

COUNCIL – 18 JANUARY 2010 - QUESTIONS

Public Question 1 to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Janet Harris:

Is the council aware of the traffic chaos outside Bruce Castle Museum in Lordship Lane? Is it willing to consider replacing the current crossing with actual traffic lights and ensuring that a safe crossing from the east-west of the northern end of Bruce Grove be created.

The current crossing is always busy and also serves two very local schools - the Lancasterian and Risley Avenue so, during term time, has a lot of pedestrian traffic comprising young children and their teachers/parents. There is also the close proximity of the Drapers' Almshouses (sheltered accommodation for the elderly) to be considered.

Traffic from Wood Green or The Roundway speeds around the mini roundabout at the junction of Lordship Lane and The Roundway and also the one at the junction of Lordship Lane and Bruce Grove with no regular interruption such as that caused by controlled traffic lights. These junctions are a disaster waiting to happen, as there are so many near misses.

In view of my remarks, will the council make representation to TfL to have this traffic blackspot made safer for both pedestrians and motorists?

Public Question 2 to the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Involvement from Sarah Cope:

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender History Month has been marked in the US since 1994, and is promoted in the UK by School's Out. What did the council and local schools do to mark LGBT History Month 2009, which fell in February? Do you agree that such events, held to acknowledge and explore LGBT history, should have a place in the schools calendar and how will the council be marking LGBT History Month in 2010?

Public Question 3 to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Anna Bragga:

The Green Party has been contacted by members of Haringey's disabled community asking for help, having had their Blue Badge renewal applications either turned down or mysteriously lost by the council following the introduction of new rules. As a result, aside from causing immense stress and additional health problems, some disabled people have now clocked up parking fines that they cannot afford and are being chased by bailiffs. Others have become housebound – prisoners in their own home.

Can the council answer this question: In the light of recent cases highlighted, does the council now accept that the new Blue Badge application system, including the mobility assessment process and discretionary criteria, is

flawed? What action is the council prepared to take to administer a fair and equal Blue Badge Scheme based on medical evidence rather than mobility assessments by Occupational Therapists which are clearly open to abuse and the misjudgement of serious health conditions?

Public Question 4 to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Mahir Gul:

Does the Council back the campaign organised by Cllr. Simche Steinberger (L.B. Hackney), Cllr. Dean Cohen (L.B. Barnet), Justin Hinchcliffe and Isaac Revah (Seven Sisters Conservatives) to extend the 210 bus to South Tottenham/Stamford Hill, so that local residents can be within 7-8 minutes of Finsbury Park Station for tube and overground connections, easy travelling distance of the Whittington Hospital, Golders Green and Brent Cross? If so, will it undertake to join the above named campaigners in lobbying Transport for London to help make sure the extension of this popular bus route becomes a reality?

Public Question 5 to the Leader of the Council from Michael Olajide:

Haringey has lost several hospitals over the last four decades and it is the only Borough in London not to have its own A&E unit. With the local population set to rocket in the next decade, will She support the campaign for an A&E in Haringey - based at Tottenham's St. Ann's Hospital - by adding her name, on behalf of her Party and the Council as a whole, to the petition at www.aeforharingey.org ? If not, why not?

Oral Questions

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

How is the Council tackling inequality for children and young people in Haringey?

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

Can the Leader of the Council please update me on the decision made by Secretary of State to stop Hornsey Rail Depot being built without consultation with residents?

Oral Question 3 - To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Beynon:

What transport projects funded by the Local Implementation Funding (LIP) from Transport for London are under threat after the Council received less funding than expected?

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

Can the Lead Member for Environment and Conservation please advise me how the Council's successful bid for a Low Carbon Zone will help achieve our Green vision for the borough?

Oral Question 5 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Winskill:

Regarding the 21 December snowfall – what liaison was there between the Council and the Haringey Police control to try and ensure smooth traffic flow by keeping junctions clear and providing on-the-spot advice to pedestrians and motorists?

Oral Question 6 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Mallett:

Can the Lead Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities let me know what progress the Haringey Youth Offending Service has made in relation to preventing re-offending?

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

What progress has been made by the Council to make the 10 Haringey blocks/estates at most risk of fire as identified by the BBC safe for local residents?

Oral Question 8 - To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Peacock:

Can the Lead Member for Housing please advise me on the Council's work in bringing empty properties back into use?

Oral Question 9 - To the Leader of the Council from Councillor Dobbie:

Can the Leader please indicate what action has she done as Council leader to secure the Freedom Pass following the decision of Transport Minister, Sadiq Khan's decision to tear up a previously agreed 3-year funding deal London's Freedom Pass which would affect so many older Haringey residents?

Written Questions

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

When was the decision made to close the front counter at Wood Green Police Station to the public at night? And when was the decision implemented?

ANSWER

The decision to close the front office at Wood Green late at night was made prior to the arrival of the current Borough Commander and his two current Superintendents.

Several residents and I have brought this to his attention and he has reviewed this matter. As of Monday 11 January the front office at Wood Green Police Station will be opened 24 hours a day. The visits from members of the public will be monitored and if it is found that opening for 24 hours is not operationally necessary or viable, the Borough Commander will review the opening times.

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

With yet another licensing application being submitted for a betting shop in Green Lanes what is the Council doing in terms of lobbying government to change the law where an area has become saturated with such establishments and to regain some control over numbers?

ANSWER

The clustering of betting shops has been a matter of serious concern which officers and the Cabinet member have raised with the Secretary of State for Media, Culture and Sport (DCMS) on a number of occasions. Through the Cabinet Member we have expressed our view that it is wrong that a Local Authority must “aim to permit” every application made in its area and that no regard can be given to the cumulative impact of additional premises in a location. In addition, the Head of Enforcement at Haringey met with the Head of Leisure Regulation at DCMS in November 2009 and it was agreed at this meeting that DCMS would look again at whether the guidance in the Act was wrongly restricting the ability of a Licensing Committee to consider objections to new premises in area which may be characterised as being at risk. We are still awaiting a response from the DCMS.

