

COUNCIL QUESTIONS – 15 OCTOBER 2007

Oral Question 1 – To the Leader of the Council from Cllr Williams:

With regard to the tragic death of Baby A, will he give the council a commitment to keep members as fully informed as possible regarding the council's role in the case review?

Oral Question 2 – To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Cllr Mallett:

Can the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People comment on the Summer University this year?

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

Would the cabinet member support Liberal Democrat concerns at recent reports to the Cabinet showing the Council's recycling rate decreased 1.1% to 23.8% and what is his department doing to make sure this is not an ongoing trend?

Oral Question 4 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Cooke:

Can the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities explain what progress the council has made in its enforcement activities?

Oral Question 5 - To ask the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Involvement from Cllr Gorrie:

Could she explain why after months of discussion and negotiation by the Council the ALMO has found it necessary to withdraw from using the Council Call Centre and the out of hours emergency call function previously provided by the Council, with the ALMO preferring to go to the effort and disruption of setting up their own equivalent service?

Oral Question 6 - To the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Involvement from Councillor Adamou:

Can the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Involvement update the council on the success of the WOW awards?

Oral Question 7 – To the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise from Cllr Edge:

How much and what proportion of its funding has the Board of FinFuture decided to invest within Haringey Borough; and what efforts she has made to encourage the Council's representative on that Board to attend these meetings?

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

Will the Cabinet Member for Housing Services join me in congratulating Homes for Haringey on attaining a two star rating?

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Written Question 1 – To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Jones:

Can the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People give us a break down of the results across the borough for Key Stage 2, GCSE and A Level results this year?

ANSWER

1. In 2007 Haringey has continued to make good progress in all the end of key stage tests. A summary of the results is given in the attached tables with comparisons where appropriate for the past five years. These show the ongoing levels of improvement and progress over time. Standards are below the National Average but our improvement has been sustained and consistent over time with clear evidence of closing the gap. A full analyses of the results will be prepared as usual for November.

Key Stage 2

English Level 4+

ENGLISH Level 4+	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 provisional
National	75	78	79	79	80
Haringey	67	70	73	75	76

Mathematics Level 4+

MATHS Level 4+	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 provisional
National	73	74	75	76	77
Haringey	66	67	68	70	73

Science Level 4+

SCIENCE Level 4+	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 provisional
National	87	86	86	87	88

Haringey	78	77	78	79	83
----------	----	----	----	----	----

English Level 5+

English Level 5+	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 provisional
National	27	27	27	32	33
Haringey	25	25	25	30	28

Maths Level 5+

Maths Level 5+	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 provisional
National	29	31	31	33	33
Haringey	25	26	25	28	29

Science Level 5+

Science Level 5+	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 provisional
National	41	42	47	46	46
Haringey	32	36	38	38	40

Summary comments

- In all subjects we have secured the highest ever percentage of pupils achieving L4+ at the end of KS2. We have reached our targets in English (76%) (Note DCSF figures show us at 75% but our estimate is that the removal of recent arrivals will convert this figure to 76%) and have made a significant gain in science (4%).
- Our results also indicate that we continue to close the gap between national results and those in the LA. Haringey's rate of improvement in each subject is greater than the national rate – in English we have gained 9% as opposed to the national figure of 5%, nearly double the rate of national improvement. In the east we have secured a 9% increase and in the west a 5% increase over the same period.
- In mathematics, the national improvement over 5 years has been 4% and in Haringey the figure is 6%. East and west of the borough have made a 4% gain respectively.
- In science Haringey's 5-year gain has been twice the national gain - 5% opposed to the national figure of 2%. The improvement rate in the east (4%) has been double that of the west (2%).
- At L5+ we have improved in mathematics and science to our highest levels ever. In English there has been a 2% reduction but the overall figure remains strong at 28%. We recognise provision for the higher attaining pupils to be an area for development and this will be secured through a renewed focus in service and team plans over the coming year.
- Results for LAC are above the National figures in all three subjects and are in line with last year's results.

Floor targets

8. We no longer have any schools where fewer than 50% of pupils achieve L4+ at the end of KS2. This is the first year that such improvement has been secured.
9. Since 2003 we have halved (from 24 to 12) the number of schools where fewer than 65% of pupils achieve L4+ in English, and have reduced by a third (from 24 to 16) the number of schools where fewer than 65% of pupils achieve L4+ in mathematics.

GCSE Key Stage 4

Percentage of pupils attaining 5+ A*-C grades at the end of Key Stage 4

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
National	52.9	53.7	57.1	59.2	Not available
Haringey	39	43.7	48.5	51.7	57

Percentage of pupils attaining 5+ A*-C (including English and maths) grades at the end of Key Stage 4

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
National	41.9	42.6	44.9	45.8	Not available
Haringey	28.5	31	31.9	34.3	38

Comments

10. 5+A*-C pass shows a 5.3% increase to 57%, 26% increase since 2001, increasing at twice the national average rate
11. 5+A*-C pass including English and maths = 4% increase to 38%, 6% increase over two years
12. Results for Children in Care have improved from 21% to 31% for 5+ A* - C, from 50% to 53% for 5+ A* - G and remained stable at 64% for 1+ A* - G
13. The provisional figure for 1+ A* - G is 96%, this means that we met our target for 2007 and is 1.5 above the 2006 result of 94.5%
14. Of the 29 young people entered for GCSE exams 14 received at least 5A*-C results (31%), 24 received at least 5A-G results (53%) and 29 received at least 1A-G result (64%)

A Level

15. The provisional results show an increase in the pass rate (A- E grades) from 96.7% to 97.1% for Haringey. The national increased from 96.6% to 96.9%.

