home, particularly alongside tackling fuel poverty. This includes working with the Mayor of London to promote the Warmer Homes scheme to residents at risk of fuel poverty, to secure funded delivery of retrofit measures. More specifically regarding Solar Panels, the council supports and promotes the Mayor's annual Solar Together programme, which offers a route for household to install solar panels on their homes.

We will continue to identify opportunities to encourage renewable energy, along with other decarbonisation opportunities, across the borough.

Question 11 from Cllr Nia Stevens to Cllr Tim Leaver, Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement

How many people in Enfield will benefit from a reduction their Council Tax bills thanks to the Council Tax Support Scheme?

Answer:

34,944 households will benefit from a reduction on their Council Tax Bill as a result of the Council Tax Support Scheme. This equates to a third of households. As a result of pensioner claims and working age protected having their Council Tax Support calculated on 100% of the charge, approximately 14,000 households will pay no Council Tax at all, of which 5,200 are pensioners and on pension credit.

Question 12 from Cllr Chamberlain to Cllr Ergin Erbil, Deputy Leader of the Council

As you will know under Labour, Enfield Council lost its Fairtrade status. To date we have seen little movement towards fixing this this, there was a motion passed in November 2020 and vague aspiration expressed to buy more Fairtrade goods in a report. Neither is sufficient to restore the council's Fairtrade status. Given that attaining fair trade status is essentially a choice to align purchasing policy to ethical conduct, why is it that this Labour Council has failed to maintain the Fairtrade status, achieved by the Conservative Council in 2008?

Answer:

The Council supports the highest possible ethical and environmental standards in our procurement of goods and services, as set out in the Sustainable & Ethical Procurement Policy which was agreed by Cabinet in February 2022. This includes a renewed commitment to support of the Fairtrade mission.

At the same time, Enfield Catering strive to use ethically sources ingredients at every opportunity. They are holders of the SOIL association award, MSC Tuna Award along with The Egg award thanks to locally sourced and free ranged eggs. All meat is sourced from farm assurance schemes such as red tractor.

The Catering Service also exceeds the government fair trade requirements for school meals. They also use London based SMEs which deliver social value back into the borough but are also held to strengthen standards to ensure compliant ethical value out of council expenditure.

EN_FOOD – Enfield Council’s food sustainability project which runs the Library Café and Dugdale café – has been recognised nationally for its work, winning the Sustainable Restaurant Association’s Food Made Good Award in November 2019. EN_FOOD was also awarded a top rating of three stars by the Sustainable Restaurants Association due to its commitment to food sustainability. Most of the food served at the café is sourced from 15 local suppliers including Wright’s the flour mill in Ponders End, Holtwhites Bakery in Enfield Chase, Forty Hall Farm, Peatchey Butchers in Grange Park, Kupros Dairy in Cheshunt and the Enfield & North London Dairy. Where items such as tea, coffee and chocolate cannot be sourced locally, EN_FOOD ensures they are Fair Trade or Direct Trade.

Question 13 from Cllr Kate Anolue to Cllr Abdul Abdullahi, Cabinet Member for Children’s Services

You and I, together with the Mayor, attended the Enfield Youth Council Election results announcement on 23rd January 2023.

20 young people were elected to become the new members of the Enfield Youth Council and two young people to become members of the UK Youth Parliament.

Can Cabinet Member for Children’s Service join me in congratulating not only the newly elected members but also our Youth Service staff for holding this election, and can he also confirm that Enfield Council will support the newly elected members to be successful in this role?

Answer:

I would like to put on record my thanks to the organisers of the successful event on 23rd January and my congratulations to the newly elected members.

The Council’s Youth Service has a dedicated full time participation youth worker whose responsibility will be to support the work of the Youth Council and Youth Parliament representatives, including facilitating meetings, training and support for the elected young people to ensure they are successful in their role.

Question 14 from Cllr Chamberlain to Cllr Savva Cabinet Member for Social Housing

Can you please list all tower blocks within the Borough over 10m that have been discovered as no longer being suitable for gas supply?

