

COUNCIL MEETING**12th DECEMBER 2016****QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC****(A) QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY****1. From Dermot Mckibbin to the Resources Portfolio Holder**

How many housing benefit claimants does the council have who are subject to the bedroom tax whose circumstances are similar to the successful claimants in the recent Supreme Court decision on 9 November 2016 and when will their housing benefit claims be paid at the full eligible amount?

2. From Helen Alsworth to the Resources Portfolio Holder

How much money has the Council set aside in its budget to provide discretionary Housing Benefit payments for claimants whose benefit has been cut as a result of the bedroom tax, and how much of this money has been spent in the last three years?

3. From David Clapham to the Renewal and Recreation Portfolio Holder

Would the Council give an update on the current progress with the installation of the Noise Monitoring and Track Keeping System which is being installed by BHAL as a condition of being granted the extra hours of operation?

4. From Andy Richardson to the Portfolio Holder for Resources

Can Bromley Council explain why residents pay an extra 2% on council tax for Adult Social Care and yet the Social Care Budget for this year was £2,146,000 less than 2014-15 and the proposed expenditure for Social Care in 2016-17 is £10,246,000 less than this year's expenditure?

5. From Julie Ireland to the Portfolio Holder for Resources

Will the council state the staff turnover rate since May 2014 (expressed as a % of total employees at May 2014) for the following departments: (a) Financial Services and Procurement (b) Children's Social Care (c) Regeneration and Transformation (d) Commissioning?

6. From Richard Wilsher to the Portfolio Holder for the Environment

Will Bromley Council kindly acknowledge the wishes of hundreds of Beckenham residents and upgrade current proposals for a refuge on Copers Cope Road, such that a dedicated pedestrian crossing can be installed near the junction with Park Road, thus allowing commuters and school children to cross this busy road safely?

7. From Dermot Mckibbin to the Resources Portfolio Holder

Does the council agree that under the Human Rights Act that the council must take steps not to discriminate against any housing benefit tenant whose circumstances are the same as in the Supreme Court decision and that they should be awarded their housing benefit in full immediately?

8. From Helen Alsworth to the Resources Portfolio Holder

Will the Council seek assurances from local housing associations that they will not take possession proceedings against disabled tenants who are waiting for the Government to change the Housing Benefit regulations to reflect the decision of the Supreme Court in R(Rutherford and Todd) v SSWP UKSC 0029/2016?

9. From David Clapham to the Renewal and Recreation Portfolio Holder

Following the departure of the Director for Transformation and Regeneration, who has been appointed/assigned to the senior role of ensuring that BHAL comply with the terms and undertakings of the current lease and with the conditions which must be fulfilled before the extra hours of operation will be granted?

10. From Dermot Mckibbin to the Resources Portfolio Holder

What are the implications for the council of the recent supreme court decision in this area and when will the council be publishing information for members of the public whose circumstances are similar to the successful claimants in the supreme court decision?

11. From Helen Alsworth to the Resources Portfolio Holder

What are the service standards used by the Council for Housing Benefit claimants and how are they publicised?

12. From David Clapham to the Renewal and Recreation Portfolio Holder

Will the Council assure residents that no flight movements within the extended hours will be allowed before the Council has agreed that all pre-conditions for the extended operation have been met, and that any such movements will be treated as a breach of the existing Lease?

(B) QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN REPLY

1. From Susan Sulis, Secretary, Community Care Protection Group, to the Care Services Portfolio Holder

September 2016 Commissioner's Report into Bromley's children's Services - The report states that "there was systemic failure in Bromley's services and that vulnerable children were disadvantaged and put at risk." Despite this, areas of good practice were identified – the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub, and early intervention approaches.

What lessons can be learned from the exemplary performance of these staff?

2. From Susan Sulis, Secretary, Community Care Protection Group, to the Care Services Portfolio Holder

Risks of Service Failure to Bromley's Children: Community and Public Involvement. The effects of risks on many aspects of their lives may be hidden and unknown, as recent scandals demonstrate.

(a) What is the Council's plan to investigate this?

(b) Can the Council reach out to young people, families, organisations and the public to ask if they have experienced problems related to this?