

COUNCIL – 22 MARCH 2010 - QUESTIONS

PUBLIC QUESTION 1 TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FROM JUSTIN HINCHCLIFFE:

Is the Cabinet Member for Housing even aware of the problem of damp that blights the lives of tenants in the flats on the Ermine and Plevna Crescent estates? Young families, the disabled and elderly are all affected. Some correspondence to the council from residents on this subject goes back over ten years. Why has the Council never got to grips with the problem of damp and condensation affecting these tenants? What confidence can tenants have that their problems will ever be properly addressed by this Labour-run council given how they have failed vulnerable members of our community for so long?

PUBLIC QUESTION 2 TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR LEISURE, CULTURE AND LIFELONG LEARNING FROM CAROL INGRAM:

I understand that Wood Green library is one of the busiest in the country. Can you explain what it is that the Council have done to encourage people to make use of their library, and how the Council intends to increase the number of people who use other libraries in Haringey?

PUBLIC QUESTION 3 TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FROM STEPHEN COOKE:

Having a good home can make a real difference to the quality of someone's health. How is the housing service working with residents to improve their health?

PUBLIC QUESTION 4 TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENFORCEMENT AND SAFER COMMUNITIES FROM HILARY KITCHEN:

The Council have recently introduced a street warden service. Can you explain how this service is going to help tackle fly-tipping?

PUBLIC QUESTION 5 TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FROM MR MASHFIQUL ALAM:

Can the Cabinet member for Children and Young People explain Haringey Council's thinking behind its plans to close the only educational facility in 2011 in the borough that can handle the educational and emotional support needs of the Borough's severely disabled children and their parents? Furthermore, can you explain why Haringey appears to be on its own in thinking that the needs of our severely disabled can be met in mixed ability schools, when

London Boroughs such as Barnet are providing the specialist care that many parents are looking for?

PUBLIC QUESTION 6 TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES FROM JANET HARRIS:

Does the Council have any plans to re-open the public lavatories in Church Road or convert them into a community cafe? If so, which option and when? If not, why not?

PUBLIC QUESTION 7 TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FROM MRS KERRIE MCRONNA :

Could the Cabinet member for Children and Young people justify the fact that the John Loughborough School has been taken into Special Measures, in the light of the fact that exam results have not improved, but fallen during the Special Measures period, and could she tell us as anxious parents, whose views have been totally ignored and over ridden, when we can expect the school to be restored to normal running, and our children's education to its former high standards?

ORAL QUESTIONS

ORAL QUESTION 1 - TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FROM COUNCILLOR DOBBIE:

Given the fact that Haringey is about to enter a detailed period of public consultation on the future levels of education spending in the borough and that we are fighting to get equitable funding with similar London boroughs such as Camden, can the Cabinet member for Children and Young People please tell us why Haringey has appointed the city accountants KPMG to assist in the process and how much this is costing the Council?

ORAL QUESTION 2 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FROM COUNCILLOR WILSON:

Why has this Labour administration failed to implement its 2006 manifesto commitment to install new modern environmentally-friendly lighting on every street in the borough?

ORAL QUESTION 3 - TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR PEACOCK:

Can the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Wellbeing please provide an update about the recent launch of the Hornsey Neighbourhood Health Centre?

ORAL QUESTION 4 - TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FROM COUNCILLOR DAVIES:

Why has the Labour administration, after promising before the last election that all council homes will have a modern kitchen and bathroom by 2010, failed to provide this?

ORAL QUESTION 5 –TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENFORCEMENT AND SAFER COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR SANTRY:

We know the Council has recently moved to named Street Enforcement Officers in each ward. Can the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities please inform me of the progress that the new Street Enforcement Team is making to improve the cleanliness of our streets?

ORAL QUESTION 6 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FROM COUNCILLOR ENGERT:

Why has the Labour administration failed to provide a complete network of Children’s Centres as promised in their last manifesto?

ORAL QUESTION 7 - TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR EGAN:

What work is the Council undertaking to bring public buildings back into use?

