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COUNCIL

Monday 12 October 2020

4 QUESTIONS (Pages 3 - 12)

The questions received for this meeting are set out in the following pages –

- (a) Questions from members of the public for written reply.
- (b) Questions from members of the Council for oral reply.
- (c) Questions from members of the Council for written reply.

Copies of the documents referred to above can be obtained from
<http://cds.bromley.gov.uk/>

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COUNCIL MEETING

12th October 2020

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC FOR WRITTEN REPLY

1. From David Marshall to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

How many applications has Bromley Council made for funding from the Department of Transport for sustainable travel? Please list these applications and share what response has been received to each of those applications, stating which have been granted funds and what was the reason for refusal for those not granted.

2. From David Marshall to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

Monitoring of air quality in Bromley, particularly PM2.5 has been unreliable. At times when our neighbours in Croydon and Lewisham reported high levels in mid-August, Bromley's reporting is absent. What action is being taken to correct this issue?

3. From Chris Phillips, Chairman, Friends of Croydon Road Recreation Ground, to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

With reference to the Croydon Road bandstand, and the reply to full Council on 20th July, how is work progressing to secure a Conservation Architect for the works?

4. From Chloe-Jane Ross to the Portfolio Holder for Public Protection and Enforcement

I witnessed a menacing and threatening catalytic convertor theft recently. Such thefts have risen significantly in the last couple of years. How many licensed scrap dealers are there in the borough and how many have been inspected by Bromley Council in the last 24 months?

5. From Chloe-Jane Ross to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing

What provisions will the Council be making to ensure existing users of the Beckenham Public Halls retain access on favourable terms when the building lease is disposed of? In particular safeguarding access to groups that regularly hire the halls in terms of affordability and accessible timetabling?

6. From Stuart Benefield to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

What is the strategy to deal with the massive increase in traffic in Bromley, and how will this work alongside adjacent boroughs? Subjectively, I have noticed a huge increase in Bromley but there is also an objective increase throughout outer London - (<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/sep/15/road-congestion-levels-in-outer-london-higher-than-before-lockdown>)

7. From Stuart Benefield to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

How are the new schemes for cyclists/pedestrians, introduced following external funding, being monitored? How will their success be fed back to the original scheme funders such as TFL?

8. From Julie Ireland to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

Please tell us what progress has been made on the successful bids to TfL for funding for the “variety of measures around schools across the borough” (as you reported in July), and the “temporary cycle routes in and around Shortlands”.

9. From Julie Ireland to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

In January 2019 I asked a question at the Council Meeting about the dangerously narrow pavements that lead to Unicorn School and Langley Schools, plus highlighted the campaign for a weatherproof path across Harvington playing fields. Please would he tell us what contact has been made and what plans he has for easing the dangerous congestion on these routes, which makes social distancing impossible and road safety perilous.

10. From Sam Webber to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

Congestion close to the schools on Tylney Road and Nightingale Lane and the risk to pedestrian safety now seems worse than pre-lockdown. What has happened to the promised pedestrian crossing and what other measures are planned to enable social distancing?

11. From Sam Webber to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

How many school streets are currently in place in the borough and how many more are planned? What is the timescale for those schemes?

12. From Suraj Gandecha to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

The introduction of the Low Traffic Neighbourhood in Crystal Palace by Croydon Council has caused chaos to local residents, a classic case of a good idea carried out badly without enough consultation. What steps have Bromley Council made to work with Croydon Council to improve the scheme and to inform local residents of those steps?

13. From Suraj Gandecha to the Leader of the Council

In August 2020 emails from different Bromley residents were sent to 58 Bromley Councillors. The email addresses of 3 councillors were invalid. Less than half of the councillors have replied to those emails (up to 28 Sept). Does the Leader of the Council feel this is an acceptable rate of response, and if not what is considered to be an acceptable rate?

