

QUESTIONS TO THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ORAL RESPONSE

FROM COUNCILLOR NICHOLAS BENNETT JP

Question 1

Following the closure of the swimming pool at The Beckenham Spa on both January 5th and 12th without prior warning to the public, how many times in the past 12 months has the pool been closed and what was the reason given on each occasion?

Portfolio Holder's Response

The Council no longer holds the information you have requested because our relationship with My Time Active has changed. They are now leaseholders rather than contractors. However, on this occasion we have asked My Time to provide the information so that it can be reported to you this evening.

The following chart has been provided by My Time Active and distributed to the committee.

Month	Date	Reason	Duration of closure
January	nil	nil	nil
February	09/02/2019	child sick in TP	30 min
February	23/02/2019	child defecate in TP	1 hr
March	05/03/2019	child defecate in MP	90 mins
March	27/03/2019	child defecate in TP	50 mins
April	14/04/2019	High PH Main Pool	70 mins
April	16/04/2019	High PH Main Pool	2 hrs
April	18/04/2019	High PH Main Pool	6 hrs
April	18/04/2019	child sick in TP	45 mins
April	19/04/2019	Main Pool high PH & CHL	ALL DAY
April	20/04/2019	Main Pool high PH & CHL	ALL DAY
April	21/04/2019	Main Pool high PH & CHL	ALL DAY
April	22/04/2019	Main Pool high PH & CHL	ALL DAY
April	23/04/2019	Main Pool high PH & CHL	ALL DAY
April	24/04/2019	Main Pool high PH	9.5 hrs
April	26/04/2019	Main Pool high PH	10.5 hrs
April	27/04/2019	Main pool high PH	4 hrs
April	29/04/2019	Main pool high PH	7.5 hrs
May	03/05/2019	Teaching pool high CHL	5.5 hrs
May	21/05/2019	child defecated in TP	1 hr
June	04/06/2019	Main Pool high PH	3.5 hrs
June	29/06/2019	child sick in TP	30 mins
July	01/07/2019	Teaching pool high CHL	ALL DAY
July	02/07/2019	Teaching pool high CHL	12.5 hrs

July	23/07/2019	Teaching pool high CHL	10hrs
July	24/07/2019	Teaching pool high CHL	9.5 hrs
July	25/07/2019	Power Cut MP & TP Closed	ALL DAY
July	27/07/2019	Teaching pool high CHL	ALL DAY
July	28/07/2019	Teaching pool high CHL	ALL DAY
July	31/07/2019	Teaching pool floor broken	ALL DAY
August	01/08/2019	Teaching pool floor broken	ALL DAY
August	12/08/2019	teaching pool high CHL	2hrs
August	22/08/2019	child sick in TP	30mins
September	01/09/2019	Child sick in MP	30 mins
September	09/09/2019	MP high water temp	ALL DAY
September	16/09/2019	High PH Main Pool	ALL DAY
September	16/09/2019	Teaching Pool high CHL	ALL DAY
September	17/09/2019	Teaching Pool high CHL	ALL DAY
September	22/09/2019	Teaching pool low CHL high PH	1hr
September	22/09/2019	Child sick in MP	45min
October	08/10/2019	High PH Main Pool	4 hrs
October	13/10/2019	High PH Main Pool	ALL DAY
November	12/11/2019	Customer sick in MP	30 mins
November	25/11/2019	child defecated in TP	1 hr
December	10/12/2019	Customer defecated in MP	4 hrs
December	16/12/2019	Insufficient Lighting	4 hrs
December	31/12/2019	High PH Main Pool	4 hrs
January	12/01/2020	Low chlorine readings	ALL DAY
January	13/01/2020	Low chlorine readings	ALL DAY
January	14/01/2020	Low chlorine readings	6hrs

Supplementary Question

This is not a complete list as in addition to the closures noted above the swimming pool was closed all day on 11/01/2020 for a gala. Does the Portfolio Holder agreed that this is unsatisfactory?

Portfolio Holder's Response

I cannot but agree. Officers are in consultation with Mytime Active about this issue and a fuller answer will be provided to Councillor Bennett in due course.

Question 2

What steps has Mytime Active made to create an electronic system by email, website, messaging or other means to alert members when the pool is closed?

Portfolio Holder's Response

According to My Time - Staff members at all sites have been trained, and have access to website and social media platforms, in order to communicate live service updates and other relevant messages to customers directly. These channels are managed at a local level, to ensure communications can be reactive and timely to customers. Additionally, email and text messages can be used by the Central Marketing team for the purposes of communicating planned works/events or in an emergency situation.