Provisional 2007 A level results	Number of A2 exams taken	A	B	C	D	E	Provisional 2007 Pass Rate A - E	2006 A-E
Alexandra Park	158	15.2%	24.7%	28.5%	20.3%	9.5%	98.1%	100.0%
Fortismere	553	26.8%	29.8%	25.0%	12.8%	4.3%	98.7%	98.9%
Gladesmore	55	89.1%	0.0%	5.5%	5.5%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Greig City Academy	55	7.3%	0.0%	34.5%	32.7%	18.2%	92.7%	77.4%
Highgate Wood	156	19.9%	20.5%	20.5%	20.5%	12.8%	94.2%	93.4%
Hornsey	182	14.3%	20.3%	26.9%	20.3%	15.9%	97.8%	93.6%
Park View Academy	26	7.7%	15.4%	26.9%	26.9%	19.2%	96.2%	92.3%
St Thomas More	100	10.0%	9.0%	20.0%	28.0%	25.0%	92.0%	97.1%
Woodside High	16	25.0%	50.0%	6.3%	6.3%	0.0%	87.5%	93.8%
Haringey total	1301	22.9%	22.6%	24.1%	17.6%	9.8%	97.1%	96.7%
National							96.90%	96.60%

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

Could the Cabinet member please provide the following information with regards to the Haringey Parks Police Service:

- a. the current number of police officers employed by the service
- b. the number of officers employed by the service in each of the last five years
- c. the full range of duties the parks police are required to perform including non-parks related activity and confirm whether their contracted range of duties have increased or decreased over the last five years
- d. how does the parks police service compare with other comparative local authority parks police services -e.g. Newham, Hackney, in terms of staff numbers and range of duties they are contracted to undertake.

ANSWER

a.the current number of police officers employed by the service

11 Parks Constabulary staff
1x Inspector
1x Sergeant
1x Admin Officer
8x Constables
2x Constable vacancies (recent retirement and leaver)

b. the number of officers employed by the service in each of the last five years

Parks Constabulary
2006 – 13
2005 – 12
2004 – 12
2003 – 12
Parks Patrol
2002 – 9

c. the full range of duties the parks police are required to perform including non-parks related activity and confirm whether their contracted range of duties have increased or decreased over the last five years

The Parks Constabulary patrols all parks, open spaces, cemeteries. The Parks Constabulary locks 14 parks 365 days a year (unlocking is undertaken by grounds staff). The Parks Constabulary are required to lock the cemeteries and open them on a weekend and bank holidays and are also required to lock the toilets in Finsbury Park at night and open them on a weekend. The Parks Constabulary regularly patrol the borough's parks and attend/patrol events held in parks and deal with anti social, criminal behaviour and issues affecting the general public using parks and open spaces.

Since inception the Parks Constabulary has had a Service Level Agreement with Property Services which includes alarm responses from 20.00-0600hrs Mon-Thurs and from 20.00hrs Fri to 06.00am on Mon. Contractually the Parks Constabulary patrols these buildings twice every night from 22.00hrs. The Parks Constabulary also has a Service Level Agreement to patrol Alexander Park on Thurs, Fri, Sat and Sun totalling 36 hours per week.

Other related activities include attending Metropolitan Police meetings and being tasked on events related to the borough's parks. Checking the parking meters in two parks are functioning and attending various internal/external meetings. Responding to calls from Emergency Control where key holders for buildings cannot be raised. The Constabulary officers attend training in certain areas offered free by the Metropolitan Police.

Additional duties since inception have been checking parking meters are functioning and a small increase in the number of property services buildings patrolled at night time.

d. how does the parks police service compare with other comparative local authority parks police services -e.g. Newham, Hackney, in terms of staff numbers and range of duties they are contracted to undertake.

Newham Parks Constabulary has 35 operational officers and 2 Inspectors (one being a Metropolitan Police seconded Inspector). They are required to lock parks and respond to everything that is council owned or called to by the Metropolitan Police. This service is 24hrs.

Hackney do not operate a Parks Constabulary/Police service.

Barking and Dagenham Parks Police have 15 officers (not including sergeants or Inspector), and are supported by 10 Rangers and a private security contractor that locks the parks and attends building alarms out of hours. They patrol parks but do respond to calls from schools when on duty. They are not a 24hr service and cover from 12.00pm-12.00am.

Written Question 3 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Alexander:

Does the Cabinet member believe that the CCTV operation centre is adequate and when will the recommendations made by overview and scrutiny be implemented?

