

## Appendix A - Council Questions and Answers - 28 July 2015

The running order of questions is collated by which party provides the first questions.

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
1	Cllr Brian Gordon	Could you please give us your brief assessment of the General Election result, and how this will impact on the people of this Borough?	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> The election result was clear and decisive, in Barnet and nationally. It was an endorsement of the work done by the Conservatives in the Coalition and of the plans laid out in the manifesto. Locally, it was a further endorsement of the achievements of our three excellent MPs and the council. It was a dismal night for Labour and a total rejection of their policies. The result will lead to a recovery in the nation's finances and the delivery of essential reform.	Would you agree that the result of the General Election which we are all benefiting from is a complete rejection of socialism and that looking at the way the Labour Party is going at the moment it would be detrimental were Labour to be elected again?	Yes.
2	Cllr Alison Moore	In light of the increasing importance the voluntary and community sector will play in the face of public sector cuts, will the Leader name a councillor Champion to ensure that the sector feels better valued by the council?	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> The Community Leadership Committee was set up to consider issues relating to Barnet's voluntary and community sector. The sector is Championed by Cllr David Longstaff, the Chairman of the Community Leadership Committee.	Does the leader really believe that the chair of committee that is voting to allocate money is really the best champion to scrutinise and challenge on behalf of the voluntary sector in Barnet?	Yes.

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3	Cllr Brian Gordon	We have been told that Barnet residents can now access details of all parking restrictions in the Borough on a new website called Trafficweb. It will help motorists find out where they can park free, and view yellow line restrictions for each street. Can a similar service be supplied as far as possible by telephone?	<p><b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of Environment Committee</b></p> <p>It is currently possible to access the Traffweb application with the use of a smart phone. No the technology is only available on the web address <a href="http://www.barnettraffweb.co.uk">www.barnettraffweb.co.uk</a> but it is mobile friendly and can be used on any smart phone.</p>	Do you not think we should be a little bit more concerned about the use of telephones? Not everybody has the technology which is necessary to access this information.	Yes, we are aware that not everyone has a phone but this is for those people who want that extra facility and that is now made available to them.
4	Cllr Barry Rawlings	Will the Leader welcome the lifting of the threat of closure of the Cricklewood walk-in centre? Given that it is the only site providing a 7 day a week GP surgery, which was a key pledge in the Tory General Election manifesto, is he surprised that the Child's Hill conservative councillors failed to support the campaign earlier this year to save it?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b></p> <p>The CCG announced this week that it would not be proceeding with consultation on the closure of the walk in centre service based at the Cricklewood health centre, which also includes a GP practice. The CCG will instead be maintaining the walk in centre while they develop a new urgent care strategy and seek to identify resources to develop extended opening hours in primary care, which they consider will reduce the need for walk in centre provision. NHS England, the commissioner of GPs, has also changed the contract of the GP service based at the same centre to make it easier for them to register new patients. This means that patients may now register with a regular GP at the same location, as opposed to using the walk in</p>	Given that the surgery is the only one that fulfils the government pledge, I ask him again; is he surprised that the conservative councillors failed to support its retention?	Cllr Rawlings is being disingenuous. He knows that Cllr Ryde had a full role in supporting this and his work was done in the proper way, without the political 'brew-ha-ha' and we can congratulate him on being successful.

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			centre on an' as and when' basis.		
5	Cllr Brian Gordon	There was recently a report from the Family Rights Group claiming that almost half of siblings in care have been split up. This is an undesirable state of affairs. Have we statistics that show Barnet's record on this subject?	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b></p> <p>In response to the question about the statistics for Barnet on siblings in care being split up, the social work assessment of whether it is in the best interests of siblings to be placed together or apart is central. As such, there are three parts to the answer. The data below is for the 2014-15 year and is information submitted as part of Barnet's fostering Ofsted data return 2015;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 sibling groups that were assessed to be placed together were placed together. This is 41 children</li> <li>• 3 sibling groups that were assessed to be placed together were placed apart. This is 7 children</li> <li>• 1 sibling group that was assessed to be placed apart were placed apart. This is 5 children</li> </ul>	Would Cllr Thompstone agree the importance of keeping siblings together as much as possible in adoption issues is all part and parcel of our belief in the centrality and the importance of traditional family values?	I agree where it is in the best interest of each of the individual children.

