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## COUNCIL

**Monday 12 July 2021**

### **4 QUESTIONS** (Pages 3 - 46)

The answers to questions are set out in the attached documents -

- (A) Questions from members of the public for oral reply.
- (B) Questions from members of the public for written reply.
- (C) Questions from members of the Council for oral reply.
- (D) 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**

**12<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

**Questions from Members of the Public for Oral Reply**

- 1. From Jasper Bell to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services (as Mr Bell was unable to attend the meeting, a written reply was sent.)**

A number of pedestrian crossings near schools have been installed recently in the borough, for example near Newstead Wood and Tubbenden Primary, Bishop Challoner and Valley School. Could the Council please confirm the rationale for pedestrian crossings approved in the borough last year and the exact KSI levels they hit in order to gain approval?

**Reply:**

The KSI assessment is applied to direct Bromley's finite spend on casualty reduction schemes most effectively. That is not the only criterion for interventions. In the case of crossings care also has to be taken to ensure that crossings will not increase pedestrian collisions, a PV2 criterion is used to help.

The parallel zebra crossing in Crofton Road, near to Newstead Avenue, has been installed as part of a TfL funded scheme to improve cycling and walking in the vicinity of Orpington Station. The location seeing a very high concentration of pedestrians being the location of the second busiest station plus being in the vicinity of 5 schools. The parallel zebra crossing installed near to Bishop Challoner School forms part of an experimental cycling scheme, funded by DfT through TfL for emergency active travel schemes in response to the Covid pandemic, as part of the London Streetspace Plan (LSP). The zebra crossing near to Valley Primary School was also installed utilising LSP funding, but also in support of ongoing work to make improvements to Shortlands as part of the Shortlands Friendly Village programme. No casualty threshold was assessed before introducing these schemes.

- 2. From Jasper Bell to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services (as Mr Bell was unable to attend the meeting, a written reply was sent.)**

How does South Eden Park Road currently "score" from a KSI perspective versus previous years and what thresholds would need to be met in terms of accident levels and severity for road safety improvements to be funded?

**Reply:**

Bromley prioritises finite spend on casualty reduction schemes based on the number of road casualties occurring at a location over the previous 36 months for which data is available. This is to ensure that the most casualties are saved per pound spent.

The minimum intervention level is set at five or more casualties in a 50m radius. Serious injuries are weighted more heavily in the analysis.

The only location in the vicinity of South Eden Park Road to meet the criteria is the roundabout where South Eden Park Road meets Monks Orchard Road and Links Way; this location is being investigated for a possible road safety improvement.

**3. From Irene Bell to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

We have reason to believe the casualty reduction budget in the borough has recently decreased despite rises in council tax and obvious risks on local roads. Could the Council confirm whether this is the case and whether this reduction was in line with wider budget reductions and if so in which areas?

**Reply:**

The funding received from TfL for casualty reduction has not changed in recent years, save for during 2020/21 when no funding was received for casualty reduction. Due to the impact of the pandemic on TfL's income, overall transport funding decreased and at the directive of the DfT, funds were all allocated by TfL to active travel schemes.

**4. From Irene Bell the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

I believe the absence of safe walkways and crossings on South Eden Park Road could be resulting in 'severance' issues and discouraging people from walking in favour of using cars, an issue that could worsen as the new developments adjacent to the road are occupied. Has the Council undertaken any modelling relating to this issue and have 'walking scheme' budgets or funding models similar to those utilised for the 2019 'Hayes Village Scheme' been considered?

**Reply:**

South Eden Park Road has a number of pedestrian islands to provide safe crossing points. The Council responds to residents and schools' concerns in respect to severance, and this can of course change in respect to developments or changed travel patterns. In the case of schools' requests for improvements to the walking infrastructure, these are normally communicated to the Council as part of a school's School Travel Plan. We encourage all schools to have achieve a silver or gold accreditation for their school travel plan.

The Council's budget for Walking Schemes is currently being utilised to commission counts at various locations along South Eden Park Road. The Council's budget for walking schemes is limited and priorities do and will need to be made.

As Mr Bell was not here I will read for context from one of his answers –

The only location in the vicinity of South Eden Park Road to meet the criteria based on KSIs for interventions is the roundabout where South Eden Park Road meets Monks Orchard Road and Links Way. This location is being investigated for a possible road safety improvement.

**5. From Alisa Igoe to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management**

The Government's Covid Winter Grant Scheme

Table 2 of the following Management Information Returns show the total amount provided to vulnerable households and the administration costs, from Bromley's allocation:

14 February (period 1 December to 31 January)

5 May (period 1 December to 16 April)

Could you kindly provide me with copies of both?

**Reply:**

Yes, we can certainly provide the tables to you. Just as a point of interest, the administration costs in the first instance were £10,000 and from May the administration costs were £28,141, but the full figures in tabular form will be made available to you.

**6. From Alisa Igoe to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management**

The Council website states the Covid Essential Fund (CEF) is a government initiative, specifically to support households suffering financial hardship as a direct result of the pandemic. There appears to have been no Bromley press release mentioning CEF which started on 17 April and ended 20 June. Why is this and on which date did the Council inform agencies of the opening of the CEF?

**Reply:**

Funding for the Covid Essential Fund was very limited fund for the extension period as set out above (the grant was previously entitled the Covid Winter Fund). As such the decision was made to continue the arrangements already in place under the Covid Winter fund Scheme for agencies to continue to refer clients on that basis that they were best positioned to assist clients who needed to access this funding. The webpage which had previously been set up to publicise the Bromley Covid Winter Grant was updated to reflect this extension, advising of the continued grant funding and how this could be accessed. The funding was also advertised with partner organisations and agencies across Bromley and those agencies were kept updated advising them of the closing date several weeks in advance.

**Supplementary Question:**

You say that you told the agencies and partners that you work with, but I am very curious to know why that was not also put out publicly? I have looked at Facebook, Twitter and all of your social media. With the Covid Winter Grant you did tell the public, although not as much as I would liked. I am wondering why you would not advertise this extra fund?

**Reply:**

It was purely because the grant was very limited, and it was an extension of the grant that was already in existence. We did not feel that it was necessary at that time to try to engender a greater expectation that funds were available that were not available.

We had to live within the means of the grant, and the important thing was to make sure that we targeted the money to the people that needed it rather than broadcast it far and wide. That was the judgement we took.

**Council**

**12<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

**Questions from members of the Public for Written Reply**

**1. From Anthony McPartlan to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

Residents have previously been informed that pedestrian road crossings are only considered when people have been either killed or seriously injured in that particular location. This is despite several petitions attracting hundreds of signatures from concerned parents about their family's safety. Can the Council confirm what it takes to get road safety measures implemented in high risk areas before people get hurt?

**Reply:**

Level of risk is best assessed using historic casualty data. The Council has finite funds to allocate to casualty reduction schemes, so prioritises these funds to where they will save most injuries.

Pedestrian crossings can be used to address a particular pattern of road accidents involving pedestrians, or as part of a wider road safety scheme.

They can also be used simply to make it easier and safer for pedestrians to cross a difficult road, but this needs to be assessed in respect to the number of vehicles and pedestrians using the road throughout the day. These counts and calculations are required to assess whether a crossing is needed and if so what type. The calculations also help the Council prioritise funding to improve the Borough's walking infrastructure, thus providing crossings where the need is greatest.

**2. From Anthony McPartlan to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

Government data\* shows there is no sign of pedestrian and cyclist casualties decreasing in Bromley. Does the Council have a 'Vision Zero' strategy for road safety like Kent County Council and others? If not, why not?

*<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/ras30-reported-casualties-in-road-accidents#casualties-by-type-of-casualty>*

**Reply:**

Bromley has an excellent record of reducing injuries on our roads and aspires to make our roads completely safe for all. Considering the length of the roads in Bromley and the number of miles driven Bromley has achieved one of the lowest casualty rates in London. Bromley's Third Local Implementation Plan 2019 (LIP3) details the continuation of the Council's longstanding approach to target KSIs to reduce the most serious collisions on our roads. That approach includes a range of

targeted infrastructure improvements and behaviour change education programmes, to play its part in achieving a reducing number of all collisions. Our awarding winning young driver education programme reduced collisions in that age bracket which sees a higher-than-average number of collisions. That said, achieving such an ambitious target is not entirely within the Council's control. Changes in car design and driver training also play their part.

