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## **COUNCIL MEETING**

**7<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

### **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR ORAL REPLY**

**1. From Cllr Nicholas Bennett to the Leader of the Council**

What is the debt and any interest paid by council taxpayers in Bromley compared with neighbouring boroughs?

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

Many London Boroughs have spent close to £1m on contact tracing. Apparently Bromley's expenditure on this work is extremely low because existing staff have been diverted to it. This is a tribute to our staff, but what work isn't being done as a consequence and what is the financial "opportunity cost" of this to the Council?

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

In the past three months two papers, for the Redevelopment of Chislehurst Library and the Energy Services Contract were initially published as Part 2 (Confidential) only, in spite of substantial public interest in both of these papers. It was only after significant pressure from Councillors and members of the public that Part 1 (Public) versions were published, containing the vast majority of information in the original papers.

Why were these Part 1 (Public) papers not published with the original meeting agendas?

**4. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing:**

Could the Portfolio Holder please explain on what basis the eligibility criteria for applications to the Bromley Welfare Fund were set and when they were last renewed?

**5. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation & Housing:**

One of my recent caseworks concerned an elderly couple who are now homeless because they refused to be relocated from Penge to Gravesend. Can the Council's policy be amended to ensure elderly local residents are not moved away from their support networks to remote locations?

**6. From Cllr Josh King to the Portfolio Holder for Environment & Community Services**

Given the Government's announcement that the purchase of new petrol and diesel cars will be banned from 2030 what is the Council doing to accelerate the provision of publicly accessible charging points for electric vehicles?

**7. From Cllr Kevin Brooks to the Portfolio Holder for Environment & Community Services**

Would the Portfolio Holder please outline the Council's strategy on leaf clearance? Are there multiple clearances or is the policy to wait until all leaves have fallen?

**8. From Cllr Simon Fawthrop to the Portfolio Holder for Environment & Community Services**

Has the Portfolio Holder read the report in the Economics and Human Biology Journal which demonstrates that cycles lanes are on the whole poor value for money, and that if spending increased at the same rate for the next 10 years there would only be a 1% increase in commuter cycling.

**9. From Cllr Nicholas Bennett to the Leader of the Council**

What consultation did Transport for London and neighbouring local authorities undertake with the Council regarding the closure of streets and the narrowing of roads during the summer of 2020?

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

Is this Council going to be one of those trialling mass testing?

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

Information provided at the November meeting of the Environment & Community Services PDS Committee showed no downward movement in the number of people killed or seriously injured on Bromley's roads over the last three years. What will the Portfolio Holder do to get this number moving firmly downwards in the coming years?

**12. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Environment & Community Services**

Following the Government's announcement of an additional £175 million for councils to provide walking and cycling infrastructure, how does Bromley Council plan to consult local communities, as required as part of the conditions for schemes, and when will this consultation process begin?

**13. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Leader of the Council**

The Metropolitan Police are taking bold steps to recruit more black police officers and ensure that institutional racism is wiped out in the police force.

Can you advise if Bromley Council are undertaking any work or additional training to ensure that the diversity of our communities are reflected?

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

Will the Portfolio Holder endorse the End our Cladding Campaign organised by Inside Housing and The Sunday Times?

<https://www.insidehousing.co.uk/news/news/end-our-cladding-scandal-campaign-relaunches-with-10-step-plan-to-tackle-mounting-crisis-68020>

**15. From Cllr Kevin Brooks to the Portfolio Holder for Adult Care and Health**

Over the last few years and accelerated under Covid, the number of respite centres in Bromley has dramatically decreased. While praise must go to Bromley Well, they have been overwhelmed and therefore their support is limited. What are the Council doing to improve respite for the large number of Bromley Carers?