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6	Cllr Paul Edwards	Council Rents in Barnet are in the range of £700 per calendar month for 3 bed property, compared to £1500 in the private sector. Many households in Barnet will have to pay an increase of more than 100% in their rent as a result of the recent Budget; does the Leader feel this is fair, just and reasonable?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> I do not think the taxpayer should keep some people who do not need help in a subsidised rental when the taxpayer may be worse off.</p>	Given that the people who are affected by the changes in the budgets also pay income tax and indirect taxation, does the Leader feel that tax-payers and those in receipt of housing benefit are distinct groups of people?	Of course, not necessarily.
7	Cllr Brian Gordon	Have we found that an increasing number of motorists have adapted to the cashless method of parking with the use of mobile phones, and is there still a significant demand for the return of a cash machine option?	<p><b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of Environment Committee</b> The statistics for the last quarter shows the following split in regard to payment methods being used:</p> <p>On street transactions: 86.75% Pay by Phone transactions, 10.25% Credit/Debit Card Machines and 3% Other (Paypoint and Scratchcards)</p> <p>Off Street (Car Parks): 56.5% Pay by Phone, 41.5% Credit/Debit Card Machines and 2% Other (Paypoint and Scratchcards)</p> <p>This shows that the number of transactions using the Pay by Phone service is steady and</p>	Are our traffic officers being trained to become more user friendly and more responsive to being adaptable to the public?	Yes, they are fully trained.

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			<p>the use of the Credit/Debit Card Machines is increasing. When combined this shows a positive trend of an increased number of transactions and hence more visitors in our Town Centres. The parking service is not receiving many requests for cash machines and when they do, the alternative cash methods of using Paypoint and Scratchcards is promoted.</p>		
8	Cllr Devra Kay	<p>Would the Leader assure me that that he will make every effort to ensure that the problems being experienced by residents now moved into the new-build social housing flats on the West Hendon Estate over the past weeks, such as the failure of the telephone system to work and a similar failure of the emergency pendants for the disabled and vulnerable, as well as the general lack of security which is allowing gangs to break in and run riot in the corridors, will be dealt</p>	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> It is important such issues are monitored and help is given to people where it is needed.</p>	<p>As issues have been monitored for months, can the Leader please tell me when residents will have working phones, the disabled and elderly pendant to link them to the emergency services and when access will be made secure to stop gangs entering the premises?</p>	<p>I am sure with the councillor's support we can ensure that is done rapidly.</p>

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		with as a matter of urgency for the sake of the health and safety of the residents. I turn to the Leader because every other avenue has been explored to no avail.			
9	Cllr Graham Old	What conclusions did London Councils' Transport and Environment Committee reach about the impact of parking on the high street?	<p><b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of Environment Committee</b></p> <p>At its meeting on 18th June, London Councils' Transport and Environment Committee Labour Boroughs unanimously backed a collective response to the DCLG's consultation on parking reforms. Within this response it was clearly stated that the impact of parking on the high street has been 'overstated', pointing out that 'shopkeepers consistently overestimate the share of their customers coming by car...by as much as 400%'. It stressed that there is 'no such thing as free parking' as, ultimately, the cost must be borne by the taxpayer. In any case, it concluded that mandatory free parking periods 'would be damaging for high streets'. Instead, it advocated authorities setting prices to achieve 85% occupancy, to maximise access by encouraging turnover. This supports Barnet's current approach. [TEC comprises representatives of each local authority in London and is Labour controlled.]</p>	Does Barnet's Labour Group speak to and learn from their colleagues in other boroughs before criticising Barnet's approach?	They are clearly detached from the rest of the Labour Party.

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10	Cllr Charlie Omacaulley	<p>According to the Met's crime figures as published on their website there has been a sharp increase in crimes of violence against the person in Barnet – 6156 (year to May 2015) compared with 4762 the year before. Would the Leader advise what explanation there is for the increase and what role the council is playing in helping the police reduce violent crime in Barnet?</p>	<p><b>Cllr David Longstaff, Chairman of the Community Leadership Committee</b>  Barnet Borough Chief Superintendent Adrian Usher has confirmed the following: The increase in recorded violence in Barnet exactly mirrors that of the increase seen across all London Boroughs. All these increases began at exactly the same time in October last year. Experience tells the police that crime does not actually increase or decrease in that way and therefore this was likely to be a process issue. At about the same time last year Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary's had released an inspection report into the way the MPS recorded crime and made some recommendations. It is certain that the implementation of these caused differences to the way crime is recorded and thus accounts for the significant majority of the increase if not all of it. This is backed up by the local ambulance service telling the police that they have not seen a rise in calls to violence and the NHS telling the police they have not seen an increase in casualty admissions for violence.  For context the borough commander provided an example of the difference in reporting. Prior to October last year if a patrol car was informed by a member of the public that they had just seen people fighting a few hundred yards away and the officers then drive there and didn't find a fight the result given to the control room would have been</p>	No Supplementary	N/A

