

COUNCIL MEETING

25TH FEBRUARY 2019

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR WRITTEN REPLY

1. From Cllr Tony Owen to the Environment & Community Services Portfolio Holder

The report for the proposed Crofton Road cycle lanes between Orpington Station and the Crofton Lane mini roundabout indicated that the emergency services had not been consulted.

An officer email tells me that this would be done once the scheme was approved. Will you please publish the replies received from each service for the Council meeting, ready for inclusion in the minutes?

Reply:

Once we have a detailed design that has gone through the Stage 2 RSA we will consult with the emergency services as part of the normal consultation process. Additionally, because of the scale of the Project, we will also be holding a public exhibition.

2. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Leader of Council

Please provide an organisation chart showing the direct reports of the Chief Executive with their direct reports, including a summary of each post holder's main responsibilities. Please show on the chart where a post is vacant or occupied by an interim post-holder.

Reply:

(See appendix 1 attached. Further details are available to all Members on the Council's intranet.)

3. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Leader of the Council

Please provide the number of staff who have left the Council's employment since 1 January 2014, broken down by calendar year, department and reason for leaving (Retirement, redundancy, resignation, other.) How much has been spent on redundancies since 1 January 2014, broken down by calendar year and department?

Reply:

(A) The number of staff who have left the Council's employment since January 2014, broken down by calendar year.

From 01/01/2018 to 31/12/2018	Department		
Leaver Reason	Chief Executives	Education, Care & Health Services	Environment & Community Services
Other	4	17	6
Redundancies	3	5	1
Resignations	13	118	32
Retirements	5	15	4
Total	25	155	43

From 01/01/2017 to 31/12/2017	Department		
Leaver Reason	Chief Executives	Education, Care & Health Services	Environment & Community Services
Other	12	58	136
Redundancies	1	5	3
Resignations	12	102	23
Retirements	4	15	8
Total	29	180	170

From 01/01/2016 to 31/12/2016	Department		
Leaver Reason	Chief Executives	Education, Care & Health Services	Environment & Community Services
Other	7	13	15
Redundancies	4	101	9
Resignations	10	120	24
Retirement		16	9
Total	21	250	57

From 01/01/2015 to 31/12/2015	Department		
Leaver Reason	Chief Executives	Education, Care & Health Services	Environment & Community Services
Other	6	127	30
Redundancies	5	18	16
Resignations	12	118	32
Retirement	3	31	7
Total	26	294	85

From 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014	Department		
	Chief Executives	Education, Care & Health Services	Environment & Community Services
Leaver Reason			
Other	31	11	8
Redundancies	6	9	5
Resignations	8	117	33
Retirements	6	15	6
Total	51	152	52

(B) Redundancy costs By Department - Financial Years 2014/15 to 31/12/18
(The redundancy payment information is only available by financial year)

Total from 1 April 2014 to 31 December 2018

ECHS	453,614.82
ECS	442,502.00
CEX	464,746.73
TOTAL	1,360,863.55

2014/15	
ECHS	56,204.00
ECS	33,590.00
CEX	94,916.00
TOTAL	184,710.00

2015/16	
ECHS	178,169.00
ECS	157,993.00
CEX	143,851.00
TOTAL	480,013.00

2016/17	
ECHS	911,497.00
ECS	213,859.00
CEX	130,526.00
TOTAL	1,255,882.00

2017/18	
ECHS	191,140.00
ECS	37,060.00
CEX	19,446.00
TOTAL	247,646.00

2018/19	up to 31/12/18
ECHS	28,101.82
ECS	-
CEX	76,007.73
TOTAL	104,109.55

4. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Leader of the Council

Please provide the number of current vacancies, broken down by department.

Reply:

Department	Current Number of Vacancies
Chief Executives	27
Education, Care & Health Services	175
Environment & Community Services	39
Total	241

5. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management

How much has been spent in the last 2 years on refurbishing the toilets used by Children's Social Care staff?

Reply:

The toilets on the ground floor St Blaise were refurbished in 2017 at a cost of £36k. The building is predominantly, but not exclusively used by Children's Social Care staff and the toilets serve all staff in the building.

6. From Cllr Angela Wilkins to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation & Housing

Please provide detailed plans for how the £3.3m of s106 monies available for housing are actually going to be spent and when.

Reply:

Spending plans are more detailed where the s106 obligations approach short to medium term spending deadlines. In the case of Housing the Executive approved detailed expenditure plans close to the end of 2018, mainly comprising grants to Clarion for Affordable Housing provision in the Borough. These are subject to regular scrutiny by the E&RC PDS. The uses of s106 Affordable Housing funds are subject to approval in the usual way as for other Council expenditure.

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

What is the Council's policy in relation to advertising erected on Council owned properties, including fences to parks etc?

Reply:

The Council's policy is that all advertising erected on Council property should comply with the relevant Town Planning Acts with regard to size and duration of display. To ensure the content of any advertisements are acceptable, the Council has an advertising policy which is available online -

https://www.bromley.gov.uk/info/200116/websites/617/advertising_policy.

Specifically to Parks, all events through the application process require any advertisements to comply with all applicable planning requirements and this is further qualified with specific reference to the precise legislative requirements in the application information.

The Council also needs to receive a benefit, either through our advertising contracts, a paid for event in our parks or on behalf of a Friends Group. Friends Groups provide an extensive number of volunteer hours in our Parks, Greenspaces, Streets and Snow clearance.

8. From Cllr Nicholas Bennett JP to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing

If he has seen the article in the Times of February 14th 2019 by David Aaronovitch and the subsequent correspondence on Feb 15th, 17th, 18th and 19th regarding a statue for Richmal Crompton and her creation Just William and whether he will consider approaching Macmillan, the publishers of the William books and Wetherspoons, the owner of the Richmal Crompton pub at Bromley South to see whether they would be prepared to help sponsor a statue at this location?

Reply:

In short no, but I would be willing to endorse you in your role as the borough's Heritage Champion in pursuing your idea of attracting sponsorship for the creation of a statue.