

**Responses to questions for the Cabinet Member for Enforcement & Safer Communities : Overview & Scrutiny Committee**  
**27<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

<b>Page/ Point</b>	<b>Question/Observation</b>	<b>Answer (Where applicable)</b>
	<b><u>Questions from Councillor Winskill</u></b>	
1	<p><u>Street Enforcement Service:</u></p> <p>1. How will this service be announced to members and will there be a dedicated telephone line and email?</p> <p>2. How will the service key in to Ward based working?</p>	<p>1. Arrangements for the announcement of the new service are still being prepared and all Members will receive direct communication in due course. Our expectation is that all ward Members will be offered a walkabout with their deployed street enforcement officer from October 2009 onwards.</p> <p>All telephone contact will be through our Customer Services and existing email arrangements will continue. Two support officers will be available during normal office hours to receive all calls and other contacts.</p> <p>2. Each ward will have a named street enforcement officer. The officer for each ward will be expected to link up with all locally based action planning and develop a network of local contacts to ensure they know what issues are arising in their area. In addition the Council is developing its existing Area Based Working structures which will provide a formal framework for coordination.</p>



<p>1</p>	<p>3. To what is the increase in demand for pest control services attributable?</p>	<p>3. We believe this substantially relates to an extension in the availability of affordable pest control. The take up of concessionary treatments across pest control has increased demand by 74% between 2007/08 and 2008/09.</p> <p>In 2007 only elderly and disabled residents in receipt of means tested benefits were eligible for free treatments. Now all clients in receipt of a means tested benefit can receive a concessionary treatment of £15.00.</p> <p>Other service improvements such as reduced waiting times for treatments have also increased service take up.</p> <p>For these reasons it is not possible to correlate an increase in service uptake with any change in the rat population in Haringey.</p>
<p>1</p>	<p><u>Litter and Dumping</u></p> <p>4. Please give the numbers for people prosecuted for dumping over the last three years.</p> <p>5. What work has been done with the Safer Neighbourhoods Teams (SNTs) to tackle environmental crime?</p>	<p>4. Between April 2006 and July 2009 there have been 55 Prosecutions and 64 Simple Cautions administered for dumping matters.</p> <p>5. Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams have always strongly supported the work of Environmental Crime Group because their local priorities often reflect these crimes and often those are responsible for environmental crime are criminal in their other activities. As these priorities vary across the SNT areas and over time, differing levels of joint working do arise.</p> <p>The council manages an active tactical enforcement</p>



	<p>6. How many reports have been received from SNTs over the past three years reporting fly-tipping and other environmental issues?</p> <p>7. What work, in advance of the crackdown on commercial premises to control litter, has been done with them to prevent the creation of potential litter?</p>	<p>programme which generates operations that target rogue trading and environmental crime problem locations across the borough. For example over the last eighteen months local SNTs have supported weekly 'Stop It' operations and operation 'Mystery Shopping'. These have been to target unlicensed waste carriers and those that fly tip.</p> <p>Area based working groups and problem solving groups are well attended by both police and street enforcement officers and these are used to develop local solutions. This may result in police support to an enforcement operation, side by side patrolling or intelligence sharing.</p> <p>The roll out of street drinking has been a strong piece of joint working designed to deal with criminal activity and ASB linked to alcohol consumption in some areas. The impact through evaluation has been a significant reduction in environmental crime in target areas.</p> <p>6. We do not keep records of referrals. Information received is usually through intelligence sharing between officers and joint tasking.</p> <p>7. Commercial premises have a duty of care to look after their produced waste and ensure it does not become wind blow litter. Much of our activity has been advisory through our programme of more than 2000 visits undertaken each year to advise on duty of care and the storage of waste.</p> <p>Where litter has been clearly associated with particular</p>
--	---	---