ORAL QUESTION 8 - TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR GORRIE:

What benefits have residents got from the 30% increase in the annual communications budget since 2006?

ORAL QUESTION 9 - TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY COHESION AND INVOLVEMENT FROM COUNCILLOR DEMIRCI:

What work has the Council undertaken to celebrate International Women’s Day?

ORAL QUESTION 10 - TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR THOMPSON:

Would the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Resources agree with me that building on public spaces as in Down Lane Park N17 be morally unacceptable and that facilities such as the Welbourne Centre N17 be treated with more sensitivity and fairness at times like this.

WRITTEN QUESTION 1 – TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR DOBBIE:

In noting the recent demonstration in support of the Whittington Hospital A&E department and maternity unit, and welcoming the positive Conservative Party commitment to the Whittington Hospital, can the Leader of the Council now give details to Haringey councillors and residents of the dates and outcomes of any meetings and/or correspondence between herself / council cabinet colleagues with government ministers and/or the borough's Members of Parliament regarding the future of the Whittington?

ANSWER

The demonstration held earlier this month was well attended and I was glad to see cross party attendance. This campaign has been an example of all parties listening to local people and getting on board and working with the community.

I meet regularly with the PCT and take this opportunity to raise issues of concern. Of course since the announcement these meetings have focused on the impact that any reduction in services from the Whittington would have on our residents. I will continue to raise this point with the PCT.

The Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee organised a meeting of all of the lead health scrutiny Members from boroughs across the NC sector and representatives from the PCTs to obtain further information on the review and its progress and establish channels of communication. Once the formal consultation process begins, the boroughs will be required to set up a joint overview and scrutiny committee to respond collectively to the reconfiguration proposals.

I have written to Tracy Baldwin, Richard Summray and Rachael Tindall setting out our position and asking formally that the Council be included in any discussions at the earliest possible opportunity. We are committed utilising our positive relationship with the PCT to ensure that our views are heard.

I have worked with parliamentary colleagues to ensure this issue is also raised in parliament. I was pleased to hear the Health Minister Mike O'Brian say:

“we have invested £32 million in the Whittington, much of it in A and E, and unless the case for change is established, there will be no change. At the moment I am not convinced of the need for the Whittington A and E to close. Those discussing these things need to know that. I have serious concerns about it and I would want to see a serious clinical case made for saying that the £32 million that the Government have decided to invest in the Whittington should be overridden. I do not see any justification for closure of the A and E at this time, and I would want to hear the case for closing it during the next Parliament. I have seen no such case”

But of course this is not a final guarantee and we will continue to campaign against these proposals.

I meet with Parliamentary colleagues on a regular basis and this has been an item that we have discussed consistently over recent months. We are absolutely committed to fighting to save our local hospitals. Meetings have requested meetings with Ministers and the Chief Executive of NHS London, where we will use the opportunity to ensure that the views of local people are heard.

I wish to assure colleagues of our commitment to protecting the Whittington and of the value we place on the vital services it currently provides our Borough with.

WRITTEN QUESTION 2 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENFORCEMENT AND SAFER COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR AITKEN:

How many incidents of crime have been reported in, or near to, Bowes Park station in each of the last two years (please list by crime)?

ANSWER

The most recent 2 years of recorded crime (covering the period March 2008 to February 2010) from the CRIS database¹, was mapped covering all incidents within a 150m radius of Bowes Park Station.

The following table breaks down these crimes by year and by major crime type. It shows that 56 crimes were recorded around Bowes Park station over March 2008 – February 2009, falling to 39 crimes recorded over the same period for the last 12 months (March 2009 – February 2010).