Answer:

Council Officers have assured me that there are currently no further council-owned blocks with a gas disconnection notice.

Enfield Council is also developing an Asset Management Strategy which will provide further assurances going forward as the stock is assessed against standards as set out by building safety legislation.

The Strategy will also address ways in which we can move to non-gas supply as part as part of our approach to decarbonising housing stock to meet our climate change objectives.

Question 15 from Cllr Gunes Akbulut to Cllr Abdul Abdullahi, Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Following the approval of the Cabinet report on the pan-London Secure Children's Home, can the Cabinet Member outline how this provision will support vulnerable children and when it will be ready?

Answer:

The secure children's home for London should be completed by the end of 2026 and will provide a high quality, safe and therapeutic environment with a high staffing ratio. The secure children's home will support children and young people to develop a range of personal skills, supported by changes in behaviour and attitude that will enable children and young people to manage safely when they leave the secure unit. The secure children's home will be subject to twice yearly inspection by Ofsted.

The secure children's home will encourage residents to engage in learning through formal on-site education that will support their training and employability prospects on exit. Most residents of the secure children's home will present with complex histories and often display challenging behaviour. They will benefit from a range of mental health professionals to help them to build self-esteem and to equip them with strategies to enable successful reintegration into the community. The Health provision will be subject to an annual CQC inspection.

Question 16 from Cllr Chamberlain to Cllr Savva Cabinet Member for Social Housing

Can you please supply the entire timelines of events, actions and correspondence with residents that led up to and after the cutting off of the gas supply at Cheshire House?

Answer:

As we have briefed the shadow member we have responded in a timely way and with the interests of our residents at the forefront of our approach.

Following a structural review of Cheshire House reporting at the end of June 2022 it was agreed with Cadent that an alternative heating solution was required for the building by January 2024. Enfield Council Officers developed a solution, and along with the interim measures, the process for procurement commenced.

Residents were then written to on 20th October with the plan for addressing the changeover and the interim measures required.

On 29th November 2022, Cadent disconnected the gas supply without notice. Our emergency plan was then enacted.

Flats had full provision on a phased basis from 18th December to 24th December. From October to the end of the year a total of 20 letters were written to residents with updates on the progress of the works and support. This was in addition to telephone calls and regular visits.

Question 17 from Cllr Josh Abey to Cllr Abdul Abdullahi, Cabinet Member for Children's Services

The Government has published its response to Josh MacAllister's Independent Review of Children's Social Care. What is the view of the Cabinet Member for Children's Service on the Government's response?

Answer:

I welcome some of the Government's response to the review but am frustrated that they are failing to go further and faster in some areas that will see lasting change and support for some of our most vulnerable children and young people.

For example, the review advised that £2.6bn investment in social care services was essential over the next five years with a need for £1bn investment during 2023/24. In response, the government have only committed £200m nationally for 2023/24 and most of this money will go to 12 pilot authorities to "test and learn" some of the recommendations.

This means that most authorities will not receive any investment until 2025/26 and given the demand pressures nationally and locally this is a significant area of financial risk next year and the year after.

Three other key areas where I had hoped the government would have responded far more quickly is the lack care placements for 'looked after' children, the excessive profiteering by some care providers and crucially, tackling the shortage of social workers and the role played by social work recruitment agencies.

Regardless of the Government's inaction, Enfield Council will continue to support vulnerable children, young people, and families. That is why our budget invests a further £1m to recruit more children's social workers

Question 18 from Cllr Chamberlain to Cllr Savva Cabinet Member for Social Housing

Can you please supply the entire timelines of events, actions and correspondence with residents to date in Shropshire House that has now led to significant safety concerns?

Answer:

As above, residents were written to on 20th October with the plan for changeover of heating provision and the interim measures required. We then wrote to residents in December advising of plans to move straight to the installation of electrical boilers.

Question 19 from Cllr Thomas Fawns to Cllr Alev Cazimoglu, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care

National HIV Testing Week took place this month. Can the Cabinet Member set out how the Council promoted the week, and how it is helping reach the national target of zero HIV transmissions by 2030?