		premises, officers provide advice on cleansing and encourage methods to reduce litter production.
2	8. <u>HMOs</u> – which other (Haringey and non-Haringey) agencies are involved in the development of a corporate strategy for “dealing with HMOs”. What are the objectives of the strategy?	<p>8. Our work on HMO strategy exists within a framework of wider strategy formation on Planning and Housing and in the context of wider partnership working.</p> <p>Those services directly involved at this stage are - Planning Service; Housing Service; Frontline Service; Council Tax, Neighbourhood Management, Fire Brigade &amp; the Police.</p> <p>Our objectives at this stage are -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to use pilot working and data gathering to inform how we can improve services and configure more joined up and timely interventions;</li> <li>- to review and improve the policy framework; and</li> <li>- to develop our communications and improve understanding.</li> </ul>
2	9. Housing eyesores – have residents been asked to submit addresses of eyesores?	<p>9. Housing residents have not been asked to submit addresses of Housing eyesores across the borough. Empty property eyesores are dealt with by the Senior Environmental Health Officer in Private Sector Housing Team. Occupied Housing eyesore are identified by this and other officers, whilst carrying out field investigative work. Although some are known to us these are all owner occupied quite often by elderly residents who have not been able to maintain their homes. Eyesore properties which are privately rented are dealt with through the teams direct response procedure and or by street enforcement who are responsible for dumping.</p>



<p>3</p>	<p><u>Emergency Planning</u></p> <p>10. What work has been done to estimate the effect on the Haringey workforce if the pandemic becomes an epidemic?</p> <p>11. What plans are in place to ensure the delivery of frontline services if the Haringey workforce succumbs to Swine Flu?</p>	<p>10. The government provided national planning assumptions to allow organisations to plan for a flu pandemic. This information included assumptions with regards to levels of absence through sickness and care of dependents. The Council has applied these to its own workforce, to enable service managers to plan how they would cope with elevated staff absences. These planning assumptions have recently been updated in the light of the scientific evidence from analysis of the H1N1 virus.</p> <p>11. The Council has a Flu Pandemic Contingency Plan, and this was tested on 15<sup>th</sup> July. This allows the Council to monitor attendance and service status in key services, and provide support where needed in terms of redeploying staff to critical areas. Advice and guidance has been provided to all staff and also specific advice has been provided to managers covering issues such as absence management, infection control, health and safety and so forth. The cleaning of all council buildings has been reviewed and enhanced. The Council has also engaged with all its key commissioned providers and suppliers to ensure they also have plans in place to deal with the pandemic.</p>
<p>3</p>	<p><u>Haringey Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy</u></p> <p>12. How much is being asked for from the PCT?</p>	<p>12. New investment of 460k by the PCT for alcohol interventions requested; decision pending June. Note this original request for investment has been scaled down to 78K (due to PCT's current financial situation).</p> <p>The 460k would fund screening and brief interventions in both</p>



	<p>13. When was it asked for?</p> <p>14. When was it envisaged that the Strategy be implemented?</p> <p>15. Was the Lead member made aware of the issues surrounding the “signing off” of the 09/10 PCT Budget?</p>	<p>the North Middlesex and the Whittington hospitals, targeting those with alcohol related conditions in both accident and emergency and on wards/outpatients. It would fund a Local Enhanced Scheme for GPs to do screening and brief interventions on those with conditions that might have alcohol as an underlying cause i.e. hypertension, falls. To match the increased capacity for treatment that improved screening would create there was also investment in alcohol treatment. 78k the scaled down bid will only pay for work at North Middlesex hospital which is seen as essential to make an impact on alcohol related hospital readmissions, an LAA target</p> <p>13. This was requested in December 2008</p> <p>14. Strategy was due to be implemented from April</p> <p>15. Yes</p>
<p>3</p>	<p><u>CST/YOS</u></p> <p>16. Where is the funding for this welcome initiative coming from?</p> <p>17. Who are the key partner agencies?</p>	<p>16. Initial mediation and support was offered free by the Independent Advisory Group (IAG). A bid is being prepared from the problem-solving pot, held by the Community Safety Team.</p> <p>17. Key partners are the Black IAG, YOS, YIP, Safer Communities and the Police</p>