Written Question 3 – To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Allison:

Please outline how much money is spent by the Council on children in care to encourage engagement in activities. Apart from leisure passes what else is provided and how often? How often do Children in care have the opportunity of going to a theatre; a pop concert; football matches; an art show; Thorpe Park and other teenage activities?

ANSWER

This year's budget for the personal education allowances funded through the CARE Matters Grant is £141,500. This is used to fund individual leisure and cultural activities for children as well as group activities such as trips to theatre, museums, and the South Bank London Eye. These trips and activities will also involve eating out at a restaurant ensuring that young people develop skills and confidence to get the most out of living in London.

Muswell House Children's residential unit entertainment budget is £4,600 and Haringey Park is £5,100.

Foster carer allowances: under 11 they receive £183 per week child's allowance from that £9.15 (5%) is for pocket money/activities. Over 11s child's allowance is £230 from which £32.20(14%) is for pocket money/activities. 16+ child's allowance is £250 from which £35 (14%) for entertainment. We can also pay up to £225 for school/club activities, this is often used to fund school trips, membership of scouts and sports team costs.

The Fostering Service organise an annual holiday either to the council outward bound centre or Centre Parcs which will give children opportunities to try out activities such as horse riding, rafting, rock climbing alongside their foster carers. Children in our care frequently undertake sports based activities at Tottenham Hotspurs Foundation and some get opportunities to attend football matches.

We encourage individual social workers to take children out for an activity as a way of developing a working relationship – often this will be a theatre or cinema trip, a museum or gallery or a sports type activity. For those children involved in the children in care Mentoring scheme they will often undertake an activity of their choice with their mentor as a way of developing a working relationship.

Written Question 4 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Beacham:

What is the weekly time allocated for cleaning the Homes for Haringey blocks in Bolster Grove, N22, what is the total charge for cleaning in Bolster Grove and what is the average leaseholder bill for this service?

ANSWER

The Bolster Grove estate comprises 4 blocks totalling 32 units, 18 of which have been purchased under the right to buy legislation. The approximate

weekly time spent cleaning Bolster Grove is 6.25 hours. The external cleaning is carried out three times per week and involves litter picking, sweeping grounds, forecourts, and access roads.

The total charged for to the 18 leaseholders in 08/09 was £6,223.54 with each leaseholder charged £6.65 per week which averages at an annual charge of £345.75 per leaseholder.

These charges were reduced following a review of the method of apportionment for the amount of time the cleaner spends on the block. Leaseholders received an average refund of £73 to take into account the reduction in charge.

Written Question 5 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Beynon:

Do tenants moving from temporary accommodation to private rented housing keep their housing points for future bids on Council houses?

ANSWER

No, they do not. Where a homeless household chooses to accept the offer of an assured shorthold tenancy, this offer of accommodation is treated as a 'qualifying offer' and serves to discharge the Council's duties towards that household under the Homelessness Act 2002. Although they will be able to remain on the housing register, their private rented accommodation will meet their housing needs, so they will be given no priority for housing.

Everyone living in temporary accommodation is given comprehensive advice on the range of housing options available to them and are informed of the consequences of accepting an offer of private rented accommodation. They are also provided with a leaflet that explains this option.

Written Question 6 – To the Leader of the Council from Councillor Bloch:

According to Haringey's CAA what is the overall employment rate (working-age) for Haringey, has this increased or decreased in the last two years (providing figures) and how does Haringey's performance compare to borough neighbours?

ANSWER

The Haringey employment rate, over the period April 2008 to March 2009, stood at 62.2%, down from a rate of 69.8% two years earlier. The volatility associated with the data, due to small sample sizes at the local level, means that this comparison should be treated with caution. However, it should be noted that the employment rate fell in over half of the local authorities in England over the same period.

In terms of our direct North London neighbours (Barnet, Enfield and Waltham Forest) Haringey does have the lowest employment rate but this is a historic trend going further back than this current period of recession. It should also be noted that over the past two years the employment rate in these boroughs has fallen. A table setting out these figures is presented below:

	Apr 04-Mar 05	Apr 05-Mar 06	Apr 06-Mar 07	Apr 07- Mar08	Apr 08- Mar 09	% Change since Apr 06-March 07
Barnet	70.2	72.1	70.9	69.3	68.9	-2.0
Enfield	67.3	68.4	71.9	67.2	67.3	-4.6
Haringey	62.2	66.4	69.8	64.6	62.2	-7.6
Waltham Forest	64.1	68.3	68.8	68.4	65.7	-3.1

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

How many incidents occurred which resulted in personal injury to local residents, street furniture or property during the pre-Christmas cold snap?

ANSWER

We currently do not have any information on how many incidents have occurred resulting in personal injuries to local residents, street furniture or property for the period covering the start of the pre-Christmas cold snap to date. Incidents/accidents involving personal injury that are reported to the Metropolitan Police are initially forwarded to the London Accidents Analysis Unit (LAAU). The LAAU forwards this to the local authority for official verification within 4 to 6 months of receipt.

We have not received any other reports directly from residents relating to injuries or street furniture or property damage during the same period.

No claims have been received to date from local residents relating to personal injury suffered during the pre-Christmas cold snap (15/12/09 – 24/12/09).

Written Question 8 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Davies:

How many Council owned temporary accommodation properties have been sold to private landlords/registered social landlords/housing associations in the past two years?

