

COUNCIL – 14 JULY 2008 - QUESTIONS

Oral Questions

Oral Question 1 - To the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Wellbeing from Catherine Harris:

If he would like to make a statement about last year's performance indicator results for adult social services?

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

Which of the recommendations made in the Roots Report to officers following the Middle Lane files fiasco in February 2008 has the Council formally adopted?

Oral Question 3 - To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Cooke:

What recent progress has been made repairing potholes in the borough?

Oral Question 4 - To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Lifelong Learning from Councillor Reid:

How much money will the Council receive from the government to implement free swimming for over 65s and when will this start in Haringey?

Oral Question 5 – To the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion and Involvement from Cllr Bull:

If the Cabinet Member can provide us with an update of awards made by Area Assemblies under the Making the Difference scheme and her assessment of the impact this scheme is having?

Oral Question 6 - To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Councillor Winskill:

Why has Haringey Council failed to prosecute or even fine contractors following a series of failures to protect trees on a Council building project in Crouch End?

Oral Question 7 - To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Cllr Dogus:

What provision and activities will be available for our children and young people during the summer holidays?

Oral Question 8 – To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Councillor Engert:

How many schools in Haringey have a functioning and effective School Council and what action is the Council taking to provide support to encourage such school councils as was recommended in Scrutiny Review of Youth Democracy of 2005?

Written Questions

Written Question 1 – To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Lifelong learning from Cllr Aitken:

- When was the temporary skate boarding park purchased?
- Which service paid for it and how much did it cost?
- Where is it currently being used?
- Will it be available on rotation for use by youths in different parts of Haringey during the summer break?

Answer

The mobile skateboarding park was purchased in August 2004. It cost £23,902 and was purchased by Recreation Services.

At the time of purchase in 2004, there were no relevant safety standards in existence for this type of equipment.

In 2006 BSEN 14974-2006 was introduced to provide legislation for this type of provision. As a result of the introduction of the safety standard it has not been possible to continue to use the equipment as it has been deemed unsafe on 3 grounds. These are:

- **Lack of hand rails**
- **Inadequate width of ramps**
- **The weight of the equipment**

The skate park was used extensively in school holiday periods at 6 different park sites. It was also hired out on a number of occasions by local schools as part of school fetes or festivals. Recreation Services are currently establishing what if any residual value it has by either modifying or disposing of it.

Written Question 2 – To the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise from Cllr Alexander:

With reference to the Wood Green SPD, the council is considering making the High Road bus only during shopping hours. The only possible route for traffic other than buses would be down the new link road through Haringey Heartlands emerging at the junction of Wightman Road/Turnpike Lane and Hornsey Park Road. What measures will the council put in place to ensure that Wightman Road and the Ladder Roads do not bear the brunt of this huge increase in traffic?

Answer

The draft Wood Green Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is still, at this stage, an exploratory document. Many of the options presented in the draft have been drawn up following extensive initial consultation with local residents and other stakeholders. We have received a significant number of comments from community members and other stakeholders on all aspects of the draft SPD. All responses will be considered, as is required, and the document reviewed in light of the comments received.

With regard to the High Road and possible bus only access – I would emphasise that this is only a suggestion from some stakeholders. Any changes to traffic on the High Road can only be considered after a detailed full traffic study, including local consultation and agreement with Transport for London and part of this would have to look at the impact of traffic in a much wider area. We have ensured that Councillors and the residents who have raised concerns regarding the High Road have been written to and reassured of the situation.

Written Question 3 – To the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise from Cllr Allison:

How much has the Council spent on the Bernie Grant Centre since it opened on either a) Subsidy or grant; b) Hire, rental or use of facilities; c) in kind officer or service support?

Answer

The Bernie Grant Arts Centre (BGAC) opened on Friday 28 September 2007 therefore the information provided below relates to the nine month period from Monday 1 October 2007 to 30 June 2008.

