

COUNCIL – 26 MARCH 2012 - QUESTIONS

ORAL QUESTIONS

ORAL QUESTION 1 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SERVICES FROM COUNCILLOR DIAKIDES:

How is the continuing confusion over the Health and Social Care bill impacting on the Council's ability to plan how to target resources in Haringey?

ANSWER

ORAL QUESTION 2 - TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN FROM COUNCILLOR WILSON:

Will the cabinet member comment on the BBC research that shows that 4 of the 6 Greater London primary schools that have been identified as underperforming by Ofsted and the Government are located in Haringey?

ANSWER

ORAL QUESTION 3 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION FROM COUNCILLOR STENNETT:

How will the council's new worklessness programme make a difference to the lives of young people living in the borough?

ANSWER

ORAL QUESTION 4 - TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN FROM COUNCILLOR REECE:

What percentage of 16-19 year olds in the borough is the Council currently unaware whether they are in Education, Employment or Training?

ANSWER

ORAL QUESTION 5 – TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN FROM COUNCILLOR GIBSON:

Can the Cabinet member for Children tell us about the involvement of local schoolchildren in Fairtrade fortnight?

ANSWER

ORAL QUESTION 6 - TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION FROM COUNCILLOR ALLISON:

Will the Council support Highgate residents who want to create a cross-borough neighbourhood forum for their area under the provisions of the Localism Act 2011?

ANSWER

ORAL QUESTION 7 - TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND CARBON REDUCTION FROM COUNCILLOR WATERS:

Can you give us more details about who will be eligible for bids to the council's new One Borough, One Future Fund?

ANSWER

ORAL QUESTION 8 - TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION FROM COUNCILLOR ALEXANDER:

How many properties in Harringay ward is the Council currently aware are breaching planning consent (e.g. used as multiple occupancy with single dwelling use) and how many complaints have been received in the past year from residents over such breaches?

ANSWER

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

WRITTEN QUESTION 1 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR ALLISON:

What actions has the cabinet member or Leader of the Council taken to lobby the Borough Commander to take action to combat the current spate of burglaries in Highgate?

ANSWER

The Cabinet Member is in constant liaison with the Borough Commander on policing matters concerning the Borough.

Specifically on burglary the MPS is undertaking Operation Aled which is operating in the Highgate area in direct response to the recent spate of burglaries, many of which are using mopeds. This includes:

- Use of all partnership cameras to gather evidence
- Use of automatic number plate recognition (ANPR)
- Work with local garages to locate mopeds
- Increased police resources and patrols
- Plain clothes police operations
- Assessment of how to use traffic operations to disrupt activity
- Enhanced press notifications (attached)

WRITTEN QUESTION 2 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR BEACHAM:

Please provide specific information on how the surplus £3,324,000 parking budget was spent in 2010/2011 as required "on the provision and maintenance of on and off street parking, provision of public transport services, environmental improvements, maintenance of roads, highways and road improvements or environmental improvements."?

ANSWER

The application of surplus on the parking account is detailed in the table below.

APPLICATION OF SURPLUS ON PARKING ACCOUNT			£,000
1	Contribution towards the Provision of Off Street Car Parking		175
2	Development and maintenance of CPZ's		600
3	Highways improvement works (including traffic management schemes)		2,549
TOTAL APPLICATION OF SURPLUS			3,324

WRITTEN QUESTION 3 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION FROM COUNCILLOR BLOCH:

Are all mobile phone masts installed under permitted development rights, without consultation with local residents surrounding the proposed site?

ANSWER

No.

Mobile Phone Mast (MPM) applications fall into three categories as set out and prescribed in Government Regulations:

- Prior notification applications – MPMs with total permitted development rights. The Council is simply informed it will happen, therefore no local public consultation is undertaken.
- Prior approval application – MPMs with partial permitted development rights. The Council is informed and is given an agreed number of days to comment on location and design with certain constraints. The Planning Service undertakes public consultation on this type
- Planning applications – The Planning Service undertakes public consultation on this type.

MPM applicants must always get approval/permission of the land owner.

WRITTEN QUESTION 4 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND CARBON REDUCTION FROM COUNCILLOR BUTCHER:

How much did the new microphone system in the Civic Centre cost to buy and install?

ANSWER

The cost was £17,500.