ANSWER

Six council-owned hostels have been sold to private landlords/registered social landlords/housing associations. The reasons for these properties being sold is mainly due to them being surplus to requirements and that they do not

comply with current housing standards with prohibitive costs to carry out remedial works to bring them to a decent standard.

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

How many bicycle racks have been installed in Homes for Haringey estates over the past year (please provide the location), how much funding is available to install bicycle racks in the current and next financial year and could the cabinet member provide appropriate cycle racks for HfH Estates where there is demand for cycle racks and where residents' associations exist?

ANSWER

Over the past year, Homes for Haringey has not installed any bicycle racks on the estates it manages. Although there was some interest in the provision of a bicycle rack in Summersby Road N6, consultation with residents concluded that that they did not want such a facility.

At present, there is no separate budget for the provision of bicycle racks. Where there is a demand, the funding would need to be drawn from the capital budget, since the racks require high security locks and are very costly.

Written Question 10 – To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Engert:

How many young people attend each of the Council-run youth clubs each week? Please give an average for the each of the last 12 months. Please could you also give a break-down of age-range and gender of the attendees at the various clubs?

ANSWER

We are in the process of installing a new management information system for the youth service which will enable better tracking of young people across projects and provision. The data for April to September 2009 has been provided but is an estimate as all the data has not yet been migrated across.

Gender and age breakdown

<i>Age Band</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Grand Total</i>
<i>Rising 13</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>54</i>
<i>13-15</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>145</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>275</i>
	<i>14</i>	<i>208</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>357</i>
	<i>15</i>	<i>201</i>	<i>157</i>	<i>358</i>
<i>16-19</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>190</i>	<i>216</i>	<i>406</i>
	<i>17</i>	<i>124</i>	<i>151</i>	<i>275</i>

	18	70	129	199
	19	41	111	152
Rising 20	20	10	47	57
Grand Total		1013	1120	2133

Attendance

Provision	Weekly average attendance of individuals
<i>Bruce Grove Youth Centre</i>	96
<i>Wood Green Youth Centre</i>	98
<i>Muswell Hill Youth Centre</i>	92
<i>Satellite projects</i>	85
<i>CRE8 Performing Arts programme</i>	48
<i>Duke of Edinburgh Awards</i>	67
<i>Exposure magazine/media</i>	38
<i>Haringey Young People's Counselling Service</i>	32
<i>Positive Futures</i>	49
<i>Targeted Youth Inclusion Programme</i>	104
<i>Detached and Outreach Team</i>	108
<i>Participation and Inclusion Team</i>	34

Written Question 11 – To the Cabinet Member for Resources from Councillor Gorrie:

Can you please provide a list of all the expenditure by year that has taken place since the last Council elections in May 2006 on the Hornsey Depot development. Please show the expenditure broken down by Haringey officer costs and external services and show whether the costs have already been expensed by the Council or whether they are costs which will be set against any capital receipt the Council receives for any development that does take place.

ANSWER

A total of £98,000 has been spent on fees and officer time by property and legal services staff in relation to the disposal/ development since May 2006 to date on the Hornsey Central Depot project none of which are expected to be directly offset against any capital receipt received from any development of the site. This excludes the time spent by planning officers

Description	2006	2007	2008	2009	Totals
Officer Time (Est.)	£2700	£25700	£22900	£30100	£81400
External Consultants	Nil	Nil	Nil	£16600	£16600
				Grand Total	£98000

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

Please provide the energy rating (details of the Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) and Display Energy Certificates (DECs)) of each Council public building and office.

ANSWER

We do not maintain EPCs as they are only required upon transfer of ownership of the building. Below are the DEC assessment results.

Council Offices Rating	
Keston Centre – Keston Rd N17	B
Ermine Rd Centre – Ermine Rd N15	C
White Hart Lane Community Sport Centre N22	D
Park Road Leisure Centre – Park Rd N8	D
Broadwater Lodge – Highham Rd N17	E
40 Cumberland Road N22	E
Tottenham Green Leisure Centre N15	E
Apex Hse - 820 Seven Sisters Rd N15	E
639 High Road N17	F
Civic Centre – High Road N22	G
48 Station Rd N22	G
Alexandra Hse – Station Rd N22	G
Central Library – High Rd N22	G
13-27 Station Rd N22	G
Bruce Castle Museum – Lordship Lane N17	G
Weston Road N22	G
Hornsey Town Hall N8	G
River Park Hse - 225 High Rd N22	G

Written Question 13 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Mughal:

Does Haringey's Housing Policy treat an applicant for housing who is sharing accommodation with a relative differently from one who is sharing accommodation with people not their relative? If so, why is this the case?

ANSWER

Yes, Haringey's housing allocations policy does treat applicants who share accommodation with a member of their family differently to those applicants who share accommodation with someone who is not related to them.

The practice of only awarding these points to applicants who are sharing their accommodation with someone to whom they are not related (in a house in multiple occupation, for example) is fair and is one that has been adopted by many local authorities

Written Question 14 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Newton:

Please detail what has been done to explore and cost provision of two-way working from Summerland Gardens Car Park N10 to both enter and exit to Summerland Gardens and thereby enable the closure of the existing exit to Hillfield Park. This was discussed at a meeting in the car park on 28 January 2009 between Parking Services, Parks Department, ward members and residents representatives as a key element to making the car park safer for pedestrians and in particular given the plan to open a Satellite Children's Centre in the Muswell Centre in Hillfield Park at the bottom of the car park.

ANSWER

We have explored the possibility of introducing two way working from Summerland Gardens Car Park N10 to both enter and exit to Summerland Gardens. Unfortunately, due to the very narrow road width (3.5 metres) at the entrance it is not possible to have two way traffic and the proposal is therefore not feasible. Consequently the existing exit at Hillfield Park will remain.