Answer:

LB Enfield is part of the London collective that commissions the London HIV Prevention Programme. This includes the multimedia 'Be sure, know the four' campaign and an ongoing programme whereby venues are targeted by outreach workers to disseminate information, advice etc which includes the importance and how to get tested.

As part of HIV Testing Week Public Health working in partnership with GMI Positive East and the Council's LGBTQ+ Staff Network supported this campaign by encouraging people to get tested through a mobile a mobile testing van, provided by Positive East, located in Enfield Town near Fountain Island and Natwest (EN2 6LE) on Tuesday 7 February from 10am to 3pm. I attended this event to provide and was tested on site. The event was promoted through the Council website, locally at Enfield Sexual Health Clinics, the ECHO website and within North Middlesex University Hospital website where the HIV Centre is located.

In partnership with with North Middlesex and through Enfield Council

commissioning, the Terrence Higgins Trust (THT) continue to work with communities in the borough more at risk of being exposed to HIV, including LGBT+ residents, sex workers, and Black and ethnic minority residents through outreach at various locations within the borough. This service information, advice, testing and referral onto Enfield Sexual Health Clinics.

Question 20 from Cllr Dey to Cllr Abdullahi Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Can the Cabinet Member outline what steps were taken by the Local Authority to safeguard and support the children PC Hussain Chehab had been in contact with when the Local Authority was made aware of the arrest of PC Hussain Chehab?

Answer:

Child protection safeguarding procedures were instigated following receipt of a referral in September 2021 about PC Hussain Chehab. A multi-agency allegation against professions/volunteers meeting (ASV) was arranged chaired by the named local authority designated officer (LADO) from the Children's Safeguarding Service. The allegations around grooming and abuse were not linked to Enfield children. PC Hussain Chehab was taken off duties before pupils returned to school after the summer break. School staff were going to make enquiries see if any Enfield pupils required further support.

Question 21 from Cllr Bektas Ozer to Cllr George Savva, Cabinet Member for Social Housing

Across London, we are seeing huge increases in the number of people rough sleeping – the worst symptom of the housing crisis. Can the Cabinet member tell us what is the Council doing to address rough sleeping in Enfield?

Answer:

I am proud of this Administration's compassionate and dedicated approach to supporting rough sleepers who are victims of the enduring housing crisis we face.

Like other London boroughs, Enfield has seen a significant rise in homelessness, including an increase in the number of new rough sleepers found bedded down in the borough. However, due to our success in drawing in significant investment into our Street Homelessness Services, and the roll out of several successful initiatives in Enfield, we have developed a comprehensive pathway to quickly intervene to help people forced to sleep rough, or at risk of sleeping rough.

As a result, the Council has seen a steady reduction in the number of rough sleepers found bedded down on any typical night, from 78 counted in November 2018 to 4 in January 2023. Since April 2020, our Street Homeless Service has

found, visited, supported and housed 800 rough sleepers in Enfield.

The Council works in partnership with a range of agencies including “Enable” substance misuse service, Adult Social Care and Mental Health services.

Officers have worked closely with All People All Places to support and house rough sleepers, including those with no recourse to public funds, and also with the North London Housing Partnership, to deliver a Hub for rough sleepers with complex needs in Finchley.

The Council has made big strides to meet our aim to end rough sleeping in Enfield by 2025. The national housing crisis has increased the number of people facing homelessness in Enfield. However, we will continue to proactively prevent rough sleeping, and intervene quickly when it does happen, ensuring it is rare, brief, and non-recurring.

Question 22 from Cllr Georgiou to Cllr Leaver Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement

Can you please provide the letter that has been sent to or is yet to be sent to the 6,500 Enfield households whose Council Tax Support Scheme funds you are proposing to cut?

