

COUNCIL MEETING

10TH APRIL 2017

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN REPLY FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Portfolio Holder for Resources

Please provide a breakdown of the Council's use of Agency Staff, showing person days and net cost, by month for financial year 2016/17, broken down by Adult Social Care, Children's Social Care, other EHCS, ECS and other. Please sort the information by department and show the average daily rate by department and month. Please also provide the employee FTE's on the last working day of every month, also broken down by department.

Reply:

(See Appendix 1)

2. From Cllr Richard Williams to the Portfolio Holder for Environment

How far has Bromley progressed with the Mayoral target of 95% of bus stops' accessibility by the end of 2016/17? Can you supply details of the bus stops that have not been made accessible and what proportion of the population living within 400m are either elderly or have mobility disability?

Reply:

64% of the Borough's bus-stops currently meet TfL's BSA standard.

The appended map identifies those which aren't (Appendix 2.)

The requested data isn't held.

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

Please provide a breakdown of how and where the additional £500k allocated for Environmental Initiatives in the 2017-18 budget is to be spent.

Reply:

The indicative split of the additional monies which have been made available is:

- £250k on Street sweeping
- £100k on Trees (maintenance and new trees)
- £30k on Extra weed clearance (going up from 3 weedings to 4)
- £60k on Street furniture to smarten up our high street, shopping parades and street scene
- £60k on Miscellaneous park-related issues

Please note this list is not definitive and may be adapted further as the year progresses.

4. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Environment Portfolio Holder

Please provide details of the council's expenditure on and income from Crystal Palace Park since 1997 to date.

Please also provide details of expenditure on the dinosaurs over the same period.

Reply:

Officers haven't been able to recover figures going back that far to date, but the current figure for Expenditure is ~ £420k and for Income ~£220k.

£ 300k has recently been spent on the Dinosaur project

I shall ask Officers to try further to recall records going back to 1997 if you would find it helpful.

5. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Resources Portfolio Holder

How much did the Department for Education pay for the Balmoral Avenue site for the new Eden Park High School?

Reply:

The Local Authority was not party to the transaction - that was between the previous land owners and the Education Funding Agency (EFA) who are the responsible body. I would suggest making a request under the Freedom of Information Act to the EFA.

6. From Councillor Peter Fookes to the Resources Portfolio Holder

Is there any guidance from the Department For Communities and Local Government on the maximum reserves that an authority can have?

Reply:

Determining the level and use of reserves is a matter for individual local authorities, taking into account local challenges and priorities. There is no prescriptive national guidance on the minimum or maximum level.

There is a statutory duty on the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to report, at the time the budget is considered and the council tax is set, on the robustness of the budget estimates and the adequacy of financial reserves.

The Secretary of State has a general power to set a minimum level of reserves for local authorities. However, the government has undertaken to apply this only in circumstances where an authority does not act prudently, disregards the advice of its CFO and is heading for serious financial difficulty.

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

Why are Bromley residents not able to access the NHS Minor Ailments scheme to assist those on low income?

Reply:

Bromley does not commission a minor ailments service from community pharmacies across the borough. The main reasons for this are:

- it represents limited value for money as we would need to pay pharmacists (usually about £10-£12 per patient) to take redirected patients from general practice, a service which they would otherwise offer for free
- it does not really reduce demand in general practices for GPs or practice staff as they still need to redirect patients, and even then, the patient could insist upon having a GP appointment
- we have considerable communications campaigns nationally and locally to encourage patients to go to their pharmacy directly with minor ailments – it is more sustainable to influence patient behaviour to think of using pharmacies themselves rather than relying on redirections

However, we do have exciting work happening around using clinical pharmacists in general practice. The purpose includes seeing patients with minor ailments within the practice, as well as giving general advice and guidance to patients, undertaking medication reviews, managing prescriptions and supporting practices with prescribing after hospital discharge. We placed clinical pharmacists in 15 practices in the Beckenham/Penge/West Wickham area in January 2017 and are currently evaluating the impact of this. We have placed a further four clinical pharmacists into 'vulnerable practices' in Bromley as part of the GP Forward View ring-fenced scheme of the same name, and hope to place three more for tenures of 6-12 weeks to alleviate pressure in the practices. We have one practice that has directly employed a pharmacist for three days a week that is seeing real benefits over a year later. And we are working with 20 practices in the Bromley town/Orpington/Biggin Hill/Cray Valley area towards longer term placement of clinical pharmacists at their surgeries, to be part funded between NHS England, the CCG and the practices themselves. The impact of clinical pharmacists working with general practice will be closely monitored, including the impact on minor ailments going into GP appointments and Urgent Care Centres.

