

COUNCIL – 19 OCTOBER 2009 - QUESTIONS

Public Question to the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Lifelong Learning from Sarah Cope:

I would like to know how well the council is doing on acting on the recommendations made by the London Assembly's Environment Committee in their May 2007 review of London's street trees entitled 'Chainsaw Massacre'.

Oral Questions

Oral Question 1 - To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Dobbie:

Would the Cabinet Member agree with me that our residents can no longer, even if they did in the first place, trust Haringey Labour to secure the safety of vulnerable children within the borough after failing to do proper CRB checks and allowing a foster child to have regular contact with a terrorist?

Oral Question 2 – To the Leader of the Council from Councillor Gorrie:

Why did the same Labour Group that now supports a Council Tax Freeze vote only eight months ago against the Liberal Democrat proposal to freeze Council Tax in the current year?

Oral Question 3 - To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Bull:

Can the Cabinet member for Children and Young People please summarise the outcomes of the Summer Uni in Haringey this year?

Oral Question 4 - To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Alexander:

Has the Council any plans to lobby Transport for London for funding to install a new pedestrian crossing at the dangerous junction at Green Lanes, Alfoxton Avenue and Frobisher Road?

Oral Question 5 –To the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Wellbeing from Councillor Catherine Harris:

Can the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Wellbeing please outline what work is being done to encourage older people to volunteer?

Oral Question 6 – To the Leader of the Council from Councillor Wilson:

Do you believe it is acceptable that the Haringey councillor representative on the Board of Finsbury Park regeneration agency Fin Future never attends any of the meetings?

Oral Question 7 - To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Adje:

Can the Cabinet Member for Housing outline what the situation in Haringey is with regards to gas safety certificates for Council tenants?

Oral Question 8 - To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Oakes:

The prospect of future work needed to make the Bounds Green tube station crossing safer is still uncertain, particularly the enforcement for the no left turn, and pedestrian safety at that crossing continues to be a grave local concern. Could the cabinet member please, as a matter of urgency, inform local residents of the current plans for this crucial junction? What response has the Council received from Transport for London and other agencies regarding funding and changes to this junction and when will work start to make this safer for local residents?

Oral Question 9 - To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Lifelong Learning from Councillor Mallett:

Can the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Life Long Learning let us know how Haringey performed at the annual London in Bloom Awards?

Written Questions

Written Question 1 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Aitken:

How many bids for the Community Safety Capital Fund have been submitted since the scheme was established, which ones have been successful and what was the process for evaluating bids?

ANSWER

Over the past 3 years around 30 bids have been approved.

The Performance Management Group (PMG) has the responsibility for the approval to fund capital projects and monitor performance. The decision to commission projects for the current year will be taken at the PMG meeting of 5 November 2009.

Written Question 2 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Alexander:

In light of the success of the recent Green Lanes Festival and the Chair of the GLSG's statement on Harringay Online, please could the chair of GLSG confirm that this is to be an annual event.

ANSWER

Following this successful event, I have now asked the officers with our partners to carry out a detailed evaluation of the event. The Green Lanes Strategy Group is scheduled to meet in October to review and examine options for looking at the possibility of holding the festival annually.

Written Question 3 – To the Leader of the Council from Councillor Allison:

When was Haringey Council's planning department first aware of the proposed new Network Rail maintenance facility adjacent to the new Heartlands development and New River Village? I understand that many meetings took place between the Council and Network Rail, how many meetings took place, which councillors attended and what other briefings were given? When did the Council tell the London Development Agency and National Grid of the proposals?

ANSWER

The first meeting with Council officers when Network Rail set out their proposal for the Maintenance Depot on Coronation Sidings was on 9 June this year.

At two previous meetings with Network Rail in October 2008 and January 2009, Network Rail stated they were looking at various options but had not produced a specific scheme.

No other meetings have been held between Planning Development Management Officers and Network Rail or its agents since 9 June. No Councillors were present at these meetings.

The Director of Urban Environment and I met with Network Rail and their advisors on 12 August where they signalled their intention to submit their prior approval application without further consultation or communication with the Council.

Planning and Legal Officers did visit the Hornsey Rail Depot site on 11 August to look at the sidings; this was strictly a site visit not a meeting. Network Rail carried out their own consultation, and held a public exhibition on their proposals on 17 and 18 July and this is believed to have included a briefing for Members and MPs. This was neither encouraged nor endorsed by the Council.