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			<p>'No Trace'. Since the change in the way the police now have been asked to record incidents, they would now record the incident as a crime because a member of the public had said there had been a fight and there was no other evidence to suggest there hadn't been.</p>		
11	Cllr Graham Old	Can the Leader update Council about the progress made on the redevelopment of the Old Barn and the rehousing of the Somali Bravenese community centre there?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  The Council has been working with the Somali Bravenese and local community groups to develop the design for a new two storey community centre which will provide shared space and facilities for community groups as well as provide a new home for the Somali Bravenese Welfare Group following an arson attack at Coppetts Road Community Centre in June 2013. The new design will allow much of the existing green space to be retained and further enhanced.</p> <p>Two public exhibitions will take place on 22nd &amp; 25th July as pre-application consultation in order to offer an opportunity for residents to ask questions about the draft plans, as well as provide feedback to help us further develop the design.</p> <p>Once we have gathered feedback detailed design will take place. It is intended that a planning application is submitted in September 2015, with a view to gaining planning permission by the end of the year.</p>	Would the Leader agree that this shows that here in Barnet we will not give any comfort to extremists ...	It is very important and heart-warming when councillors from across the Chamber attend functions in a synagogue, supporting the Somali Bravenese community. It is very important that we get these done and get it done in such a way that it settles peacefully for all concerned.



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			<p>This development opportunity represents a significant investment by the Council in providing important new local facilities to serve a wide range of community needs and meet corporate plan objectives.</p> <p>The layout that is currently being developed is for a two storey building, effectively split vertically down the middle, with each side accessible from a shared atrium. The proposal is that one side of the building will be predominantly for the Somali Bravenese, as a replacement for their old facility, and the other half will be for the wider community to use but the building design will allow each side to share each other's facilities easily. The new design will allow much of the existing green space to be retained and there are real opportunities to make that space much better or community use. Ideas are still being developed and it is our intention to seek the input of the local community via two public exhibitions. The first exhibition is to be held at Martin Primary School, Plane Tree Walk, East Finchley, on Wednesday 22nd July between 4pm and 8pm. The second will be held on 25th July from 10am to 12.30pm at the Ann Owens Centre, Oak Lane, East Finchley. Once we have gathered feedback, detailed design will take place and a planning application submitted in September, with a view to gaining planning permission in</p>		

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			November. Assuming funding arrangements are finalised concurrently with planning, we then hope to start on site in December 2015 and to complete the building in Autumn 2016.		
12	Cllr Anne Hutton	In the light of the fact that there is only one potential provider left standing prepared to bid for the contract to deliver the Education & Skills services, would the Leader admit that the Tory Members on the CELS committee showed at best lack of foresight and at worst incompetency, at the committee meeting on 12 January this year, in voting against my Member's Item to establish a Working Group to develop 'In House' and 'Joint Venture' options, which at the very least, would have given bidders a 'benchmark' against which to develop their offers.	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> No. The benchmark in place is in the form of the council's aspirations.</p>	Which benchmark is referred to, please?	The council's aspirations.