Answer:

When the Council Tax Support Scheme consultation started, the following e-mail and letter version was sent on 20th October 2022 to all working age recipients of Council Tax Support (23,707 emails were sent and 3,143 letters were sent). This included the 6,500 that would be directly affected. The 185 responses to the consultation were favourable, with 40% saying the change was fair as opposed to 34% saying it was unfair. We reached out and offered 1-1 meetings to discuss how this change may directly impact the Council Tax Support recipient and support available through the council tax support hardship scheme. 34 people made contact of which 13 would be affected by the change and 21 would not.

Dear Sir/Madam

Subject – Enfield Council Tax Support Scheme consultation

We are emailing you to inform you about our proposal to change the Council Tax Support Scheme in Enfield. The proposal will only impact you if you are working and receiving Universal Credit. Any change to the scheme will not be put in place until 1st April 2023.

The proposal is to introduce an earned income banded scheme for Universal Credit households only, based on net earned income and household type.

There is currently inequity in the system which is why we are proposing to change it. Universal Credit claimants working receive more Council Tax Support and pay less Council Tax than those working but claiming other benefits e.g. Working Tax Credit. This proposal will align these two groups of claimants to make the scheme fairer.

You can find out more about our proposal by clicking on the link below:

[Enfield Council Tax Support Scheme consultation](#)

On the webpage, you will be able to access the Frequently Asked Questions document about this proposal and you will be able to complete the questionnaire we have put together to capture your views.

If you would like to discuss the proposals over the phone or face-to-face, please email haveyoursay@enfield.gov.uk and provide your name, address, and contact details so that a call back or email response can be given. These sessions are only intended for discussing the proposals.

Yours sincerely

Corporate Strategy Service

The next notification they will receive will be the annual benefit notification letter that is due to be sent mid-March. This notification will give details of the change in their CTS from 1/4/23.

The letter downloads all the relevant info about how their CTS is calculated. This letter will provide the scheme details for 2023/24 that will include the banded scheme and give links to the website for further details plus details about Council Tax Support Hardship where people struggle to pay council tax after CTS is awarded. Through this fund, the Council has set aside £600k to support residents who may be impacted by the changes.

Question 23 from Cllr Elif Erbil to Cllr Rick Jewell, Cabinet Member for Environment

Can the Cabinet member update Council on the results of the trial Electric Refuse Vehicle introduced last year, and how the transition of the council's vehicle fleet to Electric Vehicles is progressing?

Answer:

The trial of the new electric refuse vehicle last year went well with the vehicle performing above expectations. 4 of these electric refuse vehicles have been ordered as part of the longer-term trial, of which the first has arrive and is anticipated to be in service around 1st March. The other 3 are expected to be in

service April/May 2023.

The Council has now replaced 51 diesel vehicles to electric. Any further increases in our electric vehicle fleet are now generally dependent on electric vehicle model availability (some larger truck types have just not been developed into mainstream production) from the vehicle manufacturers which unfortunately is still limited. They are part of our plan to decarbonise council services and deliver cleaner air.

Question 24 from Cllr Hockney to Cllr Leaver Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement

Can the Portfolio Holder provide the amount of the revenue budget that is now dedicated to statutory and mandatory service provision?

Answer:

In setting the budget we consider statutory and non-statutory functions. However, the non-statutory functions contribute to reducing the need for statutory services in many instances and therefore these services are important to be reviewed in the context of the wider picture.

The Council continues to invest in front line services, with £12m net additional funding for social care in 2023/24, to meet inflationary and demographic pressures, and an additional £1m for children's social workers, ensuring we have front line services that can meet the needs of our residents and our statutory duties.

Question 25 from Cllr Doug Taylor to Cllr Susan Erbil, Cabinet Member for Licensing, Planning and Regulatory Services

Can the Cabinet Member for Planning, Licensing and Regulatory Services update us on what prosecutions the Trading Standards team have conducted for businesses or persons who have not complied to the Trading Standards rules?

Answer:

Since April 2022 Trading Standards have continued to work hard investigating a variety of offences ranging from product safety: counterfeit items and rogue trading activities.

Two businesses were prosecuted last year for the sale of counterfeit items, Trading Standards were awarded confiscation proceedings under the Proceeds of Crime Act to the value of £30K and £13,598 respectively.