Supplementary Question

Is the Portfolio Holder aware that as a member of MyTime Active I have never received any electronic communication about planned closure? The last Tweet is dated 14/08/2019 and there has been no attempt to keep the website up-to-date. Will the Portfolio Holder take up these issues with MyTime?

Portfolio Holder's Response

The Portfolio Holder confirmed that he has not been aware and would certainly take up the issues with MyTime.

Question 3

What steps has Mytime Active taken to ensure that the small pool at the Spa can be used by the public in the event of the main pool being unavailable for any reason?

Portfolio Holder's Response

According to My Time - Subject to programming and sufficient staffing resource the learner pool should be made available to users should the main pool be unavailable. This will also be taken up with MyTime.

Supplementary Question

Is the Portfolio Holder aware that when there was a swimming gala no attempt was made to provide alternative swimming provision? Councillor Bennett also drew to the Portfolio Holder's attention concerns around safety at the swimming pool as noting that he had needed to speak to the Duty Manager about lifeguards not paying proper care and attention whilst on duty.

Portfolio Holder's Response

Councillor Morgan shared Councillor Bennett's concerns around the safety implications of lifeguards not paying due care and attention and provided reassurances that all the issues raised would be taken up with MyTime.

FROM COUNCILLOR JOSH KING

Please provide a timetable for the RIBA Stage 2 study on the relocation of Beckenham Library, including an estimate of the date when this study will be available to this PDS?

Portfolio Holder's Response

The viability study is expected to be undertaken between February and May. The dates for next financial year's committees have not yet been published however it is expected that a report will be taken to a June meeting.

FROM ALISA IGOE

Question 1

In light of the Renewal Committee Minutes 6 March 2019 stating Bromley libraries have the third highest issuing service in London, could the Portfolio Holder please explain why (as is similarly being considered for Beckenham Library) Chislehurst Library is again being marketed for sale, with the possibility of demolition?

Portfolio Holder's Response

If a new Library is built on the current Chislehurst Library site it may be necessary to move the library to an interim site as was the case when the new Biggin Hill Library was built. The specification for this project states that a temporary modular facility or shop will be provided of sufficient size to accommodate a minimum of half of the existing library stock, with a request service is available for Customers requiring access to wider stock during this period. The minimum size for the interim library should be at least 200m².

Supplementary Question

If the library is indeed demolished would it be subject to the Supplementary Planning Guidance for the conservation area?

Portfolio Holder's Response

The Portfolio Holder confirmed that the relevant planning committee would take into account all planning considerations including supplementary planning guidance.

Question 2

Chislehurst Library redevelopment: Could you please explain how the interim library, this redevelopment will necessitate, can fulfil the current and ongoing Council obligations for library services in Chislehurst, since it will be a third of

current size, hold only half the 17,000 books and have no space for the annual 336 community events.

Portfolio Holder's Response

We accept that the library offer will be diminished for a temporary period however this will enable the long term goal of delivering a new and better library for Chislehurst to be achieved.

Supplementary Question

336 community events are held at the library each year. The proposed number of square meters for the interim library is less than half the current floor space. Does the Portfolio Holder consider there is sufficient space and for how long would the interim arrangements be in place?

Portfolio Holder's Response

If the demolition happens, it will only happen once contracts have been exchanged and planning permission granted. The interim library would be there for the length of time it takes to build the new library, which the Portfolio Holder estimated to be around 1½ to 2 years.

FROM PAMELA HICKS

Question 1

At page 103, it sets out that the estimated the part-year savings for the York Rise Modular Units will be £196,000. What is the estimated net saving per annum for the Burnt Ash Lane car park development taking account of the estimated £3,786,000.000 cost of developing the site and any other costs that may be incurred such as fees to any housing management provider?

Portfolio Holder's Response

As set out in the Contract Award Report (Part 1, DR19/044a 2 August 2019, Executive), the expected annual savings for the Burnt Ash Lane development, are £214k per annum.

Supplementary Question

Is it possible to have a copy of the report?

Portfolio Holder's Response

Yes, it is a part 1 report and I will ask Officers to forward a copy to you following the meeting.

Question 2

Is the pre-planning application, referred to at page 133, in respect of the Burnt Ash Lane development available to the public? When will the planning application be submitted?

Portfolio Holder's Response

The planning application is expected to be submitted by the end of January 2020, when it will be available for the public to view. As to the report from the pre-ap meeting, the Portfolio Holder was unsure whether this was a public document but if not, then it could certainly be made available. Ms Bowrey confirmed that any issues raised in the pre-ap discussion had been incorporated in the plans submitted with the planning application