**3. From John Eveson and Jackie Brewer, Sevenoaks Way Area Neighbourhood Watches, to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

What considerations have LBB traffic officers given to effects on Sevenoaks Way traffic (i.e. volumes, emergency services, safety, pollution) due to pending Lidl, Aldi and SGN developments (and increased volumes due to Nugent, McDonalds and Starbucks) - how do they plan to mitigate such effects as video evidence already indicates extensive congestion.

**Reply:**

The Nugent and McDonalds are existing developments and I do not at present have any information regarding Starbucks or SGN developments. There are proposals for a new Aldi & Lidl on Sevenoaks Way north of the Leasons Hill junction which officers reviewed. Traffic lights were introduced on the Nugent access and the Sevenoaks / Leasons Hill junction was reconfigured a couple of years ago to increase capacity. These changes were part of the Council's interventions along the length of the A224 from Orpington High Street to the A20 to improve traffic flow. Since their implementation traffic flow has improved. There were no specific measures included as part of the Aldi and Lidl applications.

Traffic flows fell initially during lockdown but have increased over recent times as people may be reluctant to return to public transport. Traffic levels are high in all parts of the Borough, which I hope will be a temporary phenomenon, but the Council will continue to monitor flows then identify and prioritise any changes required.

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

The Council promised to respond formally to the consultation about Green Spaces in June 2021. When can we expect this report?

**Reply:**

There were a large number of responses to the version for consultation and it is important to consider them and arrive at the right document. A response to the consultation will be made in the autumn 2021 to the Environment and Community Services PDS Committee.

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

As the Council's recycling rate has dropped to 47% for the year 2020-21 can the borough still claim to be the "second highest in London" as claimed in a leaflet from Conservative Councillors published in June 2021?

**Reply:**

In March 2021, the most up to date and audited dataset published by the Department of Food and Rural Affairs confirmed that Bromley Council has the second highest recycling rate in London. We are not complacent and aim to do better.

The recycling rate reporting in the Environment Portfolio Plan is the Council's real time unaudited recycling rate. Central government review and finalise Bromley's waste and recycling data to generate Bromley's official recycling rate. The trend from past years is that, following the review process, the Bromley official recycling rate is a couple of percentages higher than the unaudited recycling rate published in the Environment Portfolio Plan.

The pandemic has seen a significant increase in residual waste and recycling in Bromley with much more home working and with residents spending more time at home. It is likely that all other boroughs will have seen impacts on their waste and recycling, we wait to see the level of impact on recycling rates in other boroughs and therefore how our performance compares.

**6. From Suraj Gandeche to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

Does the Council monitor the number of private electric car owners there are in the borough? What is the current number and what increase is forecast? What is the current number of electric charging points across the borough and how many are planned?

**Reply:**

The Council does not monitor BEV (Battery Electric Vehicles) ownership, however DfT data for 2020 suggests that there was 1664 such vehicles owned in the Borough (804 for domestic use and 850 for use as private hire vehicles). Forecasted ownership levels for BEVs are estimated to be between 30000 and 70000 by 2030.

There are currently 42 EV charge points on Highway land and 26+ on land that is publicly accessible. The Council is currently producing an electric vehicle strategy that will inform future plans for publicly accessible charge points in the Borough.

Many residents have installed home charging points. Planning applications for multiple dwellings, in particular, are being given planning conditions requiring the installation of charge points in the parking bays.

**7. From Suraj Gandechea to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

Has Bromley Council any plans to replace the existing bus shelter for northbound routes 61, 261, 208, 358 etc. at Bromley South Station with an adequate provision for the travelling public and something which properly reflects the importance of this interchange?

**Reply:**

The Council does not have any responsibilities for providing bus shelters, that being down to TfL. We have, however, contacted TfL to see if they have any plans to replace the current shelter with a higher quality facility. The response is that the shelter was upgraded in 2016 and that no further improvements are planned at this time.

**8. From Julie Ireland to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing**

What is the current status of the development of the Churchill Quarter (Site G) - the joint venture between Countryside Properties and the London Borough of Bromley. Have the residents in Ethelbert Close - under planning blight for nearly 20 years - been kept informed?

**Reply:**

The Development Agreement entered into by the Council and Countryside in 2017 requires Countryside to submit a planning application that is deliverable and to this end Countryside have been working with the Council's Planning team to ensure that their scheme is deliverable from both a Planning and viability basis. The Council are considering at a Special Meeting of the Executive on 15 July a series of amendments to the Development Agreement with the outcome being that Countryside will be able to formally seek planning determination of their scheme during the Autumn. It is understood that Countryside are imminently about to launch a Public Information campaign regarding their scheme.

The Council have also appointed a dedicated Officer to liaise with residents whose contact details are provided below:

Martin Barrow, [Martin.Barrow@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Martin.Barrow@bromley.gov.uk) Phone Number: 020 8461 7559

**9. From Julie Ireland to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing**

The Council is offering grants of £2,000 to one-off home based businesses offered on a "first come first served" basis. How much in total is available in this fund and is this a fair way to allocate the money when the fund has not been well publicised?

**Reply:**

The value of this fund is £400k. The fund was advertised through the Council website, social media, press releases to local news outlets, the business e-bulletin, and the Business Support Task Force who promoted the scheme to their contacts. In summary, the scheme has been promoted widely and fairly. As of the 30<sup>th</sup> June we

had received 141 applications and 88 of these had been approved for payment so far.

**10. From Rick Das to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

Given research showing the popularity of School Streets amongst parents and local residents, is the Council considering any new school streets in the borough and if so where? Will the Council also be renewing existing School Streets given they are created with a validity of up to 18 months?

**Reply:**

At the current time we do not have local data on the popularity of School Streets with parents, local residents or other road users.

The Council is currently consulting on a trial School Street in Hayes. The outcome of the consultation and any subsequent trial will inform Council policy on School Streets going forward.

A review of the temporary School Streets in conjunction with the schools is underway and a decision on the future of these locations will be made in due course with a report going to a future meeting of the Environment Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee.

**11. From Rick Das to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing**

The Langley Park development was initially rejected by the Council over traffic concerns, then approved following ambitious active journey targets. As there have been no known attempts to address the already serious issues endangering pedestrians along South Eden Park Road, will the Council now revisit this decision?

**Reply:**

There is no opportunity for the Council to revisit planning decisions once they have been taken, however if there are specific matters of concern regarding highway safety please write to the Council and we can investigate whether any measures can be taken to address these.

**12. From Chloe-Jane Ross to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

In Feb/Mar 2021 the Council undertook a consultation on the future of the Albemarle Cycle Scheme. Did the Council send out any consultation letters to households directly, and if so how many letters were sent out and on what roads?

**Reply:**

As part of London's Cycleways programme the cycle route from Bromley Town Centre to Lower Sydenham was identified as being within the top 10% of routes in London for potential cycle demand. With reports going to the Environment PDS in 2016 and 2018 along with an online consultation in 2018 prior to the committee meeting. However, despite support for the route, previous route options did not proceed due to concerns over the standard of the cycleway.

The inclusion of the section of the Bromley Town Centre to Lower Sydenham cycle route relevant to The Shortlands Friendly Villages Project within the project had the potential to address the reasons for non-progression of the route.

Consultation on Shortlands Friendly Villages scheme (including part of the cycleway) included the distribution of 5,000 flyers to households within the Shortlands scheme area. Note that only the section of Albemarle Road between Bromley Road and Downs Bridge Road is within the Shortlands scheme area.

Prior to the introduction of experimental scheme in Albemarle Road letters were sent to residents in September 2020.

In the consultation exercises in February 2021 and June 2021, letters were sent to 3,000 residents.