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13	Cllr Val Duschinsky	How many new school places have been created in the borough in the last five years and how many more will need to be provided in the next five?	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of the Children, Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b></p> <p>Since 2009, 5,500 new primary school places and just under 2,000 new secondary school places have been created through expansions, new schools and new Free Schools. Going forward, it is projected that there will still be a need for new primary provision to meet the demand in growth and regeneration areas (around 270 new reception places) and around 690 new year 7 places (the equivalent of three or four secondary schools) for the additional pupils now in Barnet primary schools. This future need is anticipated to be met again through a mix of expansions to existing primary and secondary schools and new schools.</p>	In the context of the continuing need to provide new school places, do the agree that the behaviour of Labour councillors in relation to the Watling Park Academy have been both disappointing and regrettable	I will go further; I thought it was appalling.
14	Cllr Kathy Levine	Why is the deadline for objections to the planning application for Abbots depot so close, giving residents less than a month to submit objections during the summer holiday period?	<p><b>Cllr Daniel Thomas, Chairman of the Assets Regeneration and Growth Committee</b></p> <p>The consultation window opened 1<sup>st</sup> July. The Consultation period of 28 days is the standard period of consultation carried out by Barnet Council which exceeds the statutory requirement of 21 days. Notwithstanding this, in the interest of maximising the opportunity for local residents to provide feedback, the council will be extending the consultation window until Aug 20<sup>th</sup>. This means that in total the consultation window will be 43 days, which is double the</p>	No Supplementary	N/A

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			statutory requirement.		
15	Cllr Val Duschinsky	What has been the impact on children and families of the decision by Labour members to refer the ARG committee item related to the opening of a new primary school at Pavilion Way?	<p><b>Cllr Daniel Thomas, Chairman of the Assets Regeneration and Growth Committee</b></p> <p>The children who have applied for a school place at Watling Park Academy do not yet have certainty over the location of where the school will open. The Belle Vue Academy Trust are in regular contact with the families to offer reassurance with the aim of reducing any anxiety among the families about the potential impact on the start of their child's schooling.</p>	Had the decision been confirmed at the ARG meeting in early June, would the site have been ready for these children in September?	The school would have been ready in September and we would have avoided having 50 children and their families put into limbo.
16	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	What assessment has been made of the impact to local cafes and shops facing a hike in the cost of placing tables and chairs or goods on the street outside their business?	<p><b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of the Environment Committee</b></p> <p>The London Borough of Barnet adopted a street trading strategy to extend street trading to licensing table and chairs and shop front displays back in 2008. It utilised temporary licences for this and set a scheme of fees based on the size of the area used to trade.</p> <p>It was found that the existing arrangements for street trading were confusing to traders and inconsistent with the approach used elsewhere and that a review was needed to ensure that the strategy remained fit for purpose.</p> <p>We have noted that the most common feedback we have received from traders</p>	A very comprehensive answer but the one bit Cllr Cohen doesn't include is the fact that the charge for the smallest shops and cafes to have tables and chairs or goods outside their premises will go up by 175%. When will he actually do something to help small businesses and not hinder them?	The work is always going on to help small businesses in our high streets.

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			<p>about their issues with street trading are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) They would like more space to be able to trade in</li> <li>(2) The 6 months licences are an administrative burden on them</li> <li>(3) They would like to place advertising boards on the pavement</li> </ul> <p>In light of these we have developed a strategy that incorporates all of the above.</p> <p>The proposed policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Reduces the minimum free pavement requirement from 2.5 Metres to 2.0 Metres. (Which is more in line with other licensing authorities) allowing for traders to have a larger street trading area.</li> <li>(2) Moves from temporary licences to permanent licences. This allows licences to be granted to up to 3 years, dramatically reducing the burden on businesses. It also confers on the trader more rights in relation to their street trading pitch.</li> <li>(3) Allows for a 6 month trial on licensing advertising boards. These will be allowed in certain areas where they do not cause an obstruction to the public highway. There fee for this has initially been set at £140 per 6 months however if a trader wishes to place one within an already licensed street trading pitch they may, once permission is obtained, do so with no additional fee charged.</li> </ul> <p>We have also reviewed the fees charged for</p>		

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			<p>street trading. Currently there are 3 different fee scales for permanent, temporary and street markets and these are broken down into charges based upon the size of the area used. However the licensing process and so costs to deliver are the same for all temporary and permanent applications. The current fees (excluding street markets) range from £200 a year to £2500 a year, despite the same amount of work being put into each application. It is considered that one fee to cover all similar applications is fairer and more appropriate. The efficiency created by reducing from 6 monthly renewal of licences, has resulted in an overall cost reduction in delivering the licensing function, which results in a reduction overall in fees. The proposed fee will mean that the majority of persons who street trade will see a reduction in their fees.</p> <p>We have also reduced the fees charged in relation to street markets.</p>		
17	Cllr Val Duschinsky	What is the latest estimate of the cost to the council (and the taxpayer) that will result from delaying the decision on the Pavilion Way site?	<p><b>Cllr Daniel Thomas, Chairman of the Assets Regeneration and Growth Committee</b></p> <p>The cost of providing the temporary accommodation on the Pavilion Way site is being met by central government. To mitigate the impact of the children if it is not possible to provide the temporary accommodation on Pavilion Way site in time for a September</p>	No Supplementary	N/A