Crime around Bowes Park Station (150m radius) March 2008 – February 2010

| CRIME | Year | | Total |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|
| | Mar 08 - Feb 09 | Mar 09 - Feb 10 | |
| Burglary | 12 | 5 | 17 |
| Criminal Damage | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| Drugs | 2 | | 2 |
| Fraud or Forgery | 1 | | 1 |
| Other Accepted Crime | 9 | 9 | 18 |
| Other Notifiable Offences | 1 | | 1 |
| Robbery | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Theft and Handling | 11 | 15 | 26 |
| Violence Against the Person | 10 | 5 | 15 |

¹ Please note that these figures may not exactly match final ratified figures.

| | | | |
|-------|----|----|----|
| Total | 56 | 39 | 95 |
|-------|----|----|----|

WRITTEN QUESTION 3 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FROM COUNCILLOR ALEXANDER:

How many Houses in Multiple Occupation is the Council currently aware of, how many have been granted licences within the past year, how many licences have been revoked?

ANSWER

Haringey's Stock Condition Survey of 2001 concluded that there were 2,313 Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) in the borough. These include shared houses and bedsit accommodation.

HMO Licensing was introduced by the Housing Act 2004 and the procedure for licensing a HMO in Haringey started in April 2006. At the time, it was estimated that there were approximately 480 licensable HMO in Haringey.

A licensable HMO is a property that has three or more storeys and which is occupied by 5 or more persons in two or more households.

Since 2006, the Council has received 344 HMO licence applications. To date, it has issued 253 licences and 10 'Temporary Exemption Notices', decided that 44 of the properties do not require an HMO licence, and it has refused to grant licences to 7 property owners. None of the licences have been revoked.

During 2009/10, the Council received 21 applications for an HMO licence, issued a total of 36 HMO licences (including 13 of the applications received during 2009/10) and issued 2 'Temporary Exemption Notices'.

Please note: A 'Temporary Exemption Notice' is valid for up to 3 months and is granted when a landlord does not want to own a licensable premises and is taking steps to secure a property that does not need licensing. This may happen, for example, when a landlord wishes to apply for planning permission to convert the property, or is seeking to reduce the occupancy in the house to the point that it is no longer licensable.

WRITTEN QUESTION 4 – TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR ALLISON:

Of the £50,121,000 spend on The Bridge New Deal for Communities how much was spent on:

- a) Consultants
- b) Publications

ANSWER

The NDC has spent:

- £3,698,707 on Consultants fees; this includes those working on the NDC capital projects;
- £146,090 on Publications; this includes publication of the NDC Annual Delivery Plans and Word on the Street newsletters distributed to all households in the NDC area.

WRITTEN QUESTION 5 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FROM COUNCILLOR BAKER:

How many families currently live in overcrowded housing and how many lived in overcrowded accommodation in 2006?

ANSWER

Although we know that overcrowding is a problem that affects households across all tenures, we currently only capture the number of overcrowded households recorded on our housing register, so rely on overcrowded households applying for alternative social housing as a solution.

We are currently employing a dedicated Overcrowding Officer who is working with 150 council tenants who are severely overcrowded.

Since 2006 the housing register has more than doubled and currently stands at 20, 251. In 2006 5.7% of household on the register were overcrowded and 1.2% were severely overcrowded. This year despite the massive increase in the register 5.2% of applicants on the register are overcrowded and 0.9% are considered seriously overcrowded.

We continue to identify overcrowding as a priority and are working hard to reduce levels as we recognise the impact it has on the lives of families in Haringey.

WRITTEN QUESTION 6 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FROM COUNCILLOR BEACHAM:

How many homes have been insulated by the Council or given loans/grants to green their home in past two years?

ANSWER

As Homes for Haringey does not give loans or grants, all of the council-funded energy efficiency works carried out to council tenants' homes are funded through the capital programme. Leaseholders have benefited from these.

During the past two years, the following insulation work has been undertaken as part of Haringey's decent homes programme:

- 519 homes have received extra loft insulation (316 in 2008/09 and 203 in 2009/10)
- 265 homes have received cavity wall insulation (30 in 2008/09 and 235 in 2009/10)

The cavity wall insulation undertaken in 2009/10 is being funded through the government's Social Housing Energy Saving Programme (SHESP), targeted at 'hard to treat' properties. Funding of £270,000 is being provided in 2009/10.