The Prior Approval submission was made by Network Rail on 24 August.

Council Officers were told that Network Rail's Planning Consultants had meetings with National Grid's Planning Consultants at the same time or before they met with the Council officers on 9 June, so National Grid have been aware of the proposals for Coronation Sidings for about the same length of time as the Council has been aware.

Solicitors acting for National Grid and LDA have lodged a formal objection to the Thameslink Depot proposals at Coronation Sidings.

Written Question 4 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Baker:

Please provide a list of the roads where pavements in Harringay ward have been replaced/resurfaced in the past two years. When are they due to be resurfaced/replaced and how much money has the Council set aside for pavement replacement in Harringay ward over the next year?

ANSWER

There was no footway resurfacing schemes in 2007/08 in the Harringay ward.

2008/09

Raleigh Road, N8
Wightman Road, N8

2009/10

Effingham Road, N8 – estimate cost £63,377
Green Lanes, N8 – estimate cost £36,841.
Wightman Road - estimate cost £83,804.

Written Question 5 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Beacham:

When did the Council last meet its own recycling target?

ANSWER

Haringey achieved its annual recycling target of 25% in 2007/08.

Background Information

From 2008/9 onwards Haringey's performance against the recycling indicator has been impacted by three primary factors:

1. Household/Non-Household Split

The 'recycling rate' is a measure of the amount of household waste that has been recycled or composted. However, the calculation of this figure first requires a determination of the proportion of the municipal waste collected in

Haringey that can be classified as 'household'. It is not possible to physically measure the amount of household waste collected, and instead there are methodologies for agreeing figures for the non-household elements. From 2008/9 onwards these methodologies have changed, which has resulted in the amount of waste being classified as household increasing. Methods for gaining a more accurate measure of the split in the borough's municipal waste are being investigated.

2. Apportionment of Reclaimed Bulky Waste

A portion of Haringey's recycling rate is made up of reclaimed material from bulky waste collections that can be recycled, an apportionment of which is assigned to the borough by the North London Waste Authority (NLWA). From 2008/9 onwards this apportionment has reduced considerably.

3. Recycling Contamination Rate

From 2008/9 an increased recycling rate has been specified by the NLWA for mixed-material recycling collections. This rate is applied to all material passing through the recycling sorting facilities from North London and elsewhere, and is not necessarily reflective of Haringey's performance. From 1 October 2009 the recycling from North London has been re-routed to newer sorting facilities with lower contamination rates.

Impact

The final recycling rate for 2008/09 was 22.7%.

However, despite the factors described above the total tonnage of recycling collected in Haringey has continued to increase year on year.

Year	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Tonnage of recycling collected	12801	17963	18965	20136

A comparison of the 2008/9 monthly tonnages to provisional figures for 2009/10 suggest further increases in the tonnage of recycling collected.

Written Question 6 – To the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Wellbeing from Councillor Beynon:

How many properties are used by Social Services for temporary emergency accommodation? How many of these properties are owned by Haringey and how many are rented? How many are in Haringey and how many are elsewhere? What vetting procedures are carried out to ensure that the properties used are suitable?

ANSWER

Adult Social Care does not have 'temporary emergency accommodation'. Occasionally the Directorate is required to provide accommodation in an emergency situation (usually out of office hours); this generally is in Bed and Breakfast Accommodation registered with the Council. Emergency accommodation might also be provided in a registered Care or Nursing Home

dependent on the needs of the person presenting. All registered care/nursing homes are regulated by the Care Quality Commission who have detailed and exact standards which proprietors must comply with.

Written Question 7– To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Bloch:

On what date did the planning officer considering the application for a crossover on 72 Muswell Hill Road, Muswell Hill visit the premises and how did he come to the conclusion that it was on a red route as well as been in a CPZ?

ANSWER

I have contacted the planning department and found out that errors were made when assessing the application but this was immaterial to the decision. It is on the edge of a CPZ so an incorrect assumption was made by the planning officer. The planning officer visited the address on 6 August 2009.

