



Haringey Council

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Q 'N' A: Cabinet Member for Environment & Conservation – Councillor Haley

Question Number	Page/Point	Question/Observation	
		Questions from Councillor Mallett	
1	Recycling	I understand that in some parts of the borough, more extensive recycling of plastics is now available. How much of the borough does this cover, and when will it roll out across the whole of Haringey?	As of 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2009, the range of materials that can be collected for recycling in Haringey has increased to include plastic pots, trays, tubs and bags, and also drink cartons. This applies to all recycling services in the borough, including green boxes, estate recycling facilities, on-street recycling banks and the upcoming collections for flats above shops. Information on this improvement to the service is included in the October edition of Haringey People, and the website has been updated accordingly.
2	Traffic Management	How will the new Traffic Management Act permit scheme improve the scheduling of road works in the borough?	The TMA permit scheme allows us to reject requests from the utility companies to carry out works or to attach reasonable conditions to their occupation of the public highway. Currently, we can only react to their proposals and cannot reject entirely their requirements to carry out works.  This additional level of control will mean that we will be able to schedule works more effectively as we will have more



**Haringey Council**

			power to direct utility works, especially the timing of works. The overall effect should be less disruption to the public and greater certainty of when works will start.
3	General	Does the standard maintenance of roads and pavements on Homes for Haringey estates count towards Haringey's overall performance?	Performance is currently measured by the condition of principle and non-principle roads which are public highway. Homes for Haringey roads are not public highway and therefore do not contribute towards Haringey's performance.
		<b>Questions from Councillor Newton</b>	
4	Parking working in partnership with the police	I understand that police from both Muswell Hill and Fortis Green have highlighted the continued confusion over signage for the Stop-and-Shop scheme and in particular the bays which have periods where parking is allowed as well as periods of restrictions and have questioned their enforcement. Will the Cabinet Member advise the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to issue warnings rather than penalties whilst this scheme is being reviewed?	The police are aware that these are statutory signs and of the need to keep traffic moving in this area during peak hours. As a result of feedback in the local area the signage has already been improved. These signs used are at present the only ones that can legally be used to indicate the type of parking permitted. Shared kerb space is in operation in many parts of London, accompanied by those signs. This scheme has been operating for a number of years and so warning notices are not appropriate in this area. At present we only use warning notices on the introduction of new controls.
5		Vehicles continue to be removed by the Council from a number of these bays despite there being no logic to restrictions, no actual obstruction, continued confusion and even the Police questioning enforcement. This is not fair on either the motorists or Civil	Removal operates in this area when the loading ban is in operation. The loading ban indicates that no loading is permitted.



Haringey Council

		Enforcement Officers who are tasked with enforcing such schemes.	
6	Recycling Targets	What financial implication does the failure to meet the 32% target (2009/10) and 35% (2010/11) have on the Council?	<p>There are no direct financial implications to missing recycling targets in 2009/10 and 2010/11. The Council's costs for treatment and disposal of waste are paid to NLWA under the auspices of the levying arrangements as set out in the Joint Waste Disposal Authorities (Levies) (England) Regulations 2006.</p> <p>These costs do not detail the varying cost for each treatment or disposal route and are further complicated by the fact that the tonnage information used is two years old. However, overall savings to the NLWA and constituent boroughs can be assumed on the basis that any waste recycled could be being diverted from landfill and is therefore not attracting landfill tax of £40.</p>
7	Recycling Awards	Would it be good if the recycling team achieved an award for best recycling service, increasing recycling or meeting recycling targets, rather than for training and development, health and safety and a campaign that has done little to improve recycling in the borough?	<p>The national recognition that Haringey has received for its innovative approach to health and safety has truly demonstrated our commitment to delivering safe and efficient recycling services.</p> <p>Health and safety remains an issue of the utmost important within the waste industry, and Haringey Council has been recognised for innovative practices that have made the Recycling Service a safer</p>



**Haringey Council**

place to work. The 'loading bin' system that we have introduced on our green box collections significantly reduces the amount of manual handling for our crews, and has also generated service benefits such as a greater efficiency of operation and improved performance on box returns.

Our 'Train To Gain' staff training programme has been commended for demonstrating the real commitment we have made to developing the staff in the Recycling Service. The programme offers staff an opportunity to take courses on literacy, numeracy, IT and other basic skills, providing staff members with real options for career progression and improving morale. The training has also brought with it real practical benefits, such as a better understanding of health and safety policies, enhanced interpersonal skills and greater ability to record and report service information.