WRITTEN QUESTION 5 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR ENGERT:

What is the criterion for determining where the Council installs new street lighting and how are incidents of crime included in this evaluation?

ANSWER

When determining the installation of street lighting the main priority is the structural integrity of the borough's old lighting columns. The condition of columns is assessed by inspections which are carried out by engineers to determine a programme of those which will require replacing. This list is then referenced against information or requests received from the Police.

We also have a reactive lighting maintenance programme, which includes a rolling programme to clean and re-lamp existing columns.

WRITTEN QUESTION 6 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION FROM COUNCILLOR ERSKINE:

In what areas in Haringey do mobile phone companies or their subsidiary companies have permitted development rights to install new masts without consultation with local people?

ANSWER

There is no specific area or areas which apply, the whole Borough is the subject of the regulations regarding this matter. The spread of mast installations relates to the coverage required to maintain good reception throughout the area by the providers.

WRITTEN QUESTION 7 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION FROM COUNCILLOR GORRIE:

How many mobile phone masts have been installed under permitted development rights in Haringey in the last two years and provide the locations of each.

ANSWER

The tables below show the number of masts installed and their locations and date of submission, which fall within the category of prior approval and prior notification between April 2010 and the present time.

Prior Approvals (Masts only)	
Rooftop, Bounds Green Court, Bounds Green Road, N11 2EX	22/04/2010
Footpath on Bedford Road N22 7AU	10/05/2010
Telecommunications Station outside 64 Aylmer Road N2	26/05/2010
13 Bedford Road N22 7AU	25/08/2010

Outside 29-31 Turnpike Lane N8 0EE	09/12/2010
Langham Road, Outside Turnpike Lane Station Green Lanes N15 3NX	01/03/2011
Charter Court Stroud Green Road N4 3SG	08/04/2011
O/S 401-403 Lordship Lane N17 6AE	18/04/2011
O/S 243-245 High Road N15 5BT	10/06/2011
Outside 243-245 High Road N15 5BT	13/06/2011
Highways Verge Outside 401 Lordship Lane N17 6AE	20/09/2011
Communications Station, Electricity sub station adjacent to 154 Archway Road N6 5BB	22/11/2011

Total = 12

Prior Notifications (Masts only)	
Garton House, Hornsey Lane N6	25/02/2011
Echington House, Fladbury Road N15	21/01/2011
Telco House, 312 Tottenham High Road N15	27/05/2010
Muswell Hill Golf Club, Rhodes Avenue N22	28/02/2012
The Priory, 98 Priory Road N8	27/02/2012
Green ridings House, High Road N22	19/07/2011
BT Stamford Hill Telephone Exchange, Seven Sisters Road N15	15/07/2011
Land Adjacent to Hampstead Lane, London N6	23/06/2011
Cordell House, Broad Lane N15	28/03/2011
A to Z Catering, 15 Tottenham Lane N8	21/07/2011

Total = 10

WRITTEN QUESTION 8 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR HARE:

Since fortnightly collections were introduced how many requests have been made by residents for alternative size wheelie bins and how many have been provided?

ANSWER:

Veolia receives on a daily basis requests for all types of containers including 120 litre wheeled bins. To date Veolia has delivered 350 of these smaller bins.

WRITTEN QUESTION 9 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR JENKS:

From information recorded at recycling depots please provide a breakdown of recycling rates for domestic rubbish in areas within Haringey for the years 2009, 2010 and 2011. This request is on the understanding that recycling rates are not available by ward boundary which would be preferred information.

ANSWER

It is not possible to provide a breakdown of recycling rates by ward or by specific area boundaries. The refuse and recycling kerbside and blocks collection rounds are designed to be as operationally efficient as possible and do not follow ward or specific area boundaries.

Rounds are subject to amendment over time and so it is not possible to compare recycling rates for rounds over 2009, 2010 and 2011.

WRITTEN QUESTION 10 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES FROM COUNCILLOR NEWTON:

Please provide a current list of the vacancies in all Safer Neighbourhood Teams and whether the Council and the local Police have set a deadline as to when these positions will be filled.

ANSWER

This issue of staffing of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams is a concern for the Cabinet Member for Communities and is the subject of discussions with the Borough Commander.

Vacancies in the SNTs have mainly been caused by the recruitment of PCSOs as Constables. The Metropolitan Police lead their recruitment centrally, and a PCSO recruitment campaign began on 24 February. As recruitment is centralised, it is not possible to confirm when all the posts will be filled.

