

## **COUNCIL QUESTIONS – 19 MARCH 2007**

### **Oral Question 1 – To the Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety from Cllr Hoban:**

Could the Executive Member please confirm whether she is satisfied that the Haringey Parks Police Service has sufficient resources to deliver the service they are contracted to deliver?

### **Oral Question 2 -To the Leader of the Council from Councillor Khan:**

Does the Leader agree with me that Haringey's scoring of 3 in the CPA's value for money category demonstrates once again this Labour Administration's commitment to efficiency?

### **Oral Question 3 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Newton:**

What progress he has made to date in consulting local residents on his revised parking charges proposals?

### **Oral Question 4 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Kober:**

Can the executive member outline what steps are being taken to ensure the safety of our children on journeys to and from schools?

### **Oral Question 5 - To ask the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Williams:**

Why is the Council set to take a whole year to consult residents in Highgate regarding the possible extension of the Highgate Station Controlled parking zone?

### **Oral Question 6 - To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Patel:**

Will the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation join me in thanking the staff of the parks department for the hard work they have done over the last year which has allowed us to nominate 8 of our parks for a green flag award?

### **Oral Question 7 – To the Executive Member for the Finance from Cllr Butcher:**

What proportion of Council's electricity is purchased from green energy sources?

**Oral Question 8 - To the Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety from Councillor Peacock:**

Does the Executive member agree that the 18% fall in the incidence of violent crime in the borough is an outstanding achievement by the Police in Haringey, and is a vindication of our policies in this area?

**Oral Question 9 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Hare:**

In a feature in a recent Haringey People, the Executive Member claimed that recycling glass saved large amounts of energy. However, the mixed collection process with the glass sorted out by MRF (materials recovery facility) with both the previous and the current contractors' results in a total waste of the energy in the glass. Far from reducing climate change, a huge amount of CO2 (equivalent in weight to 1/3 of the weight of the glass) is released, and the materials in the glass are lost from the glass cycle. Will he undertake to correct his statement, and to encourage people who can to instead take their glass to recycling centres or on-street banks?

**Oral Question 10 – To the Executive Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Egan:**

Can the Executive member inform us of the outcome of the SOC meeting held on 14th March?

**Written Question 1 – To the Executive Member for Children and Young People from Councillor John Bevan:**

Can the Executive Member for Children and Young People update us on the progress that has been made so far on the new 6th Form Centre?

**Written Question 2 – To the Executive Member for Finance from Councillor Butcher:**

a) How many default court judgements have been made against the London Borough of Haringey for failure to respond for whatever reason to legal claims each year for the past 5 years?

b) What is the total sum of initial awards made against LBH arising from default judgements each year for the 5 previous years, regardless of any subsequent funds recovered on appeal?

**Written Question 3 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Hare:**

What is Haringey's policy on the disposal of computer monitors?

- a) How does the Council facilitate the disposal of the potential hazardous material in computer monitors?
  - i) Does the Council offer any service to the public to dispose of monitors and what advertising to the public does the Council provide to ensure people are aware of such a service?
  - ii) What information in the public domain exists to provide the public of the risks of dumping computer monitors
- b) Are there any schemes to re-use or recycle computer monitors in Haringey?
- c) How are computer monitors disposed of when:
  - i) in waste stream especially of flats with paladins?
  - ii) left beside householders' wheelie bins?
  - iii) left on street?

**Written Question 4 – To the Executive Member for Finance from Councillor Beacham:**

With reference to the Special Overview & Scrutiny call-in meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2006, could the executive member confirm whether the recommendations arising from this meeting have been implemented and if so, please provide a full account of actions taken?

**Written Question 5 – To the Executive Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Hoban:**

Given Ofwat's guidance that it is the duty of the owner of any building to consider the statutory requirements for the provision of fire fighting appliances, what provision did the Council make to ensure that appropriate fire safety arrangements were in place at Crowlands school prior to the fire? In relation to these statutory requirements, please provide details of fire safety provision the Council had made at all the properties it owns.

**Written Question 6 – To the Executive Member for Community Involvement from Councillor Reid:**

What is Haringey's strategy for the introduction of a smart card for residents to access Council services such as leisure, benefits, libraries, parking? And could you confirm the following:

- a) If such a strategy exists please provide a timetable for implementation and consultation
- b) What services will be included in the smart card service
- c) What will be the cost of the smartcard to i) the Council ii) the resident for using the service

- d) Which external bodies will be involved with the introduction of the smartcard?