During 2007/08 and 2008/09, a total of 2,108 homes in Haringey benefited from heating and insulation improvements (worth almost £2.35m) under the national Warm Front Scheme and the local Warmth and Comfort Scheme:

- 1,368 homes were improved by the Warm Front Scheme at a total cost of £1.36m
- 1,368 homes were improved by the Warmth & Comfort Scheme at a total cost of £0.99m

WRITTEN QUESTION 7 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR BEYNON:

Can you confirm that a replacement for the Civic Centre is included in the three year budget just agreed and that the budget assumes an investment in Woodside House to meet this replacement need? Please confirm the budget capital spend assumed.

ANSWER

The Woodside House project is on hold and decisions on this will be a matter for the new council after May 2010. A budget of £12m is included in the accommodation strategy capital budget.

WRITTEN QUESTION 8 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR BLOCH:

Please detail what steps has the Council taken to recover the approximate £300,000 which the developers/owners were undercharged under an overage agreement with the Council with respect to the Gardens Centre, Cranley Gardens, Muswell Hill?

ANSWER

The Council is taking all appropriate steps on this matter. I will be able to elaborate on this at a later stage when it will not prejudice matters.

**WRITTEN QUESTION 9 – TO CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES
FROM COUNCILLOR BUTCHER:**

Based on the current number of residents living in emergency accommodation what is the financial exposure to the Council when subsidy rules change in the new financial year?

ANSWER

While at the outset of the Emergency Accommodation Reduction Project in May 2009, the original exposure was calculated to be around £7m per annum, since May 2009, we have reduced the number of households in Emergency Accommodation by 43%. We are also in the process of negotiating a significant number of price reductions with Emergency Accommodation suppliers.

We are currently assessing the likely impact of the agreements being reached with suppliers on rent levels (and future reductions in the Council's use of Emergency Accommodation) and the consequential financial impact of this. In the recent budget report it was noted that a reserve of £3.6 million was set aside to deal with this issue and the Council is confident that this can easily be contained within this. A full report will be submitted to Cabinet in April 2010.

**WRITTEN QUESTION 10 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING
SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FROM
COUNCILLOR DAVIES:**

How many incidents of anti-social behaviour have been reported in Homes for Haringey estates in Noel Park, Woodside and Bounds Green each of the last two years (please break down by estate)?

ANSWER

All incidents of anti-social behaviour, whether involving a council resident or a private resident, are initially reported to the Council's Anti Social Behaviour Action Team (ASBAT).

Each case is assessed by the ASBAT and allocated accordingly:

- All minor / non-violent cases that relate to council tenants (or have taken place on an estate managed by Homes for Haringey) are referred to the relevant Tenancy Management Office to deal with.
- All serious / violent cases are handled directly by ASBAT.

During the past couple of years, ASBAT has received 195 reports of anti social behaviour affecting council tenants / estates managed by Homes for Haringey in the Noel Park, Woodside and Bound Green wards.

Of these 195 reports, 88 related to Noel Park, 66 related to Woodside and 41 related to Bounds Green.

Although data is not collected on an estate by estate basis, Homes for Haringey has analysed its data for a number of its estates:

| Estate | Number of ASB cases |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Commerce Road | 3 |
| Jack Barnet Way | 2 |
| Noel Park | 39 |
| Vincent Square | 4 |
| Winkfield | 16 |

Homes for Haringey seeks to complete 70% of Stage 1 ASB cases within a timescale of 10 working days. During 2008/09, it completed 71% of cases on time and, during 2009/10, it has completed 74% of cases on time.

WRITTEN QUESTION 11 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENFORCEMENT AND SAFER COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR EDGE:

How many enforcement notices have been issued in the Noel Park conservation area in the last four years?

ANSWER

Twelve Enforcement Notices under the Town and Country Planning Act have been served.