- a. Grant paid during the period was £155,050
- b. The Council have hired rooms and conference facilities at the BGAC during the period and paid a total of £27,015
- c. In kind officer or service support associated with the BGAC during the period is costed at £15,764. This is based on the time of one corporate finance officer working 2 days a week between 1 October to 30 June 2008. This includes providing support to the Council's Chief Executive in her role as a Bernie Grant Centre Partnership Board Trustee and the Council as a member of the company.

Written Question 4 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Cllr Baker:

Please list properties over the last two years where complaints have occurred due to poor workmanship, poor or inappropriate materials being used. Please outline the quality checks and sign off procedure for work carried out in Homes for Haringey Properties and what systems are in place to ensure that preferred suppliers are delivering quality services throughout the contractual period for all Haringey Housing?

Answer

There have been 1,471 stage 1 complaints received concerning Building Services in the 2 years to 03/07/08. Further breakdown into distinct issues such as poor workmanship, poor or inappropriate materials would require a more extensive investigation involving several days work. Some complaints result from expectations that exceed our resources or are outside policy. The vast majority relate to day to day repairs (1,020) and gas (321); there have been 73 about other engineering services (mainly door entry and lifts) and 57 about major works programmes.

The numbers need to be read in context. Homes for Haringey carries out 60,000 day to day and 30,000 gas repairs each year, so the level of dissatisfaction with the service reflected in complaint numbers is about 0.75%

There has always been a post-inspection routine in place to monitor the quality of responsive repair work, whether carried out by our own workforce or external contractors. The emphasis has been upon looking at jobs carried out externally and jobs costing over £500. Our target is to complete 10% post inspections as recommended by the Audit Commission.

Since the start of the new repairs contract on 1st April 2008, the Repairs Client has been undertaking a post inspection process which is in addition to the contractors own quality control process. Upon notification from the contractor that jobs are complete, Surveyors are able to generate post inspection samples either on a random basis, or focussed upon specific areas of concern: by value, trade, geographic area etc; and any combinations of these. Jobs which fail a post inspection are flagged as such within the repairs IT application and are not passed for payment until client and contractor have agreed upon the appropriate remedial action.

A parallel process exists for gas, door entry and lift repairs, with historically higher post inspection rates.

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

How many households are currently without doorstep recycling?

Answer

Doorstep recycling can be defined as a kerbside collection or equivalent service, including 'near-entry' communal recycling facilities for blocks of flats.

There are approximately 100,500 households in the borough of which 73,000 properties are suitable for kerbside collections. All of these properties have a green box service available to them. A further 11,000 flats have a kerbside-equivalent service provided through near-entry communal facilities or collections direct from the doorstep.

This means that there are 16,500 properties that do not currently have a kerbside service. However, residents in these properties are able to access the council's recycling services through the network of 75 on-street recycling banks and two Reuse & Recycling Centres.

During this year the council will be introducing new on-site recycling facilities for blocks of flats. Once this project is completed the number of properties without a kerbside or equivalent service will reduce to around 5,000, primarily consisting of flats above shops. Residents of these properties will continue to be served by the on-street bring banks, but there will be significant improvements made to these facilities to enable a wider range of materials to be collected. The council will also be reviewing the locations of the bring banks to ensure that they are as convenient as possible for those residents who need to use them.

Written Question 6 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Cllr Beynon:

When did all the council houses on the Coldfall Estate last (i) get decorated internally (ii) get new bathrooms, (iii) get new kitchens?

Answer

- i. Coldfall Estate was last decorated internally under the internal decoration programme in 2002/2003. The Estate is due for internal decoration again this year and letters were sent out last month to all tenants inviting them to apply if they qualify.**
- ii. There are no records available of any previous programmes to renew the bathrooms**
- iii. There are no records available of any previous programmes to renew all the Kitchens**

As part of the external enveloping works which was carried out in 2003/03 and 2003/04 the following works were carried out where it was found necessary: roof renewal, gutters and down pipes, fascia, soffits, window replacement, partial rewiring, structural works, renewal of cold water storage tanks, extractor fans, loft insulation, external decorations, canopy over front door, front and back door replacement. The Coldfall Estate is also in the Decent Homes programme for boiler replacement,

kitchen and bathroom. The estate is currently in year 5 of the Decent Homes programme.