ANSWER

The Council has invested in a new modern CCTV control that is more than fit for purpose. This control room accommodates both the community safety and traffic enforcement teams in one control room as opposed to being in two separate rooms as it was in the previous location

Overview and Scrutiny made 12 recommendations. These form an action plan which is regularly monitored by the CCTV Steering Group. The Group comprises representation from Streetscene, Safer Communities and the Police and is chaired by the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities. Much progress has also been made on implementing those and progress made date is summarised as following;

A summary of progress against recommendations is supplied below:

Strategic

- The Head of Safer Communities has a strategic role on the CCTV Steering Group and is Vice-Chair of this Group. Performance monitoring will be reported up to the Safer Communities Executive Board
- A paper was delivered to Cabinet Advisory Board on 13 September date with future arrangements for the management and operation of the Council's CCTV Service. This paper also confirms the agreed policy on joint use of the entire camera network for both Traffic management and community safety , with community safety having priority over enforcement at key times.
- PRCI – experts in the field of CCTV – were engaged to deliver a Code of Practice, working protocols and procedures, a bespoke strategy, meaningful Performance Indicators and proposals for a communications strategy around CCTV, based on good practice. They have already completed the Code of Practice and draft Strategy and we are in further discussion with them regarding timescales for the remaining work.
- A proposal has been completed for the possible use of a Lay Panel and this will be packaged as a report for CAB in due course. A draft communications strategy for the Safer Communities Partnership has been prepared which will also look at communication around CCTV in more detail

Operational

- Working relationships with the police have been strengthened.

- A successful bid has been made for the replacement of upgrade of relocatable cameras (approx. 30) and investment in 12 new fixed cameras in priority locations. This is all managed and agreed at Steering Group level
- Investment in video sentry is secure and sustainable
- Town Centre Managers in Tottenham and Wood Green are undertaking a review of existing radio link schemes with a view to improvements and possible further roll out to other areas of the borough (R12
- Funding has also been made available for an additional 13 CCTV cameras, which are currently being installed across the borough. This programme will also see the existing relocatable cameras being upgraded.

Written Question 4 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Baker:

How many days over their original completion dates have projects, carried out by Thames Water and other utility companies, been delayed in the past year on Haringey's roads?

ANSWER

During the financial year 2006-2007, works in Haringey streets overran by 5323 days.

Written Question 5 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Beacham:

Are the two major incidents of major burst water mains (in Turnpike Lane and Alexandra Park) an indication of the Council's inability to monitor Thames Water's failures and what is the council doing to ensure Thames Water is targeting repairs and that these are done on time?

ANSWER

The two major incidents of major burst water mains (in Turnpike Lane and Alexandra Park) are certainly not an indication of the Council's inability to monitor Thames Water's failures. Both bursts were due to failures on old pipes which are entirely the responsibility of Thames Water and we are actively engaging with Thames Water to improve their response to such bursts. Thames Water has a large programme of water main replacement in the borough. Since 2005 about 80 Km of pipes have been replaced in Haringey and Thames Water is working on replacing another 25 Km of pipes in the Tottenham area. All of this work is monitored by Council officers and penalties issued if the work is not done on time or to standard.

Written Question 6 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Beynon:

How many fixed penalty notices have been issued by PCSOs by ward in the last financial year (2006/07)?

ANSWER

Whilst the Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) do have the powers to issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN), these police staff were introduced mainly as a reassurance and deterrent against crime and anti-social behaviour, rather than as an enforcement resource. The PCSOs are therefore not encouraged to issue FPNs and none have been issued by them so far.

Also FPNs are not a Performance Indicator for the Police. This information is not collected and collated. It must be appreciated that the Police have to collect and collate a great deal of information and therefore can only focus on that which they have to report on to the Home Office or New Scotland Yard.

It should be noted that the operational management of PCSO's is a matter for the Police and while the Council enjoys a strong working partnership with the Police, such information requests would be more appropriately directed to the Police rather than the Council.

Written Question 7 – To the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Involvement from Councillor Bloch:

How much has been spent by the Council rolling out the new Council logo, for example on new signs, stationery, updating the website, etc?

ANSWER

The new council logo, which has been updated for the first time in forty years and reflects the borough's increasing vibrancy and forward looking approach, is being phased in so that items such as stationery, uniforms, vehicle livery and signage (except for the sign at River Park House which was commissioned at a cost of £215) are introduced as part of routine replacement to avoid additional costs. There were no added costs to updating the website and Harinet.

Written Question 8 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Councillor Butcher:

On how many occasions in the last three years has Section 106 money been used to fund improvements in street lighting; how much was used for lighting

in each case and what percentage that represented of the total S106 for each development?

ANSWER

No Section 106 funding has been provided specifically for street lighting improvements in financial years 2005/6 and 2006/7. However, such funding has been used to alter or amend lighting to suit the development works.

Written Question 9 – To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Davies:

Given that starting date for phase two of the building work to Tetherdown Primary School has been pushed back to March/April 2008 making the completion date of August 2008 impossible, what are the contingencies plans and why has this happened again after the problems with phase one?

ANSWER

The starting point for Phase II of the building work at Tetherdown has not been pushed back to March/April 2008. Construction will start in January once the school has decanted into the new building. August 2008 is still the expected completion date.

Written Question 10 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Demirci:

Provide the number of premises in Haringey given warning notices, fined or closed down for selling alcohol to under 18 year olds under the provisions of the Violent Crime Reduction Act.

ANSWER

Haringey Trading Standards have been undertaking a programme of test purchases in relation to age restricted goods, in conjunction with the Police, for several years.

Since the Licensing Act 2003 came into force in November 2005 there have been 23 instances of sales of alcohol being sold to test purchasers. This resulted in:

- 15 prosecutions
- 5 cautions and,
- 2 warnings.

There have not been any instances of premises at which 3 sales took place in 3 months (that being the trigger for action under those new provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 which were introduced by the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006). Consequently, it has not yet been necessary to use those provisions.

We will use them if the circumstances lead us to, but in the meantime we will continue to use the existing provisions to deal with matters currently in hand.