Roads delivered to included:

Albemarle Road  
The Avenue  
Foxgrove Road  
Foxgrove Avenue  
Canterbury Close  
St Georges Road  
Bromley Road (between St Georges Road & Albemarle Road)  
The Knoll  
The Mead  
Meadway  
Downsbridge Road  
The Gardens  
Westgate Road  
Lankton Close  
Glendale Mews  
The Heights  
Dellfield Close  
Springbourne Court  
Mayfair Close  
Repton Court  
Apex Close  
Olyffe Drive  
Hazelhurst

**13. From Chloe-Jane Ross to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

Are the Council aware of any problems experienced by the emergency services following the introduction of the Albemarle Road scheme and if not have they sought this information recently?

**Reply:**

Through both the Experimental Traffic Order and the recommended consultees identified by the TFL guidance on the London Streetspace proposals, consultation was conducted with the emergency services. In February 2021 prior to the changes approved at PDS on the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 the Police made the following comments: "Traffic lights at the junction of Westgate Road, I don't anticipate any issues with that. The one way system on Westgate Road over the bridge can remain, as the narrow bridge was causing a number of minor road rage issues over it. Since it has become one way, the number of near miss collisions has dropped immensely as vehicles did used to approach the bridge at speed".

No responses were received to the consultation in 2021 from the other emergency services. Since the scheme was installed in the autumn of 2020 the police had concerns about vehicles continuing to drive up Albemarle Road and as a consequence physical changes were made to the junction.

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

In a recent leaflet, Conservative councillors have claimed that air quality is safe at all schools in the borough. Does Bromley Council agree with this claim given:

- a) the minimal monitoring that exists
- b) WHO believes there is no "safe" level of particulate matter pollution
- c) Bromley Council's own latest data shows NO<sub>2</sub> levels on Anerley Hill exceed WHO annual limit and less than 1 km away, on the same road, is Crystal Early Years Centre and James Dixon Primary School.

**Reply:**

In answer to parts A and B, all monitoring stations within London feed into the LLAQN network and the subsequent model. Based on actual monitoring London wide, a high degree of confidence can be had in the modelled data. Modelling has been widely used for many years and is very useful in predicting future trends. All data is subject to third party accreditation and modelled in accordance with guidance. This includes NO<sub>x</sub> tubes and real time analysis.

There are many passive monitoring sites in the borough where air quality is measured near to sensitive receptors using NO<sub>x</sub> tubes. This is added to by the inclusion with the borough of a real time monitor to add further to the Council's ability to monitor air quality.

The data provided by the GLA showed that no primary or secondary schools in Bromley were exposed to NO<sub>2</sub> concentration levels that exceeded annual limits.

In the London Environment Strategy 2018, the Mayor committed to meeting World Health Organisation recommended limits for PM<sub>2.5</sub> by 2030. As such, Bromley is required to include a focus on PM<sub>2.5</sub> in its AQAPs.

Modelled data from the GLA and Defra show Bromley as having some of the lowest levels of PM<sub>2.5</sub> in London per weighted population, notwithstanding this, further efforts to reduce levels in Bromley are included in the Air Quality Action Plan.

In answer to C, please can you provide the source of the data so I can provide an answer.

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

The Council recently reported that some proposed school streets are not going to proceed. Which schemes are going ahead, which are not, and what are the reasons for abandoning the schemes?

**Reply:**

One measure considered last year as an emergency response to the Covid pandemic was the use of temporary School Streets. These temporary School Streets were widely offered to schools, but after due consideration only six schools in the Borough chose to take on this approach to managing traffic around their premises within the very short timeframe offered in respect to funding and the commitment required by the schools to operate the school streets. Some schools preferred to have social distancing measures installed, such as widened footways.

A review of the temporary School Streets is underway and a decision on the future of these locations will be made in due course, after discussions with the schools involved. The schools with temporary School Street arrangements in place are: Clare House Primary, Harris Academy Crystal Palace, Harris Primary Orpington, St Mary Cray Academy, Pratts Bottom Primary, Poverest Primary.

The Council is currently consulting on a trial School Street in Hayes. The outcome of the consultation and any subsequent trial will inform Council policy on School Streets going forward.

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

Traffic queuing to enter the Waldo Road recycling centre (tip) continues to be a problem at peak times. What measures are the Council taking to alleviate this problem?

**Reply:**

When comparing the period August to March, the vehicle numbers visiting the Waldo Road Reuse and Recycling Centre were 9% lower in 2020/21 than they were in 2019/20.

To reduce the traffic impact of the site, we are currently taking the following actions:

- Encouraging residents to look at the webcam that shows the queue to the site before making a decision to visit, with a view to conducting more publicity;
- Considering the use of one new Moving Traffic CCTV camera at the box junction in Homesdale Road;

- Reviewing traffic flow measures at the junction between Waldo Road and Homesdale Road with a traffic engineer;
- Reviewing the webcam that is used at the site and looking into whether there is a way to improve the view of Waldo Road;
- Continuing to provide comprehensive household waste and recycling services including bulky item and garden waste collection services to negate the need for residents to visit Waldo Road on a regular basis;
- Providing garden waste satellite sites during the peak growing season; and,
- Promoting our waste and recycling services through our bi-annual newsletter, Environment Matters, and recycling campaigns.

**17. From Gail Hilder to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

The Council are now changing the one way system introduced on Albemarle Road. What road use data, if any, persuaded the Council to make this change?

**Reply:**

Albemarle Road between Westgate Road and Beckenham High Street reverting to two directional traffic was a decision following a recommendation by the Environment and Community Safety PDS Committee on the 11th March 2021. The Committee was provided with the results of the survey of 3,000 local households that showed the majority supported the continuation of the trial with the change in Albemarle Road from West Gate Road to Beckenham Green. It was made in response to concerns about additional traffic outside Harris Primary Academy Beckenham Green and Bromley Road. Traffic data was recorded before the changes were made and further monitoring will be conducted.

**18. From Gail Hilder to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

What lessons can be learned from the Albemarle Road scheme?

**Reply:**

The Albemarle Road scheme remains an experimental scheme, a number of observations can be made at this time:

- The Albemarle Road and Bromley Road cycle schemes have been monitored for cyclists using the infrastructure and it is evident that there is a demand for cycling in the Borough.
- The design of the cycle lanes was in accordance with TFL recommended guidance. This use of vertical wands has however caused issues with street cleaning and will be taken into account in regard to best practice in future cycle schemes.
- The scheme was introduced using funding that required installation in a very short period of time and the guidance recognised that public consultation would have to be very limited. Greater public consultation is recognised as vital to keep the local community 'on board' with such schemes.

That public consultation with 3,000 households showed majority support from those responding to continue a modified experimental scheme. Indicating that trialling potentially contentious schemes has value and can have public support, but also avoids the costs and risks of either implementing a permanent scheme which might not achieve its aims or not knowing whether a scheme that may have benefits but also drawbacks might be successful.

**19. From Stephen Wells to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

Will the Council report back on any projects in the Transport Local Implementation Plan for 2019-2022 that have been successfully delivered? What is their definition of success in each instance?

**Reply:**

Depending upon the scale of each project, reports will be made to Councillors and made public on the website in respect to the efficacy of schemes. The measure of success will vary from scheme to scheme. For example, a safety scheme will be assessed on whether casualty numbers, especially serious injuries, fall in number over the following years.

**20. From Stephen Wells to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

The Local Implementation Plan for Transport in Bromley runs from 2019-2022. Given the considerable changes to transport needs brought about by the pandemic, the government's overarching plans to reduce carbon levels in the UK and the increase in people working from home, do the Council have plans to start a full consultation with the public about people's transport needs?

**Reply:**

The Council will continue to assess locations where transport improvements might be made across the Borough, of whatever type, and public consultation will take place as each proposal is taken forward.

**21. From Graeme Casey to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

In a recent leaflet, the Conservative councillors claim that Bromley "is the London borough with the cleanest air" - how can they prove that with only one working live air quality monitor?

**Reply:**

All monitoring stations within London feed into the LLAQN network and the subsequent model. Based on actual monitoring London wide, a high degree of confidence can be had in the modelled data. Modelling has been widely used for many years and is very useful in predicting future trends. All data is subject to third party accreditation and modelled in accordance with guidance. This includes NOX tubes and real time analysis.