WRITTEN QUESTION 12 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FROM COUNCILLOR ENGERT:

Which school capital projects are currently on target and which are behind schedule (please provide details of all projects)?

ANSWER

A number of the BSF projects are currently showing some delay following the recent inclement weather. The list below details briefly the current position on each:

- Alexandra Park – on Programme
- Fortismere – on programme
- Northumberland Park – agreed revised programme with school and contractor which will defer completion from May to September
- Woodside High – on programme
- John Loughborough – complete

- St Thomas More – currently showing behind programme, but will finish on time
- Gladesmore – on programme
- Heartlands – Currently two weeks behind schedule although programme re-profiled and expected to open on time.
- Hornsey – on programme
- Park View – slightly behind, likely to finish two weeks late due to additional works required to heating system
- Young People’s Centre – behind on programme and will deliver approximately 5 weeks late. Mitigation plan in place.
- Highgate Wood - complete

WRITTEN QUESTION 13 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENFORCEMENT AND SAFER COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR GORRIE:

Which projects received funding from the Community Safety capital allocation for this year?

ANSWER

A tendering exercise was initiated to invite bids in line with our Safer Communities strategic priorities, and agreement was reached by the Performance Management Group as to allocation.

Currently approved projects for 2009/10 are listed below:

CCTV - ASBAT (Stolen Equipment)
 Dog Controls - Finsbury Park
 Hearthstone IT re-fit
 Completion of Ladder Roads Anti Burglary Project
 Overt Surveillance –Anti-Social Behaviour
 Pathways to Empowerment (to develop IT suites for training parents)
 Telecare Monitoring and Support – Domestic Violence (Council’s emergency alarms extended to DV cases)
 The Difference that Makes a Difference (security work to community hut on Tiverton Estate)
 Wood Works Wonders (skills for ex-offenders)
 African Women's Welfare group (to develop IT suites for training parents)
 Neighbourhood Watch Haringey Signs

WRITTEN QUESTION 14 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENFORCEMENT AND SAFER COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR HALEY:

How many licences for bookmakers, adult gaming establishments, or other gambling venues has the Council granted in the past four years?

ANSWER

The Council has been responsible for granting licences for these premises since 2007. We have granted: 9 new betting shops; 1 variation of an existing betting shop; 2 new adult gaming centres; 2 variations to existing adult gaming centres and 1 application for a track betting premises.

Three of the applications were refused by the Licensing Committee and were granted on appeal to the Magistrates Court.

WRITTEN QUESTION 15 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FROM COUNCILLOR HARE:

How many residents have applied for a reissue of their freedom pass and how many are yet to be issued with their new pass?

ANSWER

To date 19,515 Freedom Passes have been reissued and 1,300 are waiting to be issued by the card manufacturer. A further 2,000 badge holders have yet to apply for a new badge. Those individuals have been reminded of the need to renew their badge.

The Council is directly responsible for the re-issue of the Disabled Freedom Passes. All existing pass holders were contacted and reminded of the need to apply for a new pass. The process started in May 2009 giving individuals who require a mobility assessment ample time to have their application processed.

The Older Persons Freedom Pass is handled by the Post Office, with this arrangement managed on behalf of the Boroughs by London Councils. London Councils managed the publicity campaign and have now contacted all (Older Persons) pass holders who have not yet renewed their pass , reminding them of the need to reapply before the end of March 2010.

WRITTEN QUESTION 16 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FROM COUNCILLOR MUGHAL:

Please provide details of action taken specifically in Noel Park to stop the misuse and abuse of Disabled Badges in the ward, particularly from individuals who come to shop and who do not live in the area?

ANSWER

The parking service has carried out 14 joint operations with the police to combat Disabled Blue Badge fraud in this area. We now aim to hold one operation each month and the police are happy to commit this level of resources. This includes identifying and seizing stolen badges, as well as those being illegally used by other family members.

This has resulted in 40 individuals being arrested by the police for fraudulently using those badges and the badges confiscated. A number of individuals arrested were subsequently cautioned by the police.