Written Question 11 – To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Edge:

How many schools, and which ones, had or will have an agreed deficit for 05/06, 06/07 and 07/08?

ANSWER

The following schools reported deficit revenue outcomes or are predicting deficit outcomes in 2005/06 to 2007/08.

Over the three years 29 out of 80 school have reported or predicted a deficit. At the end of 2006/07 the net school revenue surplus, including the deficits shown below, was £5.3m.

	Budget Resource s £	Deficit Amount £	Comments
2005/06 Outturn			
Alexandra Park	5,516,215	192,474	LD in place
Bounds Green Infant	1,005,782	2,824	Below De Minimus (ie £3,000)
Earlham Primary	1,632,690	6,389	See 2007/08
Gladesmore Community	7,109,639	264,488	LD in place
Highgate	1,248,950	7,961	Cleared in 06/07
Lordship Lane	2,345,118	16,342	Cleared in 06/07
Nightingale	1,572,747	25,462	See 06/07 comment
Noel Park	2,026,970	41,856	See 06/07 comment
North Haringay	1,943,220	14,323	See 06/07 comment
Northumberland Park	6,000,184	142,681	LD in place
Pembury House	697,365	69,603	Agreed LD
Rowland Hill	728,066	33,265	Cleared in 06/07
Stamford Hill Primary School	1,050,187	14,099	See 06/07 comment
Stroud Green	1,487,065	19,917	LD in place
The Green CofE Primary School	822,500	22,252	See 06/07 comment
Woodlands Park Nursery Centre	741,734	29,373	Cleared in 06/07
2006/07 Outturn			
Alexandra Park School	5,728,974	526,584	LD in place
Alexandra Primary School	1,021,597	15,210	See 2007/08
Campsbourne Infant School	827,559	44,793	See 2007/08
Earlham Primary School	1,797,197	43,981	See 2007/08
Gladesmore Community School	7,087,167	239,768	LD in place
Nightingale Primary School	1,730,685	67,913	SFA liaising to clarify latest position and need for LD in 07/08

Noel Park Primary School	2,238,916	56,542	Applying for LD in 07/08 - level TB agreed
North Haringay Primary School	2,065,124	91,515	Applying for LD in 07/08 - level TB agreed

	Budget Resources £	Deficit Amount £	Comments
Northumberland Park Community School	6,213,658	128,673	LD in place
Pembury House Nursery School	818,887	79,012	Agreed LD
Stamford Hill Primary School	1,120,315	6,475	LD in place
Stroud Green Primary School	1,626,873	4,877	LD in place
The Green CofE Primary School	882,689	114,856	Applied for LD
Welbourne Primary School	1,724,005	12,459	Cleared in 07/08
William C Harvey School	2,161,674	2,265	Below De Minimus (ie £3,000)

2007/08 Schools' Projections

Alexandra Park	6,666,076	386,739	LD in place
Alexandra Primary	1,001,575	89,000	Applying for LD
Broadwater Farm Primary	2,031,834	99,782	New Headteacher from Sept. - SFA to liaise
Campsbourne Federated	1,663,865	52,419	Applied for LD
Earlham Primary	1,793,286	21,630	Applying for LD
Earlsmead Primary	1,720,869	47,652	Applying for LD
Ferry Lane Primary	936,155	91,117	Applying for LD
Moselle	2,266,258	62,297	SFA liaising to clarify latest position and need for LD
Northumberland Park	6,082,308	130,772	LD in place
Pembury	576,017	66,373	Reapplied for LD
South Haringay Infant	942,514	25,200	Applying for LD
South Haringay Junior	991,074	49,738	Applying for LD
St.James' CE Primary	780,538	39,658	SFA liaising to clarify latest position and need for LD
St.Michael's CE Primary N22	761,039	147,581	SFA liaising to clarify latest position and need for LD
St.Peter in Chains RC Infant	704,922	35,033	Applying for LD
Stamford Hill Primary	1,067,181	33,597	LD in place
Stroud Green Primary	1,609,493	20,249	LD in place
The Green CE Primary	895,404	115,677	Applied for LD
Woodlands Park	431,765	43,476	Applying for LD

Notes:

LD = Licensed Deficit

SFA = School Financial Advisor

Written Question 12 – To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Engert:

When will the new school in Haringey Heartlands, be completed, how much will it cost, is it currently on time and on budget?

ANSWER

The New School will open for its first cohort of children in September 2010. The cash limited budget for building the new school is £26m. The project is in its very early stages of design, but as with all projects (and achieved already at the sixth form centre) we expect to open on time and within budget.

Written Question 13 – To the Cabinet Member for Resources from Councillor Gorrie:

Could the cabinet member for resources confirm that less than £100,000 of the budgeted £3.077m IT capital budget for this year has so far been spent and as such the budgeted projects will not be delivered this year and are therefore late. Could the Executive Member also confirm that the Council has spent more than £1m on an IT capital item that was not budgeted for?

ANSWER

Question (a)

It is correct that less than £100k of the total ITS Capital programme of £3.076m as allocated during the budget process in January 2007 has been spent to date. It was agreed during the budget review process, that before any monies could be allocated or spent, Members should have the opportunity to review any potential projects prior to releasing funds. For this reason a period of consultation that included the Chief Executives Management Board, Senior Council Officers and full Cabinet was undertaken. As a result, the report has been through a number of iterations before being agreed by Cabinet on September the 18th. This period of consultation has naturally taken some time given the level of spend being reviewed and has therefore impacted on the start date of many of the projects.

