(C)

Council

17 July 2023

Questions from Members of the Council for Written Reply

1. From Cllr Kathy Bance MBE to the Portfolio Holder for Public Protection and Enforcement

Can we be assured that officers will do all they can to prosecute those responsible for cutting down trees with TPOs?

2. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Families

Does the Council have figures for how many looked after children, born between September 2002 and January 2011, received Government funds into their Child Trust Funds (CTFs) and as Corporate Parents did Bromley Council contribute money into their CTFs?

3. From Cllr Simon Jeal to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Families

What action has the Council taken to ensure care leavers and looked after young people who received Child Trust Funds and have turned 18, or will do soon, are aware of and can access the money within their CTF?

4. From Cllr Graeme Casey to the Leader of the Council

Will the Council commit to demanding an explanation from Royal Mail as to why some areas are receiving such a poor service from the Royal Mail? We have had reports of some residents having to wait 10 days or more for their post.

5. From Cllr Graeme Casey to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

Can the Portfolio Holder please confirm the replacement rate for newly planted trees across the borough? The street where I live previously had six trees replaced due to vandalism and is due to have three of those replaced once again for the same reason. Is this an issue across the borough? Of the trees planted in public areas, how many of those have died within 12 months of being planted, and how many have been replaced?

6. From Cllr Sam Webber to the Portfolio Holder for Public Protection and Enforcement

There has been much discussion of Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) in the media recently and their impact on homeowners and landlords. However is the Council aware of how EPCs now affect commercial properties?

As of April 2023, it is illegal to let or continue to let any building with an EPC rating lower than 'E' (on a scale of A-G) under the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (or MEES) rules. The minimum standards level is expected to rise over the coming years to 'C' in 2027 and 'B' in 2030. As the ultimate enforcer for these measures, I understand the Council has the power to issue fines ranging between £5,000-£150,000.

How will Officers work to enforce these standards, to ensure that commercial property stock locally is improved and made more energy efficient? Is this something our Enforcement team is already working on alongside other agencies? Do Officers anticipate any extra income for the Council as a result of non-compliant commercial properties?

7. From Cllr Tony McPartlan to the Portfolio Holder for Renewal, Recreation and Housing, for written reply

Please detail how much money was initially awarded to schemes as part of the local parades improvement initiative, and please detail how much of this has yet to be spent. Please split this out by ward.

8. From Cllr Julie Ireland to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety

When will the Council be undertaking a review of progress against the objectives set out in the 2019 LIP "Bromley's Transport for the Future"?

9. From Cllr Julie Ireland to the Portfolio Holder for Transport, Highways and Road Safety

In the 2019 LIP "Bromley's Transport for the Future" the then Portfolio Holder promised "the development of a new public transport infrastructure in the Borough to provide new connectivity to other parts of London and Kent". What progress has been made towards this objective in the 4 years since the report was published?

10. From Cllr Chloe-Jane Ross to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability, Green Services and Open Spaces

Residents have reported concern about recent sewage discharge into the River Ravensbourne and River Beck, how does Bromley Council work with Thames Water to ensure our rivers are clean and what reporting does Thames Water provide to the Council when such discharge occurs?

11. From Cllr Chloe-Jane Ross to the Chairman of General Purposes and Licensing Committee

Will Bromley Council ensure that reminders about Voter ID are put into the upcoming Environment Matters Newsletter and any other publication going out to all households in the borough before the next Mayoral and General Elections?