<p>4</p>	<p><u>Planning Policy</u></p> <p>18. Please list all the portfolio areas associated with Planning that are now in your brief.</p> <p>19. What has Haringey's response been to the removal of the 50% affordable housing target?</p>	<p>18. Cllr Kober – Major Sites. Cllr Canver – Development Management &amp; Building Control &amp; Planning Policy.</p> <p>19. Haringey is concerned that its removal will reduce the amount of affordable housing in the Borough &amp; London. The Cabinet Member is discussing the way forward with officers.</p>
	<p><b><u>Questions from Councillor Aitken, Scrutiny Lead on Safer Communities</u></b></p>	
<p>1.</p>	<p>20. Street Enforcement - how will “community priorities for improving the urban environment” be decided? Will there be action plans for each Ward and how will residents be involved in setting priorities?</p>	<p>20. The intention is that ward Members will contribute to the setting of these priorities and the arrangements for each ward. Each ward will have an action plan and this will also be informed by ward walkabouts. In addition the service has information derived from resident surveys, crime and complaint monitoring which will also inform priority setting.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>21. European Services Directive - what is the Cabinet Member's estimate of the cost a) to the Council and b) businesses in Haringey of compliance with the Directive?</p>	<p>21. It is not possible at this stage to quantify costs to the Council. It is not expected that these will be significant. The highest cost is likely to be associated with introducing online payment methods. This is considered to be a helpful service improvement and one which was intended at some point. It is anticipated that this will reduce costs of payment handling over time.</p> <p>There should not be any direct costs to businesses in Haringey.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>22. Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) please provide further information about the Myddleton Rd Pilot Area? How many</p>	<p>22. The Myddleton Road Strategy Group is a working group comprising, ward Members, residents and business</p>



	<p>notices have been served on HMOs in the Pilot Area, how many visits have been undertaken and what actions have resulted?</p>	<p>representatives, Council services and Partners including the Police. The group has developed a strategy aiming to address a range of local concerns and to support and inform programs of infrastructure improvement and regeneration. The main concerns of residents were as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The loss of unique shop fronts</li> <li>• The decline in the shopping area</li> <li>• The proliferation of properties being converted.</li> </ul> <p>The group is chaired by Cllr Cooke and reports to Cllr Canver as chair of the Corporate Steering Group on HMO Strategy.</p> <p>The key HMO's that are of major concern are those which are not self contained units and have shared facilities, especially those of 3 or more storey. The main issues within Myddleton Road were the number of units being created through self containment without the required planning consent or building regulation approval. As part of the pilot 17 properties were inspected to assess the quality of the units provided to see whether standards had been compromised as a result of no permission. Only one property has had enforcement action taken 105 Myddleton Road. This property had 11 units which were of a high standard but the number of units breached authorised use. This property owner is now being prosecuted.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>Gambling/Licensing</u> 23. Can the Cabinet Member or Borough Commander provide figures for the number of offences occurring in Betting Shops, broken down by top ten offences, (if possible) for the last three years?</p>	<p>23. Nearly all offending recorded is criminal damage. These have fluctuated month by month over the last three years. There are currently around 25 incidents a month. In addition there are small amounts of drug related and public order offences taking place, and these are being collated and will be</p>





24. Can the Cabinet Member provide figures for Criminal Damage in Betting Shops compared with other North London Boroughs?

(Cllr Aitken was provided on a previous occasion with figures covering the period 1/12/2007 to 30/11/07.

provided subsequently.

24. The table below shows recorded criminal damage by business generated the most incidents. This is not broken down by individual premises. William Hill generate the most incidents in Haringey by a significant margin.

Business name	Total	Number of Premises / Average per premise
William Hill	467	19 / 24.6
Ladbrokes	112	26 / 4.3
Coral	50	3 / 16.7
Better Bet	25	3 / 8.3
Paddy Power	24	1 / 24.0
QUICK SILVER (AGC)	15	6 / 2.5
TOTE BOOKMAKERS	13	2 / 6.5
Thames Bookmakers	10	3 / 3.3
BET FRED	9	2 / 4.5
JENNINGS	5	1 / 5.0
Shoppers Pride ( AGC )	3	3 / 1.0
AGORA ( AGC )	2	2 / 2.0

Note AGC = Adult gaming Centre - shop premises with machines

We do not have any comparative data across the North London Boroughs at the present time, but this is to be compiled and provided subsequently.