This review process has been taken into account in IT budget forecasts and therefore has been reflected in the overall budget monitoring process. The delays caused by this have had no financial impact as it has allowed a number of smaller revenue funded upgrade projects to be re-prioritised and completed. Since this budget was not released prior to the end of September, the projects have not yet started and cannot be considered to be late.

Question (b)

It is correct that an unbudgeted item was agreed by the June procurement committee for £1.150m to support the purchase of a SAP enterprise license. This opportunity presented itself outside of the normal budgeting process timescales and as such could not be covered in the general provision. It was agreed by the committee that since this opportunity offered such a strong business case, it was reasonable to use a separate funding stream and was covered by the LAGBI (Local Authority Grant for Business Improvement).

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

How many requests have been made by members of the public asking for a second recycling box? And how many second recycling boxes have been provided by the council?

ANSWER

The Council does not monitor whether requests for recycling boxes are for first or additional containers, and residents are therefore not asked for this information when they order their recycling containers.

Written Question 15 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Harris:

Can the Cabinet Member for Housing detail how many children are homeless and living in Temporary Accommodation households?

ANSWER

Nationally (and in Haringey) an estimated 75% of households placed in Temporary Accommodation by Local Authorities have children under 18 years of age.

There are an estimated 85,000 households in Temporary accommodation nationally, and the estimated total number of children is c135,000. The latest estimates for London are currently c60,000 households placed by London authorities in temporary accommodation, involving an estimated 93,000 children under the age of 18 living in temporary accommodation. For Haringey there are c5,600 households involving 8700 children under the age of 18 living in temporary accommodation that the council has accepted a duty towards.

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

Could the Cabinet member for Leisure, Culture, and Lifelong Learning please give full details of actions undertaken by the council following the public

meeting held at Alexandra Park Library on Monday 18th December 2006, with particular reference to the following;

- a. measures implemented to tackle anti-social behaviour in the area
- b. work undertaken to repair the wall and library infrastructure damaged through anti social behaviour as identified at the public meeting
- c. in view of the recognised sub-standard infrastructure of this 1960s built library, with particular regard to disabled access and current health and safety legislation please give details of the agreed time table for implementation of the work programme designed to address identified deficiencies.

ANSWER

a. measures implemented to tackle anti-social behaviour in the area

Alexandra Ward ASB, October 2007

Following the public meeting on Issues of ASB in Alexandra Park Library, a working group of officers to deal with the situation was set up, consisting of representatives of Neighbourhood Management, Youth Services, Alexandra Park School, Libraries, and the Safer Neighbourhoods Team, Haringey Transport Police, Parks Constabulary, Homes for Haringey and ASBAT. The group met on a number of occasions and it was decided that, besides working together towards a joined up approach, a Youth Study be conducted to look at what young people would like to see happening in the area. The study itself provided training for young people to interview other young people on what they'd like to see in terms of activities for them.

The initial findings of the study were presented at the Muswell Hill Area Assembly by the Young People on 12th May 07. The Area Assembly focused on improving activities for young people, Children and Families and was held outdoors in Albert Road Recreation Ground on a Saturday afternoon to attract a maximum number of young people to attend. Besides holding the formal meeting, a number of participative activities including Football and Tennis coaching were held as part of the Assembly to engage with Young People. Most items on the agenda were presented by Young People themselves and they were also available on the Panel to answer questions.

Young People from Alexandra Ward engaged in the Festival of Youth Programme and in their presentation talked about the advantages gained from getting involvement in the Festival of Youth Programme which was match funded by Neighbourhood Management. The successful event with young people attending in large numbers was held at the Karamel Club on 8th September where Young People worked together to produce a stage performance show of local talent which was judged by young people themselves. Since the event Neighbourhood Managers met with Collage Art and Festival of Youth Arts to discuss the continuation of the programme and

are looking at providing regular activities around the Art media with Young People and will be exploring ways of finding sources of funding towards the initial continuation of the programme. We are looking towards getting the young people involved to form a group which could be constituted and supported towards bidding for future sustainability.

Following concerns raised of ASB in the neighbourhood CCTV cameras were installed around the shopping parade which, besides young people smoking and hanging about, recorded no other ASB. The cameras were then diverted to the Albert Rd recreation Ground as ASB and a break in had been reported by the leaseholder of the café. The cameras again did not record any incidents of ASB and were subsequently diverted to areas of more serious concerns.

Every half term a number of varied activities have been provided for young people to engage with them in a constructive manner. Flyers for the activities have been distributed to all local schools and displayed in Notice Boards across the Neighbourhood.

The Summer University programme was delivered throughout Haringey delivering a variety of activities for young people, ranging from art n craft to employment training and sports in the summer period. Most of these activities were free of charge. Tennis coaching in Priory Park being identified as an interest was organised outside the Summer Programme and a number of activities were organised in Albert Rd Recreation Ground.

Neighbourhood Management also facilitated the provision of a detached youth team for the later hours in the area. Detached Youth Workers make contact with young people who might have been reported to be intimidating, indulging in ASB or hanging around in groups with no direction. The team reported that there were no reasons for concern between 5 pm to 8 pm and the residents and shop-keepers they spoke to expressed no particular concerns except that the park walkers are now more cautious walking in the dark hours. The young people contacted by the team were usually accompanied by their parents. However a couple of them were reported to be expressing boredom with nothing to do.

Parks Constabulary agreed to increase night time patrols but with few resources this is not always possible.

