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Council

10 October 2022

Questions from Members of the Council for Written Reply

1. From Cllr Mike Jack to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety

Like a lot of areas in our Borough Chislehurst has a number of residents with mobility issues, which can make getting around a huge challenge. The main reasons are that lack of drop kerbs, positioning of street furniture, uneven surfaces, and steep cambers. In a lot of cases these obstacles put our vulnerable residents in high-risk situations, such as having to use the road or worse not being able to go out at all. I have been told these problems will only be addressed when footpaths are reconstructed and that currently there is no budget available to address these issues

In light of Bromley's Corporate plan where our vision is to make Bromley a fantastic place to live and work, where everyone can lead healthy, safe, and independent lives can you let me know if/when there are plans to make money available across the borough so issues like this can be resolved, giving residents with mobility issues – their own independence and keeping them safe.

2. From Cllr Tony McPartlan to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal Recreation and Housing

Despite the issues with the Zed Pods in Plaistow, it is good to see the Council building and delivering their own affordable homes in Plaistow, Chislehurst and Anerley. The Local Plan 2019 and other subsequent documents highlighted multiple other sites that could be used for this purpose. Please provide an update on all of the proposed sites, detailing what role (if any) each site will play in the future delivery of affordable housing.

3. From Cllr Alisa Igoe to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety

Cycle to School Week was 3–7 October. Our excellent cycle training team teach school children Bikeability Levels 1, 2 and 3, with the latter covering road conditions, responding to hazards and challenging traffic scenarios. Could you please list by location both the non-segregated and segregated cycle lanes that have been installed directly linking to Bromley school sites, since beginning of 2018?

4. From Cllr Mark Smith to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety

Utility companies are routinely fined if their roadworks overrun without a valid extension. Residents of Chislehurst Ward has been particularly inconvenienced by series of water leaks, have resulted in Thames Water digging up many roads to carry out repairs.

Could he therefore confirm:

How much the Council have received from utility companies in fines in the last twelve months?

How this money will be allocated for the benefit of Chislehurst residents to compensate for the inconvenience of blocked roads and reduced water supplies?

5. From Cllr Chloe-Jane Ross to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing

Has the government contacted Bromley Council regarding hosting one of the new Investment Zones, and if not is this something the Council is looking to pursue?

6. From Cllr Chloe-Jane Ross to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety

Is Bromley Council planning to reduce the availability of car park ticketing machines in favour of the Ringo app? If so what provisions are being made for the digitally excluded, and what % reduction of machines is anticipated?

7. From Cllr Kathy Bance to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Families

Please provide statistics for Bromley pupil exclusions for the past 5 years per ward and school order.

8. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Public Protection and Enforcement

In each of the past four years, could you please provide data for how many complaints or reports of unsatisfactory living conditions has the Council received from Bromley residents placed into Housing Association and private accommodation, broken down by the Housing Association or private landlord/lettings company they relate to?

9. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing

How many residents have presented to the Council as homeless each month since the moratorium on evictions implemented by the Government during the pandemic ended, and of these, how many became homeless as a result of receiving a 'section 21' eviction?

10. From Cllr Rebecca Wiffen to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management

The government's Energy Bill Relief Scheme is likely to fall short of enabling charities and local community organisations to pay rising bills over the coming weeks. As a result, not-for-profit local hubs that provide invaluable services to the communities they serve will have to close their doors. What support can Bromley Council provide organisations that find themselves in these circumstances, such as the Sanderson Hall in St Paul's Cray?

11. From Cllr Ruth McGregor to the Portfolio Holder for Resources, Commissioning and Contract Management

Could you please advise the number of cases of council tax debt referred to external enforcement agents for recovery, and the recovery rates for these, and what proactive steps are taken to facilitate payment of the debt before proceeding with court hearings. Also do you have figures for the number of complaints made against enforcement agents?

12. From Cllr Mark Smith to the Leader of the Council

What steps has the borough taken in the last 12 months to fulfil its obligations in respect of the Armed Forces Covenant it signed up to in April 2013?