	<p>25. Is the Cabinet Member aware that there have been a number of incidents of women being sexually harassed in the vicinity of betting shops and what does she propose to limit their impact on the local community?</p>	<p>25. It is likely that such crime may go largely unreported and we are unable to find any incidents of sexual assault recorded in any betting shops. We are undertaking a mapping exercise to map sexual incidents to see if they are near betting shops. Figures will also be provided for crime in individual premises and breakdowns of all crime in betting shops.</p> <p>The impact of betting shops has been taken very seriously and we have lobbied for changes in the framework of legislation that limits our gambling Licensing Policy in this area. Our current statement of Gambling Policy is currently under review and we will shortly be consulting on changes for adoption for 2010. We will be looking at options here.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>26. Domestic Violence - how many victims of DV in Haringey have no recourse to public funds? Will the Cabinet member join with Cllr Aitken in endorsing Amnesty International's Campaign on this issue?</p>	<p>26. Haringey is dealing with an average of 9 people a month with no recourse to public funds. The Cabinet Member has written to the Minister responsible and raised it in person with him when he joined us in Haringey for the re-launch of Hearthstone. Voluntary sector organisations in Haringey are raising funds to support those with no recourse to public funds and there is currently provision for one bed with a refuge provider. The Cabinet Member supports all campaigns on this issue including the Amnesty International one.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><u>Planning Policy/Enforcement</u></p> <p>27. Will the Cabinet Member list the number of outstanding Planning Enforcement Cases by Ward?</p> <p>28. Will the Cabinet Member list the number of "stop notices" issued in the last year by Ward?</p>	<p>This information will be <b>tabled</b> for Member's at the meeting.</p> <p>28. Bounds Green - One Temporary Stop Notice (TSN)          White Hart Lane - One TSN; one Stop Notice          Tottenham Hale - One TSN          Haringay - One Stop Notice          Muswell Hill - One TSN</p>



<p>7.</p>	<p><u>Questions regarding the Cabinet Member's Portfolio;</u> (A written response at a later date will suffice if the Cabinet Member's staff are unable to locate the information requested before the meeting of the Committee)</p> <p>29. How many sound systems have been seized in Haringey in the last 3 years as a result of complaints about noise nuisance?</p> <p>30. Does the Cabinet Member support the national "Court not Caution" campaign promoted by National Pubwatch whereby assaults on staff in licensed premises should be dealt with by the Courts rather than cautions or fixed penalty notices? Can she provide figures for the number of assaults on staff in licensed premises reported in the last year and what the outcome was?</p> <p>31. How many cautions or fixed penalty notices for shoplifting were issued in the last year in Haringey?</p> <p>32. What is the current status of the Bus-Text Scheme which was devised by students of St Thomas Moore School? How many text messages have been sent alerting police of incidents on</p>	<p>29. Ten sound systems have been seized in Haringey in the last 3 years as a result of complaints about noise nuisance.</p> <p>30. Police licensing officers have confirmed that there are few assaults on staff. It would require a manual search in order to break down the police records by licensed premises and staff. The merits of charging versus caution are that each case is decided on an individual basis in consultation with the CPS and takes the needs of the victim into account. The figures are not easily available at present and would, again, require substantial amounts of police time to query the system.</p> <p>31. Police Custody records for Shoplifting figures for 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Charged and Bailed To Court</td> <td>208</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charged and Detained For Court</td> <td>316</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cautioned</td> <td>204</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Warning</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fixed Penalty Notice Issue</td> <td>38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No Further Action</td> <td>82</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reprimand</td> <td>56</td> </tr> </table> <p>32. The school team was invited to present their idea to the Transport for London Board, who flagged up a number of practical issues with implementation. However, we believe</p>	Charged and Bailed To Court	208	Charged and Detained For Court	316	Cautioned	204	Final Warning	15	Fixed Penalty Notice Issue	38	No Further Action	82	Reprimand	56
Charged and Bailed To Court	208															
Charged and Detained For Court	316															
Cautioned	204															
Final Warning	15															
Fixed Penalty Notice Issue	38															
No Further Action	82															
Reprimand	56															



	<p>buses? What has been the cost of the scheme so far?</p> <p>33. Will the Cabinet Member list the crime figures for 1) each bus route in Haringey 2) each train station c) each Tube station in the Borough?</p> <p>34. How many people have been found carrying knives in Haringey in the last two years - how many of these were released without charge, cautioned, given a FPN, sent for trial etc and what was the result of Court action?</p> <p>35. With regard to the Police Borough Estates Plan is she aware that there are no canteen facilities at the Patrol Base in Quicksilver Place and as a result officers have to drive to Wood Green Police station in their rest breaks? When does she expect the new replacement for Wood Green Police Station to be ready?</p>	<p>that they are now considering piloting an adaptation of this idea and we are awaiting details.</p> <p>33. This information is held and managed by Transport for London. We will need to investigate the extent of their data breakdown by transport route. Feedback in due course</p> <p>34. Police custody records from 1st July 2007 - 30th June 2009 are resulted as follows for possession of a knife Charged and Bailed To Court 171 Charged and Detained For Court 74 Cautioned 13 Final Warning 5 Reprimand 3 No Further Action 75 Without a substantial amount of extra work, these are the most detailed figures available. Court results are held by the courts and are not automatically collated alongside the original custody records. Crime reports are often an unreliable source of detailed data without a record by record search.</p> <p>35. A new plan for Wood Green is underway which will require planning consent. It is estimated that it may take up to 3 years before a new police station opens. In relation to the canteen issue, this was a corporate MPS decision. Officers tend to use the nearest police station canteen to coincide with their duties and this is not appearing to have any significant impact on their operational work</p>
--	--	--