Written Question 8 – To Cabinet Member for Resources from Councillor Butcher:

According to the Statement of Accounts what is the overall impairment loss recognised in the income and expenditure account in 2008/09 for the £37million loss in Icelandic Banks?

ANSWER

The sum included in the statement of accounts for 2008/09 as an overall impairment in the income and expenditure account is a loss of £8.3m although this includes approximately £2m of a notional interest loss for future cash flow which is calculated in accordance with the national accounting advice. This sum is deferred to a future year in accordance with the government's capital finance regulations. Based on current information the overall return of the capital sum is expected to be in the region of an 80% to 90% recovery.

Written Question 9 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Davies:

Will he confirm or deny that the Decent Homes programme is under funded by £26million as shown in the Homes for Haringey gateway report and that this is due to, as shown in the report, the *“the ‘Full Haringey standard’ as described in appendix 4, has been adopted and delivered in year 1 of the programme, and is being implemented from year 2, without recourse to the additional funding and resource required to facilitate and deliver this to all the non-decent stock.”*?

ANSWER

The decent homes programme is not under funded by £26m. This figure is quoted from a previous report that has since been superseded. The overall governance of the decent homes programme is managed by the Decent Homes board. The board recently considered an independent report from Housing Quality Network (HQN) in conjunction with Homes for Haringey detailing the affordability of the programme going forward. This report does not indicate a £26m shortfall and is based on the "stock condition survey standard" being adopted.

Written Question 10 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Edge:

When was the Finsbury Park CPZ originally planned to be reviewed? When will it now be reviewed? Why has the Council broken repeated promises made to consult with residents of Stroud Green who are experiencing parking problems and when is the Council likely to consult with residents experiencing displacement parking?

ANSWER

The Finsbury Park CPZ was implemented in March 2003 and the scheme was reviewed in June/July 2004. Following the feedback from this review the Council carried out Public Consultation in March 2005 to gauge support for the introduction of parking controls. Statutory Consultation was carried out in July 2005. Following the feedback from Statutory Consultation and after receiving approval from the then Executive in November 2005 the scheme was extended in January 2006.

Furthermore, a new CPZ - Finsbury Park (Zone A) CPZ – was implemented in May 2007 after a consultation process that started in May 2006.

A review of the Finsbury Park CPZ has now been placed on our provisional list for 2010/11 for the consideration of parking controls subject to funding and Cabinet approval.

Written Question 11 – To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Engert:

Please provide the number of young people aged 16-24 in Haringey seeking employment at the moment, ward by ward and compared to same time during the last two years.

ANSWER

The figures below present the number of Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimants aged 16-24 in each Haringey ward from August 2007 to August 2009:

	Aug-07	Aug-08	Aug-09
Alexandra	25	40	55

Bounds Green	80	75	125
Bruce Grove	155	135	165
Crouch End	30	30	50
Fortis Green	40	30	70
Harringay	80	70	110
Highgate	25	25	35
Hornsey	130	115	190
Muswell Hill	40	30	55
Noel Park	110	125	160
Northumberland Park	205	150	190
Seven Sisters	105	90	135
St Ann's	110	100	140
Stroud Green	60	55	80
Tottenham Green	160	120	170
Tottenham Hale	195	165	205
West Green	115	115	180
White Hart Lane	150	135	165
Woodside	125	120	165
Haringey	1,945	1,730	2,455

Although the figures show that every ward bar Northumberland Park experienced an increase in 16-24 year JSA claimants between August 2007 and August 2009, it should be noted that increases were apparent in 96% of wards in London and 90% of wards in England.

As the above figures relate to JSA claimants it is likely that very few are in the 16 to 18 age range. Figures for 16 to 18 year olds Not in Employment Education or Training (NEET) from the Connexions CCIS database are as follows:

16 to 18 year olds NEET by Ward			
	Aug 07	Aug 08	Aug 09
Alexandra	7	4	5
Bounds Green	20	17	17
Bruce Grove	36	20	24
Crouch End	8	13	10
Fortis Green	15	9	12
Harringay	15	9	9
Highgate	3	1	1
Hornsey	14	13	12
Muswell Hill	12	4	2
Noel Park	29	19	22
Northumberland Park	45	30	22
Seven Sisters	30	21	18
St Ann's	29	21	10
Stroud Green	9	6	8
Tottenham Green	32	17	15
Tottenham Hale	34	20	22
West Green	18	15	20
White Hart Lane	37	24	26
Woodside	26	23	25
TOTAL	419	286	280

These numbers are for all 16 to 18 year olds not in employment education or training (NEET). Some of them will not be seeking work or training for various reasons e.g. they are ill, teenage parents etc but the majority will be seeking education employment or training.

