

COUNCIL MEETING

12th NOVEMBER 2012

WRITTEN QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1. From Councillor Russell Mellor of the Portfolio Holder for Care Services

My question to the Chairman of Development Control Committee of the 25th June advised me of the number of Social rented and affordable housing units, which had been completed. Can the Portfolio Holder advise me as to the number of units which, were allocated to Bromley residents under the Council's nominated rights for such schemes.

Reply:

Please see attached Appendix 1.

2. From Councillor Russell Mellor of the Portfolio Holder for the Environment

I would be obliged if the Portfolio Holder can advise me as to the financial cost of removing discarded chewing gum from Bromley streets.

Reply:

It is estimated that between £15,000 to £20,000 will be spent removing chewing gum from the Borough's streets during this Civic Year.

3. From Councillor Tony Owen of the Portfolio Holder for Resources

Please will you list all overseas travel undertaken by members and officers on council related business since my last question on this subject (July 2007) and with the same level of detail.

Reply:

Please see attached Appendix 2. There are still some returns due from Departments as the records are not held centrally and a comprehensive list will be circulated as soon as possible following the Council Meeting. (Revised list now attached since the Council Meeting)

4. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett JP of the Leader of the Council

What progress is being made in reducing the purchase of paper by moving to print on demand for leaflets, committee papers etc and advising customers of on line facilities?

Reply:

The use of paper by the Council has been substantially reduced in the current year -

Boxes ordered 2011/12	4,587 boxes
Boxes ordered 2012/13 (to Sept.)	2156 boxes
Boxes ordered 2012/13 (projected)	3,504 boxes
Whole year reduction	1,083 boxes

This amount covers the MFD (Multi-Function Device) fleet, 32 satellite locations and the Central Print Bureau. On-line analysis of the output of individual MFD's enables the Centralised Support Team to only order the required number of boxes and additionally suspend ordering during periods of low use such as the summer holiday, Easter and Christmas/New Year breaks.

Central Print Bureau copy volumes are continuing to reduce -

Copies 2011/12	2,459,136 (of which 957,172 are committee papers)
Copies 2012/13 (to Sept.)	789,462
Copies 2012/13 (projected)	1,578,924 (of which 674,748 are committee papers)
Whole year reduction	880,212

This reduction is in no small part a consequence of the down-turn in leaflet production requests, but the number of committee reports being copied is also reducing.

Design work requests registered through the Centralised Support Team have also reduced significantly -

April to September 2011 - 274 jobs
April to September 2012 - 22 jobs

Of the 274 design jobs registered from April to September 2011, 33% were for leaflet design.

There has been a marked decrease in requests to display leaflets at the Council's main reception desk and other outlets and this trend is continuing. The majority of the requests to display information/posters are from Public Health and requests to publicise up-coming events. The Reception team continually advises customers to use on-line services, directing and supporting them to use the public PC's. An example of this is encouraging customers to apply for free school meals on-line and assisting these customers, if necessary.

5. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett JP of the Portfolio Holder for Resources

How many posts have been deleted from the council's establishment in each of the past four years including the current financial year as a result of:

- i. abolition of the post
- ii. transfer to an outsourced contractor?

Reply:

Please see table below.

FTE Post Deletions by Portfolio - 2009/10 to 2012/13

Portfolio	CYP	Resources	ES	R&R	ACS	PPS	Education	Care Services	Total
2009/10									
Posts deleted	10	14	0	17	18	0	0	0	59
Posts deleted - outsourced	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	10	14	0	17	18	0	0	0	59
2010/11									
Posts deleted	60	54	15	17	43	10	0	0	199
Posts deleted - outsourced	0	0	0	0	129	0	0	0	129
	60	54	15	17	172	10	0	0	328
2011/12									
Posts deleted	30	36	15	24	42	0	0	0	147
Posts deleted - outsourced	0	7	0	0	78	0	0	0	85
	30	43	15	24	120	0	0	0	232
2012/13									
Posts deleted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Posts deleted - outsourced	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	12	22
	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	12	22
Total									
Posts deleted	100	104	30	58	103	10	0	0	405
Posts deleted - outsourced	0	17	0	0	207	0	0	12	236
Grand Total	100	121	30	58	310	10	0	12	641

6. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett JP of the Portfolio Holder for the Environment/Renewal and Recreation

What representations he has received about Christmas lights for West Wickham High Street and if he will make a statement?

Reply:

The Portfolio Holder for Renewal and Recreation will be making a Statement on this matter under item 7 on the Council agenda.

7. From Councillor Fawthrop of the Chairman of the Development Control Committee (to be asked at every Council Meeting)

What pre-application meetings have taken place since the last full Council Meeting between Council Officers and potential planning applicants? Can these be listed as follows:-

The name of the potential applicant, the site address being considered.

Reply:

There have been 43 non-householder and 61 householder meetings between 26th June and 7th November 2012.

As you are aware details of individual applicants and sites at present is exempt information and not disclosable in response to a Council Question.