Written Question 15 – To the Leader of the Council from Councillor Oakes:

According to Haringey's CAA what was the per capita % reduction in CO2 emissions in Haringey and what is the target % reduction?

ANSWER

The 2007 figures illustrate a reduction to 4.3 tonnes per capita representing an approximate 4% reduction. This is exceeding the targets currently in place: 2008/09 - 3.6%, 2009/10 - 7.4%, 2010/11- 11%

Written Question 16 – To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Lifelong Learning from Councillor Oatway:

Further to Cllr Basu's oral response to questions at last full council, please will he detail the number and type of trees (to be) planted by ward and the number and type of trees (to be) removed by ward for 2008/09 and 2009/10.

ANSWER

In 2008/09, 911 new trees were planted across the borough at various sites, including streets, parks and housing estates. In 2009/10, it is proposed to plant 940 new trees across the borough.

This would give a total of 1,851 new trees planted within 2 years.

Tree planting by ward 2008-2010			
Council ward	2008/09	2009/10*	Total per ward
Alexandra	73	15	88
Bounds Green	62	13	75
Bruce Grove	2	2	4
Crouch End	24	40	64
Fortis Green	64	2	66
Harringay	54	102	156
Highgate	5	46	51
Hornsey	31	29	60
Muswell Hill	28	45	73
Noel Park	20	75	95
Northumberland Park	44	183	227
Seven Sisters	75	12	87
St Anns	18	24	42
Stroud Green	10	24	34
Tottenham Green	106	160	266
Tottenham Hale	171	21	192
West Green	12	16	28
White Hart Lane	1	76	77
Woodside	111	55	166
Total per year	911	940	1,851

Street trees

During 2008/09, 770 new street trees were planted and 234 were removed. (increase in street tree population of 536)

During 2009/10, it is proposed to plant 760 new street trees. From April 2009 to date, 169 street trees have been removed, (potential increase of 591)

This would give a total of 1,530 new street trees planted within 2 years, increasing the total population by 1,127.

Street tree removals by ward 2008-2010			
Council ward	2008/09	2009/10	Total per ward
Alexandra	15	30	45
Bounds Green	5	5	10

Bruce Grove	4	22	26
Crouch End	11	4	15
Fortis Green	11	5	16
Harringay	44	1	45
Highgate	7	14	21
Hornsey	6	2	8
Muswell Hill	27	5	32
Noel Park	29	5	34
Northumberland Park	5	9	14
Seven Sisters	15	21	36
St Anns	11	3	14
Stroud Green	8	4	12
Tottenham Green	5	8	13
Tottenham Hale	4	0	4
West Green	10	0	10
White Hart Lane	5	18	23
Woodside	12	13	25
Total per year	234	169*	403

- Total to date

A more detailed breakdown of type of tree species planted by ward can be provided upon request. However, at this time we cannot provide a breakdown of type of tree species removed by ward

Written Question 17 – To the Cabinet Member Adult Social Care and Wellbeing from Councillor Rainger:

Please provide the level of funding for sexual health and family planning services for each year spent in Haringey for the last five years? How many family planning clinics have opened and how many have closed since 2000?

ANSWER

In 2000 there were twenty-three Family Planning sessions and in late 2005/6 six family planning sessions were closed. Since 2006/7 there have been 17 Family Planning sessions.

Please note that some of these 17 clinics are now combined Sexual Health services. In 2000 these were separate clinics. The accepted good practice is to combine these services as often clients want both family planning and sexual health advice.

The figures below state the amounts of funding for Haringey residents seen in Camden, Enfield or Haringey GUM clinics. Small numbers of Haringey residents may have been seen in other areas, but the costs are not reflected here. These figures exclude HIV funding.

Year	Family	Sexual Health	Comment
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	Planning		
2005/6	£.955M	£2.631M	Sexual Health may include one off development funding.
2006/7	£.775M	£2.677M	The full year effect of the reduction in the Family Planning service. Sexual Health may include one off development funding.
2007/8	£.882M	£3.004M	Sexual Health may include one off development funding.
2008/9	£.898M	£3.209M	Sexual Health may include one off development funding.
2009/10	£.978M	£3.415M	There is now a combined service for Family Planning and Sexual Health. Not all the development funding may have been removed from the Sexual Health total.

Written Question 18 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Reid:

From 1 January 2009 to the present date, how many complaints were received by the Council from residents and traders indicating that residents/police were concerned and wanted their roads and pavements to be gritted and salted?

ANSWER

The Council has treated requests for gritting as service requests and passed to Enterprise. Prior to 7 January the Enterprise system was unable to hold information on snow related calls. On 7 and 8 January 310 calls were received. The Urban Environment Team has dealt with numerous phone calls but only received 4 complaints by 8 January.

Written Question 19 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Scott:

Has there been an increase or decrease in dangerous dog incidents in the borough over the last ten years?

ANSWER

This information is held by the Police. The Police records that are available from the last few years shows that the number of cases involving dangerous dogs had remained fairly static until the introduction of the Metropolitan Police Status Dog Unit in March 2009.

Between the introduction of the Police Status Dog Unit (March 2009) up to September 2009, 34 dogs were seized in Haringey, with 12 of these dogs owned by 3 people. Of these 34 dogs:

- 5 dogs have been returned to owners
- 8 dogs were destroyed (court ordered unless owner disclaims dog)
- 19 cases on-going
- 1 dog was added to the register of exemption
- 1 dog is to be registered

Haringey will follow the RSPCA's gold standard by establishing a permanent project group to deal with animal welfare.

Written Question 20 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Weber:

Please provide the annual cost of running all current software systems in use by Homes for Haringey providing details of the function of the software, whether it is an in-house developed system, or off the shelf package, how old it is and what is the predicted shelf life, when are the systems due to be upgraded or replaced, and is funding in place to replace the systems?