The numbers for the 16 to 18 year old age group have continued to decrease slightly overall (those with an increase this year are highlighted) despite the economic climate. There has been a rigorous reduction of those 16 to 18 year olds whose outcome is “Not Known”. This ensures that we do not have a large number of young people who are potentially NEET that we do not know about. Figures below:

16 to 18 year olds in Haringey whose outcomes are not known		
Aug 07	Aug 08	Aug 09
10.4%	8.3%	3.6%

Connexions Haringey tracks and maintains contact with all young people age 16 to 18 who are NEET and works with them to help them find suitable education, training or employment opportunities including apprenticeships and working with other agencies to ensure all their needs are met.

Support is also available to 16-24 year olds through Haringey Council’s flagship employment and skills intervention, the Haringey Guarantee. The support that is available includes:

- Basic skills (numeracy and literacy)
- Vocational training in the social care, security and fashion industries
- Work placements (up to 6 weeks full-time without a person’s benefits being affected)
- Guaranteed interviews for Haringey Council vacancies
- Condition Management Programme for people with a health condition or disability

The Council’s Economic Regeneration team is also co-ordinating a Future Jobs Fund bid that will have a focus on creating jobs for 18-24 year olds. The bid is expected to be submitted at the end of October.

Written Question 12 – To the Cabinet Member for Resources from Councillor Gorrie:

Could you please confirm whether the office of fair trading investigation into bid fixing by construction companies has had any contact with Haringey Council? If so what questions were asked, what information provided and what was the outcome of their enquiries with respect to Haringey and its construction suppliers? Have any actions been taken in response to this investigation or its findings?

ANSWER

The OFT have not contacted Haringey Council regarding their investigation into bid rigging.

None of Haringey's construction projects are listed by the OFT as being affected by bid rigging.

Of the firms investigated by the OFT, five firms are known to Haringey and they are:

Apollo Property Services Ltd, Balfour Beatty, Willmot Dixon, Durkans and Mansells.

None of their projects relate to Haringey. The projects are mainly located in the Midlands and East Anglian regions.

Written Question 13 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Hare:

Has the Council any plans to introduce separate recycling facilities for flats to recycle electrical equipment or battery recycling for households?

ANSWER

Battery Recycling

Haringey already offers residents a free collection of vehicle batteries through the white goods collection service, and household/car batteries can also be dropped off at either of the borough's Reuse & Recycling Centres.

We have recently upgraded our R&R Centres so to provide dedicated collection points for household batteries.

In the New Year we will be starting a trial scheme for battery collections in 2009/10 in a network of locations across the borough, such as libraries, community and faith centres, schools, Customer Service Centres and Council offices, where residents will be able to easily drop off their household batteries for recycling.

Our scheme will be using the results of trial battery recycling schemes operated by WRAP over the past year to see which collection methods have proved most successful.

Electrical Equipment

At present the Council does not have any plans to introduce separate recycling facilities for flats to recycle electrical equipment. However, Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) can currently be recycled in three ways.

1. At Haringey's two Reuse & Recycling Centres, residents are able to recycle both large and small WEEE items.
2. Selected large WEEE items, including fridges, freezers, washing machines, dishwashers, tumble driers, ovens and cookers, computers/PCs and TVs, can be collected for free through the white goods collection service. Residents can telephone the Haringey Enterprise Call Centre on 020 8885 7700 to book a free collection.

3. Some electrical equipment suppliers offer 'take-back' schemes, either free or for a small charge, to remove WEEE items when delivering new models. An increasing number of suppliers are also offering in-store drop-off points for small WEEE items.

The Council is currently evaluating opportunities to promote these options more widely, and also help residents to better understand other initiatives that have been set up to enable the recycling of WEEE items, such as the Royal Mail's recently-launched "Simply Drop" scheme for small electrical items.