Written Question 7– To the Leader of the Council from Cllr Bloch:

How much money has been spent by the Council in the last year pursuing cases involving Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA)?

Answer

Having reviewed the RIPA applications for all council departments, in the time available to research the question, it is estimated that the council has spent in the region of £37,000, including staff costs, legal costs, and payments to external agencies.

Written Question 8– To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Cllr Butcher:

Why is Haringey Council pursuing action against Park Studios, Stroud Green, for not removing graffiti from walls that can only be accessed by unlawfully trespassing on Network Rail Land?

Answer

The Council is measured against National Indicator 195 for its performance in ensuring that graffiti in such circumstances is removed. These enforcements actions are a crucial tool in reducing environmental crime such as graffiti vandalism.

A graffiti removal notice under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 was served on the company in question as the building wall, facing the highway, is defaced by graffiti. In accordance with the Act, the company have made use of their right to appeal the Notice and this process is now in the hands of the borough solicitors. Attempts are being made to resolve any access issues that exist between Network Rail and the company and to seek permanent measures for preventing recurrence.

Responsibility under the Act lies with the company to comply with the notice unless the courts deem it an unreasonable request. In those circumstances, the issue will be reviewed with a mind to remove the graffiti by other means.

Graffiti Removal Notices are used in instances where businesses do not remove graffiti when requested. These notices have been used in other areas of the borough and remain an effective tool in reducing levels of graffiti.

Written Question 9 – To the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise from Cllr Davies:

Why was the requirement for public access to the tennis court at 72-74 Twyford Avenue not included in the final legal agreement with the developers

and what is the Council doing to ensure that the developers keep their promise made at Committee that the court will be open to other local residents (despite currently advertising it as a private court)?

Answer

It has not been possible to provide a detailed response to this question within the time available. The matter is being investigated by officers within the planning and legal services of the council and a reasoned written response will be provided to Cllr Davies as soon as is possible. However, at this point, I can confirm that the 3 former Tennis Courts at Twyford Avenue, N2, were supported by a private Tennis Club: They were not public courts although it is understood that they were popular with residents from the immediate area who were club members.

The first planning permission (granted March 2004), was for 9 houses and provision of one tennis court for the use of occupiers of the new development, and for the court to be made available to local residents by way of membership. This planning permission was subject to a Legal Agreement with a clause regarding the setting up of management arrangements to ensure continued access and use by club members.

A second planning application was made in 2006 (HGY/2006/0829), still for 9 units and one tennis court, but to a revised design. It would appear that the legal agreement accompanying the relevant planning permission does not contain any clauses about management arrangements. Both consents appear to envisage private but regulated use of the court.

The Council received an application in 2007 to alter and make narrower, a pedestrian access route at the side of Plot 9, and incorporate the extra land into the side garden of Plot 9, but this has not as yet been determined.

Written Question 10 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Edge:

When will Parking Services be reviewing the Stroud Green CPZ?

Answer

The Finsbury Park CPZ in the Stroud Green area was consulted on as part of the Harringay Station CPZ from October 2006 completed in May 2007. There are no plans to review the CPZ area this financial year. As agreed by Cabinet it will be considered as part of next year's programme.

Written Question 11 – To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Cllr Engert:

Are the Haringey Independent Schools of Channing and Highgate going to be invited to participate in the election of members to the Haringey Youth Council?

Answer

All Haringey schools are entitled to send representatives to Haringey Youth Council. Student representatives from private schools are welcome to participate and the Youth Council Cabinet will communicate information to these and all local schools as part of their efforts to develop involvement.

The Council is keen to see the widest possible spread of representation from all social and ethnic groups in the borough, particularly those who are most disadvantaged and whose voice is often not heard. Council officers will concentrate their efforts on securing and sustaining involvement from these groups and our maintained schools to ensure Haringey Youth Council is a representative voice for all young people.