Following concerns regarding lack of activities we are in process of producing a document listing all activities in the West which would be available in the shape of a credit card distributed to all relevant partners. The launch of the study and the information document is in the planning process where we're looking at young people taking the lead in partnership with Festival of Youth Arts.

Neighbourhood Management have also been in discussion with Homes for Haringey to provide a Partnership Programme of engaging with Young People on Housing Estates. The project is expected to be implemented in the New

Year. Neighbourhood Management have also organised a full day's programme on Crime Awareness- titled 'Prison- Me No Way' with Alexandra Park School to be held in November. Neighbourhood Management is working with Street Scene, Enforcement and other partners to deliver a Community Clear Up Programme in the Neighbourhood in February 2008.

Two additional bins requested by local residents to deal with the litter situation by the bus stop on Alexandra Park Road have been installed.

Haringey Transport Police regularly participate on the local Bus Journeys in the Neighbourhood, specifically covering the school opening and closure times.

The leaseholder of the cafe at the Pavilion has recently reported a break in which is currently being investigated by the Police.

Cllr Canver and the Neighbourhood manager have met with Rev Philips of Grace Church to explore the potential of providing a base at the Chantry building for use by Young People. Neighbourhood Management are giving consideration to setting up a Youth Group and providing them with support to bid for the Youth Opportunities Fund for initial activities and other funding towards the refurbishment of the Community space adjacent to the building. Due to resource allocation within the team this is not immediately possible. Planning and Legal advice is being sought with regards to the conditions of planning permission granted to the Developers.

b. work undertaken to repair the wall and library infrastructure damaged through anti social behaviour as identified at the public meeting

The Libraries Management Team have discussed the issue of the repair of the wall with the Friends of the Library and with other residents, and it is generally agreed that the community does not wish to have the wall rebuilt. We will shortly receive funds from the insurance company which will be used for landscaping of the garden and general improvements to the library. These will be timed to link into other refurbishments which are being undertaken under the management of Corporate Property Services.

c. in view of the recognised sub-standard infrastructure of this 1960s built library, with particular regard to disabled access and current health and safety legislation please give details of the agreed timetable for implementation of the work programme designed to address identified deficiencies.

Across the Council we are currently targeting £940K to Libraries across the next three years to address compliance and dilapidations works on the building structures across the service. During 2007/08 we forecast a spend of £400k.

Work has commenced this year to complete the review of Compliance Issues across all Libraries, including: asbestos, fire risk assessments, water risk assessments, electrical power and portable appliance systems.

In regard specifically to Alexandra Park Library:

- funding has been allocated this financial year to carry out minor roof repairs and address issues raised from the fire risk assessments

It is hoped to undertake scheduled work to heating systems in 2008/09 and dilapidations to the building structure in 2009/10.

Written Question 17 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Mughal:

Can the Cabinet Member for Housing Services outline exactly how many households with a disabled or frail elderly family member currently describe themselves as living in

1.unaffordable accommodation

2.unsuitable as regards adaptations

3 and how many BME disabled and frail elderly people describe themselves as living in unsuitable and/or overcrowded conditions?

ANSWER

1. The Council does not collect this data so is unable to comment

2. At the end of September there were 212 people who described themselves as being in unsuitable accommodation with regards to adaptations.

3 The Council does not collect this data so is unable to comment

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

Provide figures for the number of Penalty Charge Notices issued since the introduction of Stop-and-Shop to both Muswell Hill and Crouch End to vehicles parked during the periods of waiting restriction that are in place either before or after the pay and display period specifically:

a. what is the number issued for each of Muswell Hill and Crouch End areas during the prohibited period of before or after pay and display

875 Penalty Charge Notices have been issued in Crouch End and 1336 issued in Muswell Hill

b. how many of these have been challenged for each area

see response to 18c below.

c. how many have been successfully overturned

The Council has received 84 letters relating to tickets issued in Crouch End. We are unable to break those down by the nature of complaint, but can confirm that 60 PCN s were cancelled as a result of this correspondence.

The Council received 83 letter letters in relation to tickets issued in Muswell Hill. Again we are unable to break those down by the nature of complaint, but can confirm that 20 PCN s were cancelled as a result of this correspondence.

d. how many vehicles have been clamped or towed away in each area for being parked during the prohibited period before or after pay and display

60 vehicles were removed from Crouch End during periods where loading restrictions apply. This will include the off peak pay & display bays.

97 vehicles were removed from the Muswell Hill area when loading restrictions apply and this will include the off peak pay & display bays.

e. when will parking signage in pay and display locations be changed so that the time periods for any prohibition of waiting (outside the parking period) is expressed as two separate time periods?

The signage will not be changed at the signs used presently comply with statutory requirements. The Council is in the process of placing additional information signs on pay & display machines informing motorists of the limitations that apply to those facilities.

f. How many such pay and display locations are there in the borough which have a prohibited period of waiting outside the parking period?

Off peak pay & display parking is made available in principal roads where short term parking is required, but if provided all day would impede traffic flow at peak periods. This includes Green Lanes, West Green Road, Crouch End and Muswell Hill.

Written Question 19 – To the Cabinet Member for Resources from Councillor Oakes:

Can the borough supply a list of all the buildings it owns (excluding council housing): when were they last structurally surveyed, when were they last decoratively surveyed and when they will next be surveyed under both headings?