There are many passive monitoring sites in the borough where air quality is measured near to sensitive receptors using NOX tubes. This is added to by the inclusion with the borough of a real time monitor to add further to the Council's ability to monitor air quality.

**22. From Graeme Casey to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

The Council have recently installed a new pedestrian crossing near to Newstead Woods School - what was the KSI figure for the road before the crossing was installed?

**Reply:**

In the section of Crofton Road between Crofton Lane and Station Road there has been 1 serious collision recorded in the 3 year period up until the end of February 2021.

The parallel zebra crossing in Crofton Road, near to Newstead Avenue, has been installed as part of a TfL funded scheme to improve cycling and walking facilities in the vicinity of Orpington Station. Orpington Station seeing a very high concentration of pedestrians being the location of the second busiest station in the borough plus being in the vicinity of 5 schools, 2 being relevant to this crossing.

**23. From Helen Alsworth to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing**

When was the decision taken to redeploy the Council's empty houses staff to other duties and for what reason? Why were the public not informed? How long will it take to deal with the backlog of empty homes work and how big is the backlog?

**Reply:**

The Empty Homes staff have not been redeployed to other duties. The role is currently vacant. The Job Description is being revised prior to recruitment. There is no backlog as other officers in the Housing Improvement Team have dealt with ongoing queries and necessary actions.

**24. From Helen Alsworth to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing**

How does the Council finance its work on empty homes? Are there any grants available from central government for this type of work?

**Reply:**

Funding was available 2011-2015 via the Empty Homes Programme. Central Government has not made similar funding available since that programme ended. However some of the statutory measures open to the Council can be financed by placing a charge on the property so that the money can be recouped at a later stage. It is also worth noting that funding does come to the Council from the New Homes Bonus once a property is brought back into use.

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**Council**

**12<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

**Questions from Members of the Council for Oral Reply**

**1. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Leader of the Council**

You have stated more than once that “Yes, there are needs in this Borough, but they are all met by this Council.” Do you stand by that statement?

**Reply:**

I stand by fact that Bromley Council will always fulfil its statutory duties in full. Also, that it will always be there to provide help and assistance to those in need for whom it holds a responsibility to do so.

**Supplementary Question:**

Does that really mean that the wording of your mission statement is slightly inaccurate and misleading?

**Reply:**

No, it does not.

**2. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Portfolio Holder for Adult Care & Health**

Can you give an update on the services offered from the Kentwood Centre for Adults with Learning Difficulties?

**Reply:**

The Kentwood Centre now forms part of the Council’s new service offer for people with a learning disability. Other centres, with activities, are now available at -

- Regency Court,
- Cotmandene
- Norman Park Lodge (Bromley Mencap)
- West Wickham Methodist Church (Bromley Mencap)
- The Shaw Trust (Scadbury Park)
- Jubilee Day Centre (Choice Support), Beckenham
- ‘Livability’ Nash College in Coney Hall

There is a new focus on residents choosing the activities they want and providers developing activities that will be popular. Developing life skills and access to employment are key parts of this offer.

Government Covid restrictions meant that day centres had to be closed during the pandemic lockdown. As part of the Council’s recommissioning of learning disability day schemes, the Kentwood Centre reopened on 14 June with Millsted Care now running services out of the centre.

Millsted Care’s sessions include:

- Cooking skills

- Dance & movement
- Digital technology skills
- Exercise
- Sensory – hand & foot massages, foot spas and guided relaxation
- Group discussions to help problem solving and self-advocacy
- Acting and music
- Learning Makaton
- Retirement age focussed sessions such as tea dances

**Supplementary Question:**

Can you email me that list of services at Kentwood so that we can make more use of them in our ward?

These services were already in difficulty before corona because of a lack of adequate funding. Will this Council be increasing the funding and/or services to support this vulnerable group of people?

**Reply:**

Bromley Mencap has a very comprehensive catalogue/brochure of events that are going on for people with learning disabilities across the whole of the borough. I would refer Members to that particular document which is on the Bromley Mencap website with details of all the activities available at the different schemes. It is really good because it gives details of how to get to there by bus, or the parking arrangements.

From the point of view of funding, this is a service-user led activity programme, so we will be looking at the eligible needs of service users, and no-one will be precluded from joining any of the activities if they are eligible.

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

What staffing shortages have been experienced in your Portfolio since the beginning of 2021? Please include both directly employed staff and contractors.

**Reply:**

The Director of Adult Social Care has advised that the Council and its contractors have experienced no adult care staff shortages since the beginning of the year that have impacted on the ability to maintain service levels.

**Supplementary Question:**

In that case, can you explain why in the Provisional Final Accounts later on in this agenda there are references to underspends in staffing budgets and vacancies, and what the impact of these were?

**Reply:**

I would need to see the actual detail that you are referring to so that I can make an informed decision and consult about it.

**4. From Cllr Ryan Thomson to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

Please explain the rationale for the selection of sites for air quality monitoring and the removal of equipment from others across the borough?

**Reply:**

When selecting sites for air quality monitoring, including the addition or removal of sites, Bromley adheres to the requirements within the London Local Air Quality Management Policy -

[https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/llaqm\\_policy\\_guidance\\_2019.pdf](https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/llaqm_policy_guidance_2019.pdf)

**Supplementary Question:**

Can air quality monitoring equipment be re-installed across Crystal Palace ward – the exact locations would be determined with the support of officers, but I am keen for such a key metric for gauging public health and wellbeing to be returned to the ward, and I do feel that, provided they are properly located, they will serve a dual benefit of providing a reliable baseline for air quality should Croydon Council's proposed ANPR scheme go forward.

**Reply:**

I do not feel that is necessary at the current time. As you will see from some of the written questions, that considering we have some of the cleanest air in London, the reviewing of our policy has shown that our monitoring points completed with modelling shows that we are very accurate in our measurements of air quality across the borough and therefore we can concentrate more on modelling the data rather than additional sampling points.

**5. From Cllr Josh King to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

What actions did the Council take to mark Clean Air Day on 17<sup>th</sup> June?

**Reply:**

The Council is not in the business of marking a single day on such an important topic but instead firmly focusses on delivering continuing improvements in air quality which has been achieved every year since 2010. Bromley has a very good record here and meets all national air quality objectives for particulate matter and all the national air quality objectives for hourly and 24 hour concentrations, but there is always more to do as our Air Quality Action Plan outlines. This plan, which is published on our website, will be reviewed later this year, in line with our commitment, where I am hopeful of seeing progress, including by TfL, where we continue to call for electric buses, which will help tackle pollution, not just on TfL roads, which are the most polluted in the Borough.

**Supplementary Question:**

Do you not accept that days such as this can help promote the topic of clean air and by not doing anything residents may perceive that it is not the Council's priority?

**Reply:**

I do not agree with that at all. Obviously, many groups may choose to do outreach or other actions. There is a huge amount of other publicity for various days throughout the year, any of which would look to achieve beneficial outcomes for this borough and to select one day, considering how many action days there are, I do not think is beneficial as opposed to year-round improvement in performance.

**6. From Cllr Kevin Brooks to the Portfolio Holder for Adult Care & Health**

Will the Portfolio Holder please give an update on the current effectiveness of Respite Services in Bromley?

**Reply:**

Effective respite services in Bromley remain responsive to both service users and their carers whenever possible.

Council funded planned respite services began reopening in May and are now scaling up. With the lifting of lockdown restrictions now confirmed a complete, comprehensive and effective service offer will shortly be restored.

**Supplementary Question:**

Having spoken to the manager they say the waiting list is ten to twelve weeks. Mycare themselves say that when it comes to them a minimum of four weeks, and this is just for three hours of respite per week. Will the Portfolio Holder agree that, especially with the encouragement for more elderly residents to receive care from home, a faster, more funded service is needed to ensure that those needing respite receive it in a timely manner?

**Reply:**

I think we need to pay homage to the officers who are working really hard at the moment to build up and build better our respite for people within Bromley. This is not only, as I have alluded to with regard to the learning disability cohort of people that I mentioned in the question from Councillor Bance, but also for our older people. We are looking at a more community based offer, a different model, and there will be a paper coming to the PDS probably in the autumn to identify what the new model of care may look like.