Written Question 12 – To the Leader of the Council from Cllr Gorrie:

Following the Middle Lane files fiasco in February 2008 and the subsequent Roots Investigation please provide

- a. A full list of the Council, ex-Council and Homes for Haringey buildings and estates that were subject to checks and visits.
- b. Please provide dates of these inspection or visits.

Answer

A comprehensive review of all buildings currently occupied and those vacated since 2005/06 was carried out during February and March 2008 as follows:

- 197 sites and premises of Administrative and Operational properties currently occupied
- 14 sites and premises of Administrative and Operational properties currently occupied
- 36 sites and premises of Non-Operational properties presently vacant and/or awaiting disposal
- 120 sites or premises disposed since 2005/06.
- 26 housing sites or premises that are currently partly/fully used for administrative purpose at present or in the recent past. 26
- Where premises were occupied/used by new owners, a judgement was made in terms of 'balance of risk' and time/cost.

An extension to the review was carried out May and June 2008 by Homes for Haringey checking specific additional types of premises under their control for example flats that had and are used as offices by Social Services / caretakers lodges / tenants rooms.

The detailed records are held by the Head of Property Services and Homes for Haringey

Written Question 13 – To the Cabinet Member for Resources from Cllr Hare:

What steps are being taken to reduce energy use by IT, and what future strategy is in place? Please provide copies of reports or documents detailing these strategies.

Answer

IT Services has been looking at ways in which we can reduce the use of power; paper; CO2 emissions. The initiative has been linked to the Greenest Borough Strategy.

A member of the IT management team has been allocated overall responsibility to prepare a paper on Green ICT that will complement the work being undertaken in other business units including Property Services and reduce the IT carbon foot print. We are drawing on the work of the Society of IT Managers (SOCITM).

Haringey Council is actively involved in a newly formed Green ICT forum that includes a number of Councils in England plus a representative from the Ministry of Defence who is leading on Green matters for Government. The forum is looking at opportunities and options to reduce energy.

In respect of our own IT Services a Green ICT paper is being prepared to include a number of the options that are coming out of the forum and cover:

1. Data Centres

- **Independent IT baseline carbon foot print**
- **Consolidation of applications onto a virtual server environment reducing the number of active servers**
- **Redesign of the data centres to reduce cooling requirements (air-conditioning)**
- **Only procure equipment that has a high efficiency power supply unit; ensuring that equipment complies with Energy Star Standards and all hardware equipment is supplied with power-saving features with these enabled and active**

2. IT Office Equipment

- **Develop a culture of shutting down the workstation and monitor at the end of day**
- **Remotely power down workstations when not in use, at weekends, bank holidays and evenings.**
- **all active workstations have active power management activated/hibernate after a defined period of inactivity**
- **Remove the active screen saver**
- **Encourage use of the thin client technology (currently 60%)**

3. Printers

- Reduce printer estate
- Purchase only multi function devices that support duplex printing
- All printers to have active power management activated / hibernate after a defined period of inactivity (10 minutes)
- Reduce print quality by setting a lower greyscale / economy standard

4. Telephony

- Replace existing telephony solution.
- Request long life energy efficient batteries for mobiles
- Working with our mobile phone supplier to have chargers that turn themselves off when the charge is complete.

5. Disposal of Equipment

- Obsolete or beyond economic repair equipment is processed via a local supplier. This company repairs or strips the kit to prevent being dumped in landfill. The repaired kit is donated to a number of charities and other organisations and employees and trains local people.
- A review of the hardware replacement programme may extend the life of some equipment thus reducing production and transportation carbon footprint.
- Old CRT monitors have been replaced by flat screen Tft's which are more energy efficient as Council buildings are refurbished or when the equipment is obsolete or beyond economic repair.

Written Question 14 – To the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise from Cllr Hoban:

Could he please confirm:

- a. How many planning applications for the installation of Royal Mail Pouch boxes have been submitted to the council in each of the last five years?
- b. Please confirm how many of the above planning applications were successful?
- c. Please provide a list of the number and site of Royal Mail Pouch boxes installed in the above period, by Ward?