ANSWER

For the administrative buildings, community buildings, commercial properties, libraries, parks buildings, leisure centres, depots etc that the Council owns and has responsibility for, the Council has undertaken surveys within the last 12 months.

These surveys have covered both structural and decoration issues.

The Council has a programme to survey 20% of the portfolio each year over a 5 year cycle.

The range of buildings is extensive and it is not practical in this answer to give the details requested. However, specific information on particular buildings can be obtained by Members by contacting the Director of Corporate Resources.

Written Question 20 – To the Cabinet Member for Resources from Councillor Oatway:

How many people does Haringey Council employ and how many of these employees have wireless internet access?

ANSWER

The Council employs c. 8,500 people and, at present, has not deployed wireless internet access to any staff.

Written Question 21 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Portess:

Can he explain how long in years it will take for his Labour Council to provide quality stable housing for these and future homeless households living in Temporary Accommodation, given that the Haringey Council commissioned Housing Needs report states quite clearly that overall, there is a shortfall of affordable housing of 4865 units per year?

ANSWER

It is important to understand what the statistics mean, before drawing any conclusions.

The Housing Needs Survey is commissioned to cover all aspects of housing need. It helps inform the Council about housing conditions and housing need in the borough and provides the basis for our Housing Strategy and informs Planning policy. The results also feed into sub regional and regional planning joint working, are made available to RSLs and other housing providers to

assist with their long term planning and form the basis for various bids for resources.

The government has set down a technical model that has to be used by local authorities to demonstrate overall housing need in relation only to the amount of social rented (council and housing association) homes available to meet that need. The model does not take into account the Council's statutory duty to re-house people but gives an overall figure of need which envisages a scenario of all households being optimally housed.

The annual shortfall figure makes assumptions about newly forming households, existing households and inwardly migrating households that are unable to afford market housing. These assumptions can be changed by a number of variables e.g. changes in migration patterns, the housing market both in terms of raising or falling prices or the balance between rented and owner occupation, household size, etc. Any new demand generating a statutory duty upon the Council will generally mean households spending some time in temporary accommodation. The average length of time that current occupants have been in temporary accommodation is 3.4 years.

In other words the quoted shortfall figure is the outcome of a specific predictive model devised by the government primarily for assessing comparative need for social housing between various boroughs and it represents the likely position, across public and private sectors in future years should the current set of circumstances and trends remains unchanged.

Local authorities and central government of course intervene at various levels on some of the factors impacting on these circumstances, though a combination of prevention mechanisms, extra supply of new housing stock and a variety of options across sectors.

The Council has a target to reduce the number of households in TA (from the end of 2004) by 50% by March 2010. This target is 2604 and we are implementing an action plan to achieve this target, working closely with the government, RSLs, and Private landlords.

The government has recognised that in dealing with housing need and particularly those in statutory need it is difficult for councils to provide sufficient lettings from their existing stocks. Haringey like many other authorities, particularly in London, faces a huge challenge in housing everybody that would like improved housing. However there are a number of ways in which the Council is tackling the problem.

Key to meeting housing need is good housing advice and early intervention to prevent people becoming homeless. For just over a year now the Council has been running a new Prevention and Options Service that provides proactive advice and support to help people maintain their homes.

Where this is not possible people are offered alternatives to temporary accommodation through a range of schemes to find settled accommodation in

the private sector. These schemes offer households the opportunity to secure accommodation they might not otherwise have been able through the Council working closely with a range of private sector agents and landlords and housing association partners.

In addition the council is taking steps to increase the supply of suitable affordable accommodation, through new housing developments (we have secured the second highest in London allocation of Housing Corporation grants to RSLs for providing affordable and social rented homes), measures to bring back into use empty private houses, our Accredited Private Sector Lettings initiatives, offers of out of borough placements in suitable cases and so on.

The success of these schemes is being extended to include existing properties currently used as temporary accommodation where both the tenant and landlord are keen enter into tenancy between themselves without the Council acting as an intermediary landlord.

Written Question 22 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Rainger:

Can the Cabinet Member for Housing Services provide the exact figure for council homes currently without full central heating in Haringey?

ANSWER

The total stock at the time the data was extracted was 16,532.

The total quantity of gas central heating installations maintained by our 3 area based contractors is 14,737

Those dwellings that are heated by a 'community' system, that is, a common gas boiler plant serving many dwellings total 1,348. These are predominantly supported housing schemes.

Properties with electric only heating and hot water total 70

Properties showing no gas central heating that is, dwellings with only gas fires and gas water heaters total 377.

We would expect to pick up some of these (377) properties as part of the decent homes programme provided the tenants agree to the work being carried out. There is not always universal acceptance to heating improvement programmes which is the main reason why we do not yet have 100% coverage.

Summary table below:

Total Stock	16,532
Less gas systems on contract	14,737
Less 'Community' Systems	1,348
Less electric Systems	70
Balance of dwellings without C/H	377

Written Question 23 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Reid:

In the financial year 2006-07 how many fixed penalty notices did Haringey Council issue in respect of

(i) dogs 1

A number of enforcement operations were undertaken but with an emphasis on prevention and deterrence. As a result of these operations there have been very high levels of compliance in target areas.. This will be an area of increased activity, and the Council's Animal Warden has been transferred to Environmental Crime service to enable a stronger focus on this issue.