Appendix 1(Question 1)

Year	Month	Month Name	Group Name	Calc Days	Hours	Avg Daily Rate	net Amt	vat Amt	gross Amt	Employee FTE as at last day of month
2017	1	January	1. Adult Social Care	1,765.97	12,715.00	175.48	309,898.66	61,979.86	371,878.52	206.76
2017	2	February	1. Adult Social Care	1,706.42	12,286.25	169.87	289,863.94	57,972.74	347,836.68	205.82
2017	3	March	1. Adult Social Care	1,917.53	13,806.25	169.84	325,681.79	65,136.30	390,818.09	205.82
2016	4	April	1. Adult Social Care	1,727.95	12,441.25	161.98	279,896.72	55,979.43	335,876.15	220.69
2016	5	May	1. Adult Social Care	2,139.72	15,406.00	163.69	350,256.06	70,051.08	420,307.14	216.41
2016	6	June	1. Adult Social Care	1,858.02	13,377.75	176.62	328,157.36	65,631.45	393,788.81	216.23
2016	7	July	1. Adult Social Care	1,459.79	10,510.50	173.05	252,616.07	50,523.27	303,139.34	213.4
2016	8	August	1. Adult Social Care	1,375.87	9,906.25	166.49	229,065.99	45,813.12	274,879.11	211.06
2016	9	September	1. Adult Social Care	2,040.14	14,689.00	166.77	340,227.42	68,045.53	408,272.95	212.65
2016	10	October	1. Adult Social Care	1,804.48	12,992.25	163.92	295,791.42	59,158.30	354,949.72	211.76
2016	11	November	1. Adult Social Care	1,676.11	12,068.00	184.58	309,381.76	61,876.31	371,258.07	213.29
2016	12	December	1. Adult Social Care	1,850.24	13,321.75	178.39	330,063.02	66,012.52	396,075.54	210.26
2017	1	January	2. Childrens Social Care	1,811.49	13,042.75	256.01	463,763.16	92,752.48	556,515.64	236.22
2017	2	February	2. Childrens Social Care	1,699.79	12,238.50	246.24	418,548.34	83,709.65	502,257.99	233.78
2017	3	March	2. Childrens Social Care	2,007.29	14,452.50	271.65	545,271.80	109,054.05	654,325.85	235.32
2016	4	April	2. Childrens Social Care	837.47	6,029.75	184.74	154,713.88	30,942.64	185,656.52	251.74
2016	5	May	2. Childrens Social Care	1,030.42	7,419.00	193.58	199,464.23	39,892.84	239,357.07	246.90
2016	6	June	2. Childrens Social Care	1,124.69	8,097.75	203.87	229,291.31	45,858.26	275,149.57	244.45
2016	7	July	2. Childrens Social Care	1,037.43	7,469.50	203.53	211,151.83	42,230.28	253,382.11	241.87
2016	8	August	2. Childrens Social Care	1,247.64	8,983.00	216.02	269,512.92	53,902.42	323,415.34	235.87
2016	9	September	2. Childrens Social Care	1,893.78	13,635.25	221.97	420,356.14	84,071.14	504,427.28	235.19
2016	10	October	2. Childrens Social Care	1,774.06	12,773.25	210.43	373,321.29	74,664.09	447,985.38	235.85
2016	11	November	2. Childrens Social Care	1,938.13	13,954.50	220.49	427,340.02	85,467.82	512,807.84	235.35
2016	12	December	2. Childrens Social Care	1,763.33	12,696.00	220.88	389,480.42	77,895.81	467,376.23	236.35
2017	1	January	3. Other ECHS	479.24	3,450.50	191.85	91,941.37	18,388.26	110,329.63	336.54
2017	2	February	3. Other ECHS	468.02	3,369.75	193.12	90,384.33	18,076.80	108,461.13	336.54
2017	3	March	3. Other ECHS	499.10	3,593.50	223.07	111,334.01	22,266.79	133,600.80	335.74
2016	4	April	3. Other ECHS	450.21	3,241.50	217.20	97,785.60	19,557.19	117,342.79	370.74
2016	5	May	3. Other ECHS	524.05	3,773.13	223.32	117,027.39	23,405.45	140,432.84	367.71
2016	6	June	3. Other ECHS	572.48	4,121.88	221.98	127,078.63	25,415.67	152,494.30	367.15
2016	7	July	3. Other ECHS	461.96	3,326.13	215.39	99,502.15	19,900.37	119,402.51	357.07
2016	8	August	3. Other ECHS	395.64	2,848.63	225.05	89,040.41	17,808.02	106,848.43	348.23
2016	9	September	3. Other ECHS	540.89	3,894.38	208.83	112,951.27	22,590.25	135,541.52	335.66