**7. From Cllr Vanessa Allen to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation & Housing (answered by the Leader)**

Where in this Council's Constitution and other procedures does it say that a councillor can call in a planning application to a specific planning committee?

**Reply:**

There is no provision for a Councillor to 'call in' an application to a specific planning committee, however the Chairman of Development Control Committee does decide, in discussion with officers, which cases are to be considered at Development Control Committee as opposed to Plans Sub Committee. This procedure is set out in the Local Planning Protocol which forms part of the Council's Constitution.

**8. From Cllr Nicholas Bennett MA JP to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing (answered by the Leader)**

What is the estimated cost of the repairs to the West Wickham Leisure Centre and what is the latest estimate for the replacement of the Centre by a new facility?

**Reply:**

With regard to the estimated cost of repairs, this information is not quite yet available. Condition surveys have been instructed and are in progress across all operational Council property. Draft reports that will include West Wickham Leisure Centre are scheduled for receipt by 14<sup>th</sup> July at which point costs can be determined with some accuracy. On behalf of Councillor Morgan, I will ensure that this information is passed to Councillor Bennett.

**9. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Families**

What definition does the Council use to define poverty and based upon this definition, how many children are growing up in poverty within the borough of Bromley?

**Reply:**

Poverty is an emotive word, so areas of deprivation is widely used by us in Bromley. I am also not sure that many of our residents would welcome being identified as living in poverty either.

Free School Meals eligibility is most commonly used to identify a level of deprivation. As of January 2021, 7170 children within Bromley maintained schools were eligible for Free School Meals, which is 14%.

**Supplementary Question:**

What does she regard as the Council's responsibility with regards to reducing poverty or deprivation if that is the term that would be preferred within Bromley?

**Reply:**

The Council's responsibility is to offer support to any child in need and we will offer them support either to the family or the child through our early intervention service or referral to children's social care if the threshold is met, where we could help or signpost them to the voluntary sector, and holistic offers are available through our early intervention services and support is also offered through Children's Centres.

**Additional supplementary question:**

Councillor Angela Wilkins asked a further question to ask for clarification, as the question was what was the Portfolio Holder doing to reduce poverty, and this was not the answer given – the answer mentioned the services that the Council provided, which were not related to poverty.

**Reply:**

I have already commented that we do not refer to the word poverty in Bromley, it is to do with areas of deprivation. We have a statutory duty to give help to those children if they are in need. I do not know what more I can add to that.

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

When did the Council last receive value for money certificates from our external auditors?

**Reply:**

The Council last received a Value for Money Conclusion from its external auditor for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018. The external auditor has stated that it is unable to issue a value for money for the years ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 and 2020 until it has completed the work necessary on an objection to the accounts.

**Supplementary Question:**

Is he able to give a brief synopsis of the reasons why those certificates have not been issued for those years?

**Reply:**

There are two fundamental answers to that. The first one is because there is a very detailed and lengthy objection that has been lodged to the accounts. There is nothing unusual in that and it takes a long time to go through a very long objection like that. That is being worked on as we speak. The second element is an interesting one and it is partly because of the change of auditors. When we had KPMJ up until last year they had provided a certificate before they had actually finalised the answers to all the objections. When EY were appointed they took a different view. It does not make us unusual amongst the Councils that EY are auditing - they are holding back on value for money certification pending any formal objections that may have been lodged. That is why there is a delay.

**11. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management**

How much is it costing to have a man sleeping in a van in the car park so that if there is a power cut, he can turn the generators on?

**Reply:**

The costs submitted by Amey and including all fees are in the order of £7,200 per month. This is in place to ensure uninterrupted power to the data centre and to the NHS facility. Site investigations to confirm the extent of the works required to the UPS and switchgear have been completed and the final specification will be agreed between the consultant, IT and BT. The date to complete the works, including allowing for complete electrical shutdown, will be confirmed very soon.

**Supplementary Question:**

Who decided it was appropriate to have a lone person sleeping in a van in the Civic Centre car park and did you, the Portfolio Holder, support that decision?

**Reply:**

Did I as Portfolio Holder - no, I did not. Was I informed it was happening – yes, I was. I would expect the people running this site to run it in a safe way. If it is their judgement, which it was, to have 24/7 cover in order that we can continue our work within the health service as well as within the Council then I support that judgement as being absolutely correct. It is not a long-term solution, it is a short-term fix. We will now have a long-term solution probably in a month or two's time. But certainly, the priority was to keep the health people supplied and to keep the Council going and that is what we are doing. The idea that that we have a man sleeping in a van is a rather quaint notion and perhaps a follow-up to an Alan Bennett story. What it is about is that we give 24/7 cover during the course of the day when the Civic Centre is open and that individual has access to the facilities of the Civic Centre. At night-time we have to have someone on site just in case things go wrong – that is why he is there, and I have no problem with that at all.

**Additional supplementary Question:**

Councillor Simon Jeal asked that, as the cost was £7,200 per month, how many months had this arrangement been in place for?

**Reply:**

The arrangement has been for about nine or ten months.

**Additional supplementary Question:**

Councillor Nicholas Bennett asked why the empty property at the entrance to the Council car park, rather than asking someone to sit in a van?

**Reply:**

I understand the question, but the answer eludes me.

The Leader asked whether Councillor Bennett was referring to the zed-pod in the car park. It was clarified that the building in question was at the Rochester Avenue entrance, and the Leader offered to provide further information to Councillor Bennett.

**Additional supplementary Question:**

Councillor Simon Fawthrop commented that UPSs were easy to source, and asked why it had taken ten months to get a quote when he could probably get three quotes tomorrow?

**Reply:**

It has not taken anything like that time to get a quote. The problem is that you have to shut down the system entirely. That is the problem, and we cannot do that currently as the health service are using it on a daily basis. When we can shut it down, probably in a month or two's time, we will shut it down. But it was not to obtain a quote. A full report on this has gone to the Audit Sub-Committee so I know that Councillors who have been asking these questions would have been informed that this was the case. The discussion at the last Audit Sub-Committee centred particularly around whether something should be taken in part two or part one, and the decision was that it be taken in part two. I will not make any reference to anything that appeared in that paper.

(At this point the time allowed for questions expired - the remaining questions received written replies).

**12. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Leader of the Council**

Building a Better Bromley was not on the agenda for the June Executive Meeting, in spite it being on the Forward Plan for decision at this meeting. When will this document come to Members for decision?

**Reply:**

Although it is clearly not for me to dictate their agenda, I understand that it is earmarked to be considered at the September Executive, Resources and Contracts PDS Committee meeting.

**13. From Cllr Josh King to the Leader of the Council**

Is it acceptable for Members of this Council, particularly Members of the Executive, to use private e-mails for Council Business?

**Reply:**

Yes, of course it is acceptable. If it wasn't acceptable, the practice wouldn't be permitted.

In the words of the Council's Chief Legal Officer:

*"Bromley.gov email addresses are provided for member convenience. Because of the way we work and make decisions there isn't a practical difference between a Member using a private address as long as sound data protection practices are followed."*

**14. From Cllr Nicholas Bennett MA JP to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

If he will list the locations where -

- i. the Council
- ii. TfL

have narrowed the roadway to create 'safe spaces' for pedestrians and if he will indicate which ones will be removed once the current Covid-19 restrictions are lifted on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Reply:**

During the pandemic, in order to create social distancing space to accommodate queues, the passage of large numbers of pedestrians (in places such as town centres and outside schools), or to facilitate outside dining on footways, the Council narrowed the carriageway in the following locations:

1. Penge High Street
2. Beckenham High Street
3. Bromley High Street and East Street
4. Orpington High Street
5. Langley Schools (Hawksbrook Lane)
6. Crofton Infant School (Towncourt Lane)
7. Perry Hall Primary School (Perry Hall Road)
8. Marian Vian Primary School (Shirley Crescent)
9. Farnborough Primary School (Farnborough Hill)
10. Wickham Common Primary School (Gates Green Road)

In a number of these locations the social distancing measures have already been reduced. The barriers in Penge High Street have been completely removed. In locations where the barriers (attractive planters) are in place to support local businesses and outside dining areas, these are likely to remain in place until the Autumn, in line with their pavement licenses. This will be the subject of ongoing review. Most of the other barriers that remain will be considered for removal in the coming months after the 19<sup>th</sup> of July, depending on the consultation with the schools or BIDS in question.