(ii) fly-posting 5

Most significant activity taken on fly posting relates to action taken against those profiting from fly posting. Fixed penalty notices activity here reflects those caught in the act of fly posting. The use of fixed penalty notices for this offence are unlikely to be a significant area of activity

(iii) graffiti 0

Most significant activity here has been aimed at the removal of graffiti and the underage supply of aerosol paints. Fixed penalty notices are for use use when those caught in the act of applying graffiti are caught. Use of fixed penalty notices for this offence are unlikely to represent a significant area of activity..

(iv) litter 821

Litter here can include bags of rubbish and activity here includes some fly tipping activity as well as littering.

(v) noise 0

The use of Noise Abatement Notices, prosecution and warnings are considered to be a more effective method for dealing with domestic noise. Haringey is currently amongst the most active local authorities in London for use of these powers with 148 served in 2006/7.

Fixed penalty notices for licensed premises are not yet available for use but are likely to be a valuable tool in combination with Licensing Act 2003 powers.

In addition to the above 18 fixed penalty notices were issued for nuisance parking, 56 for trade waste related offences and 162 relating to use or otherwise of waste receptacles.

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

How long does it take for Haringey Accord to replace a lost or stolen Wheelie bin, how many Haringey residents are currently waiting for a replacement wheelie bin, what targets does the Council have for improving these numbers, and does he think that either of these statistics are acceptable?

ANSWER

The system in place for replacing lost, stolen or damaged wheelie bins is jointly operated by Haringey Accord and the Waste Management Service.

The current waiting time for replacing lost, stolen or damaged wheelie bins and supplying new bins is around 3 weeks. The number of requests currently awaiting delivery by Accord having been agreed by Waste Management is 234. The number of requests currently awaiting validation checks by the Waste Management Service is 71. It should be noted that around 14% of all wheelie bin requests are rejected.

The Waste Management Service aims to arrange wheelie bin deliveries within 2 weeks of receiving a request. The Service is working on improving current performance by speeding up the time it takes to perform each part of the process. Given that the number of requests being received is quite high and site checks must be carried to validate requests and avoid unnecessary costs, the aim of delivering within two weeks is reasonable.

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

For both 2006 and 2007 how many of Haringey's streets had/will have Christmas Lights; how much did this/will this cost for each street; and how much did/will Haringey Council contribute to each street for the lights?

ANSWER

In 2006 the Council put up decorations in the following roads:

- Tottenham High Road
- Seven Sisters Road
- West Green Road
- Bruce Grove Road
- Crouch End Broadway
- Hornsey High Street
- Green Lanes
- Muswell Hill Broadway
- St Anne's Road

The total cost for lights was approximately £80k, and about £60k of this was met by the Council. In 2007, it is proposed to add lights in Wood Green High Road and Turnpike Lane. The additional cost of these lights will be £8k and approximately 75% of the cost will be met by the Council. Traders have contributed to the rest of the costs. The installation costs of £50k are also met by the Council.

Written Question 26 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Williams:

How many ASBOs have been issued and how many Acceptable Behaviour Contracts have been issued?

ANSWER

The Anti-Social Behaviour Action Team reports that they have issued 15 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts this year (2007). The statistics currently stand at:

2003	6 ABCs issued
2004	24 ABCs issued
2005	33 ABCs issued
2006	37 ABCs issued
2007	15 ABCs issued so far

With regard to Anti-Social Behaviour Orders, one (plus one Interim Order) has been successfully gained so far this year (2007). The statistic for ASBOS currently stands at:

2003	3 ASBOs issued
2004	1 ASBOs issued
2005	8 ASBOs issued
2006	5 ASBOs issued
2007	1 + 1 Interim Order ASBOs issued so far.

Written Question 27 – To the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Involvement from Councillor Wilson:

Why was the October Area Assembly for Crouch End, Hornsey & Stroud Green not included in the Area Assemblies listing contained in the September issue of Haringey People which did include listings for four other Area Assemblies taking place in October?

ANSWER

Unfortunately, as does sometimes happen with design and print, the Crouch End, Hornsey & Stroud Green Assembly listing was accidentally omitted at design stage on this occasion. However, meetings are notified to an extensive mailing list, meeting dates are available on the public calendar of meetings on the council's website, and the notice in Haringey People itself provides a

prominent telephone number for information. I also understand that attendance at the meeting in question was not significantly lower than usual.

Written Question 28 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Councillor Winskill:

Can the Cabinet Member for Housing provide details of how many council homes are currently inhabited by more tenants than they were designed for? Can the cabinet member also provide figures for the total number of overcrowded council homes?

ANSWER

The council never places any household in overcrowded conditions in the first place. However households become overcrowded as families grow over time after their initial placement. The Right to Buy system has resulted in most of the larger council properties being bought by tenants and this over the years has resulted in severe shortages of larger properties within local authority stock (in this and other boroughs). This in turn has resulted in a number of overcrowded households remaining in their current homes for periods of time, until suitable larger properties can be found for them.

There are 807 overcrowded households living in Council properties as at the beginning of October. The majority of these (658) are “practically” overcrowded, as they require one additional bedroom and are not considered statutorily overcrowded.

All London authorities and RSLs are making efforts to increase the supply of larger units and the council’s planning policy has adopted the Mayor of London’s guidelines to this effect, stipulating a minimum proportion of family sized units within each new housing development in the borough involving 10 or more units.

The council also operates an under-occupation scheme, providing incentives to tenants whose households have reduced in size over the years to move to smaller units, (thus releasing more homes for overcrowded households) and various other measures to help some of the overcrowded households through a variety of alternatives.