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			opening, the council is working with the Belle Vue Academy Trust on an alternative option which would cost the taxpayer in the region of an additional £30k - £50k.		
18	Cllr Geof Cooke	Labour councillors support the provision of a permanent building for the St Andrew the Apostle Greek Orthodox School as part of the development of North London Business Park N11. Do you agree the government would be letting down the local Greek community if it reneges on its promise to pay the full cost of accommodating the school as it grows?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> I am pleased that the Labour Group supports academies and free schools. This is good news for this school. I hope St Andrew the Apostle School can reach agreement with the owners of the site for an early delivery of the new building and that this very successful school will flourish.</p>	Do you agree that your evasion of the question indicates that you are planning to use Barnet's Community Infrastructure levy money instead of holding the government to its obligation and that that will be at the expense of spending on other local infrastructure?	No.
19	Cllr Hugh Rayner	Back garden developments and sleeping in sheds! - the problem is getting significantly worse as residents test and flout the permitted development rights for back garden building. Can you explain what steps are being taken	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> During the period 16/07/2014- 15/07/2015 planning enforcement received 83 complaints alleging that a garden building had been converted into a dwelling. This type of development accounted for approximately 5% of all complaints made during this period. It is anticipated that of these 83 allegations approximately 40 will be proven and will require some form of remedial action. In 10-20 of these cases a formal notice will need to</p>	Back garden planning breaches are on the increase. Whilst I am not keen on neighbours spying on neighbours, can I suggest that some form of neighbour reporting on other neighbours who are executing these breaches possibly be given to a hotline?	There is nothing to stop members of the public reporting such breaches. Indeed it would be helpful if they did so but perhaps I could suggest they do it to their local councillors who can then take an interest and make sure that something is done about

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		to counter this problem and advise whether enforcement has actually demolished any? In my experience residents simply reduce the height and re-designate as gymnasiums - until they go off enforcement radar!	be issued. It is rare that the council itself will demolish an unauthorised development but this step was taken in respect of two 'beds in sheds' cases in 2014, and it is hoped that a similar number of such requests will be brought to committee in the very near future. In a number of cases the owner will opt to reduce the height of a building and/or to evict his or her tenants in favour of a gym or similar in order to comply with planning stipulations. Once such steps have been taken it is rare, although not unknown, to receive complaints relating to a recommencement.		it.
20	Cllr Reema Patel	Barnet Council refuses to be involved with the negotiations between care workers and Your Choice Barnet. Can the Council explain why, in light of its 100% management control and ownership of Your Choice Barnet?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b></p> <p>The Barnet Group is an organisation with its own governing board, chairman and chief executive. Councillors from both the Conservative and Labour groups sit on the board of the Barnet Group and attend the meetings of the Your Choice Barnet Board. It is this Board which has made the decision about the terms and conditions of its workforce and it is the responsibility of the Boards of the Barnet Group and Your Choice Barnet to manage this employee relations issue.</p>	If the local authority has 100% management control of an organisation, doesn't the local authority have a responsibility to hold that organisation to account and indeed doesn't the term 'management control' imply that the local authority had a greater responsibility toward that organisation than any other kind of body?	It is an indirect organisational administration and Cllr Patel knows that well.