In September, two companies were prosecuted for works undertaken on residential properties where the initial quote for guttering and roofing works escalated from £450 to £11,550 and another case from £950 to £6,300. Following intervention by Trading Standards one of the residents was provided with a refund from the trader.

In October a Supermarket was prosecuted for the sale of illicit tobacco. Defendants

were ordered to pay in the region of £6,000 fines and £2,750 costs.

In January 2023 the Courts issued a warrant to the owner of fashion retailer for failing to attend Court following prosecution for the sale of counterfeit handbags.

In the same month, the Licensing Subcommittee suspended the License of a food and wine retailer for 3 months following a license review brought by Trading Standards for the sale of illegal cigarettes; Viagra and Vapes.

Following the sale of unsafe Christmas lights by a distribution supplier, prosecution is being pursued. This trail has been adjourned to the 2/3/23.

Enfield Council will continue to take action to keep our communities safe and I am proud of the work of the Trading Standards Team.

Question 26 from Cllr Gregory to Cllr Anyanwu, Cabinet Member for Public Spaces, Culture and Local Economy

Residents are rightly complaining about the dire state of many of the public toilets in Enfield's parks. Most public toilets are not kept to the standard residents should expect. Can all a list of all public toilets in parks be provided and their cleaning/repair schedule?

Answer:

The parks toilets are cleaned on a daily basis by the parks operational staff and this is recorded on a sheet, displayed within the facility. To support the standard of cleaning, the parks supervisors inspect the toilets throughout the week, ensuring that standards are acceptable. Unfortunately, they can be susceptible to vandalism and ASB.

Defects found in the toilets such as damaged toilet seats, locks etc are reported through to our internal maintenance team and orders raised with our Term Contractor as appropriate. Depending on the repair required, they are either rectified within an hour or 24 hours.

All WC blocks have planned and required water testing, emergency lighting testing fixed wire and fire alarm testing and gas boiler servicing. All fire extinguishers are serviced annually.

Additionally, all corporate buildings, including WCs in parks, are fully surveyed for the condition of the actual building every 5 years.

List of public toilets in parks:

Albany Park, Options Centre – closed
Arnos Park – open

Aylands Open Space – closed
Boundary Park – closed – currently being refurbished
Broomfield Park – open
Bury Lodge Gardens – open
Bush Hill Park – open
Craig Park – closed - currently being refurbished
Durants Park, Green Street – closed
Durants Park, Hertford Road – closed
Enfield Playing Field – open
Forty Hall Park – open
Grovelands Park – open
Jubilee Park – open – currently being refurbished
Oakwood Park – open
Pymmes Park – closed
Tatem Park – closed
Tottenham Sports Ground – closed. Next to Boundary Park.
Town Park – open
Trent Park – open
Whitewebbs Park – open

This administration is proud that one of its manifesto commitments is to deliver new toilets and cafés in every major park across the borough, and will set out funding to deliver this soon.

Question 27 from Cllr Nawshad Ali to Cllr Gina Needs, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion

No one in Enfield should have to face anti-social behaviour in their neighbourhoods. Can the Cabinet Member set out the latest figures of ASB incidences in the borough over the last few years, and what measures the Council has put in place to tackle it?

Answer:

There has been a 22.5% decrease in the number of Anti-Social Behaviour calls recorded (8563) in the Borough in the year to January 2023, when compared to the previous year when there were 11,048 calls. London also saw a 31.2% reduction in ASB calls.

Since October 2022, ASB calls have continued to decrease. Compared to November 2022, Enfield has seen a 20% reduction in December 2022.

According to a recent report conducted by MOPAC, 39% of Enfield residents are worried about ASB. The highest concerns were raised by residents in Tower Hamlets (54%) and Newham (52%). The same report highlighted that Londoners

are more concerned with people using/dealing drugs (71%) and anti-social driving (59%) and anti-social bikes (58%).