2016	10	October	3. Other ECHS	465.38	3,350.75	227.90	106,059.49	21,211.88	127,271.37	336.26
2016	11	November	3. Other ECHS	550.73	3,965.25	203.63	112,143.76	22,428.72	134,572.48	336.62
2016	12	December	3. Other ECHS	603.13	4,342.50	191.54	115,522.96	23,104.51	138,627.46	334.35
2017	1	January	4. ECS	627.57	4,518.50	146.80	92,127.03	18,425.46	110,552.49	357.15
2017	2	February	4. ECS	689.20	4,962.25	147.84	101,890.40	20,378.15	122,268.55	356.34
2017	3	March	4. ECS	672.85	4,844.50	148.45	99,882.35	19,976.51	119,858.86	360.59
2016	4	April	4. ECS	604.31	4,351.00	133.23	80,512.28	16,102.38	96,614.66	384.83
2016	5	May	4. ECS	749.62	5,397.25	138.69	103,962.22	20,792.91	124,755.13	381.94
2016	6	June	4. ECS	765.52	5,511.75	141.87	108,600.76	21,720.16	130,320.92	376.83
2016	7	July	4. ECS	606.15	4,364.25	137.60	83,404.20	16,680.83	100,085.03	372.54
2016	8	August	4. ECS	602.64	4,339.00	135.43	81,615.95	16,323.22	97,939.17	368.59
2016	9	September	4. ECS	753.40	5,424.50	143.66	108,230.78	21,646.10	129,876.88	365.08
2016	10	October	4. ECS	657.57	4,734.50	145.14	95,437.24	19,087.36	114,524.60	361.71
2016	11	November	4. ECS	685.73	4,937.25	146.73	100,616.90	20,123.40	120,740.30	363.22
2016	12	December	4. ECS	668.61	4,814.00	150.01	100,301.60	20,060.38	120,361.98	354.25
2017	1	January	5. Other	343.82	2,475.50	208.97	71,849.53	14,369.90	86,219.43	197.7
2017	2	February	5. Other	350.76	2,525.50	202.79	71,131.41	14,226.25	85,357.66	194.12
2017	3	March	5. Other	405.42	2,919.00	199.59	80,916.35	16,183.26	97,099.61	194.81
2016	4	April	5. Other	287.95	2,073.25	204.39	58,853.80	11,770.74	70,624.54	216.69
2016	5	May	5. Other	273.63	1,970.13	249.51	68,272.86	13,654.58	81,927.44	216.34
2016	6	June	5. Other	446.09	3,211.88	180.27	80,416.79	16,083.34	96,500.13	219.84
2016	7	July	5. Other	400.99	2,887.13	194.62	78,038.93	15,607.83	93,646.75	218.34
2016	8	August	5. Other	376.45	2,710.48	168.40	63,393.70	12,678.74	76,072.45	215.97
2016	9	September	5. Other	484.18	3,486.13	204.55	99,041.79	19,808.43	118,850.22	217.29
2016	10	October	5. Other	366.49	2,638.75	194.69	71,354.17	14,270.91	85,625.08	189.61
2016	11	November	5. Other	326.39	2,350.00	214.57	70,032.19	14,006.41	84,038.60	195.75
2016	12	December	5. Other	332.99	2,397.50	216.07	71,948.86	14,389.81	86,338.66	196.75
2017	1	January	6. Unknown	113.68	818.50	284.48	32,340.09	6,468.04	38,808.13	
2017	2	February	6. Unknown	223.02	1,605.75	249.95	55,743.82	11,148.75	66,892.57	
2017	3	March	6. Unknown	7.85	56.50	967.01	7,588.32	1,517.67	9,105.99	
2016	8	August	6. Unknown	3.67	26.40	77.83	285.39	57.08	342.46	
2016	9	September	6. Unknown	4.44	32.00	263.95	1,173.12	234.62	1,407.74	
2016	10	October	6. Unknown	42.71	307.50	202.68	8,656.19	1,731.24	10,387.43	
2016	11	November	6. Unknown	84.97	611.75	258.26	21,943.49	4,388.70	26,332.19	
2016	12	December	6. Unknown	148.75	1,071.00	250.67	37,287.33	7,457.53	44,744.86	