

COUNCIL MEETING**8th December 2014****QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL****1. From Cllr Michael Rutherford to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal and Recreation**

How have levels of employment in Bromley changed over the last three years, and how does that compare to the three years leading to May 2010?

2. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Portfolio Holder for Care Services

Can the Portfolio Holder confirm that there will be an emergency homeless hostel in Bromley this winter.

3. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Portfolio Holder for the Environment

Will the Portfolio Holder confirm whether the Council will be following previous practice and waiving road closure notice fees for the Big Lunch in June 2015?

4. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Portfolio Holder for the Environment

When preparing for the privatisation of "Facilities Management", how will the financial value of the current input of volunteers (eg Bromley Countryside Volunteers and various Friends groups) into work done in our parks be calculated? What will the Council do to find out the effect of any privatisation of the parks services on the willingness of these volunteers to continue to make their contribution? Does the Portfolio Holder agree with me that there is a danger here of a contract being implemented which could easily overlook the contribution made by these volunteers and that the natural environment of our Borough would suffer as a consequence?

5. From Cllr Nicholas Bennett JP to the Portfolio Holder for Resources

What progress is being made with regard to the application by residents of Long Meadow Close, West Wickham, to purchase land owned by the Council adjacent to their back gardens?

6. From Cllr Tony Owen to the Portfolio Holder for Resources

What is the name and address of the resident allowing their name to be used for a phishing expedition of Bromley's accounts by a non-resident of the borough? How much has this cost the local taxpayer? What could this sum have provided by way of local services?

7. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Portfolio Holder for Care Services

A Bromley Borough Councillor recently responded to DPAC that Bromley Borough

residents are not dependant on food banks but that our residents suffered more from obesity. Now that Oxfam have advised that Bromley residents are the second highest number of users of food banks in the capital does he accept that this is wrong?

8. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Portfolio Holder for the Environment

We recently arranged for several senior officers to visit Crystal Palace ward to inspect the generally poor levels of street cleaning and to look at some typical examples of erratic, incomplete or otherwise unacceptable service levels on waste and recycling collection.

There has been some minor improvement in one or two areas, but some specific problems are ongoing, and overall street cleaning we believe is still below an acceptable standard.

Could the portfolio holder please comment on the following possible explanations:

- The contract has been underpriced and the contractor is unable to deliver the service for the agreed price
- The contract has been suitably priced but the Contractor's own management and monitoring functions are inadequate
- The Council has not adequately resourced its contract management and monitoring function

9. From Cllr Nicholas Bennett JP to the Portfolio Holder for Resources

If he will set out the guidance from CIPFA and the DCLG as to when repairs, renewal or improvements to a highways asset may be treated as a capital item rather than a revenue one?

10. From Cllr Tony Owen to the Portfolio Holder for Care Services

What analysis is available of the number of heavy consumers of care service resources? How much demand on services is failure demand (failure to do something or do something right for a 'customer')? What % time is spent doing value work (for service users)?

11. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal and Recreation

Why is the Borough working against the local community by adding its political weight to opposing applications for Assets of Community Value. This is seen clearly in the way it opposed the application for Assets of Community Value for Snowdon Close.

12. From Cllr Nicholas Bennett JP to the Portfolio Holder for Resources

What information does he have as to the ownership of the former Health Centre in Hawes Lane, West Wickham, how long the site has been redundant and what plans the owners have to bring the site back into use?