COUNCIL MEETING

24th February 2020

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR ORAL REPLY

1. From Cllr Kieran Terry to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management

How much debt interest did the London Borough of Bromley pay during 2019? In answering please indicate how much debt The London Borough of Bromley carries and a comparison to other neighbouring local authorities.

2. From CIIr Angela Wilkins to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

Is he confident that the provision of £875k in 2020-21 (with no funding provision for future years) is adequate to deliver this Council's target of its direct activities being carbon neutral by 2029?

3. From CIIr Josh King to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing

The Library Service recently had an issue with online renewals where items were not renewed for the expected period. Can the Portfolio Holder give dates when GLL were aware of the issue and when Library Contract managers were informed.

4. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing:

Can the Portfolio Holder explain why councillors are not invited to the Tackling Homelessness meeting or Forum on 11 March 2020?

5. From CIIr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management

How many freedom passes issued to Bromley residents have been deactivated since the start of the year, and why was this done ahead of their stated expiry date in March?

6. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing

When were you first aware that the Supplementary Planning Guidance for the Elm Road Conservation Area, where Beckenham Library stands includes the following words:-

"All the principle buildings are deemed to make a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area and therefore the Council will resist demolition of any building".

7. From Cllr Vanessa Allen to the Chairman of General Purposes and Licensing Committee

The report on Members' Allowances states "the allowance for Leader of the Council should be increased to £40,000 to reflect the extent of the responsibility, the pressures and the competencies required for the role". Please would the Chairman of General Purposes and Licensing Committee describe the competencies required?

8. From Councillor Kevin Brooks to the Portfolio Holder Adult Care and Health

Will the Portfolio Holder please provide an update on how far Penge residents will have to travel to see a G.P if the Trinity Medical Centre in Croydon Road closes?

9. From Cllr Kieran Terry to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

How much waste did Bromley Council send to landfill during the period September-December 2019?

10. From CIIr Angela Wilkins to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation & Housing

Indoor bowling facilities at the Cyphers Club in Penge have ceased and Crystal Palace Indoor Bowls Club (CPIB) are facing the prospect of closing within the next two years because of increasing costs. Both clubs provide valuable social and health benefits for our Borough, and in particular for our older residents.

The CPIB own their own site, one that has the potential to provide in excess of 50 new housing units which, if 'affordable', could assist the Council in meeting the policy requirement of the Mayor of London in relation to housing development proposed by LBB for Crystal Palace Park.

Is he prepared to give his assurance that he will undertake to explore the range of options available to both retain indoor bowling facilities in the Crystal Palace / Penge area and to think imaginatively about how the potential of much needed housing provision can be simultaneously delivered?

11. From Cllr Josh King to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management

A recent report (https://brave.com/ukcouncilsreport/) has shown that some councils websites allow firms to track user information when users seek assistance. When did the Portfolio Holder become aware of this and what is being done to rectify this?

12. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing

The new LBB Housing IT system demands that everyone on the Housing Register must reapply via the new portal. Why haven't we been able to exclude people with severe mobility issues in this reapplication?

13. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

What has been the annual cost of the Council's Carbon Monitoring Unit from its inception to the end of this financial year?

14. From Cllr Ian Dunn to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

How did the Council respond to the recent public consultation on the Bakerloo Line Extension?

15. From Cllr Kevin Brooks to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services

Will the Portfolio Holder be able to ensure idverde provide the necessary repairs to Alexandra Recreation Ground's paddling pool in time for summer?

16. From Cllr Vanessa Allen to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation & Housing

LBB adopted its Local Plan a year ago, and has an agreed 5 Year Housing Land Supply. Please will the Portfolio Holder outline what he is doing to encourage and enable housebuilding on the sites identified in these documents?