From 16 April, there will be an additional 80 police officers to support the Safer Neighbourhood Teams, and members should start to notice greater support to neighbourhood policing.

The most recent list of vacancies in SNTs is as follows:

Sergeants

1 vacancy White Hart Lane Ward - due to Sergeant moving to Schools Supervision role on the 12 March 2012

Constables

2 vacancies at Woodside Ward - 2 Constables have been temporarily attached to ensure coverage until permanent posts filled.

PCSOs

- 1 vacancy Bruce Grove Ward
- 1 vacancy Seven Sisters Ward
- 1 vacancy Tottenham Green Ward
- 1 vacancy Tottenham Hale Ward
- 3 vacancies West Green Ward
- 2 vacancies Hornsey Ward
- 1 vacancy Stroud Green Ward
- 1 vacancy Alexandra Ward
- 2 vacancies Fortis Green Ward
- 2 vacancies Crouch End Ward
- 2 vacancies Highgate Ward

WRITTEN QUESTION 11 – TO THE DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN FROM COUNCILLOR REECE:

Please provide the percentage of 16-19 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEETs) for each of the last three years and the percentage of 16-19 year olds that the Council was not aware of their status in each of the last three years.

ANSWER

All %s are for the three month averages between Nov and Jan, which is how the DfE measures performance. In 2009/10, we were required to collect data for 16-18 year olds.

Figures for NEETs

2009–2010 % of 16-18s who were NEET = 6.8%

2010–2011 % of 16-19s who were NEET = 6%

2011–2012 % of 16-19s who were NEET = 4.3%

Figures for Not Knowns

2009–2010 % of 16-18s whose situation was Not Known = 5.0%

2010–2011 % of 16-19s whose situation was Not Known = 5.5%

2011–2012 % of 16-19s whose situation was Not Known = 34.2%*

*The latest count of this group has fallen to 32.9%, due to ongoing work carried out to obtain data from young people.

The higher Not Known average for 2011/12 is due to the change in cohort rules from April 2011. 19 year olds are now included in the target cohort and the NEET cohort is now calculated by borough of residency as opposed to educational establishment. This has contributed to the rise in Not Knowns, due to issues in establishing the destinations of borough residents being educated outside of North London. This is mirrored in the performance figures of other boroughs.

We are actively seeking to make contact with these young people, and I am pleased to report that the figure for 16-19 year olds without known destinations at 16 March 2012 now stands at 32.9%. This is a reduction from the 34.2% average recorded in January 2012 - evidence that our tracking activities are beginning to take effect.

WRITTEN QUESTION 12 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR REID:

What is the average time taken in each ward from when a pothole is reported to it being filled and what is the Council's performance target?

ANSWER

We have three performance measures:

- The contractor must complete a job issued as emergency within 24 hours (e.g. on a principal road or a pedestrian crossing).
- The contractor must complete a job issued as medium priority within 7 days.
- The contractor must complete a job issued as low priority within 28 days.

Our performance for the third quarter (October – December 2011) for the completion of reactive carriageway works (potholes):

		Highways reactive			
		24 hr	7 day	28 day	TOTAL
Total for period (Oct 2011- Dec 2011)	Total number of jobs completed	281	503	1538	2322
	Total number of jobs completed on time	270	477	1365	2112
	Percentage compliant Performance Target	96.09 95%	94.83 No target	88.75 92%	90.96

The average time taken in each ward from when a pothole is reported by the public to it being filled is shown in the table below. This information is not used for measuring performance as the inspector is required to first inspect the defect to determine its priority and raise an order to the contractor. The variances in the average days provided in the table below are due to the varying priorities listed above and the number of defects reported in each ward.

Ward	Average (days)
Alexandra	13
Bounds Green	25
Bruce Grove	13
Crouch End	18
Fortis Green	21
Harringay	20
Highgate	20
Hornsey	16
Muswell Hill	17
Noel Park	28
Northumberland Park	25
Seven Sisters	21
St Ann's	36
Stroud Green	23

Tottenham Green	26
Tottenham Hale	26
West Green	31
White Hart Lane	26
Woodside	31
Average	21

WRITTEN QUESTION 13 – TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR SCHMITZ:

How many Council employees are receiving their basic pay at a rate which is less than the London Living Wage of £8.30 an hour?