WRITTEN QUESTION 17 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FROM COUNCILLOR NEWTON:

How will the Council pay for the £1million investment to repair potholes, when was the decision made to do this and why was this not included in the budget in February?

ANSWER

The decision to invest an additional £1M to repair roads in the Borough was taken at the beginning of March and will be formally endorsed at the Cabinet meeting in March. The additional investment in road resurfacing will be funded by bringing forward the Council capital spend for 2011/13 and from general reserves.

As preparation work for the budget started in August 2009 it could not take into account the effect that the worst winter for 30 years has had on our roads in time for it to be included in the budget in February.

WRITTEN QUESTION 18 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENFORCEMENT AND SAFER COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR OAKES:

How many outstanding enforcement notices have been issued in the Myddleton Road area?

ANSWER

Six Enforcement Notices are outstanding.

WRITTEN QUESTION 19 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FROM COUNCILLOR OATWAY:

When were signs for the Heavy Good Vehicle ban in Alexandra ward meant to 'go live', when will they and why has there been a delay?

ANSWER

It was originally planned for the scheme to 'go live' at the beginning of February 2010. It is a legal requirement for the signs to be illuminated and this work will be carried out by EDF. Unfortunately we have experienced delays in the electrical connections and therefore the 'go live' date has been delayed until the end of April 2010. Officers will provide ward councillors with

an update of the 'go live' date once EDF confirm a date for the electrical connections.

WRITTEN QUESTION 20 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING SERVICES & ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FROM COUNCILLOR RAINGER:

How often is Lordship Lane cleaned by Council street cleaners and at what cost to the Council?

ANSWER

Lordship Lane receives both a manual sweep and a mechanical sweep seven days a week. The cleansing provision is shown in the following table.

| | Monday - Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Manual Sweep | 2,996 metres | 2,996 metres | 2,996 metres |
| Mechanical Sweep | 2,996 metres | 264 metres | 1,753 metres |

The cost of cleansing Lordship Lane is over £130,000 per annum.

WRITTEN QUESTION 21 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENFORCEMENT AND SAFER COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR REID:

What is the annual Pest Control budget, how many staff are employed in Pest Control and if Pest Control has been outsourced what is the annual budget prior to outsourcing and annual budget now?

ANSWER

There has been no outsourcing of pest control.

The projected cost of the service in 2009/10 is £335,500. The service expects to achieve income of £277,500, leaving a net cost to the Council of £58,000.

Over 2009/10 the service employed 5 pest control operatives and has used one agency operative to cover peak periods and vacancies.

Written Question 22 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services & Environment and Conservation from Councillor Scott:

What is the current total number of roads with bad pot holes requiring priority treatment, when will they be repaired by and what is the estimated cost to the Council to repair them?

ANSWER

For the week starting 8 March 2010, 10 potholes were identified as needing priority treatment i.e. within 24hrs and were repaired. Each individual pothole costs roughly £100 to repair, so the estimated costs of these potholes is £1000.

Problems with potholes and road maintenance has become a national issue following the exceptionally cold winter. We have responded proactively to this and increased resources to repair potholes threefold and repaired over 1200 potholes since January. We have 6 dedicated gangs repairing potholes and our road resurfacing programme has increased to resurface roads that are in a poor condition.

Written Question 23 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services & Environment and Conservation from Councillor Weber:

Please provide details of what the Council are proposing to spend the £80,000 in the 2010/11 budget for a “review” of the Crouch End and Stroud Green CPZ? Please can you confirm whether this will be part of the fast track process?

ANSWER

Residents and businesses, both inside and outside the Crouch End and Finsbury Park CPZs, have highlighted issues regarding displacement parking, operational days / hours and location / types of bays provided in these zones.

It is therefore considered prudent to review the zones to fully understand the issues affecting residents and businesses. The reviews will take the form of two questionnaires, one to properties inside the CPZs and one to properties outside the CPZs. The extent of the consultation boundaries for properties outside the CPZs will be agreed with Ward Councillors. The feedback from the reviews will help to determine the next stage of the process including whether this is a fast track approach or further consultation. This is dependent on the Sustainable Transport Works Plan being agreed and funding being committed.

