

COUNCIL MEETING**10th APRIL 2017****QUESTIONS FOR ORAL REPLY FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL****1. From Councillor Chris Pierce to the Public Protection and Safety Portfolio Holder**

Can the Portfolio Holder please advise what steps are being taken in partnership with the Police to deal with the ever increasing problem of anti-social off-road motorcyclists and the general nuisance and annoyance they are causing to residents across the Borough and in particular in my own Ward, Cray Valley East?

2. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Environment Portfolio Holder

Can he please explain why it is that, as identified in the recent internal audit of waste services, the Council does not have a copy of the contract with Veolia?
How much money has the council lost because it hasn't been imposing the penalty charges on the contractor where bins have been missed?

3. Cllr Ian Dunn to the Care Services Portfolio Holder

How does the Portfolio Holder see the balance between employees and agency staff changing over the next two years?

4. From Cllr Vanessa Allen to the Chairman of Development Control Committee

Can he confirm the amount the Council had to pay in costs in relation to the Queen Mary House appeal? Can he also comment on lessons learned from this appeal, specifically as the Costs judgement contained the words –

“Not least of these undisputed benefits is that the proposal would meet a critical demand for older persons’ accommodation for which there is insufficient supply in the borough, falling well short of targets in the London Plan.”

5. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Education & Children’s Services Portfolio Holder

What impact is the recent change in funding arrangements by central government going to have on Bromley Schools and Bromley children?

6. From Cllr Kevin Brooks to the Care Services Portfolio Holder

What monitoring is carried out on Vibrance to ensure people not attending day centres are able and proactive in using their direct payments for alternative provision?

7. From Cllr Richard Williams to the Education & Children's Services Portfolio Holder

Over the last few years we have seen a rise in suicides amongst teenagers particularly due to the increase in social media. According to figures an average of 8 teenagers take their own lives weekly. Can I ask the Portfolio Holder to encourage schools and local youth groups to share a campaign video that has been spearheaded by the ITV programme This Morning 'Be Kind' <http://www.itv.com/thismorning/hot-topics/pledge-to-share-our-anti-bullying-message>

8. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Leader of the Council

What is the procedure for reporting to members details of reports of maladministration by this authority as determined by the Local Government Ombudsman?

9. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett JP to the Environment Portfolio Holder

Whether he will discuss with the Borough Commander a pro-active policy to stop fly-tipping by asking police patrols to stop and question drivers of vehicles with waste seen on the Borough's roads during the night to ascertain whether they have waste disposal licences and the purpose of their journey at hours when waste disposal centres are closed?

10. From Councillor David Livett to the Environment Portfolio Holder

How has the clearance of the Waste4Fuel site progressed in comparison with the original projection, with particular regard to the completion timeframe and costs?

11. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Education & Children's Services Portfolio Holder

Last week OFSTED reported on its recent inspection of Bromley's Community Learning & Skills provision – Adult Education as we more generally refer to it. The previous inspection in 2015 had given the service an overall rating of "requires improvement", but with a "good" rating for quality of teaching, learning and assessment. In this year's inspection report, all aspects inspected are now deemed to be "requires improvement", and the report is prefaced with the rather damning (but familiar) comment: "Leaders and managers have been slow to address several issues from the previous inspection".

Can the Portfolio Holder please explain why the recommendations made by OFSTED two years ago have not been fully implemented and what action is now going to be taken to ensure this vital service is brought up to a satisfactory standard?

12. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Education & Children's Services Portfolio Holder

How does the Portfolio Holder see the balance between employees and agency staff changing over the next two years?

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

The volume of casework we are receiving about Housing Benefit debt is increasing, with many residents being in significant debt before they come to us for advice. What can the Council do to flag up / make contact / referrals when the debt exceeds a certain limit?

14. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Care Services Portfolio Holder

How many nurses and care staff are leaving Bromley institutions as a result of the decision to leave the European Union?

15. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett JP to the Resources Portfolio Holder

How many Freedom Passes are held by Bromley residents, the cost of the passes and the value of the journeys made?

16. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Care Services Portfolio Holder

What action is being taken to reduce the number of delayed discharges which result in patients blocking much-needed beds in hospitals because the council has not been able to provide the appropriate social care for its residents?

17. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Care Services Portfolio Holder

Can the Portfolio Holder explain how the Council's services to blind and partially sighted people comply with the RNIB's targets of:-

- Providing everyone with a visual impairment with a face to face assessment,
- Having in place a rehabilitation plan within 28 days of first contact with the Council
- Starting agreed rehabilitation support, within 12 weeks of the initial contact with the Council.

18. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Environment Portfolio Holder

We have had several instances recently where trees have been cut down or damaged for various reasons. How often does the Council carry out reviews to ensure TPOs are put in place for healthy, mature trees?

19. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Resources Portfolio Holder

What is the procedure when contractors commissioned by Bromley Council are taken over?

20. From Councillor Nicholas Bennett JP to the Environment Portfolio Holder

Whether he will post notices on street waste bins prohibiting their use for household waste and subsequently institute proceedings against those who do so?