

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2018**

**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**1. From Cllr Josh King to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning & Contract Management**

How many instances of voter impersonation were reported during the recent Kelsey and Eden Park by-election?

**Reply:**

The Returning Officer has advised me that he is not aware of any instances of voter impersonation at the recent By election. However such matters should be reported to the Police rather than the Returning Officer.

**2. From Cllr Josh King to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation & Housing**

What was the cost of running the competition for a performance canopy on the Beckenham Green and why was it not possible to include the maintenance costs in the renegotiated parks contract?

**Reply:**

The cost of running the design competition for the performance canopy was £500, paid from a S106 contribution for town centre improvements. The maintenance of the proposed performance canopy is considered a growth item and the term contractors has estimated that it would cost £2,208 p.a. to maintain as a variation to the existing term contract.

**3. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Portfolio Holder for Environment & Community Services**

How many residential parking permits have been issued in the last 12 months at £40 and £80, broken down by the number of permits per household?

**Reply:**

The first table provided shows the total number of residential permits issued in the last year is 7,582 and the number of permits issued per property.

The second table shows of those permits how many were at the lower charge and the higher charge; the reason there are 3 permits which are either no cost or £20 is because this is one address with a special arrangement for carers to have resident permits.

	number of properties	number of permits per property	number of permits
	2	6	12
	9	5	45
	39	4	156
	190	3	570
	1,161	2	2,322
	4,477	1	4,477
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,878</b>		<b>7,582</b>

price	number of permits
0	2
20	1
40	6,548
80	1,031
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,582</b>

**4. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning & Contract Management**

Please provide a breakdown of the Council's use of Agency Staff, showing person days and net cost, by month from April 2017 to as recently as figures are available, broken down by Adult Social Care, Children's Social Care, other EHCS, ECS and other. Please also show the number of employees in FTE with the same breakdown.

**Reply:**

(See [Appendix 1.](#))

**5. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Portfolio Holder for Environment & Community Services**

Please provide the total number of Fix My Street jobs raised in the last 12 months, broken down by month, ward and type of issue.

**Reply:**

The attached document shows FMS data breakdown 01/12/17 to 30/11/18 ([Appendix 2.](#))

**6. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Leader of the Council**

Please provide a list of Councillors (by party) and which committees they are members of.

**Reply:**

This information is already available on the Council's website, where committee membership is shown on each Councillor's page -

[LBB Website - Your Councillors](#)

**7. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Portfolio Holder for Environment & Community Services**

Please provide the schedule / rota for enforcement of parking restrictions across the Borough.

**Reply:**

It is not in the public's interest to publish information that might lead to increased contraventions of parking restrictions. It could, for example, lead to drivers deciding to risk not be caught if our service requirements are published therefore providing a tool that may be misappropriated in allowing parking on restriction and possibly avoiding paying for their parking.

Bromley's expected levels of visits/rotas by the CEOs are also subject to change in order to respond to deviations in locations of contraventions or new priority locations that may be given priority attendance, particularly with the introduction of new schemes/restrictions. The borough's contract with APCOA provides a total number of hours deployed within the borough, for each month and for the year, which is not specifically designated to an individual area.

Established levels of attendance are provided for areas within the borough which needs to be attained along with the contractors responsibility to attend adhoc requests for enforcement action from the public along with internal reviews . LBB staff monitor the activity of APCOA staff through the presence of key performance indicators assigned to most of the poignant actions being undertaken such as hours deployed and enforcement requests, which if not attained will have punitive measures.

**8. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Portfolio Holder for Adult Care & Health**

Please provide a summary and breakdown of the Council's expenditure (under Invest to Save) of the team employed to deliver cuts in the care packages for residents with learning difficulties. Please also provide details of any savings identified and implemented by this team?

**Reply:**

The table below sets out the costs of the Learning Disabilities Invest to Save team until it was ceased on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018, and the full-year savings that were achieved.

	Costs (staffing) £'000	Full-year savings £'000
2015/16*		279
2016/17	208	866
2017/18	305	1,086
2018/19	117	503
	630	2,734

\* There was no dedicated team during 2015/16, so the costs are not separately identifiable.

Savings were achieved for a variety of reasons following a review of individual care packages, such as increased independence skills, identifying better quality care providers, transfers of ordinary residence to other authorities, securing increased health contributions towards care packages and clients moving into more appropriate residential/nursing home or supported living schemes.

In addition, with the support of the care providers, a review of locally commissioned supported living schemes and the clients living within the schemes was undertaken, which identified opportunities to recognise efficiencies through reconfiguring staffing within the schemes.

In all cases, any changes to care packages were made in accordance with legislation and Council processes, and were agreed with the service user and care provider, and where relevant, with the family, carer, advocate and health professionals.

**9. From Cllr Kevin Brooks to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation & Housing**

Can anything be done to address the fact that the mobility centre in the Glades is not under cover, leading to difficulties for disabled people using the service in bad weather?