Written Question 24 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Whyte:

Please provide, by ward, the number of neighbourhood watches currently operating and confirm what resources the Council has put into encouraging them to be established.

ANSWER

| WARD | NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCHES |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| ALEXANDRA | 16 |
| BOUNDS GREEN | 9 |

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| BRUCE GROVE | 14 |
| CROUCH END | 18 |
| FORTIS GREEN | 24 |
| HARRINGAY | 18 |
| HIGHGATE | 22 |
| HORNSEY | 12 |
| MUSWELL HILL | 20 |
| NOEL PARK | 9 |
| NORTHUMBERLAND | 5 |
| SEVEN SISTERS | 9 |
| ST ANNS | 18 |
| STROUD GREEN | 13 |
| TOTTENHAM GREEN | 9 |
| TOTTENHAM HALE | 5 |
| WEST GREEN | 16 |
| WHITE HART LANE | 11 |
| WOODSIDE | 14 |
| TOTAL | 262 |

Since the appointment of the current Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator the number of neighbourhood watches has increased from 150 to 262 and is still growing.

The Safer Communities Partnership contributed £35K in 2009/10 for the post of the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, and has allocated £40K for 2010-11 from the Basic Command Unit Fund. In addition, a further £5K of partnership money was granted in 2009/10 for the erection of new watch signs. These allocations are subject to quarterly reports and monitoring.

Written Question 25 – To the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Wellbeing from Councillor Williams:

Has the Council set up a Adult Safeguarding board, when was it set up and how many times has it met?

ANSWER

Haringey Council has had a Safeguarding Adults' Board in place since November 2004.

The Board membership has been broadened and changed over time and the focus has become more strategic, as national and local developments have helped to shape it.

Traditionally, the Board has met on a quarterly basis until a decision was taken in November 2009 to move the meetings to every other month, thus increasing the frequency of meetings from 4 to 6 per year. In addition, there are other "Learning Events" and Awaydays which occur periodically.

In total the Safeguarding Adult's Board has met 23 times since November 2004, including the most recent meeting which took place on 11th March 2010.

A further 4 routine meetings will be held during 2010 and the next additional Awayday is scheduled for 30th April when the membership, Terms of Reference, subgroups and workplan will be reviewed again.

The Board also has several sub groups, these being:

The Prevention subgroup
Training subgroup
Best Interest Assessors Forum, and
Safeguarding Champions Forum

These subgroups meet on a regular basis (between 6 weekly and bi-monthly depending on the subgroup) and these groups assist in taking key elements of the Board's workplan forward.

The arrangements for the subgroups, including membership and work plans will be a key element of discussion in April.

Written Question 26 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services & Environment and Conservation from Councillor Wilson:

How much Council money will be invested in the new crossing in Wood Green?

ANSWER

The scheme is fully funded by Transport for London. The overall cost of the scheme, including improvements to junctions along Lordship Lane, is £450,000.

Written Question 27 – To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Lifelong Learning from Councillor Winskill:

How much money has the Council spent improving White Hart Lane Recreation Ground in the last four years and what has been improved?

ANSWER

The Council has spent £15,800 on White Hart Lane Recreation Ground over the last four years. Improvements include new/ resurfaced paths, new/replacement seating, tree planting/removal, and improved fencing/gates. The site also benefits from the development and access to the new outdoor play facility on the adjacent Children's Centre.

Written Question 28 – To the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Involvement from Councillor Thompson:

Would the Leader of the Council agree with me, that in terms of education, religion and the pursuits of happiness under the law, there should be equal opportunities and a visible level playing field for all the children and residents in Borough, regardless of ethnicity.

ANSWER

Yes, we are committed to our Sustainable Community Strategy vision of: “A place of diverse communities that people are proud to belong to”.