<b><u>Questions from Councillor Newton</u></b>	
<p><u>Enforcement Service:</u></p> <p>36. How many prosecutions for Dog mess have there been annually for the last 3 years?</p> <p>37. Has a Dog Warden been appointed yet, and if not, who is dealing with instances of aggressive or stray dogs?</p> <p>38. All enforcement services are linked - how are you ensuring a joined-up approach and accountability for dealing with issues?</p> <p>39. What can the Council do to ensure speedy clear up of</p>	<p>36. There have been no prosecutions for dog fouling.</p> <p>37. Our current Dog Warden took up his appointment in June. Cover arrangements for stray dog collection have been from trained staff within the Environmental Crime Service.</p> <p>Aggressive dogs are not the responsibility of the Dog Warden. Dogs which are aggressive or dangerous in a public place are the responsibility of the Police, and may be supported ASBAT in some cases.</p> <p>38. The Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities has responsibility for a wide range of direct enforcement and support services. Under this portfolio there are a range of strategic groups and boards which report back to the Cabinet Member, for example the Antisocial Behaviour partnership Board, CCTV Strategy Group and HMO Strategy Group.</p> <p>On a regular basis the Cabinet Member meets with her senior managers and on weekly basis with the Head of Enforcement. The Enforcement Service includes a majority of enforcement services and remains responsible for the coordination and planning of a range of joined up enforcement activities across the Council and its partners.</p> <p>39. Where land is adopted by the Council, fly tipped waste will</p>



Haringey Council

	<p>dumping/overflowing bins etc on alleyways and land behind parades of shops and restaurants/fast food outlets etc that may be in multiple private ownership but if left can not only be an eyesore but attract vermin?</p>	<p>be removed within 24 hrs. Where land is in private ownership enforcement action requires us to undertake land registry checks and require clearance through notice action. Where action is not taken we can act in default and recover our costs.</p> <p>Where there is evidence of fly tipping linked to an offender enforcement action can be taken.</p> <p>Where waste is not contained properly and linked to a premises, enforcement action can be taken immediately to requirement proper containment and formal action taken.</p> <p>The service has a significant programme of trade waste inspections which will ensure that traders have adequate arrangements in place to contain and dispose of their waste.</p>
	<p><u>Rats:</u> 40. What responsibilities or obligations do the Council have to reduce rat activity on residential / private / public land?</p>	<p>40. Under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, Local Authorities are under a statutory duty to ensure that their districts are kept, as far as is practicable, free from rodents. The Act does not require that a local authority must provide a pest control service but most local authorities have traditionally provided treatment services linked to enforcement within an environmental health service. Statutory notices can be served under the above act to require the treatment of infestations on private/residential land.</p>



	<p>41. What responsibility or obligations does Thames Water have in this?</p> <p>42. What services are chargeable and to whom?</p>	<p>41. Thames Water have a duty to ensure that sewers are free from rats. There is a National protocol issued by Thames Water for the co-operation on Rodent Control, issued by Water UK and in association with the Local Government Association, 2000. The protocol states that, if there is evidence of a rat infestation emanating from a sewer, Thames Water will carry out sewer baiting in parallel with surface baiting undertaken by this Authority.</p> <p>42. Complaints about rats will be investigated free of charge, however, requests for treatment are chargeable.</p> <p>A concessionary charge of £15 is payable for treatments made to domestic clients who are in receipt of a means tested benefit. This means one or more of the following - income support, housing benefit, council tax benefit, income based jobseekers allowance, pension credit, working tax credit.</p>
<p>1</p>	<p><u>Litter and Dumping:</u></p> <p>43. How many reports of dumping have there been annually for the last three years and can this be broken down to local ward level?</p> <p>44. What joint working is being undertaken with other boroughs to</p>	<p>43. The following are the reported incidences of dumping in Haringey for the last 3 years as reported to Flycapture</p> <p>2006/7 – 66,636  2007/8 – 35,418  2008/9 – 30,165</p> <p>44. Haringey is part of a coordinated group working with</p>