ANSWER

0

WRITTEN QUESTION 14 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR SCOTT:

What is the rental income from Haringey allotment holders for each of the last five years?

ANSWER

2010/11: £72,874
 2009/10: £68,133
 2008/09: £66,241
 2007/08: £60,567
 2006/07: £64,535

WRITTEN QUESTION 15 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR SOLOMON:

How much has the Council spent on each allotment in Haringey on maintenance and security for each of the last five years?

ANSWER

Allotments expenditure for 2010/2011	2010/11 (£)
Allotment administration	22,900
Arboricultural & Allotments Officers	20,000
Budget allotment allocation & Site secretary expenses	13,300
General R&M (supported by Parks R&M)	8,720
Equipment & Materials	1,850
Water charges	23,250
Internal charges including depreciation	6,400
TOTAL	96,420

Capital contribution	<u>95,000</u>
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Allotments expenditure for 2009/2010	2009/10 (£)
Allotment administration	22,447
Budget allotment allocation & Site secretary expenses	10,869
Infrastructure improvements	8,492
General R&M (supported by Parks R&M)	3,026
Water charges	28,490
Internal charges including depreciation	4,364
TOTAL	<u>77,688</u>
Capital contribution	<u>40,000</u>

Allotments expenditure for 2008/2009	2008/09 (£)
Allotment administration	22,007
Budget allotment allocation & Site secretary expenses	10,109
Infrastructure improvements	10,000
General R&M (supported by Parks R&M)	2,967
Water charges	20,127
Internal charges including depreciation	1,031
TOTAL	<u>66,241</u>
Capital contribution	<u>15,000</u>

Allotments expenditure for 2007/2008	2007/08 (£)
Allotment administration	21,566
Budget allotment allocation & Site secretary expenses	8,214
General R&M (supported by Parks R&M)	3,000
Water charges	27,544
Internal charges including depreciation	17,300
TOTAL	<u>77,624</u>

Allotments expenditure for 2006/2007	2006/07 (£)
Allotment administration - 70%	21,135
Budget allotment allocation & Site secretary expenses	7,974
General R&M (supported by Parks R&M)	3,000
Water charges	24,791
Internal charges including depreciation	14,700
TOTAL	<u>71,600</u>

Attachment shows planned works associated with each site, and reactive works for 2010/11.

WRITTEN QUESTION 16 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND CARBON REDUCTION FROM COUNCILLOR STRANG:

How has the Council used its £1.685million of New Homes Bonus funding from the government?

ANSWER

The Council has used the funding as set out in the Medium Term Financial Plan, approved by Council on 28 February 2012.

WRITTEN QUESTION 17 – TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR WHYTE:

Please provide the number of licences that have been granted by the Council to establishments offering short-term payday loans to residents (e.g. The Money Shop, Speedy Cash)?

ANSWER

The Council does not grant such licenses. They are granted by the Office of Fair Trading (OFT), not by the Council. If the OFT grants a licence, it covers the business for any number of premises which it may have. It is our understanding that the OFT has launched an extensive review of the payday lending sector, prompted by concerns that some payday lenders may be taking advantage of people in financial difficulty.

WRITTEN QUESTION 18 - TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR WILLIAMS:

How many complaints have been received by local residents about the introduction on fortnightly collections to date (please provide the different categories of their complaints)?

ANSWER

5 stage one complaints.

WRITTEN QUESTION 19 - TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR WILSON:

Please provide a copy of the latest Haringey Road Condition survey.

ANSWER

The Road Condition Survey information has been collated from surveys carried out from 2008 until 2011. These have been plotted onto the three attached plans to show which roads are in a satisfactory condition and those which are in need of maintenance.

The three plans show the condition of:

- unclassified roads (these are mainly residential side streets), the red marked roads are those identified as needing maintenance.
- Non-principal road (mainly B roads) - again where red is where maintenance is needed

- Principal roads (mainly A roads) – again where red is where maintenance is needed.

WRITTEN QUESTION 20 - TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND CARBON REDUCTION FROM COUNCILLOR WIINSKILL:

How many complaints have been received as a result of residents being pursued for non-payment of Council Tax, Benefits or other services following the Council changing its bank details without notifying residents, resulting in payments going to incorrect accounts?

ANSWER

3 stage one complaints.