TfL installed various social distancing measures in West Wickham High Street which has been reviewed and are now being removed. None of these were in support of outside dining.

**15. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Families**

How does the department plan to make use of the recently issued Youth Endowment Fund toolkit?

**Reply:**

The toolkit was only launched on 28th June, but we intend to use it locally to identify activities and target our resources in a way that makes a difference to children's lives. Our local approach is focused on diversion and prevention of offending and we would want to use this toolkit to improve our offer to children in the borough

alongside the knowledge and intelligence that we already have in the borough and beyond.

**Council**

**12<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

**Questions from Members of the Council for Written Reply**

**1. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education & Families**

Please provide details of Holiday Activity & Food grant income and expenditure to date. Please also provide the criteria used for determination of these Holiday Activity & Family grant awards.

**Reply:**

Bromley has been allocated up to £808k from the DfE to run the Holiday Activities and Food programme for Easter, Summer and Christmas 2021. Actual grant draw down from DfE is subject to activity providers meeting the restrictive grant requirements for eligible provision and is likely to be lower.

Expenditure to date:

During Easter, the national restrictions due to the coronavirus pandemic and late notification of the grant conditions impacted on planned provision. A programme of activities ran at four youth hubs in the borough, with specific activities for our children looked after.

For Easter, the total spend was £27,278.

Our estimated spend for the summer is anticipated to be c£300k. The extension of the Covid Local Support Grant may impact on take up of activities.

Bidding process & timelines:

- Expression of interest process widely publicised on Bromley council website and school circular
- The team wrote directly to organisations that had enquired about the HAF programme
- Evaluations took place w/c 7<sup>th</sup> June and included an evaluation panel scoring process with colleagues from Education, SEN, Procurement, Public Health & Commissioning

Criteria used for determination of HAF grant awards:

- Legal compliance (safeguarding, health and safety, food standards, etc)
- 4/4/4 rule of provision (at least 4 weeks, 4 hours per day, for 4 days a week)
- Estimated cost per head
- Daily capacity numbers & ability to upscale
- Booking system & venue.

**2. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Portfolio Holder for Public Protection and Enforcement**

Please provide a breakdown of the duties of the Council's Ward Security operation, including their responsibilities, powers and duties, the hours worked and how their time is allocated across the Borough.

**Reply:**

Ward Security are a sub-contractor to Veolia as part of the Street Environment Contract. Their role is to ensure the Council provides a safe environment for visitors to its parks and open spaces, through a programme of patrols and enforcement measures. Ward Security investigate, resolve and take action against offences in the public realm, this can include littering offences, unlawful encampments and Fly-tipping. Acting on behalf of the Council Ward Security have the powers to enforce against Bye Laws and Public Spaces Protection Orders.

A routine programme of patrols inclusive of Mobile Dog Handler and Security Personnel is agreed with the Council to ensure there is a reactive patrol service, all Parks, Open spaces, Countryside sites and Public Highway safe and secure, and seasonal variations is considered.

The Borough is split into four patrolling areas to ensure coverage of all parks and open spaces across the Service. Those four patrol shifts vary depending on daylight hours (e.g. 1330-2300hrs presently phasing incrementally each month to 1100-1900hrs during winter) and other service exigencies (e.g. Bonfire/Fireworks Night).

**3. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning & Contract Management**

Please provide a table showing the total value of the Council's Earmarked Reserves at the 31 March in each of the years 2015 to 2021.

**Reply:**

<b>Financial Year-ending</b>	<b>Total Value of Earmarked Reserves (£k)</b>
31/3/15	111,061
31/3/16	101,696
31/3/17	102,496
31/3/18	125,997
31/3/19	149,606
31/3/20*	167,525
31/3/21*	269,753 **

\*These are draft figures and subject to external audit

\*\* This balance includes £63,407k which the Council was required to account for as a Reserve, but where equivalent spend will be incurred during 2021/22. A further £2,662k represents a grant received during 2020/21 that will be used to fund costs that will accrue during 2022/23. It is also important to recognise that, similar to many other authorities the set aside reserves have increased to partly address the future impact of the 'new normal' for 2021/22 and future years – the Government has not provided any guarantee of additional funding from 2022/23 to deal with the impact of the 'new normal'.

#### **4. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning & Contract Management**

What checks are made on contractors (during the contract term) in relation to health & safety compliance and whether employee's terms and conditions of employment are being upheld?

##### **Reply:**

The approach to contract management will vary depending on a number of factors: the nature of the contract and the service it is delivering; the value and risk of the contract; the requirements of the specification; and the capacity and resource of the client team who have ownership of the contract.

For example, for contracts within the Environment and Public Protection Department, as well as the general contractual requirement on all providers to record and inform the Council of any issues arising, Health and Safety is a standing agenda item for all contract meetings with providers, with statistics and any significant issues raised at both Departmental and Corporate Health and Safety Boards. Health and Safety forms part of the contract monitoring checklist for works or site visits made by Contract Managers which includes considering both the operational arrangements visibly in place as well as the conduct of staff.

Similarly, the Performance Monitoring Team in the People Department also include a detailed Health and Safety checklist when conducting monitoring visits to registered care settings, as well reviewing Health and Safety arrangements through monitoring visits and provider meetings as part of their Quality Assurance Framework. In addition, they also undertake sample checks on employee files to ensure that appropriate recruitment procedures are in place as well as staff supervision and training.

#### **5. From Cllr Vanessa Allen to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation & Housing**

Please provide the following information in relation to planning applications called in for decision at committee since the beginning of 2021:-

- Ward
- Application reference number
- Officer's Recommendation
- Committee Decision

- Name of Councillor activating call in.

**Reply:**

Attached is a table of all cases determined or scheduled for committee in 2021 subject to call in with the detail requested ([Appendix 1.](#))

**6. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education & Families**

Please provide the number of new referrals to Children’s Services from 2018 to present, broken down by ward. Please provide the number of child safeguarding referrals for the same period, also broken down by ward.

**Reply:**

Please see two tables below, the first showing the number of all contacts made to Social Care through the MASH and the second table for actual referrals to Social Care for the reporting years (April to March) 2018/19 to date.

For both tables, the number referred to is the actual number of contacts and referrals, not the number of children, so will potentially include multiple instances for a child. The tables include all contacts/referrals in the reporting years, and it is possible some children may have had previous instances of a contact or referral, so may not technically be ‘new’ to social care in that sense.

Please note that due to reporting constraints, there is not a direct correlation between the contacts and the referrals, for example, some referrals will commence via another route rather than coming through the MASH.

<b>Contacts by Ward</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>Apr 21 to date</b>	<b>Grand total</b>
Bickley	176	250	262	103	791
Biggin Hill	186	241	275	76	778
Bromley Common and Keston	461	524	624	147	1756
Bromley Town	366	433	497	133	1429
Chelsfield and Pratts Bottom	203	239	258	73	773
Chislehurst	197	261	297	88	843
Clock House	286	310	369	93	1058
Copers Cope	252	245	306	111	914
Cray Valley East	706	850	958	285	2799
Cray Valley West	823	915	1070	231	3039
Crystal Palace	392	441	571	168	1572
Darwin	49	95	158	28	330
Farnborough and Crofton	240	326	303	82	951
Hayes and Coney Hall	224	230	322	88	864
Kelsey and Eden Park	256	322	292	89	959
Mottingham and Chislehurst North	571	651	743	193	2158
Orpington	523	581	612	157	1873

Penge and Cator	615	645	769	176	2205
Petts Wood and Knoll	131	157	201	55	544
Plaistow and Sundridge	392	428	571	159	1550
Shortlands	127	152	155	45	479
West Wickham	139	179	216	71	605
Other LA	62	79	89	38	268
Unknown	286	306	359	138	1089
Total	7663	8860	10277	2827	

Referrals by Ward	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Apr 21 to date	Grand total
Bickley	51	102	100	52	305
Biggin Hill	73	74	96	19	262
Bromley Common and Keston	174	224	195	50	643
Bromley Town	139	171	147	54	511
Chelsfield and Pratts Bottom	120	131	105	21	377
Chislehurst	68	103	94	33	298
Clock House	102	125	100	39	366
Copers Cope	98	106	110	46	360
Cray Valley East	274	340	371	95	1080
Cray Valley West	358	378	394	89	1219
Crystal Palace	122	174	185	60	541
Darwin	10	46	72	8	136
Farnborough and Crofton	95	133	95	25	348
Hayes and Coney Hall	85	115	131	37	368
Kelsey and Eden Park	108	129	104	25	366
Mottingham and Chislehurst North	241	264	271	74	850
Orpington	224	257	230	48	759
Penge and Cator	209	246	300	58	813
Petts Wood and Knoll	44	72	78	17	211
Plaistow and Sundridge	127	181	152	62	522
Shortlands	65	63	53	13	194
West Wickham	74	73	68	23	238
Other LA	189	123	120	22	454
Unknown	323	269	218	27	837
Total	3373	3899	3789	997	

**7. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education & Families**

Have LBB completed and returned the National Youth Sector Census? If so, please share a copy with members, and if not, please explain why not.