ANSWER

It has been agreed that, due to the commercial sensitivity of the information, this question will not be answered.

Written Question 21 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Whyte:

Could you please list, by project, the amount of pre-planning consultancy charged by the Council to applicants for this year and the last financial year. Can you please indicate for each application whether the application was successful, rejected or is still pending.

ANSWER

The attached schedule A sets out the details. From this it should be noted that the Tottenham Hotspur FC Performance Planning Agreement (PPA) is very unusual compared to normal Pre Application Planning Advice (PAPA) – both in terms of time and income. Most schemes end up with officers recommending approval and this being supported at committee/delegated – however there are also some refusals. Both the PPA and PAPA are designed for the application to “become approvable or to be withdrawn”. The process is designed to get both the applicant and the authority to negotiate for approval and save time and resources by not going through the appeal process.

Written Question 22 – To the Leader of the Council from Councillor Williams:

How many and which of the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) performance indicators are Haringey ranked in the worst 25% of local authorities in the country?

ANSWER

The Audit Commission have recently published comparative performance data for most of the national indicator set (NIs) for 2008/09. There are 134 indicators that allow comparison for 2008/09. 35 indicators are ranked within the worst 25%. However, 42 indicators are ranked within the top performing 25%. See table below, which shows the number of Haringey’s indicators falling within each quartile.

		Number of Haringey NIs 2008/09
In top 25% of LA’s in England	31%	42
In the Upper middle quartile	21%	28
In the Lower middle quartile	22%	29
In the bottom 25% of LA’s in England	26%	35
Total	100%	134

This comparison is with authorities across the whole of England and some areas do not face the same challenges as London authorities. For 6 indicators included in the list we are not in the bottom quartile when compared to London, we are in the third quartile.

Out of the 35: 8 indicators relate to educational attainment and a further 4 indicators relate to children’s social care services including teenage pregnancy. This performance needs to be seen in the context of Haringey being the 18th most deprived area, where we were and the rate of improvement achieved. Preliminary attainment results for 2009 are the best ever and continue the improving trend at Key Stage 2 and 4 with clear evidence of closing the gap with the national average. The DCSF value-added

measure for 2008 shows that Haringey pupils are making good progress from KS2 to GCSE.

6 indicators are perception based measures which relate to views expressed by residents in the Place Survey. Deprivation and other challenges should be factored in when drawing conclusions.

4 indicators relate to households in temporary accommodation, the local economy and crime which we have prioritised and 2009/10 data shows improvement. The number of households in temporary accommodation has continued to reduce and stands at 3,880 at the end of November '09 (4548 was the March 09 outturn) putting us on track to meet the 2,603 target by the end of 2010 (NI156).

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

How many Homes for Haringey homes are considered as not up to Decent Homes standard?

ANSWER

At the start of the decent homes programme, 42% of Haringey Council owned homes did not meet the decent homes standard. Since starting the programme and as at the end of November, this has reduced to 31.47% (5,147 homes), meaning 2853 homes have received improvements and been brought back into decency.

By the end of this financial year, the target for non-decency will be 30%, although this figure may decrease once adjustments have been made for the accelerated funding we received from the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA).

Homes for Haringey have just received confirmation from the HCA that it will receive the full allocation of Decent Homes funding for 2010-11 which amounts to £33.5m. By the end of 2010-11, the non-decency figure will have reduced to approximately 21%.

Written Question 24 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Winskill:

Can you please provide the number of crossing attendant vacancies at the end of the last three years and the current vacancy figure and the total cost the Council has expended in each of the last three years on trying to recruit to fill these vacancies.

ANSWER

The council has funding to provide 25 School Crossing Patrol Officers from existing staff budgets. We have 18 positions filled and 7 vacancies. On

average we will have between 5-7 vacancies as it is often hard to fill the positions depending on their location within the borough and the limited hours for the work. We use a number of means to encourage recruitment including, Haringey Job Search, Recruitment Open Days, banners outside schools, leaflets made available at schools, libraries, community centres. On average we have spent £1000 per year on recruitment.

Written Question 25 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Dobbie:

Would the Cabinet Member thank all staff for their efforts during the last month or so in ensuring Haringey's streets have been gritted during the bad weather.

However, would the Cabinet member now please list, by ward order, each road in the Borough that was gritted in the three weeks running up to Christmas and when they were gritted. In giving this reply, could he also indicate the pavements that were also gritted. Can he also name, by ward order, any roads that were not gritted and why this was the case. I would be grateful for the percentage order of the roads done.

ANSWER

I have passed on your thanks with mine to all members of staff including those employed by Haringey Enterprise Limited who were involved in ensuring that Haringey's streets were gritted during this prolonged period of extreme winter weather.

I am somewhat surprised that you have asked to see all the details of gritting that was undertaken three weeks running up to Christmas as the recent cold spell started on 17 December 2009. However, as a general response, the Council has a gritting strategy which divides the road network into three priorities. The list of roads for each priority can found on the Council website. Since the start of the cold spell the Council has focused gritting the priority one network; however during this period all priority roads within the Borough have been gritted at least once. Special attention was given to gritting roads and pavements, where required, to support the refuse and recycling collection service.

In light of when this current cold spell started and the recent information on Winter Maintenance that was sent out by the Leader to all members can I ask you to reconsider what information you require and over what period. Nevertheless, I can provide you with all the details of the gritting service over any period of time, which will set out the name of the road and the period of time during which it would have been gritted. However collating all this information may take some time.

Written Question 26 - To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Demirci:

What is the progress to date, by ward breakdown of the Decent Homes programme?

ANSWER

The table below shows the number of tenanted non-decent homes worked on during years 1 and 2 of Haringey's 5 year Decent Homes Programme.