**Reply:**

This issue will be taken up with the Glades Centre Management at the earliest available opportunity.

**10. From Cllr Simon Fawthrop to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning & Contract Management**

Would the Portfolio Holder please detail the savings made to the Council's revenue budget on a year by year basis since 2010/11 to date, including this years proposed savings within the list?

Would the Portfolio Holder please advise the overall cumulative total of these savings over the same period?

**Reply:**

Ongoing annual savings of £97m have been included in the Council's revenue budgets between 2011/12 and 2018/19 compared to the 2010/11 baseline. Proposed savings for 2019/20 are to be determined following the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement and will be reported to Executive on 16th January 2019.

Cumulatively, this would provide total savings of some £500m over the same period. Cost pressures within the annual budget and medium term financial strategy arise from a number of factors including inflation, additional cost and demographic pressures including new burdens and the impact of significant government funding reductions. Some of the savings identified were required to offset such cost increases within the overall net budget. A summary of the annual and cumulative savings is shown in the table below:

Financial Year	Ongoing Annual Savings £'000	Cumulative Savings (01/04/11 to 31/03/19) £'000
2011/12	15,645	125,160
2012/13	22,879	160,153
2013/14	13,108	78,648
2014/15	7,292	36,460
2015/16	8,766	35,064
2016/17	18,406	55,218
2017/18	8,011	16,022
2018/19	2,667	2,667
Total	96,774	509,392

**11. From Cllr Simon Fawthrop to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning & Contract Management**

Can the level of Council Tax rises each year from 1999/2000 to 2018/2019 be presented as a bar graph which is colour coded by the party/parties responsible for setting the budgets of the day be presented to Council?

**Reply:**

(See [Appendix 3.](#))

**12. From Cllr Nicholas Bennett to the Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Health**

How many Deprivation of Liberty Orders have been made in each year since they were introduced and what are the three main reasons such orders have been issued?

**Reply:**

The deprivation of liberty was introduced into the mental capacity act by amendments to the mental health act in 2007 and came into force in 2009. The deprivation of liberty safeguards (Dols) order are called standard authorisation and they are granted only for those who are accommodated in care home or hospital for the purpose of being given care or treatment in circumstances amounting to deprivation of liberty. The number of orders granted by the local authority from 2013-2018 are:-

2013/14-        6

2014/15-        350

2015/16-        490

2016/17-        875

The figures from 2009/10- 2012/13 are not available. The deprivation of liberty for people who are not accommodated in a care home or hospital can only be authorised by the court. The orders from the court are granted under a welfare order and there is a different procedure for those orders.

It is the law to protect article 5 (Right to liberty and security) of Human Rights Act for those who fall within the definition of “unsound mind” as mentioned in that article.

The public authorities have a positive duty under that article to protect the right of an individual. Any infringement with this right is only permissible in accordance with a procedure prescribed the law. The aim is to prevent an individual from any arbitrary infringement with this right. The procedure in the law is the procedure of granting of standard authorisation for Dols for people accommodated in care homes or hospitals and they lack capacity to consent to being accommodated in that care home or hospital (Schedule A1 MCA).

For people outside care homes and hospitals, the procedure is the application to the court of protection for authorisation (Section 4(A) (3) & (4) MCA). In the performance of the positive duty, the local authority must investigate if the circumstances are amounting to deprivation of liberty, take appropriate measures to minimise the deprivation and if nothing can be done then either authorise it by granting Dols (for people living in the care homes or hospitals) and for any other setting apply to the court for authorisation. This is also in line with local authority’s statutory duty to safeguard adults under the Care Act.