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COUNCIL MEETING**12th October 2020****QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL FOR ORAL REPLY****1. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Leader of the Council**

Please provide details of the legal action against Croydon Council's implementation of a Low Traffic Neighbourhood in Crystal Palace which you promised in early August. Are you looking at options for securing an injunction and / or judicial review of Croydon's actions?

2. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing

When can we expect to see the first of the modular housing units to be installed and in use?

3. From Cllr Josh King to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation & Housing

Following the recent decision not to relocate Beckenham Library to Beckenham Public Halls, what are the Council's plans to address the backlog in maintenance of the Beckenham library building?

4. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Health

What changes to Domiciliary Care Services have required to be made as a result of COVID?

5. From Cllr Kevin Brooks to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education & Families

Will the Portfolio Holder provide details of which Academies or other providers were invited to apply for the Kentwood Site and explain why Harris appears to be the sole favoured provider?

6. From Cllr Vanessa Allen to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management

What is the current difference between this Council's expenditure on COVID related work and the funding for such provided by central government? How is the Council going to fund this difference and which services do you envisage being cut as a direct consequence?

7. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation & Housing

What plans is the Council making to support rough sleepers in the borough over the upcoming winter period and ensure they are provided with shelter, particularly in the event the Bromley Homeless Shelter is unable to run as normal due to the risk of Coronavirus?

8. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Leader of the Council

Are you content to accept the recommendation from ER&C PDS that the decision of the Urgency Committee taken on 6 May that a review of its COVID governance arrangements take place in June 2020 be ignored, and that this review be postponed until January 2021?

9. From Cllr Kieran Terry to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

Please outline Bromley's recycling performance on a monthly basis for the period from May 2020 to the most recent month for which data is available. Please provide comparisons with for last year and comment on the overall impact of the council's collection changes since implementation last September.

10. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

Traffic bollards were due to be installed on a parade at Croydon Road, Penge over three years ago. They have not been installed to date despite my progressing regularly. This is a H&S issue, with cars and vans mounting the pavement daily on a busy concourse. Do you have an ETA of when the installation will take place?

11. From Cllr Josh King to the Leader of the Council

Given the introduction of the rule of six and the further restrictions announced by the government at the end of September, how is the Council proposing to improve the operation of virtual Council meetings, particularly improved participation by members of the public? And what investigations have been carried out to look at the root cause of reliability issues.

12. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Portfolio Holder for Environment & Community Services

The Funding Submission paper which came to the Environment & Community Services PDS in June, spoke about projects which can be implemented in weeks, not months. Can the Portfolio Holder provide dates when the projects where our bids were successful will be fully operational?

13. From Cllr Kevin Brooks to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education & Families

What action will the Portfolio Holder undertake to guarantee that the current provision and especially the Adult Education provision is retained on the Kentwood site and at its current level?

14. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Public Protection and Enforcement

Could the Portfolio Holder please advise whether, as has been seen in other parts of the country, Bromley has seen an increase in reports/cases of domestic abuse and violence during the recent lockdown?

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COUNCIL MEETING**12th October 2020****QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL FOR WRITTEN REPLY****1. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing**

Can the Portfolio Holder say how many additional units of accommodation have been introduced which are adapted for residents with serious mobility issues in the past two years?

2. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing:

Following the work of Rob Vale's team recently, does Bromley Council now have a register of private landlords? If so, when will you be able to share the outcome of the work done and the cost of that work?

3. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Health

Please provide details of any additional payments made to any of our contractors in respect of additional costs they have incurred in respect of COVID.

4. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management

Please provide a breakdown of the average cost of conducting a physical PDS Committee meeting and that of conducting the same meeting online.

5. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Public Protection and Enforcement

With recent research suggesting that nationally, as few as 18% of people developing COVID19 symptoms are self-isolating, what actions are the Council's public health team taking to ensure that all Bromley residents understand and are following government guidelines?

6. From Cllr Kieran Terry to Cllr William Huntington-Thresher

What actions have been taken to allow our local High Streets to provide a Covid-safe environment for customers so they feel safe to return to them? Please also provide a summary of actions taken to support social distancing outside shops.

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