Answer

a.	2004	0
	2005	1
	2006	16
	2007	3
	2008	14
b.	2004	0
	2005	1
	2006	12

2007	3
2008	11

- c. **A separate report showing the location of all of the applications referred to in a. above is attached to this response.**

Written Question 15 – To the Cabinet Member for Enforcement and Safer Communities from Cllr Mughal:

Please details and statistics for the last 3 months on the number of criminal or anti-social incidents that are associated with betting and gaming shops on the High Road in Wood Green?

Answer

Crime data (February-April 2008) and Computer Aided Dispatch disorder data (January-March 2008) shows the following incidents:

2 crimes recorded at Ladbrokes at 13 High Road (one Criminal Damage and one Robbery of the Person). The same venue recorded 6 incidents of disorder (5 Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour and one incident of Substance Misuse).

2 crimes recorded at William Hill at 17 High Road (one Criminal Damage and one Possession of Cannabis). The same venue recorded 14 incidents of disorder (12 Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour, one Licensing related and one Criminal Damage)

1 crime recorded at William Hill at 8 The Broadway (Criminal Damage). The same venue recorded 6 incidents of disorder (5 Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour and one Licensing related)

1 crime recorded at Shoppers Pride Amusements at 64 High Road (Theft Other)

1 crime recorded at Paddy Power at 33 High Road (Theft Snatch). The same venue recorded 13 incidents of disorder (12 Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour and one Licensing related)

Written Question 16 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Newton:

What measures is the Council taking to provide secure cycle parking facilities and:

- How many secure cycle parks are there currently in Haringey?
- How many were installed within the last year?
- How much did the Council spend on cycle parking provision last year and how much does the Council plan to spend this year?

Answer

Secure cycle parking is provided through the planning process and from external funding. We have also worked with Homes for Haringey to provide secure cycle parking on three housing estates in the Borough. We are currently working with residents of Bream Close in Tottenham to provide secure cycle parking on the estate.

- a. We have implemented 263 cycle stands between 2003/4 to 2007/8. Some stands were installed before 2003 and we do not have precise information on location and number.
- b. We installed 80 cycle parking stands last year in over 30 location throughout the borough including in libraries, parks and on the public highway.
- c. We were awarded £20,000 for cycle parking last year from Transport for London as part of the Local Implementation Plan process. A further £20,000 has also been allocated for the 2008/9 financial year.

Written Question 17 – To the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People from Cllr Oakes:

Why was it proposed to cut the borough's long-standing grant to the Scout Movement? Could the borough say what grants it gave to each of the youth organisations it funded last year and the year before?

Answer

There was no intention to stop funding the Scouts.

From 2007-08 all funding that is provided to the voluntary sector has to have processes in place to demonstrate due diligence. This means a system of application, allocation and monitoring.

To ensure this was effective all voluntary sector providers were contacted personally to ensure that they were aware of the changes to grant funding - they had to make an application. Unfortunately the Scout movement although they were contacted did not fully understand that they needed to apply through the Youth Opportunities Fund/the Youth Capital Fund.

We have been in contact with the Scouts since this was realised to ensure that they are aware of the application route and to support them to make an application for 2008/099 for a value up to £15,000.

In 2006/07 25 voluntary organisations received funding and in 2007/08 37 organisations. The list is in the following table.

Funding for voluntary organisations 2006/07 and 2007/08

Provider	2006/07	2007/08
Academy of Cultural Talent (LIT)		4,218
African drumming & dance (Efiba)	6,900	
African Children & Youth Centre		8,887
Alhijra Somali Community Association	16,866	