**Reply:**

I can confirm that the census was returned with the timescales required. A copy is not retained as once the forms are completed and you press send it goes back to the central address/requester.

**8. From Cllr Nicholas Bennett MA JP to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing**

If he give the following information on families currently in temporary accommodation following application as homeless –

- i top five reasons for application
- ii previous accommodation – rental, owned, living with relatives/friends;
- iii average age of main applicant;
- iv number of single persons;
- v number single with children;
- vi number with partner but no children;
- vii number with partner and children;
- viii total number of children housed

Number whose previous place of residence was -

- i L.B.Bromley;
- ii other London Borough;
- iii England;
- iv rest of UK;
- v overseas.

**Reply:**

The information requested is set out in the attached spreadsheet ([Appendix 2.](#))

**9. From Cllr Nicholas Bennett MA JP to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing**

If he will set out in table format the following information regarding the temporary accommodation for homeless families.

i Location: Number placed in accommodation in -

- L.B.Bromley;
- other London borough,
- Kent (including Medway Unity Authority);
- other neighbouring counties and districts to Greater London,
- rest of England,
- Scotland,

- Wales,
- Northern Ireland
- overseas.

ii Accommodation:

- L.B. Bromley,
- housing association,
- private sector,
- bed and breakfast
- other.

iii Weekly cost by number of bedrooms.

**Reply:**

The information requested is set out in the attached spreadsheet ([Appendix 2.](#))

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Application No	Address	Description	Ward	Call In	Decision Issue Date	Decision		Recommend. Accepted or Overturned
19/04375/F ULL1	Biggin Hill Airport Ltd Churchill Way Biggin Hill TN16 3BN	Fenced Noise Monitor Compound located at the northern end of the runway RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION	Biggin Hill	Cllr Scoates	02.02.2021	PER	PSC	A - Accepted
19/04588/F ULL1	70 High Street Bromley BR1 1EG	Demolition of existing buildings (No.66 to 70 High Street), construction of 12 storeys to provide 256.4 square metres retail floorspace on the ground floor and 47 residential units above with associated disabled car parking spaces, cycle parking and refuse storage area.	Bromley Town	Cllr Michael Rutherford	26.04.2021	REF	DCC	O - Overturned
20/01718/F ULL1	Selwood House Kemnal Road Chislehurst BR7 6LT	Erection of two storey rear extension to provide one additional two bedroom duplex flat with own entrance (accessed from Pickwick Way) and to enlarge four existing flats providing them with a new exclusive entrance (access from Kemnal Road); along with minor external and internal alterations to existing building to form an additional one bedroom flat within the existing building (flat 14) in place of former communal lounge and kitchen. Use of existing highway access off Pickwick Way for additional parking (including EV charging) and additional refuse/recycling and cycle storage.	Chislehurst	Cllr Sharma.	11.05.2021	PER	PSC	O - Overturned
20/02238/F ULL1	Eden Park Service Station Links Way Beckenham BR3 3DG	Installation of 1no. jet wash bay involving installation of silt trap and associated drainage, erection of 2.6m high glass screens and installation of 1no. new 5m high pole mounted floodlight	Kelsey And Eden Park	Cllr Christine Harris	30.06.2021	REF	PSC	O - Overturned
20/02367/F ULL1	9 Copse Avenue West Wickham BR4 9NL	Demolition of existing bungalow and construction of 2 x 3 bedroom semi-detached properties with cycle and bin storage, paved driveways, steps leading down to each rear garden. Covered pathway with roof to side of Plot 9 with new brick wall (adjacent to No. 33 Boleyn Gardens). Existing vehicular crossover widened to Plot 9a and erection of carport with mansard roof to the side of new property, new brick wall (adjacent to No. 11 Copse Avenue).	West Wickham	Cllr Brock	22.02.2021	REF	PSC	O - Overturned

Application No	Address	Description	Ward	Call In	Decision Issue Date	Decision		Recommend. Accepted or Overturned
20/02598/F ULL6	59 Manor Way Beckenham BR3 3LN	Construction of 2 summerhouses to rear garden and replacement fence	Kelsey And Eden Park	Cllr Dean	16.02.2021	REF	PSC	O - Overturned
20/03691/F ULL6	7 Manor Place Chislehurst BR7 5QH	Demolition of conservatory. Erection of part single storey/part two storey/part first floor side, rear and front extensions, re-pitched and raised roof to form first floor and roof accommodation, integral garage and elevational alterations.	Chislehurst	Cllr Sharma	02.02.2021	REF	PSC	A - Accepted
20/03819/F ULL6	11 Kennedy Close Petts Wood Orpington BR5 1HP	Conversion of garage to habitable room to include alterations to the roof and erection of replacement single storey side and rear extension (part retrospective)	Petts Wood And Knoll	Cllr Fawthrop	09.03.2021	REF	PSC	O - Overturned
20/03924/F ULL6	49 Birchwood Road Petts Wood Orpington BR5 1NX	Proposed single storey side/rear extension forming a new store room/covered barbeque area and installation of 2no. new bi-folding doors to the rear elevation.	Petts Wood And Knoll	Cllr Tony Owen	16.02.2021	PER	PSC	A - Accepted
20/04071/F ULL6	10 Silverdale Road Petts Wood Orpington BR5 1NJ	Demolition of existing garage and construction of a single storey side/rear extension and part front garage extension with new pitched roof to form front porch canopy. Alterations to existing patio with new access steps and retaining wall	Petts Wood And Knoll	Cllr Fawthrop			PSC	

Application No	Address	Description	Ward	Call In	Decision Issue Date	Decision		Recommend. Accepted or Overturned
20/04094/F ULL6	Cameron Mead Road Chislehurst BR7 6AD	Summerhouse enclosure to the rear	Chislehurst	Cllr Boughey	02.06.2021	PER	PSC	A - Accepted
20/04217/F ULL6	128 Jackson Road Bromley BR2 8NX	Conversion of existing side garage into habitable accommodation, construction of a single storey glazed link between the house and garage, side roof dormer, elevational alterations including new windows, construction of front porch and renewal of roof coverings. (Revised scheme to approved application DC/20/01687/FULL6 to allow for new main house roof)	Bromley Common And Keston	Cllr Alexa Michael	02.02.2021	REF	PSC	O - Overturned
20/04321/F ULL6	1 Oldfield Close Bickley Bromley BR1 2LL	Alterations to planning application reference: 19/03722/FULL6 to include obscure glazed windows to the first floor flank elevation, alterations to rear doors on rear facade, alterations to brick detailing and render. Addition of front porch and single storey rear extension. Velux Windows at roof level	Bickley	Cllr Smith	27.04.2021	PER	PSC	A - Accepted
20/03968/F ULL6	Woodside Barnet Wood Road Hayes Bromley BR2 8HJ	Convert garage into habitable room. Construct disabled ramp to rear and enclosure of existing rear porch	Bromley Common And Keston	Cllr Alexa Michael	16.02.2021	PER	PSC	A - Accepted
20/04509/A DV	Land At Springvale Retail Park Sevenoaks Way Orpington	Signage for the drive thru coffee shop to comprise five internally illuminated fascia signs, two non illuminated freestanding directional signs, one non illuminated clearance bar, two internally illuminated digital static menu boards signs (one single and one triple digital screens), one non illuminated speaker canopy and two vinyls to windows	Cray Valley East	Cllr Yvonne Bear	17.06.2021	CONSENT	PSC	A - Accepted