**13. From Cllr Nicholas Bennett the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Families**

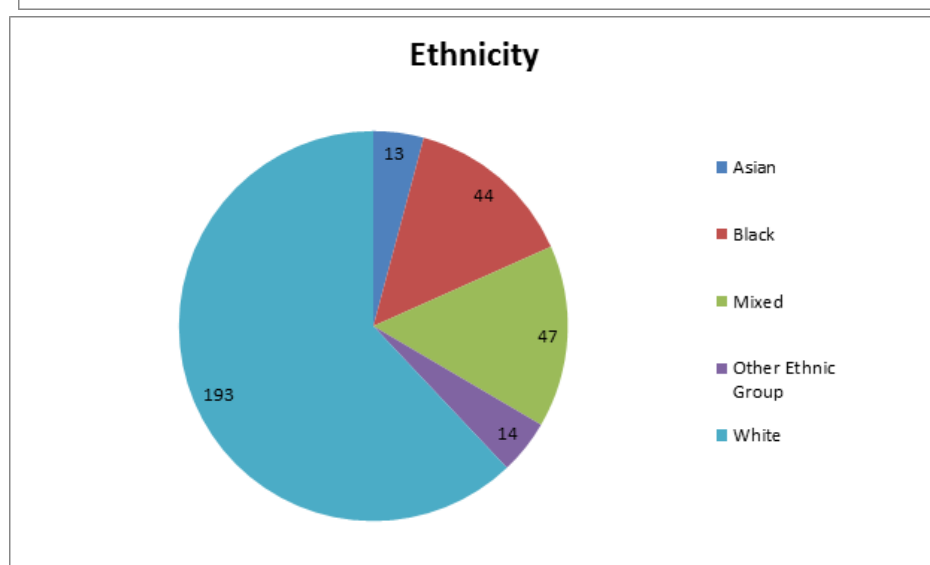
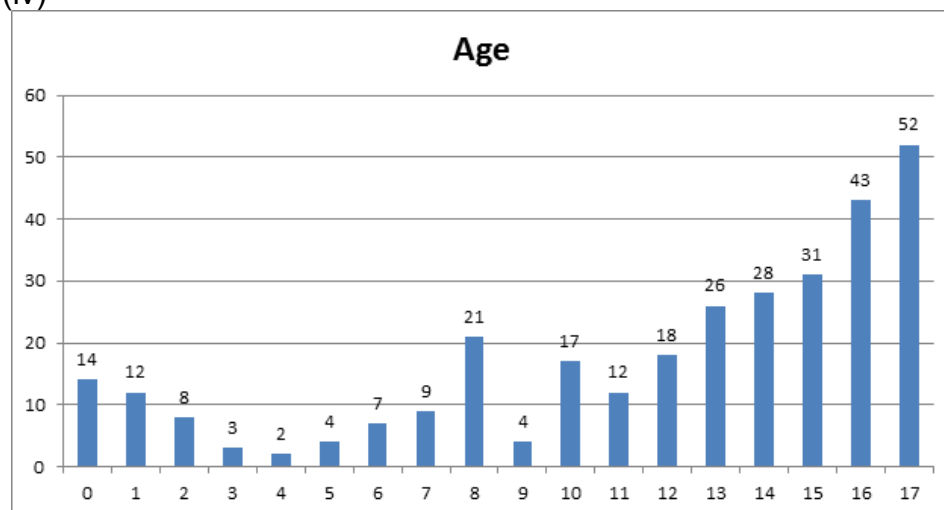
- (i) How many children are in care at the latest available date;
- (ii) what is the average length of a placement for a child placed in care;
- (iii) what is the average number of placements an individual child will have;
- (iv) the breakdown by age and ethnicity for those currently in care;
- (v) the number of children in care with physical and/or mental disabilities;
- (vi) the number of children in care who are unaccompanied minors;
- (vii) the principal reasons why children have been taken into care?

**Reply:**

- (i) 311
- (ii) 510 days for those children in care at 30/09/18

(iii) Based in the children in care at 30/09/18, the average number of placements for each child from 01/04/18 to 30/0918 is 1.78

(iv)



(v) 12, this is the DfE children in need census definition of need for services because of disability, illness or intrinsic condition.

(vi) 32

(vii) Abuse/Neglect

Need code	Number of children
N1 (Abuse or Neglect)	185
N2 (Disability)	12
N3 (Parent/Carer Illness/Disability)	14
N4 (Family in Acute Stress)	28
N5 (Family Dysfunction)	26
N6 (Socially Unacceptable Behaviour)	5
N8 (Absent Parents)	41
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>311</b>

**14. From Cllr Nicholas Bennett the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing**

If he will list for each library in table format the following information for 2017-18:

- (i) the annual and monthly average of visitors;
- (ii) the annual and monthly average number of books issued;
- (iii) the annual and monthly average running costs;
- (iv) the cost per visitor;
- (v) the cost per book issue;
- (vi) the percentage of the Borough population who used a library?

**Reply:**

See attached table ([Appendix 4](#))

**15. From Cllr Tony Owen to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing**

Residents and I have asked numerous questions about Bromley Council undertaking its duty under its lease to scrutinise Biggin Hill Airport operations.

Please can you suggest the most suitable committee for me to request an agenda item that does just this?

**Reply:**

I have relatively recently had discussions about this very matter with Officers. Theoretically, there could be a number of different committees but it seems most appropriate to suggest the Renewal, Recreation and Housing PDS Committee. To make sure that any scrutiny is as helpful as possible, I will ask Officers to make contact with you to discuss further.

**16. From Cllr Tony Owen to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services**

In each of the the last 5 years (for which statistics are available) how many fatalities have occurred on Bromley's Roads?

If all roads, other than main roads, had had 20 mph speed restrictions in place how many fatalities might have been avoided?

**Reply:**

It is not possible to say with any certainty whether a different speed limit would have made any difference to any of these particular fatal collisions. However, the recently published DfT research suggests that there is no benefit in terms of reduced injury collision numbers where area-wide 20mph limits have been introduced in Britain.



YEAR	FATAL ROAD COLLISIONS
2013	3
2014	3
2015	9
2016	4
2017	2

See attached document – Fatal statistics since 2002 ([Appendix 5.](#))