**Written Question 7 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Oakes:**

Please provide a breakdown of the works and related activities to improve the crossing of Bounds Green Road at Avenue Gardens showing:

- a) the number of recorded accidents prior to works for the past five years.
- b) the date of the original plans, costs of Council officer time involved, dates and cost of works.
- c) the number of collisions with railings to date, the dates of incidents, and the costs of repairs.
- d) the date of revised plans, costs of officer time involved, dates and costs of works
- e) the source of funding and the total cost.

**Written Question 8 – To the Executive Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Baker:**

Please provide a list of the individuals and their affiliations/organisations, who have carried out child protection investigations in Haringey over the last 5 years, what were the subjects investigated, the dates of investigation, and how much was paid for each investigation?

Do any of these individuals or organisations currently have any connections with Haringey, or have they had in the past?

**Written Question 9 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Newton:**

With regard to the proposed resident permit charges in current and proposed CPZ areas, an Executive member at a recent Area Assembly gave a figure that the Council estimates that something over 40% of cars will fit within the £30 charging bracket. Can he provide detailed evidence of how that figure was determined.

**Written Question 10 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Winskill:**

Would the Executive Member outline the conditions of the road repair contract with respect to how long the contractor has to effect repairs once they have been reported to them by Haringey.

How many jobs are outstanding as of 5th March? – Please provide details of where the job is being carried out and the estimated time of completion.

Please provide detailed figures showing the number of jobs currently running

over the contractual completion time and the date in which these should have been completed?

How many jobs have not met the estimated time for completion in the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2006 to date?

How many gangs does the contractor have that are currently operational in the Borough on road repairs and does he feel that this is adequate to undertake repairs in a technically adequate and timely way?

What powers does the Lead Member have to replace the current contractor if he feels that they are under performing?

**Written Question 11 – To the Executive Member for Organisational Development and Performance from Councillor Demirci:**

Please could the executive member state the Council policy regarding essential car user status for officers and provide the following:

- a) When was the policy last reviewed?
- b) When is the next date for renewal?
- c) What is the current scale of allowances?
- d) Currently how many officers are designated as essential car users?
- e) What did the scheme cost the council in 2004/05, 05/06 and what is the current year likely to total?
- f) In total, how many miles in the last financial year were travelled by essential car users?
- g) Please provide, using the banding structure proposed by the Council for the new parking charge scheme, a breakdown of the numbers of cars used for the essential car user scheme for each banding.

**Written Question 12 – To the Executive Member Children and Young People from Councillor Engert:**

To ask the Executive Member, that given letters went out to parents on 1 March 2007 giving the secondary school place offer for children transferring from primary to secondary school in September 2007, please can she:

- a) List for each secondary school in the Borough the number of children applying for each preference category from one to six, as of 1st March.
- b) List the number and percentage of Haringey children receiving an offer in each of the six preference categories, as of 1st March.
- c) List the number and percentage of Haringey children not receiving an offer of any of their preferences and which ward they come from, as of 1st March.

**Written Question 13 – To the Executive Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Weber:**

To ask the Executive Member for Children and Young People, that given letters went out to parents on 16 March 2007 giving the reception place offer for children starting school in September 2007, please can she:

- a) List for each primary/infant school in the Borough the number of children applying for each preference category from one to four, as of 16 March.
- b) List the number and percentage of Haringey children receiving an offer in each of the four preference categories, as of 16 March.
- c) List the number and percentage of Haringey children not receiving an offer of any of their preferences and which ward they come from, as of 16 March.

**Written Question 14 – To the Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety from Councillor Alexander:**

With the introduction of the new smoking ban in public places in July 2007, what preparations is the council taking to enforce this ban within the boroughs pubs, restaurants and other areas covered by this new legislation?

How much does the Council believe that it will cost to enforce the ban?

What revenue does the Council expect to receive?

Will the Council employ council staff to enforce the ban?

What financial resources have the Council received or expect to receive from central government to 'police' the smoking ban?

**Written Question 15 – To the Executive Member for Housing from Councillor Gorrie:**

Could the Council confirm the forecast total amount over the life of the Decent Home Programme that will be paid to the four external consultant firms appointed as "Compliance Team Partners" to monitor and manage the Constructor Partners? The recommendation to appoint given to the Procurement Committee on 13th Feb included the statement in section 13.2 "The award....is based on... confirmation that the consultants will be able to deliver the Decent Homes Programme within the current forecasted budget". Exactly how was the confirmation provided and on the basis of what evidence was the confirmation accepted?