The amount of recycling that has been collected in Haringey has continued to increase every year, from around 4,100 tonnes in 2004 to over 20,000 tonnes in 2009, whilst resident satisfaction has increased sharply from 27% to 66% over the same period, demonstrating residents'



**Haringey Council**

			<p>recognition of the hard work of our staff to improve services and implement many innovative schemes. I would suggest that members take this opportunity to once again congratulate these staff for their well-deserved success in these awards and the continuing hard work that our operational staff demonstrate every day. May I invite the members of the committee to actively participate in encouraging recycling in their wards and to work with our team to do this?</p>
8	Carbon Reduction	Will the Council set annual reduction targets for CO2 emissions and where will progress be reported to ensure we are on track?	<p>In 2008, Haringey Council set an 11% CO2 reduction target by 2010/11, based on a 2005 baseline for National Indicator 186- Per Capita CO2 emissions in the local authority area. This indicator also forms part of the Local Area Agreement. Local Authorities are encouraged to raise awareness and support carbon emission reduction strategies throughout the local area in order to work towards the targets set. The 11% reduction target was broken down to an annual figure for 2008, 2009 and 2010. If the same target setting process continues, Haringey Council will set annual reduction targets up until 2013 where a further reflection on performance will take place.</p>



**Haringey Council**

			<p>Carbon emission figures are published on an annual basis (now classified as National Statistics), providing end user emissions for each Local Authority area. Due to the time required to collect this data, the annual CO2 statistics have a two years time lag. For example in September 2009 the Department of Energy and Climate Change supplied the CO2 figures for 2007.</p> <p>CO2 emissions data and the projects developed by the Council to facilitate reductions are currently reported monthly to the Greenest Borough Strategy Programme Board and externally to the Better Places Partnership. A mapping exercise took place earlier this year that recorded all current Council activity contributing to delivering the aims and objectives set out in Greenest Borough Strategy (which includes reducing CO2 emissions and wider sustainability objectives). A tool recommended by the Energy Saving Trust to report on NI 186 has been completed and will be updated each year. In addition, an annual report will be developed detailing the performance in delivering the Greenest Borough Strategy. The next stage to this process will be the mapping of CO2 saving</p>
--	--	--	---



Haringey Council

			activity from partner organisations and other externally led contributing projects.
9	Traffic Management	Will the Council commit to robustly applying the Permit Scheme for street works including the full range of financial penalties to ensure that works carried out by utility firms, are carried out on time and properly coordinated so that the same road is not repeatedly dug up by different utility companies? When was the permit scheme originally meant to commence, has it been delayed and when is it actually coming into force so Haringey can use these powers?	<p>We are committed to applying the permit scheme robustly and utilising the full range of powers that the permit scheme will provide. However, we are already utilising the full range of TMA powers in respect of utilities works.</p> <p>Note that the Permit Scheme will not stop some streets being dug up repeatedly; there is no legislation to that effect. A work promoter will, however, have to conform to the minimum application periods ahead of proposed start date. The lead time for major works is 3 months. To a large extent we do address this issue by holding quarterly coordination meeting and advance planning whereby we request work promoters to submit their programme well in advance. We also ensure that we serve all work promoters with a section 58 notice where we restrict planned works in an area following substantial works. That restriction can last between 6 months to 5 years.</p> <p>The London Permit Scheme was originally submitted to Department for Transport last</p>



**Haringey Council**

			<p>year, but the DfT had issues with the application. After extensive discussions it was re-submitted in the summer of 2009. We are now planning for a start date of 11 January 2010, but this is dependent on meeting a strict timetable and the availability of software to enable the new permit processes to be introduced.</p>
10	Graffiti Contract	<p>How much does the current contract cost? In the current financial climate is the Council considering seeking a new contract that will provide a reduction in the cost to the Council for this service?</p>	<p>Current funding for graffiti and fly-posting removal for 2009/10 is £120k. Provision for graffiti removal service is currently being considered as part of overall procurement of the waste services contract due to commence from April 2011.</p>
11	Traffic Management	<p>Residents in Hornsey Park Road and surrounding area recently took direct action to get motorists to use the alternative route of Mary Neuner Road as they feel that their lives are currently being blighted by increased traffic. Will the Cabinet Member agree to provide new signage in the short-term to encourage motorists to use Mary Neuner Road and give a timescale for providing this? What are the proposed long-term plans to make Mary Neuner Road the priority route and how will this be achieved?</p>	<p>Traffic in Hornsey Park Road has fallen by over 28% in the last 7 years and therefore there should not be a presumption that action is needed to stem traffic growth along Hornsey Park Road.</p> <p>There currently is signage informing motorists of the alternative route along Mary Neuner Road between Turnpike Lane and Mayes Road, however, this has not been particularly effective as motorists tend to use familiar routes.</p> <p>The Council is in the process of introducing a 20mph speed limit in Hornsey Park Road.</p>





**Haringey Council**

			<p>Hornsey Park Road is a “B” road, which means that it is expected to carry through traffic between Station Road and Turnpike Lane. It is within an area (from Turnpike Lane north to the borough boundary), which has been identified as a priority for transport investment in 2010/11.</p> <p>An element of the Council’s transport proposals bid to TfL includes further traffic calming works to Hornsey Park Road which should encourage more use of Mary Neuner Road. We also plan to use the s106 payments from the Haringey Heartlands developments on the Mary Neuner Road to ensure that this can accommodate buses in the future.</p>
		<b>Questions from Councillor Winskill</b>	
12	Parking	Can the lead member confirm that the pick up and tow away sanction is only now used when vehicles are actually causing an obstruction?	<p>Our parking removal policy is summarised as follows; Vehicles parked in contravention on a yellow line will be subject to immediate authorisation for removal to the vehicle pound following the issue of a PCN.</p> <p>There are additional parking contraventions that are also classed as obstructions for example vehicles parked in contravention in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ a suspended bay,</li></ul>