Officers continue to work closely with the police to address concerns and taking enforcement action against those who engage in anti-social behaviour. The council has plans to introduce a new community law enforcement team to provide further reassurances to residents around feeling safe in Enfield, with £2.5m set aside in the Budget to meet this manifesto commitment to our residents.

Question 28 from Cllr Thorp to Cllr Abdullahi Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Currently young people in Enfield that require places in Secure Children's Homes are placed on average 192 miles from home. This impacts detrimentally on children as they lose contact with family and the community and pathways to education training and employment. The Department for Education has committed significant funding to develop new provision for London leading to better outcomes and reduced costs.

Can the Cabinet Member confirm who will be the lead authority for the Pan London Vehicle (PLV) and is there an update on what other authorities have accepted the invite to join the PLV?

Answer:

The Pan London Vehicle (PLV) will be owned equally by all its members. Barnet Council led the development of the proposals for the secure children's home and will continue to lead this work until the PLV has been established. As of 15 February 2023, the following boroughs have taken the decision, via their local decision-making processes, to progress the proposals to establish the PLV.

Barnet, Brent, Bromley, Camden, Croydon, Ealing, Enfield, Hackney, Hammersmith and Fulham, Haringey, Harrow, Hounslow, Kingston, Islington, Lambeth, Lewisham, Merton, Newham, Redbridge, Richmond, Sutton, Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest, Westminster.

The remaining boroughs are expected to take the decision by the end of March 2023.

Question 29 from Cllr Sabri Ozaydin to Cllr Chinelo Anyanwu, Cabinet Member for Public Spaces, Culture and Local Economy

National Apprenticeship Week took place earlier this month. Can the Cabinet Member outline how the Council promoted the week, and what it is doing to encourage apprenticeships in the borough more generally?

Answer:

The Council took a number of steps to promote and mark National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) including:

- Published information and successful case studies on the Staff Intranet during the weeks leading up to NAW. This included links to current apprenticeship opportunities as well as potential opportunities for existing staff to enrol for qualifications via an apprenticeship standard. This also promoted the planned events during NAW.
- Email sent to all staff from the Chief Executive to announce NAW and invite staff to visit the stands or planned events to learn more about apprenticeship opportunities. Managers were also encouraged to learn more and consider taking on an apprentice. This included links to the intranet and apprenticeship site with details of qualifications available via the apprenticeship levy.
- Announcements about NAW were posted in Staff Matters, via an intranet banner, screen savers, information screens at Council workplace sites and via Yammer. All included links to information and events.
- Monday 6 February – the Council hosted a celebratory event with current apprentices, managers and selected training providers. The Chief Executive, Director of HR & OD and the Apprenticeship team attended.
- Monday 6 – 10 February - Information stand on ground floor, Civic Centre run by the Apprenticeship team with information for internal and external clients
- Wednesday 8 February – hosted an information stand at Edmonton Green Job Centre Apprenticeship Fair
- Thursday 9 February – attended a recruitment session for new business admin apprentices at Barnet & Southgate College

In addition to the above to encourage apprenticeships in the borough more generally the Apprenticeship team have:

- Provide regular articles for Housing News, a residents newsletter promoting apprentice opportunities at Enfield Council and in Enfield schools. This includes advertising existing apprentice vacancies
- Attend regular events in schools along with the careers service
- Work with Steps into Employment to promote apprenticeships
- Scheduled to attend the Young and Diverse Apprenticeships event later this month (February 2023)
- Attend DWP Partnership working meetings
- Attend SEND Employment Board, STAAH Panel (care leavers), London Councils Apprenticeship Sub-Group to promote apprentice opportunities

Question 30 from Cllr Georgiou to Cllr Caliskan, Leader of the Council

What opinion does the Leader have of Cabinet Members in any administration claiming tax-payer money for their private business from the Council they sit on?

Answer:

No Cabinet Member in this administration has ever 'claimed' taxpayers' money for their private business.

Enfield Council has robust procurement rules in place to ensure good governance in competitive and open tender processes. Furthermore, all councillors required to register their interests in companies that have a relationship with the Council. No Cabinet Members are involved in individual grant funding decisions, which are decisions made by council officers.