	tackle cross-border dumping?	<p>Islington and Hackney meet to discuss cross boarder issues within the Finsbury Park area.</p> <p>Neighbouring boroughs undertake intelligence sharing on prolific offenders and significant cases. Much of Haringey's dumped waste originates within the borough and is not a cross border issue</p>
2	<p><u>HMOs:</u> 45. What is the timescale for evaluating the pilots, evolving a strategy and rolling this out across all wards?</p> <p>46. Is there a current process to map locations of HMOs outside the pilot areas and if not, is this planned to take place?</p>	<p>45. The research into the two pilot areas will continue until December 2009 and be evaluated in 09/10. (This research includes mapping locations of approval &amp; not approved HMO's). As a result of this work we are already proposing to change Planning Policy to ensure better housing standards for HMO's and conversions – this will be put in place in 2010.</p> <p>46. Apart from licensed HMOs and those previously registered under the Housing Acts, there is no obligation to notify the existence of a HMO to a local authority.</p> <p>We will decide the way forward once we have completed all the roads in the pilot.</p>
2	<p><u>Local Air Quality:</u> 47. Haringey are not anywhere near meeting European targets to reduce levels of pollution to 40 g/m before 2010 as shown by previously supplied figures at various monitoring sites across the borough including Archway Road N6, Turnpike Lane N8, Muswell Hill Roundabout N10 and High Road N22 for</p>	<p>47. There is no statutory duty placed on the local authority to meet European targets for air quality. The targets are set by European directives for member states. It is the responsibility of central government to achieve compliance. The actions required for European Air Quality standards to be met are</p>





	<p>example. What is the Council doing to meet their statutory duty and when are these targets likely to be achieved? Are there any plans to reduce targets?</p>	<p>required at a local, national and international level. The responsibility lies at a national level.</p> <p>The local authority is a designated Air Quality Management Area in response to its duty through the National Air Quality Strategy to assess air quality against set standards. The Air Quality Action Plan was developed to address these issues and has identified a number of measures aimed at improving air quality.</p> <p>The two major pollutants of concern in urban areas including parts of Haringey are particulates ( PM 10 ) and Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2). It is predicted that UK will meet the 2010 standard for PM 10. Central Government is in the process of seeking an extension for compliance with the NO2 target. It is predicted that there will be widespread exceedences of the NO2 targets in urban areas including parts of Haringey. Central Government is currently carrying out modelling to provide further indications of likely exceedences.</p>
<p>2</p>	<p><u>Housing Eyesores:</u> 48. What criteria is used to judge this and who takes the decision? Does the Council have an ongoing list of eyesores that are currently not vacant?</p>	<p>48. Housing eyesores which are occupied are dealt with depending on what makes them an eyesore through the reactive complaint procedure within either the enforcement service or the strategic and community housing service.</p> <p>Empty property eyesores are dealt with as a priority by the Senior environmental health officer for empty homes. A street survey using council tax information was carried out to identify and investigate empty homes. This information was used to</p>



		<p>identify a priority list which includes a rolling programme of the top 50 of the 1500 empty homes identified. Each of these properties were rated using the scoring sheet attached. These properties are then investigated using the empty property enforcement procedure. Enforced sale , CPO empty property management orders are some of the main enforcement techniques available should empty home owners not wish to co-operate with the Council.</p>
3	<p><u>Emergency Planning:</u> 49. What plans for Haringey and its partners in the area of safeguarding and child protection, to ensure safeguarding in the event that staff succumb to flu?</p>	<p>49. Safeguarding children and vulnerable people is the Council's highest priority in any emergency. The possible impact of the pandemic has been considered carefully, and we are updating our assessment of the impact on all services for children and young people in the light of new planning assumptions released by Government last week. Referral and assessment clearly represents the highest priority for the Children and Young People's Service, alongside maintaining care for looked after children.</p> <p>The impacts of a pandemic can be both direct, through loss of staff directly engaged on safeguarding activity and indirect through loss of support services. In the latter case highest priority services will receive the highest level of support from across the council, with resources diverted from elsewhere as necessary.</p> <p>Contingency plans are being updated to enable the key social care teams to operate with reduced staffing levels. We have taken guidance from the Cabinet Office to ensure we are aware of expectations and good practice in developing these plans.</p>