Written Question 14 – To the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Involvement from Councillor Mughal:

Regarding the Noel Park Community Festival - Can you confirm that the Council communicated with residents showing continued support for the festival after changes in management of the event took place? On how many occasions were organisers contacted by the Council? Why did the Council make the decision to pull funding when the venue changed?

ANSWER

I understand from officers that regular communication continued throughout management changes. The original proposals for a community festival to be held in August 2009 for Noel Park residents, proposed by the Hewitt Avenue Neighbourhood Watch [HANW], was discussed with the [then] Neighbourhood Manager in July 2009.

Following the departure of the former postholder, one of the first tasks of the Interim Neighbourhood Manager was to arrange a meeting with the group. A meeting was arranged for 20 August between the group [HANW], ward councillors and staff from neighbourhood management and recreation services to discuss the proposed event. I understand a date for this latter meeting was agreed with the group but unfortunately they did not attend the meeting. Attempts were made on 20 August and 24 August by Neighbourhood Management to contact the group to discuss options. These requests were followed up by email.

In the light of the lead in time required for event planning [licensing, publicity and other arrangements], the Interim Head of Neighbourhood Management wrote to HANW on 21 September as it was by this time not considered prudent to hold an event in October 2009. The letter from Neighbourhood Management offered continued support to the group to help them to build capacity, formally constitute the group and plan for an event in the Spring, should they wish to avail themselves of this assistance. This will enable the event objectives to be better met and allow more time for the effective planning and fund raising that is required. The group are aware that they may make an application for Making the Difference Funding.

Neighbourhood Management have maintained contact and assured the group who are organising this event that they will provide them with support and advice, as they do to other groups seeking such assistance.

Written Question 15 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Newton:

Please provide the number of Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) issued by Haringey Council in each of the last two years showing how many charges were issued in the higher and lower band? How many were successfully appealed or otherwise withdrawn by the Council?

ANSWER

Year	Parking PCNs	Of which higher level	Of which lower level	Bus Lane	Moving traffic PCNs	Total PCNs
April 07 March 08	170,720*	103,984	18,927	6,964	20,563	198,247
April 08 March 09	170,482	144,813	25,669	7,552	13,362	191,406

***This includes 47,809 PCNs issued prior to Differential Charging (1 April 2007 – 30 June 2007)**

Challenges and representations made against issued PCNs

Year	No of PCN's which were challenged or appealed	No of PCN's cancelled
April 07 – March 2008	60,203	28,512
April 08 – March 2009	56,776	25,540

This and other information relating to the performance of the parking service is available in the Annual Parking and Enforcement plan which is available on the Council's website.

Written Question 16 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Oakes:

With regard to the recent Section 60 order across the whole borough please provide how many people were stopped and searched by ward (with an ethnicity breakdown) and how many people were cautioned as a result and how many weapons were seized?

ANSWER

Section 60 powers are used as a tactical option to reduce the likelihood of a violent incident and to prevent the possibility of weapons being carried. The

data is not broken down by ward or for each Section 60 authorisation at present; there were 722 Section 60 searches in Haringey during August 2009. However, we are not provided with the arrest rate, the ward or ethnic breakdown of stops under Section 60.

The Stop and Search Monitoring Group have recently requested a breakdown of when, where and the outcomes of each Section 60 authorisation. This will be put together for their next meeting in November. However information linking searches to wards and identifying the case disposal to each is not available.

Written Question 17 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Oatway:

How many motorcycle secure parking is there in the borough? How much money has been allocated for cycle and motorcycle hoops (secure parking) this year? Last year? How much is likely to be allocated next year?

ANSWER

Motorcyclists can park their motorcycles in parking bays within CPZs. Our allocation for cycle parking is as follows:

2008/9 £20,000

2009/10 £30,000

2010/11 £20,000

Written Question 18 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Rainger:

Please provide the number of enforcement officers that enforce licensing provisions? How many premises in the borough have these officers visited in the past year? How many visits lead to any request for legal proceedings?

ANSWER

The Enforcement Service has 9 officers who are authorised to carry out licensing provisions. Within the Enforcement Response Service there are 6 officers who carry out licensing enforcement along with their duties relating to noise enforcement and nuisance investigations on a shift basis

640 licensed premises have been visited under the Licensing act 2003 in the last year.