Provider	2006/07	2007/08
Antenna Young People's Group	14,985	
Apartheid Project (Kori Arts)		6,530
Ascend Dance	14,664	
Base Scholars	18,700	
Changes (Wing Chun Boxing Academy)		9,833
Chettle Court Rangers Football Club		15,714
Dance Like Crazy	3,590	9,630
David's Harp	12,215	
Deep Programme (LIT)		13,905
Efiba Arts		7,500
Exposure Music Factory	4,500	17,230
Exposure Music Factory Arts		7,800
Fast Forward	16,210	7,591
Fun and Funky Sport Health for Young People	12,585	
Grinteet drama Skool (Youth Action)		15,068
Haringey Girls Night Out	12,203	12,203
Haringey Total Respect		3,710
Haringey Warriors Youth Organisation	21,126	
Haringey Wrestling Club	2,000	10,000
Haringey Young Carers (NCH)		12,235
Haringey Youth council Development	36,080	15,000
Hart's Trampolineing	9,509	
Healthy Young Mentors Enjoy Food	12,099	
High Cross Community Café Centre		7,000
Keep it Real Highway Youth Club		6,230
Kori Arts Positive Lives	3,920	5,131
Let's Be Positive		9,357
Lightz, Camera Action	13,600	
Lives We Lead	34,000	
Making a Difference Everywhere (MADE) Off Da Streets		7,480
Mosaic Project (Highgate Wood school)		2,070
MPower	20,000	
Off Da Streets	12,175	
People's World Carnival Band	17,335	
Project X (Ascend Dance & Performing Arts)		13,184
Redress Dance & Music (Yaweh Youth & Lone Parent Support Centre)		8,010
R Lives Campaign		3,856
Somerford Grove Adventure Playground Friday Night Drop-in project	3,098	8,190
Swiftly Intensive		11,910
Team Spirit Boing Club (Moselle)		3,408
Team Spirit Healthy for Life		8,439
Team Spirit Monday Night Access		3,562
Team Spirit Sports and Social Forum		3,206
The Beneficial Soldiers on a Mission	7,500	
Training 4 Life (Health for Young People)		12,100
We Want Music (Haringey Shed)		12,442
Where U Going (U.C.K.G. Help centre)		15,000
Young Muslim Empowerment Project		10,000
Youth Scope (ITEC)		3,500
Zagros Kurdish School	5,103	
TOTAL	330,963	331,129

Written Question 18 – To the Cabinet Member for Resources from Cllr Oatway:

How much does the Council consider that the new Civic Centre at Woodside House project will cost. What resident consultation was undertaken before the decision was taken?

Answer

The budget for Woodside House will be determined by cabinet when it considers a report on the matter.

Following the recent completion of the Feasibility Report, public exhibitions ‘will be arranged’ to provide residents an opportunity to find out about the proposals and contribute to this much required investment that will enhance facilities for democratic and civic functions, contribute to asset renewal, rejuvenate the park and bring tangible regeneration and community benefits.

Written Question 19 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Cllr Rainger:

How much higher in percentage terms does Homes for Haringey expect Council rents will be at the end of their current Business Plan (2011/12) than they are this year?

Answer

Council rents are forecast to rise by 5% in each year of the HRA forecast after 2008/09. This takes account of the above inflation rises anticipated in the government’s rent restructuring formula. The assumption includes the expected limits on rent increases within the formula to contain rent increases. However, government advises the council of the increases each year so the forecast is reviewed on an annual basis.

Although the government has not yet announced the basis for rent levels in 2009/10 we estimate that the average weekly rent for will rise from £78.25 in 2008/09 to £90.58 by 2011/12 – an increase of 15.8% over 2008/09. This estimate would be consistent with recent rises.

Written Question 20 – To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Conservation from Cllr Reid:

a. How many parking permits are currently in circulation allowing the holder to park anywhere in the Borough and b. can the lead member detail the policy for allocation and control of such permits

Answer

The only permits issued by the Council that allow holders to park anywhere in the Borough are the Essential Service Permits. Those permits are intended to facilitate the delivery of essential services to

residents and there are qualifying criteria that the applicant must meet. The scheme was reviewed recently and to date 720 have been issued.

Written Question 21 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Cllr Weber:

Please provide:

- Number of properties that are currently required for residents in temporary accommodation?
- A breakdown as to how many 1, 2, 3 and 4 etc bed properties are used for these residents.
- How many void properties (broken down into 1,2,3 and 4 bedroom properties) were there in every month for the past 6 months?