	50. What areas are being potentially compromised by the focus on swine flu?	50. The Emergency Planning and Business Continuity Team is slightly behind where we would have expected to be in preparing the Multi-Agency Flood Plan for the borough, but we expect to meet the deadline set by DEFRA. The team, along with partners across London, has had to reprioritise some of the training events it would normally deliver or participate in. It is important to note that this is more than offset by new activities in relation to swine flu that will have wider and longer term benefits. For example, the Council has conducted a thorough audit of the resilience of its suppliers and providers, and has delivered training and awareness events to promote business continuity.
4	<p><u>Planning Policy:</u></p> <p>51. What other potential sites in Haringey other than the Friern Barnet ex Sewage works were considered if any?</p>	51. None. The ex Sewage Works would be big enough for the whole of the North London requirement. As it is other North London Boroughs are also putting forward sites to contribute to the overall North London requirement of an extra 4.2 acres.
	<b><u>Questions from Councillor Bull</u></b>	
1	<p><u>Pest Control</u></p> <p>52. Can the Cabinet Member briefly outline the charges for pest removal and who is exempt? Can the Cabinet Member also outline when these charges and criteria were last reviewed?</p> <p><u>Litter and Dumping</u></p>	<p>52. All domestic clients in receipt of means tested benefits can receive pest control treatment at a standard cost of £15. All other domestic and business clients pay a charge that reflects a commercial rate.</p> <p>Charges are reviewed annually, but the last significant review was in March 2007.</p>



<p>53. Has any kind of cause and effect link been established between the recession and an increase in dumping?</p> <p><u>HMOs</u></p> <p>54. Can the Cabinet Member briefly outline the steps that are taken to secure a CPO on a property? What's the average time for completion and sale?</p> <p><u>Planning Enforcement</u></p> <p>55. What procedures are in place to ensure that when an application is granted that any conditions are adhered to?</p>	<p>53. Reported dumping has continued to fall during the period of recession.</p> <p>54. Steps to CPO:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Property identified through rating system as high priority (long term empty or eyesore).</li><li>2. Series of letters written to owner offering help and advice and grant aid to bring the property into use. As time goes on letters more hard hitting and refer to CPO</li><li>3. property is put on Forward Plan for Cabinet decision.</li><li>4. Referred to Legal to write Statement of Reasons to send to Secretary of State.</li><li>5. Secretary of State confirms order – then have to go to vesting declaration to take possession of property.</li><li>6. Property sold to RSL or at auction</li></ol> <p>Timescales:</p> <p>Once property identified as a priority for CPO, letters in total take about 4 months to send. Legal then write Statement and then send to GOL. So far 2 properties are with GOL – one has been there since Sept 2008 and GOL have just indicated they want an inquiry. We then need to wait for a date for this to be set. The other case was confirmed within a matter of weeks with no problems. Once CPO confirmed, Legal move to take possession and then dispose of as quickly as possible. This has not been done yet so impossible to give timescales.</p> <p>55. At the moment we rely on permission reviews by the S106 team; Building Control site visits and enforcement complaints</p>
--	--



**Haringey Council**

	<p>Are any random checks made on planning applications as the work is being carried out?</p>	<p>by members of the public/officers/members. As part of the service plan for 10-11 growth bid will be made for a “conditions compliance officer”</p>
	<p><b><u>LDF (Cllr Allison)</u></b> 56. LDF working group did not receive an update at last LDF member Working group and members were not sent final draft of Core Strategy for consultation. Can new Portfolio Holder treat opposition members with more respect and pay more than lip service to consultation?</p>	<p>56. Minutes of the last LDF Members working party were sent out. The Core Strategy and the proposed consultation process for went to Cabinet in April before it went out to public consultation and the opposition members had time to comment on content and if necessary call in the report. Further all Area Assemblies were consulted and an exhibition was held. All of these gave opposition Councillors the opportunities for consultation and I wholly reject the suggestion that this was ‘lip service’.</p>