Note that the above does not include the Wards where no decent homes

WARD	Total number of tenanted properties in Ward	Estimated tenanted properties requiring DH Works	Number of tenanted homes worked on in Year 1	Number of tenanted homes worked on in Year 2 to date	Total to date	Progress to date as % of total homes requiring works
BRUCE GROVE	394	276	16	0	16	5.8%
HIGHGATE	392	274	36	0	36	13.1%
HORNSEY	1015	711	88	318	406	57.1%
OUT OF BOROUGH	177	177	129	39	168	94.9%
NOEL PARK	1448	1014	28	0	28	2.8%
NORTHUMBERLAND PARK	1772	1240	202	123	325	26.2%
STROUD GREEN	658	461	76	0	76	16.5%
SEVEN SISTERS	1280	896	140	183	323	36.0%
TOTTENHAM GREEN	1088	762	188	153	341	44.8%
TOTTENHAM HALE	1358	951	127	33	160	16.8%
WHITE HART LANE	1794	1256	421	256	677	53.9%
WOODSIDE	728	510	23	0	23	4.5%
WEST GREEN	1183	828	80	0	80	9.7%
MUSWELL HILL	336	235	0	2	2	0.9%
ST ANN'S	773	541	0	36	36	6.7%

works have been completed to date.

Written Question 27 - To the Leader of the Council from Councillor Dodds:

What help has been provided by the Council to help local businesses in the recession?

ANSWER

Monitoring of the recession

The Economic Regeneration Service monitors the impact of the recession in the borough. A recession dashboard has been initiated by Economic Regeneration and it was first published in April 2009. Updates have been compiled on a bi-monthly basis. The dashboard monitors key indicators of the recession across all six strands of the Community Strategy. This includes employment, house prices and housing repossession orders (mortgage and landlord), council taxation revenue, planning income and service usage and leisure activity

Credit Crunch 20 point plan

The Credit Crunch 20 point plan was first published on the council website in January 2009. The plan included actions to support residents and businesses, the following are the pledges for the business community:

- Details of support for business to be circulated with annual rate demand in March 2009
- New business pack to be circulated to businesses in March 2009 outlining relevant council services and support available from other agencies
- Meeting with local bank managers in late January 2009 to discuss support for local businesses
- Increased support to give local businesses more chance of successfully tendering for public contracts and the Olympic procurement programme CompeteFor.
- Commitment to pay Council bills faster

Delivery of these pledges are outlined below.

Business Pack – the guide to business was completed, published and circulated to over 7,000 businesses in the borough in May 2009. The business pack provides information on the services that the council provides to businesses, with full contact details for each service and sections on 12 council services. 8,000 copies been distributed widely across the borough and the document is also updated on the council's website

Advice with rates bills, including Small Business Rate Relief – the Business and Enterprise Team in collaboration with Benefits, Rates and Local Taxation provide a short summary of information on available business support through the February rates mail out. Benefits, Rates and Local Taxation continue to provide advice and support to business rate payers on the options for repayment and any relief available through legislation – such as Small Business Rate Relief. The Business and Enterprise Team have supported where required and have signposted business enquiries as appropriate.

Meetings with Banks – meetings have been held with banks in January and May 2009. On both occasions banks declared a policy of being 'open for business' with regards to commercial loans, but commented on the poor quality of applications.

Enterprise Commissioning Prospectus – ABG Programme

Through our enterprise commissioning framework we will invest £650,000 over the next two years to support our enterprise community. 200 residents and young people will receive information, advice and guidance to help them enter self-employment and 600 businesses will be directly supported through a range of initiatives that will ensure sustainability and facilitate business growth. A further 120 businesses will receive mentoring to help them access procurement opportunities created by the Olympics. We are also supporting our Town Centres in a number of ways: In Green Lanes, Wood Green, Tottenham High Road and Crouch End we have worked closely with traders groups to establish strong partnerships.

HSP business breakfasts

An HSP enterprise board led business breakfast was held in May 2009. A second event took place in November in collaboration with the Business and Enterprise Team and North London Business.

Haringey Business Board

The Haringey Business Board was formally established in March 2010 and is chaired by Andrew Campling, a senior BT executive, and facilitated by North London Business. The board meets quarterly and is set up as the overarching business board in the borough, with a private sector focus. Representatives from other business boards in the borough, namely Crouch End, Wood Green, Tottenham and Green Lanes are invited to attend.

Empty Shops project

Urban Space Management (USM) were engaged by the Business and Enterprise Team to develop a pilot project to utilise vacant retail units in Haringey's town centres. Vacant retail units have become a significant issue nationally during the recession, although Haringey's key town centres have proven to be more resilient than other areas. Two properties on Stroud Green Road, owned by the Council, are now up and running with creative activities being delivered from the sites. ACCS are handling the selection of users and controlling access to the sites. Corporate Property and Legal Services are engaged with the project providing support and advice on short term usage of spaces.

The Council is on target to reduce most of its bill paying to the new target of 10 working days.

In addition to these initiatives the Business and Enterprise Team regularly signpost businesses to the relevant support and advice over the phone and in face-to-face meetings.

Written Question 28 - To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Adamou

What is the situation in regards to reducing violent crime in Haringey, what work in place to tackle this and what effect has this had on levels of crime?

ANSWER

The Safer Haringey Partnership is committed to reducing most serious violence, and has selected this as one of the improvement indicators in Haringey's Local Area Agreement; and it is also a priority in the Community Safety Strategy.

Between April and August 2009, the serious violent crime rate had increased by 45.3% largely due to a very worrying increase in gang related crime. However, much work has been carried out by the partnership and this increase has now reduced considerably to being 20.6% (363 offences) by the end of December 2009.