The enforcement actions arising from these inspections are -

- 1 prosecution
- 4 Fixed Penalty Notices

- 1 review of a premises licenses instigated
- 30 warning letters

Written Question 19 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Reid:

Will the Cabinet Member for Housing guarantee that those residents in Stokely House and similar sheltered housing in other parts of the borough will first be given proper and meaningful consultation and that those who wish to remain where they are now living can stay there?

Will he also furnish all elected members and residents with hard copies of reports so we all can establish whether the options are based on evidence?

ANSWER

We commissioned an independent Sheltered Housing Options appraisal report from the Housing Quality Network (HQN) in relation to four sheltered schemes which have below standard levels of accommodation. This complements the report completed by Ridgeway Associates in 2005 which showed that we had an over provision of sheltered accommodation, and not enough extra care accommodation. This means that older people with additional care needs did not have many other alternatives to residential care. To date there have been two meetings with residents of each of the schemes, however, because the report had not been completed at that stage, there was little information we could share. The report has now been completed and we are considering the recommendations. We have not yet made any decisions. We will undertake a comprehensive consultation exercise together with individual needs assessments of all residents who may be affected by any changes. Those needs assessments will inform any decisions about the accommodation to be provided to residents.

The HQN report, together with a more accessible and easy to read summary, will be made available to all residents and Councillors. This report provides a detailed analysis of the four schemes, but is just one of the sources of information being used to inform our planning for how we meet the needs of older people in the future.

Written Question 20 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Scott:

How many commercial sun bed premises are there in Haringey? How many have been checked by Haringey trading standards? Are any of them unsupervised coin-op premises? If so, what steps are being taken to close them down as under 18s cannot be prevented from using them? Are there any sun beds on Haringey council property? If so, what is the council's policy on removing them, given the very clear risk that they pose as a factor in causing skin cancer as highlighted in the recent report from the All Party Parliamentary Group on Skin and in other international dermatology reports?

ANSWER

There are 19 commercial premises with sun beds. All are inspected and annually licensed. Visits are not made by Trading Standards Officers. They are undertaken by health and safety and licensing officers.

None are unsupervised coin operated sunbeds.

No commercial sun beds operate in Haringey Council premises.

Written Question 21 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Weber:

How much of the £2million budget for street lighting has been used to date? What percentage of street lights have been replaced across the borough in the Tottenham Constituency and separately the Hornsey and Wood Green constituency? How many columns are there in each ward and how many need to be replaced?

ANSWER

We do not hold information on the street lighting columns on a ward basis and the analysis in response to this question has been done using streets information.

- Approximately £0.5 m has been spent, £700k is committed to St Ann's, Woodside and Bounds Green wards so far, all three are at an advanced stage of works. Lordship Lane and White Hart Lane are both on this year's programme with Lordship Lane ready to start on site.
- Approximately £200k is committed to Crouch End/Hornsey ward in this financial year to be undertaken provisionally between December 2009 and February 2010.
- In Tottenham, 70% have been replaced or are in an acceptable condition. There are approximately 300 columns that need replacing in Tottenham Hale, Tottenham Green and south of Dowsett Road.
- In Hornsey, 80% have been replaced or are in an acceptable condition. Approximately 200 columns still need replacing in streets off Tottenham Lane, and Church Lane as well as a small area to the rear of the Police Station.
- In Wood Green, 70% have been replaced or are in an acceptable condition. The area off Bounds Green Road to Green Lanes requires approximately 400 new columns.

Written Question 22 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Whyte:

How many noise enforcement officers does Haringey employ? How many of these work during the hours 10pm – 6am?

ANSWER

Within the Enforcement Response service there are 6 officers currently employed. We currently have 3 vacancies which we are aiming to recruit to. The service is however, maintaining full cover through the use of agency staff as and when necessary.

Five officers carry out noise enforcement between 10pm - 6am on a shift basis. The number of teams on duty can increase at peak times, with up to 3 teams in operation with police support

Written Question 23 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Williams:

Following the investigation into safety catches on windows of Homes for Haringey's (HfH) properties – what did the Council do, what actions were taken and have there been any further incidents in HfH or partner properties?

ANSWER

Following the incident last year, Homes for Haringey proposed a proactive window maintenance programme. This programme will inspect and maintain all windows in Haringey Council owned stock on a five year cycle. The programme is due to start this month.