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21	Cllr Hugh Rayner	Can the leader please join me in congratulating Bellevue Place Education Trust on taking their first steps in establishing Watling Park School - a new free school on Pavilion Way - bringing an otherwise derelict site into use and providing both a much needed primary school for local children and in due course much needed sports facilities for use by the local community.	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  Yes, this is an important and beneficial project that we should all be supporting and driving forward.</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> June at the ARG Committee, despite a careful explanation from the chairman, Cllr Thomas, about the outcome of referring matters to the full council, the opposition council members of the committee insisted on doing so saying they could, so they would – I think those were the words used. Will he join my disappointment at the Opposition's lack of vision for the Pavilion Way site.</p>	<p>Yes and I feel for the parents concerned.</p>
22	Cllr Alison Moore	Can the Leader tell me how many Barnet Homes tenants have traded down each year for the past five years, what size their original and trade down properties were, what the average saving in rent was and what financial incentives were given?	<p><b>Cllr Tom Davey, Chairman of Housing Committee</b>  In the past 5 years 354 Barnet Homes Tenants have traded down. 10/11 – 79, 11/12 – 70, 12/13 – 50, 13/14 – 92, 14/15 – 63. Of the 354, 131 traded down from a 2 to a 1 bed, 65 from a 3 to a 1 bed, 126 from a 3 to 2 bed, 2 from a 4 to 1 bed, 16 from a 4 to a 2 bed, 10 from a 4 to a 3 bed, 1 from a 5 to a 2 bed, 1 from a 5 to a 4 bed, 1 from a 6 to a 3 bed, 1 from a 6 to a 4 bed. To achieve the 354 trade downs £644,000 has been paid as cash incentives. It is hard to compute individual savings.</p>	<p>Could the Leader or Chair tell me how many tenants are subject to the iniquitous 'bedroom tax' who want to downsize, have been unable to do so due to a lack of suitable properties?</p>	<p>There is no such thing as the 'bedroom tax' on the HMRC website.</p>

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23	Cllr Hugh Rayner	Can the Leader comment on the process of rehousing the displaced residents of Sweets Way?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  All bar one of the households from Sweets Way have been moved. 73 in total have been assisted by Barnet Homes with a move to alternative suitable accommodation. A possession order has only recently been granted for the final resident and they are due to be evicted in August. Barnet Homes is currently seeking suitable accommodation for this family with the aim of moving them prior to the eviction date. The majority of households from Sweets Way have been accommodated within Barnet.</p>	<p>Whilst appreciating the difficult situations many of the Sweets Way families find themselves in, may I nevertheless ask the Leader to join me in congratulating Barnet Homes and councillors from both sides of the chamber for the positive steps they took on behalf of displaced families in order to bring about housing solutions. Would the Leader also join me in condemning those who jumped on the Sweets Way bandwagon for political gain rather than to actually help families.</p>	<p>Yes and Yes.</p>
24	Cllr Barry Rawlings	How many flats have been built and are in the process of being built in previous office space? How much CIL has Barnet lost through this form of permitted development	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  The Council has processed a number of applications for Prior Approval. At present we are only aware of four sites currently under construction, but a planned review of commencements is timetabled for summer 2015 as part of our work on the housing trajectory within the borough, and to assist Council Tax collection data. The amount of CIL lost is difficult to determine as we don't know what the land use would otherwise have been.</p>	<p>Would the Leader agree that where there is such prior approval, given there are extra costs on housing, health, education, the government should have ensured that CIL was retained even if permission didn't have to go through a planning committee?</p>	<p>Whilst it's not for me to criticise the national government which is, of course, operating at a much higher pay grade than mine, the logic of losing CIL does seem very difficult for me to understand.</p>

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25	Cllr Hugh Rayner	We are spending lots of money beautifying our town centres with planters and trees and the results are spectacular, especially in Edgware where I live. A magnificent example of the council brightening up the lives of its residents! But can I please be assured that sufficient time and effort is being expended to keep these plants adequately watered in the hot weather?	<p><b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of the Environment Committee</b>  Yes. The majority of funding for the scheme has been raised by local businesses and the contract is managed by the local Town Team. It is a full maintenance contracts including watering.</p>	Is there any money left to beautify the best thing we have as a town centre in Hale Ward, that is the shops around the junction at Hale Lane and Deans Lane?	I will certainly take that away and essentially that can come back through the relevant area committee.
26	Cllr Nagus Narenthira	Would the Leader confirm how many children in Colindale have been allocated their first preference place at a school, and how many school places are available in Colindale ward compared with the number of children living in Colindale ward?	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of the Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b>  Total on-time Reception applications from active Colindale Ward postcode - includes all preferences ( 1-6)</p> <p>Successful 1st Preferences from an active Colindale postcode  Published Admission Number (PAN), by Primary School in the Colindale Ward:</p> <p>The Orion*: 202 &amp; 94 &amp; 120  Blessed Dominic: 65 &amp; 37 &amp; 60  Colindale: 163&amp; 61, &amp; 90</p>	Can Cllr Thompstone explain the figures? It's not very clear to me.	The figures very clearly: those total preferences in the first column; in the first preference in the second column; the third column is the published admission number for the school.