**Haringey Council**

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ or a bay designated for particular use,</li><li>▪ those not parked correctly within the bay, or parked in a loading place (not for that type of vehicle),</li><li>▪ those double parked, or parked in a disabled bay,</li><li>▪ those parked in a bus stop, on a cycle track, on the footway or on a zig- zag line.</li></ul> <p>Those may be authorised for immediate removal following the issue of a penalty charge notice.</p> <p>For other contraventions vehicles may be removed 30 minutes after PCN issue, except for persistent evaders where the vehicle may be removed 15 minutes after PCN issue. Those contraventions include vehicles parked illegally in a loading place.</p> <p>Vehicles parked in contravention in residents, pay &amp; display or shared use parking bays will only be removed if it remains in contravention the following day when parking is restricted. The exception to this is situations where permit holders may be displaced on to yellow lines. The vehicle may only be removed 30 minutes after PCN issue on the relevant date, except for persistent evaders where the</p>
--	--	--	--



**Haringey Council**

			<p>vehicle may be removed 15 minutes after PCN issue.</p> <p>A vehicle displaying an expired residents' permit will not be removed until it has remained parked for seven days after the expiry of the permit.</p>
13	Zebra crossings and other painted road markings	Is there a central register kept of painted signage on carriageways?	Much of the painted signage on carriageways is recorded on our Geographical Information System, but it is not 100% complete.
14		Is there a rolling work programme to ensure that the signs do not fade to obscurity?	<p>Generally, these markings are maintained through our reactive maintenance programme. This programme focuses on those issues which may cause safety issues to the public, with the bulk of the expenditure on pavement defects and potholes.</p> <p>There is no planned maintenance of painted signs on carriageways.</p> <p>Our routine inspection regime includes the condition of Give Way markings and disabled bay markings.</p>
15		Is there regular inspection of these signs?	
16	LIP	Has Cllr Haley or his offers had any discussions with Central Government civil servants about how the recession will affect future roads/maintenance and associated investment plans? If so what were the outcomes? What will be the effect on external grants and sources of funding for traffic and road maintenance investment? Will funding for large projects such as the Tottenham gyratory be	<p>The grant from TfL for the next three years is fixed. The funding for planned maintenance (e.g. street lighting and road maintenance) is dependent on the Council's own capital resources.</p> <p>A funding package has been put together</p>



**Haringey Council**

		safe?	by the project's partnership. The Government will be consulting on changes to GAF funding and the Council will be objecting to a reduction in the potential amount of GAF that the Council will receive.
17	Olympics	<p>Can the lead member confirm that he has responsibility for Haringey and the Olympics? If so, can he tell me what his priorities will be in ensuring that Haringey maximises benefits to residents in both sporting and economic terms and how he plans to deliver those priorities. Please list all the meetings that he and/or Haringey officers have had with Olympic officials over the past twelve months.</p>	<p>The council will use the Olympics to create a lasting legacy for residents in Haringey. Our sports priority is to support and encourage sporting excellence. As demonstrated in the forthcoming Haringey Celebrating Sports Awards to be held at Alexandra Place on 19<sup>th</sup> November</p> <p>Our economic priority is to equip residents and businesses with the skills to access opportunities created through the Olympics</p> <p>In order to maximise sporting benefits there will be continued investment in elite athletes to enable them to reach their full potential and several young athletes are currently supported with bursaries through our sports scholarship scheme.</p> <p>The Council is currently in negotiations with Olympics officials to create an "in games" training Venue at White Hart Lane Community Sports Centre which if successful will ensure that there will be world class sports facilities available for our residents.</p> <p>The North London Pledge is our</p>



**Haringey Council**

			<p>Employment and Skills programme delivered in Partnership with Enfield and Waltham Forest. Residents on the programme will receive training to access jobs created through the Olympics and other major developments in Stratford.</p> <p>Our businesses are supported to access Olympic contracts through two programmes being delivered in the borough that are funded through ABG. 60 BME led businesses and a further 60 SMEs in construction trades will receive mentoring to access procurement opportunities over the next two years. The council is also working with The London Business Network to support businesses to register on The CompeteFor procurement portal and delivered a networking event at CONEL in March with another planned for Spring 2010.</p> <p><b>Meetings</b></p> <p>Lead Officer attends monthly meeting at London Councils with various Olympic Officials present.</p> <p>Officers and Councillors met with John Armitt, Chair of the ODA, in December 2008 to discuss opportunities and to tour the borough.</p>
--	--	--	--



**Haringey** Council

			<p>Lead officer met with Mike Mulvey from London Business Network in January 09 to plan procurement event.</p> <p>Lead Officer met with LOCOG to discuss branding issues in April 09.</p> <p>Mike Mulvey from LBN gave a presentation the Haringey Business Board on CompeteFor in September 09</p>