In response to the performance recorded during August 2009, the approach to serious violence associated with gang members was reviewed and new approaches developed. In September 2009 Haringey and Enfield boroughs began to work together to address cross border issues. Over the past four months a wider partnership group (known as the Gang Action Group) has been sharing information about individuals known to be involved in violence and identifying a lead agency for each individual and devising bespoke action plans to divert them from gang activity.

In November 2009 the Safer Communities Performance Management Group commissioned a Gang Intervention Project entitled 'Big Bruvas'. This is a community led project designed to provide positive role models to gang members and to address rivalries by examining the root causes of these tensions. The Big Bruvas community outreach workers will also be assisting gang members to gain employment, training and education opportunities.

In recognition of this cross-borough and innovative work, funding has been secured from the Home Office Tackling Knives Action Programme to address serious violence within the age range of 13-24years. This funding will be used to support increased police operations (in particular the robbery Q-Cars, a rapid response team) as well as specialist intervention from the Youth Inclusion Project.

Serious violent crime will remain a priority for the Safer Communities Partnership during 2010/11 and beyond.

Written Question 29 - To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Cllr Egan

Have the Council made progress in the provision of extra primary school places in the West of Borough?

ANSWER

The council has made considerable progress. By September 2011 we will have invested over £27m to provide an additional five new forms of entry -

1050 places - for local children though expansions at Tetherdown, Coldfall, Coleridge and – for 2011 – Rhodes Avenue.

Written Question 30 - To the Cabinet Member Children and Young People from Cllr Adje

What is the current provision of extended schools throughout Haringey?

ANSWER

89% of our schools are ensuring delivery of the Full Core Offer for extended provision out of schools. The elements of the Full Core Offer are: childcare, varied menu of activities, parent support, community access and swift and easy referral. The Government target is for all schools to be demonstrating delivery of the full core offer by September 2010 and we are on track to achieve this target. In addition there are 47 Breakfast Clubs operating from our schools.

Written Question 31 - To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Cllr Bull

What initiatives have been put in place to ensure rubbish hotspots are targeted?

ANSWER

The Enforcement service has deployed a named Street Enforcement Officer to each ward in the borough. This officer has a responsibility for monitoring his/her area and identifying problem hotspots for investigation and intervention. These are now being built into local ward action plans which will be reviewed and refreshed every 3 months. In addition, each officer will respond to individual complaints received and will take enforcement action where evidence is available to support this.

The Enforcement Service receives monthly information from Haringey Enterprise Limited which is used to monitor locations where there are recurring problems. These locations are investigated and strategies developed relevant to each location. The service has also adopted a range of actions to target dumping sources. This includes investigations of over 2,000 trade refusal arrangements each year, investigation of construction and refurbishment sites, and weekly operations to stop and investigate waste carriers operating in the borough.

The Council is now also working with landlords to ensure that they and their tenants are properly informed about waste storage and disposal arrangements for their properties.

Written Question 32 - To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Cllr Peacock

What initiatives are underway in to tackle Anti Social Behaviour in the borough?

ANSWER

By creating the dedicated Anti-Social Behaviour Action Team (ASBAT) seven years ago , Haringey Council made a clear commitment to residents that anti-social behaviour is not a low-level nuisance but a serious priority which requires swift and effective action. The Anti-Social Behaviour Partnership Board, chaired by the Cabinet Member for Safer Communities and Enforcement, has continued to develop the partnership working in this area and has achieved the following:

A 92% success rate in all legal enforcement action taken and 100% success for prosecutions using CCTV

- Turned around the lives of 140 families whose members were previously involved in anti-social behaviour, through intensive parenting guidance and support where no further action has been required following this work
- Haringey ASBAT manager is a member of the ASB National Squad for the dissemination of good practice across the country
- Where residents have been hesitant to come forward, especially on some estates in the borough, we have held local surgeries to gather intelligence and take action
- During December 2009 we appointed a dedicated Witness Support Officer for victims of anti-social behaviour and have been held up by the Home Office Neighbourhood Crime and Justice Team as being “ahead of the game”. We firmly believe that early intervention is critical to success
- We have developed Problem Solving methods to investigate, analyse and address anti-social behaviour where it is of long-standing or complex in nature
- We have developed a Hate Crime Strategy and Action Plan 2009/10 and we publicise contact details for the reporting of hate crimes
- We are preparing publicity around local minimum standards, so that the public know what they can expect to receive when they report anti-social behaviour; this will be published by 31st March 2010
- We have developed much improved exchange and collaboration between services working with young people, including very close co-operation and information exchange on gang-related problems (including 2 workers recruited under the Respect Task Force Challenge and Support project)
- the Police ASBO Team in place during 2009 is focusing primarily on issue of gang related activity in the borough
- We are investigating the links between anti-social behaviour and alcohol abuse, by looking at demographic profiles in the borough and interviewing with key stakeholders,. The recommendations will be made in the final quarter of 2009/10
- There is continued enforcement of Controlled Drinking Areas (CDAs) in the borough in response to street drinking / alcohol related ASB concerns

- the Youth Offending Service's Triage project works in Police custody suites with young people arrested, to provide expert assessment and diversion from re-offending by trained professionals
- Anti-social behaviour work is being addressed in a more joined up way through the roll out of Area Based Working Groups. The Problem Solving process is active and strongly weighted towards these issues. Neighbourhood Managers work closely in this process, alongside enforcement officers and police Safer Neighbourhood Teams
- Ongoing work with Borough's Registered Social Landlords to ensure support between agencies and consistency in approach
- Annual data assessment (Strategic Assessment) now includes fuller data sets with all council departments and all partners providing data.

Haringey has a good reputation for addressing anti-social behaviour with the Home Office and we are seen as being at the forefront of promoting and delivering national priorities.