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			<p>Total: 430 &amp; 192, &amp; 270</p> <p>*The Orion is now located outside the Colindale Ward but the school priority area has not yet changed and currently covers the Colindale Ward.</p>		
27	Cllr Hugh Rayner	<p>Mr Dismore has asserted that the council's own ecology report makes it clear that clearance work (of the Pavilion Way school site) should not take place between the bird breeding months of March and September, and if the scheme for Watling Park School were to be approved it should be subject to a planning condition accordingly, so the school couldn't be built in time for this autumn anyway. The scheme has now been approved. Is Mr Dismore correct in his assertion?</p>	<p><b>Cllr Daniel Thomas, Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee</b></p> <p>No. The report on ecological matters provided with the planning application recommends that vegetation clearance associated with the development should take place either outside of the breeding bird season or under the supervision of an ecologist following the carrying out of a breeding bird survey. A condition requiring implementation of the development in accordance with this recommendation was placed on the planning permission granted on the 26th June 2015. There is no reason why the imposition of this condition would prevent the delivery of the school in time for autumn this year.</p>	<p>This is another case of the newspapers getting it wrong. Surely, it wouldn't have been difficult for the local newspaper to check the facts in the case before printing. Indeed, don't they have a responsibility to do so? What pressure can the council bring on local newspapers to check their facts, rather than printing terminological inexactitudes.</p>	<p>The council does have a press team that liaises with the local newspapers to ensure the facts are correct. Unfortunately it's up to the paper's editor as to whether they accept our submissions. But there is such a thing as editors' code and this council does encourage local papers to get their facts right otherwise we will take matters up with the regulator.</p>

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
28	Cllr Andreas Ioannidis	How many road traffic accidents have occurred on Oakleigh Road South since the beginning of the year?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> There has been one resulting in slight injury.</p>	Based on the answer, can the Leader please acknowledge that accident already occurring in Oakleigh Road South before even one of the hundreds of lorries that you intend to put ... the area?	But there will be less heavy goods vehicle movements.
29	Cllr Hugh Rayner	Grahame Park Way is increasingly becoming a major communication artery as Beaufort Park, Grahame Park, Aerodrome Road and Colindale Avenue developments expand together with the opening of Orion School. Can thought be given to freeing up traffic flow along Graham Park Way - as it is now with cars parked on either side it is impossible for two large vehicle try to pass - resulting in traffic chaos?	<p><b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of the Environment Committee</b> As part of current Highway Improvements to Grahame Park Way between Great Strand and the Aerodrome Roundabout, waiting restrictions are proposed to restrict parking and allow movement of traffic between these sections of road. Remaining sections of Grahame Park Way will be reviewed in due course as part of Barnet College redevelopment.</p>	My particular concern is the length of Grahame Park Way adjacent to Adrian Crescent. Please can Cllr Cohen provide a time scale when the parking restrictions will be in place?	I will have to get back to the member on that.
30	Cllr Amy Trevethan	The case for a joint venture model for Barnet's Education and Skill services rests on the assumption that	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of the Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b> Financial modelling of potential demand was undertaken as a cautious best estimate.</p>	Could the chairman confirm whether or not the likely new provider of school meals, ISS, has recently lost its catering contract with Woodbridge	That is a question for which the answer is in the public domain.

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
		<p>'income growth will increase by £9m over 5 years...through a combination of selling more services to schools...(and) to local authorities'. – CELS 12 January 2015, Agenda Item 7 - Appendix A – financial modelling summary. What market testing, if any, has been conducted to assess the level of demand for buying such these services from a joint venture with LBB?</p>	<p>Through the procurement process, it is the responsibility of the bidder to satisfy themselves that they can generate sufficient income to support their guarantee of the savings to the Council.</p>	<p>School who have dumped ISS in favour of a different provider?</p>	
31	Cllr John Marshall	<p>How does Barnet compare with other areas for social mobility?</p>	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of the Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b>  Barnet ranks among the very best areas in the country for social mobility. The Sutton Trust has developed a Social mobility Index measuring the attainment of children from disadvantaged backgrounds and their progression to higher education and professional occupations. Of the 533 parliamentary constituencies in England all three in Barnet come well within the top fifty, with Hendon in 10th and Chipping Barnet 2nd best nationally.</p>	<p>Would the councillor agree that as education is the escalator or opportunity, our excellent schools provide a major bonus for those seeking social mobility?</p>	<p>I completely endorse Cllr Marshall's comments.</p>