**Written Question 16 – To the Executive Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Beynon:**

Does the Council employ an Access Officer or officers to ensure that all schools built in the Building Schools for the Future project are providing

equality of opportunity for disabled children as shown under the Disability Discrimination Act 2005?

**Written Question 17 – To the Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety from Councillor Mughal:**

What provisions will be provided for warden cover in the park in Noel Park, to stop the park being used at all hours by drug users and street drinkers, preventing local parents from being able to take their children to play safely there, and why has the security of Noel Park Nursery still, after months of our bringing this to the attention of the Council, NOT been prioritised and dealt with so local parents in Noel Park can feel safe sending their babies and young children there?

**Written Question 18 – To the Executive Member for Housing from Councillor C. Harris:**

- a) How many homeless 16 - 17 year old residents are placed alone in temporary accommodation hostels?
- b) Do all Housing staff who have access to these homeless young 16 - 17 year olds have Full Enhanced Police Checks?
- c) What measures are being taken to ensure that vulnerable homeless 16-17 year olds that are placed in temporary accommodation hostels are not open to the harmful effects of drugs and violence and are helped to gain a home, job and stability?
- d) How has the Lead Member for Housing ensured that the Housing Department has made provision to risk assess the un-staffed hostels where Homeless 16 - 17 year olds are placed, as regards;
- e) How many adult residents live in temporary accommodation where 16 – 17 year olds are also reside?
- f) To date how many 16 -17 year old homeless young people are under the Housing Department's care and in un-staffed temporary accommodation?
- g) How many hostels housing 16 – 17 year old homeless young people are operating in the Borough?

**Written Question 19 – To the Executive Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Edge:**

Please provide the schools in Haringey that collect biometric data from pupils, what this information is used for (i.e. libraries) and whether this information is passed onto any external body (private or public)?

**Written Question 20 – To the Executive Member for Organisational Development and Performance from Councillor Williams:**

Will regard to the implementation of the Equal Pay Agreement how many female employees of the Council are entitled to backdated pay and is Council Tax likely to increase as a result?

**Written Question 21 – To the Executive Member for Finance from Councillor Davies:**

Please could the Executive Member provide the latest quarterly and yearly Best Value Performance Indicators for the Housing Benefit section as set out below:

- a) BVPI 78a – Number of days taken to assess a new claim
- b) BVPI 78b – Number of days taken to assess a change of circumstances
- c) BVPI 76b – Percentage correct claims
- d) BVPI 76a – Number of visits per 1000 caseload
- e) BVPI 76b – Number of investigators per 1000 caseload
- f) BVPI 76c – Number of sanctions per 1000 caseload
- g) BVPI 79b(i) – Percentage of overpayments recovered
- h) BVPI 79b (iii) – Percentage of recoverable overpayments written off

**Written Question 22 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Oatway:**

How does the Council try to reduce the environmental impacts of printing? For example

- a) Are the printer's used ISO 14001 accredited?
- b) Is the paper used at least 50% recycled throughout the Council? What percentage of paper used is non-recycled?
- c) Are all inks used vegetable based?
- d) Are any gloss or matt finishes used biodegradable?
- e) Is the paper usage, including production waste, measured and a payment made to offset the Carbon Dioxide release when the paper was made?

**Written Question 23 – To the Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety from Councillor Aitken:**

Please provide a breakdown of how many Police Officers in Haringey have been on long-term sick leave in each of the last two years (with the numbers categorised by time on sick leave and also the number of Police Officers in Haringey who have been on light duties in the last two years and for how long they were on light duties.



**Written Question 24 – To the Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety from Councillor Portess:**

How many occasions have Armed Response Vehicles (ARVs) been called out in Haringey in the last 3 years and on how many occasions have they had cause to draw their weapons?

**Written Question 25 – To the Executive Member for Organisational Development and Performance from Councillor Rainger:**

Will the Council will meet its deadline for implementation of the Equal Pay Agreement and what will be the cost of implementation over the next three years.

**Written Question 26 – To the Executive Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Whyte:**

Please provide figures for the number of road traffic accidents involving cyclists in the Borough in the last two years and what were the locations of these accidents how many cyclists were a) killed b) injured.

**Written Question 27 – To the Executive Member for Finance from Councillor Bloch:**

Please provide figures as to the number of Council Tax Demands and Housing and Council Tax and Benefit Notifications sent to people who are deceased for the period January 2006 to date?

**Written Question 28 – To the Executive Member for Health and Social Services from Councillor Wilson:**

What progress is the Council making in providing safer cycle routes in the Borough?