Homes for Haringey also wrote to every resident in the borough following the incident, asking them to check the safe operation of their windows. A number of repairs were reported by residents which were all completed.

There have been no further incidents in Haringey Council stock involving this type of window or safety catch. There has however been a further two incidents where children have fallen from windows. One occurred in a Homes for Haringey managed street property and Homes for Haringey are currently working closely with social services to ensure that the appropriate support is provided to the family. The incident was not due to any repair issues around the window.

The second incident involved a Peabody Housing Trust property.

In both incidences, the children recovered from the fall.

Written Question 24 – To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Lifelong Learning from Councillor Wilson:

What action has the Council taken to replace the crumbling children's play fort in Stationers Park since residents were promised this would happen 4 years ago, and will he now accelerate this action now the fort has been badly vandalised over the summer holiday?

ANSWER

The damage caused by vandalism was actually repaired within days, and thus the disruption to service was limited. The play fort is now over 20 years old, and the Council has increased maintenance spend in recent years to maintain the facility, whilst exploring the longer term replacement options and funding opportunities.

It would cost around £100k to refurbish the play fort, or £300k for a total replacement. In the context of existing play provision standards, a complete refurbishment or replacement would not represent good value for money. However, I am pleased to report that Council officers are currently working with the Friends of Stationers Park to develop a Playbuilder funding application. If funding is approved, this could deliver a scheme in 2010/11, on the basis that it will be a new 'natural' play area rather than a direct replacement of the fort.

Written Question 25 – To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Lifelong Learning from Councillor Winskill:

Please provide the number of allotments that there are in Haringey, how many people are on waiting lists, how many waiting lists are closed, how many are vacant, what the yearly rent is the total income from the rent on allotments for the last financial year and the current year.

Please provide full details of Haringey's expenditure (revenue and capital) on the Allotment Service and has there been any s106 agreements on new housing developments involving provision of allotment sites, or are any planned?

ANSWER

Please provide the number of allotments that there are in Haringey (LBH managed)

There are 26 sites currently in use. Total number of plots is 1,680.

How many people are on waiting lists?

As of 5 October 2009, there are 922 people on allotment site waiting lists. We have still not received the waiting lists from 2 sites.

How many waiting lists are closed?

4 are still closed

How many plots are vacant?

The vast majority of sites are at full occupancy. Courtman Road currently has 13 vacant plots. Risley has 26 vacant. Gospatrick has 30 vacant.

What is the total rent income for allotments for the last financial year and the current year?

Allotments income/expenditure	April -March 09	April 09-March 10
	Actual	Forecast
Allotment income	£66,241	£67,565
	<u>£66,241</u>	<u>£67,565</u>

Allotment administration - 70%	£22,007	£22,450
Budget allotment allocation & Site secretary expenses	£10,109	£10,310
Infrastructure improvements	£10,000	£10,000
General R&M (supported by Parks R&M)	£2,967	£3,026
Water charges	£20,127	£20,530
Other costs	£1,031	£1,050
	<u>£66,241</u>	<u>£68,063</u>
Net surplus/deficient	£0	-£199
Capital contribution	£15,000	£40,000

Above excludes support/ management/ monitoring officer costs.

Please provide full details of Haringey's expenditure (revenue and capital) on the Allotment Service.

Recreation Services spent £28k in 2007 and 2008 on improvements via existing mainstream revenue/capital maintenance budgets. For 2009, £50k (capital) has been allocated for infrastructure improvements.

Has there been any on new housing developments involving provision of allotment sites, or are any planned?

To date there has been no funding via s106 agreements. However, this is an area that we are seeking to develop within our wider Local Development Framework /Core Strategy work.

Written Question 26 – To the Leader of the Council from Councillor Dobbie:

Can the Leader please list all the events and away-days that Haringey Councillors have attended in the last twelve months in carrying out their duties both here in Haringey and outside the Borough, i.e.; that of training events, seminars, conferences and away-days.

By this, I would be grateful if she can list what Councillor to each engagement/event and the cost to the Council for each event in terms of attendance, accommodation and travelling costs.

ANSWER

Events, seminars, conferences and training & development attended by Councillors for the period October 2008 – September 2009 are listed in the table (attached).