Written Question 33 - To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Cllr Diakides

How does Haringey compare to other London authorities in noise enforcement?

ANSWER

There are no published comparisons for how London local authorities compare in the enforcement of noise control. CIPFA do publish some activity data which can compare Haringey with the neighbouring boroughs. Based on this information:

Volume of Complaints - According to CIPFA figures Haringey has the highest level of complaint each year for the last 3 years. This in part reflects the fact that Haringey's noise service, unlike most local authorities, is available 24 hours a day and has officers able to respond within an hour to 90% of complaints received.

Enforcement Activity – One measure of enforcement activity is the issue of Abatement Notices. According to CIPFA figures, Haringey was the fourth highest serving authority in our nearest neighbour group. This reflects that Haringey has a comparatively high level of complaint but also achieves good levels of compliance because of its early intervention approach. Over the last 3 year Haringey has taken the highest volume of enforcement cases to court or to formal caution. This reflects Haringey's commitment to formal action where there is no effective compliance with an Abatement Notice.

National Recognition - Haringey Council's Enforcement Response service won a national award from the Noise Abatement Society for its work in combating noise. Specifically the service won the John Connell Local Authority Award 2009 for Haringey's enforcement approach to noise

enforcement and in particular the way it deals with vulnerable people. As a result of this recognition Haringey has been presented as a best practice authority to a Chartered Institute of Environmental Health conference on noise enforcement in 2009.

Written Question 34 - To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Lifelong Learning from Cllr Meehan

How many trees have planted in the borough since 2006?

ANSWER

A total of 3,552 new trees have been planted in the borough since 2005/06. Please see table below for a breakdown by ward

Total number of trees planted per ward 2005-2010						
Council ward	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10*	Total
Alexandra	17	38	20	73	15	163
Bounds Green	6	29	136	62	13	246
Bruce Grove	22	0	53	2	2	79
Crouch End	42	15	30	24	40	151
Fortis Green	22	25	23	64	2	136
Harringay	36	35	51	54	102	278
Highgate	14	4	8	5	46	77
Hornsey	25	41	22	31	29	148
Muswell Hill	15	37	28	28	45	153
Noel Park	16	30	23	20	75	164
Northumberland Park	101	15	10	44	183	353
Seven Sisters	27	30	23	75	12	167
St Anns	53	67	18	18	24	180
Stroud Green	29	3	3	10	24	69
Tottenham Green	25	20	53	106	160	364
Tottenham Hale	26	24	22	171	21	264
West Green	41	43	30	12	16	142
White Hart Lane	30	1	10	1	76	118
Woodside	77	24	33	111	55	300
Total	624	481	596	911	940	3552

Written Question 35 - To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Life Long Learning from Cllr Santry

What initiatives are in place to support Adult Learning in the borough, has this had any impact on the levels of take up?

ANSWER

Adult learning in the borough is supported primarily by funding provided by the LSC which allows Haringey Adult Learning Services [HALS] to deliver Adult Safeguarded Learning, First Steps and Work Based Learning provision. Additional income is generated through specific contracts for the provision of Information Advice & Guidance and learndirect courses. In addition, fees are paid by members of the public for some of the courses.

In 2008/9, there were a total of 3,618 enrolments in HALS across Adult & Community provision, representing an increase of 179 on the previous year. In addition, Work-based learning achieved 61 enrolments and two learndirect centres attracted a further 1322 enrolments.

In 2009/10, we have already seen pleasing increases in the number of enrolments. In the Winter Term, the number of enrolments increased from 1224 to 1644, an increase of 34% on the previous year. We are still currently undertaking enrolments for the Spring Term and, despite the inclement weather have secured 906 enrolments, compared with 626 at this point last year.

There are a number of reasons for the increase in enrolments:

Improved quality of teaching

In 2009, HALS successfully passed its Ofsted Reinspection, with improved grades in all areas. Considerable effort from all staff has resulted in an improved quality of service for our learners.

Improved course planning

We are increasingly making use of our “learnertrack” database to plan courses which are popular with and appropriate to the interests of our customers.

Improved learning environments

The Learning Centre in Wood Green has been substantially upgraded and a “chill out centre” has been provided for learners. New learning centres have been developed in St Ann’s Library and in Hornsey Library and these, too, provide pleasant environments for learning.

An additional crèche

A crèche has recently been developed in the Wood Green library to support learners who require child care.

Improved marketing

Particular attention has been paid to providing attractive marketing materials, with a clear and colourful brochure and matching pop up stands. Information on our courses is also being provided on screens on doctors’ surgeries and in all libraries.

More customer-focussed administration

The prime location for enrolments is Wood Green Library and an additional

enquiry and enrolment point has been provided on the ground floor to give the casual enquirer more opportunity to find information on courses – and to enrol on courses.

Fees

We ensure that our fees are competitive and offer generous concessionary rates to encourage greater participation.

Written Question 36 - To the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Wellbeing from Cllr Mallett

What tailored services do the Council provide to the enable older residents stay in their homes?

ANSWER

The Council offers a broad range of personalised care services for older people and all services are tailored around an individual's needs and are aimed at giving older service users as much choice and flexibility as possible. Examples of services that we currently offer are as follows:

- Information, Advice, support and advocacy
- Short-term reablement, rehabilitation to assist their hospital discharge and prevent hospital admission in the first place
- Full hospital discharge services including short-term practical support;
- Home care and personal care
- Self directed support and direct payments
- Day opportunities
- Support for Carers
- Subsidised leisure and adult learning opportunities
- "Drop in" centres and other prevention schemes
- Befriending scheme
- Handyperson scheme
- Respite care
- Community Alarm, telecare, equipment, aids and adaptations
- Specialist older people's mental health and dementia support
- Supported Housing