Application No	Address	Description	Ward	Call In	Decision Issue Date	Decision		Recommend. Accepted or Overturned
20/04607/F ULL6	150 Kingsway Petts Wood Orpington BR5 1PU	Demolition of existing conservatory and replacement with a two storey front/side extension and single storey side/rear extension and elevational alterations.	Petts Wood And Knoll	Cllr Keith Onslow Cllr Owen	15.04.2021	CONTEST APPEAL	PSC	O - Overturned
20/04609/F ULL6	77 Lynwood Grove Orpington BR6 0BQ	Addition of a barn hip and 2 Velux windows to existing roof. RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION	Petts Wood And Knoll	Cllr Fawthrop	22.02.2021	PER	PSC	A - Accepted
20/04648/P LUD	Flat 3 20 Orchard Road Bromley BR1 2PS	The proposed change of use of flat (use class C3) to HMO (use class C4) for 3 - 5 persons and minor internal works. LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE (PROPOSED)	Bickley	Cllr Kira Gabbert	15.04.2021	PER	PSC	A - Accepted
20/04458/T PO	188 Wickham Way Beckenham BR3 3AS	T1 Swedish Whitebeam in front garden - Fell. SUBJECT TO TPO 1702 (28.7.2000)	Shortlands		09.03.2021	CONSENT	PSC	A - Accepted
20/04944/F ULL1	21 Windsor Drive Orpington BR6 6EY	Part one/two storey rear extension to provide enlarged restaurant space on ground floor, and staff live/work accommodation on first floor with ventilation ducting.	Chelsfield And Pratts Bottom	Cllr Mike Botting			PSC	

Application No	Address	Description	Ward	Call In	Decision Issue Date	Decision		Recommend. Accepted or Overturned
20/05062/F ULL1	94 Towncourt Lane Petts Wood Orpington BR5 1EJ	Erection of a two storey detached dwelling and a pair of semi-detached houses.	Petts Wood And Knoll	Cllr Fawthrop	15.04.2021	PER	PSC	A - Accepted
20/05155/F ULL6	63 Kingsway Petts Wood Orpington BR5 1PN	Erection of part single storey/part two storey side and rear extensions in connection with loft conversion. (Amended plans).	Petts Wood And Knoll	Cllr Fawthrop	02.06.2021	REF	PSC	A - Accepted
20/05176/F ULL1	33 Croydon Road Penge London SE20 7TJ	Part one/two storey rear extensions and rear dormer extension associated with use of the site as a children's day nursery.	Penge And Cator	Cllr Jeal			PSC	
21/00140/F ULL6	4 Maple Close Petts Wood Orpington BR5 1LP	First floor extension to existing single storey side and rear extension	Petts Wood And Knoll	Cllr Fawthrop	19.05.2021	PER	PSC	A - Accepted
21/00271/F ULL6	42 Bucknall Way Beckenham BR3 3XN	Loft conversion incorporating dormers to the rear and front and rooflights to the sides, enlargement of the rear ground floor bay window and partial conversion of the garage	Kelsey And Eden Park	Cllr Dean	02.06.2021	PER	PSC	A - Accepted

Application No	Address	Description	Ward	Call In	Decision Issue Date	Decision		Recommend. Accepted or Overturned
21/00372/F ULL6	14 Silverdale Road Petts Wood Orpington BR5 1NJ	Loft conversion with a half gable, rear dormer and front rooflights.	Petts Wood And Knoll	Cllr Fawthrop	27.04.2021	REF	PSC	A - Accepted
21/00125/T PO	45 Broadoaks Way Bromley BR2 0UA	T1 Oak - Remove. SUBJECT TO TPO 2319 (8.5.2009)	Shortlands		02.06.2021	REF	PSC	A - Accepted
21/00548/F ULL1	26 Manor Road Beckenham BR3 5LE	Elevational alterations and second/third floor upward extension to existing building incorporating mansard roof and front and rear dormers, excavation of basement and lightwells and construction of four storey rear extension. Conversion of resultant building into 5 no. residential flats (3 no. two bedroom and 2 no. 1 bedroom) with balconies/terraces at first, second and third floor. Formation of surface car parking spaces at rear, provision of rear cycle and refuse storage and 2 no. electric car charging points at front.	Kelsey And Eden Park	Cllr Christine Harris			PSC	
21/00857/F ULL6	128 Jackson Road Bromley BR2 8NX	Conversion of existing side garage into habitable accommodation, construction of a single storey glazed link between the house and garage, side roof dormer, elevational alterations including new windows, construction of front porch and renewal of roof coverings. (Revised scheme to approved application DC/20/01687/FULL6 to allow for new main house roof (revised application following refusal of application 20/04217FULL6))	Bromley Common And Keston	Cllr Michael	02.06.2021	PER	PSC	A - Accepted
21/01292/F ULL6	34 Towncourt Crescent Petts Wood Orpington BR5 1PQ	Loft conversion incorporating dormer to the rear and rooflights to the front	Petts Wood And Knoll	Cllr Fawthrop			PSC	

Application No	Address	Description	Ward	Call In	Decision Issue Date	Decision		Recommend. Accepted or Overturned
21/01310/F ULL6	39 Crossway Petts Wood Orpington BR5 1PE	Two storey front/side extension, a first floor rear extension and a replacement front porch/canopy	Petts Wood And Knoll	Cllr Fawthrop			PSC	
21/01340/F ULL6	150 Kingsway Petts Wood Orpington BR5 1PU	Demolition of existing conservatory. Erection of part single storey/part two storey front/side extension and elevational alterations.	Petts Wood And Knoll	Cllr Onslow			PSC	

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## **Appendix 2**

(Questions 8 and 9)

### **(i) Top 5 Reasons for homelessness**

1. Family no longer willing or able to accommodate
2. End of private rented tenancy - assured shorthold tenancy
3. Domestic Abuse
4. Friends no longer willing or able to accommodate
5. Relationship with partner ended (non-violent breakdown)

### **(ii) Previous Accommodation**

#### **Last recorded settled accommodation**

Living with Family	334
Living with Friends	97
Caravan/houseboat	3
LBB provided TA	25
Council tenant	19
Institution	42
Housing Association tenant	74
Private rented	210
Owner/occupier	4
Shared ownership	1
No fixed abode not rough sleeping	101
No fixed abode rough sleepers	24
Tied accommodation	2
NASS accommodation	5
Women's Aid/refuge	31
Other non-secure	455
Supported accommodation	6
Student accommodation	2
Supported housing	6
Local Authority care	1
Data not available*	339
	1,781

\* Due to change in legislation and reporting regime

**(iii) Average age of main recipient** 37.4 years

**(iv) – (vii) Household types composition of applicants in TA**

Single persons	501
Single with children	948
With partner and no children	17
With partner and children	80
No data available *	235
No data available*	1781

\* System and legislative change, work under way to manually input into reportable fields.

**(viii) Total Number of children housed 1,779**

Previous place of residence LBB, other London Borough, England, rest of UK, overseas.

This information is not currently able to be reported.

(i) Location of temporary accommodation placements

LB Bromley	406
Other London Borough	831
Kent	524
Neighbouring counties/district	10
Rest of England	10
Scotland	0
Wales	0
Northern Ireland	0
Overseas	0
	1,781

(iii) Cost of nightly paid accommodation

May 2021	Number of Current Clients	Average weekly cost to LBB
Single Room	23	76.04
Studio	135	80.15
Self-Contained (1 Bed)	302	101.97
Self-Contained (2 Bed)	433	124.62
Self-Contained (3 Bed)	222	149.3
Self-Contained (4 Bed)	62	134.62
Weighted Average	1,177	117.94