Answer

Number of HRA voids at month end (by bed size)

Month	B E D S I Z E						Total voids	Difference from previous month
	*0	1	2	3	4	5		
June 08	7	79	41	27	6	1	161	2
May 08	5	81	37	28	7	1	159	-6
April 08	7	86	34	30	7	1	165	-24
March 08	7	105	45	24	7	1	189	-57
February 08	11	145	54	27	8	1	246	-5
January 08	14	141	55	32	8	1	251	

Note: *0 Bed size denotes bedsit

Written Question 22 – To the Cabinet Member for Housing Services from Cllr Whyte:

Could he confirm the recent date when the personal records of past residents of the Birkbeck block on St Marys Estate Hornsey were discovered in the common rooms of the block, the date when they were removed and where they have been taken to?

Answer

The existence of records left behind from when this building was used as the Council out of hours call centre was brought to attention of senior managers in March 2008. The documents did not relate to residents of Birkbeck Road in particular. They were removed, checked and taken for incineration shortly afterwards.

Written Question 23 – To the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise from Cllr Williams:

If he will provide a table showing the number of successful planning applications that entailed house demolition and replacement in each of the years from 2002 to date, in the following roads in the Kenwood area of the Highgate ward, and could he also give in his answer, his views on the impact of any such developments on the fringes of Hampstead Heath as an area of special character; Courtenay Avenue, Compton Avenue, Sheldon Avenue, Stormont Road, Denewood Road, View Road, Grange Road, and Broadlands Road.

Answer

The following table shows the number of planning applications granted in the specified streets, by year, which entailed house demolition and replacement.

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 up to June
Courtenay Avenue	0	0	0	2	1	2	0
Compton Avenue	0	0	2	0	0	1	1
Sheldon Avenue	0	0	0	1	0	2	0
Stormont Road	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Denewood Road	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
View Road	0	0	0	0	2	1	0
Grange Road	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Broadlands Road	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

The permissions granted for replacement of existing dwellings in these roads to the north of Hampstead Lane for the most part have a more localised impact on the particular road or avenue, rather than on the wider fringes of Hampstead Heath. Only the ends of these roads can be seen from either Highgate Golf Course or Hampstead Lane. The Hampstead Heath Area of Special Character designation which was in the old 1998 Unitary Development Plan is not in the 2006 Adopted UDP: Other Policies, covering Quality Design principles, Trees, and Conservation Area status, were felt to provide sufficient basis for assessment of such planning applications and the former designation was therefore dropped.

The replacement dwellings, whilst having larger footprints and in some instances a much more contemporary style than the ones they replace, are set in substantial plots, which in some cases (particularly Compton and Courtney Avenues) already have mature landscaping as part of the

street scene. The new dwellings are generally three storeys plus basements (some have the top floor set within the roof slope), but have limited visibility from the Hampstead Heath Area

Written Question 24 – To the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Wellbeing from Cllr Wilson:

What payments for rent and utility bills is the Council making to the Faith Plant Centre on Wolves Lane for locating the Green Pepper Cafe on its premises?

Answer

The Council does not pay any rent to the Faith Plant Centre on Wolves Lane for locating the Green pepper Café on its premises. Although Green Pepper do not pay rental or utility cost in return Adult Services funds the training and staffing costs for Green Pepper. The Council has also supported the Faith Plant Centre through leasing the site at below market rent.

Written Question 25 - To the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Lifelong Learning from Cllr Winskill:

How much did the implementation of the new leisure charges structure cost the Council to research, design, "consult on", publicise. Please provide details of the total cost of consultants, writing to users, design and printing of publicity material, internal payments to other council business units (including the Press Office) and any other costs associated with the restructuring?

Answer

The review of charging policy for sports and leisure services was a major task and has involved a considerable commitment of Council officers' time from Recreation Services. The additional direct costs of this project were:

Audit /Research	£10.4k
Consultation	£7.5k
Publicity /Promotion	£17.3k

The last fundamental review was conducted in the mid 90s when we introduced the Eazy Card, and thus it was appropriate to revisit our pricing policy to ensure that both users and residents are getting value for money, and it should be viewed in the context of the Leisure Centres' £2million+ income per annum.