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
32	Cllr Jim Tierney	<p>In our recently adopted Local Plan, in policies CS4 and DM10, we accept the need to provide 40% affordable housing on applications for 10 units or more, or where the site covers 0.4 hectares or more. However the majority, if not all, of the planning applications for residential accommodation the planning committees have being asked to consider over the last few years fall far short of that target, sometimes a mere 10%, if that. Developers invariably claim that the number of affordable units offered is all the development can afford to remain viable and cite the existence of a 'confidential viability report' which however Committee Members never get sight of. Further to this</p>	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  The Council has signed up to a variety of viability review mechanisms in order to address the site-specific circumstances / issues around the viability of development. We monitor site commencements to ensure that viability review processes get underway at the appropriate time.</p> <p>There is not a simple answer to this in terms of the amount of financial contributions. In terms of present cases we have dealt with the sales values information at the Holcombe House and MIL site in Mill Hill, where the actual sales values did not trigger an additional contribution to affordable housing. We are also anticipating the commencement of a viability review process for the Former Turrets Public House development in New Southgate within the next few months. Additionally there are at least seven other developments with viability reviews that we know have commenced development. We are monitoring progress to ensure that the viability reviews will be completed at the relevant stage of development.</p>	<p>Not a very complete answer because he hasn't given any figures whatsoever. This financial viability agreement, I've been in planning applications for four years and he can't point to one where we had a payback. Can I ask him to try a bit harder because they have done it in Camden with the Brent Cross agreement and they have done it in Wandsworth where with the viability reassessment, they got £40m back. It can be done.</p>	<p>Of course, the viability studies are a deeply imperfect way of assessing housing provision financed by developments but we work within the system we have and Barnet is a high achieving borough in terms of what we actually get when compared with other boroughs that make a lot of noise but do less.</p>

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		<p>developers have taken to submitting what is generally referred to as an affordable housing review mechanism wherein they agree to review the viability of the scheme at a later stage and make a contribution to affordable housing then, if viable to do so. Could I ask the Leader therefore to inform the Council of the number of planning applications in recent years where the developer has honoured this agreement, made a further contribution, and the amounts paid?</p>			
33	Cllr John Marshall	<p>Could the Committee Chairman comment on the trial of the Open Plus library at Edware, which has increased opening hours by making the library accessible to users beyond staffed hours?</p>	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of the Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b>  The Open plus pilot is now operating at Edware Library. It is early days but around 150 library users have registered to use the service. Each session has so far attracted a number of users, ranging from people who want to study, use the PC's, browse the books and borrow and return items. The pilot</p>	No Supplementary	N/A



Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
			is being closely monitored and a report of the pilot will be considered by the Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee in September.		
34	Cllr Kathy Levine	Why is the council not making clear to residents just what will be involved in 'bulking' at the Abbots Depot? This involves tipping all the recycling rubbish from the refuse lorries onto the floor to be scooped up into 38 tonne lorries. It also involves tipping the food waste into open skips which are covered for onward transportation from the site.	<b>Cllr Daniel Thomas, Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee</b> The bulking facility has been clearly and accurately described during the early consultation process and in all public communications. The current arrangements at Mill Hill Depot were viewed by a party of residents and this same method will be continued at the new site. One additional improvement at Abbots Depot will be that the covered food containers will be located within the bulking facility building, not in the open as they are at Mill Hill Depot.	Would Cllr Daniel Thomas like to live next to this facility in the way that the residents next to the Abbots Depot site are going to have to?	I'd have no hesitation living next to the new depot. Particularly when it's going to be a lot better than what is there now.
35	Cllr Wendy Prentice	How many new homes have been delivered in the last five years and what proportion have been affordable?	<b>Cllr Tom Davey, Chairman of Housing Committee</b> Over the last five years 5,392 new homes have been completed, of which 38% have been affordable.	No Supplementary	N/A
36	Cllr Alison Moore	How much money has the council set aside to meet the impact on the adult care sector in	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> It is reported that the implication of adopting the London Living Wage in home care would add an additional £5M per year onto home	Can the Leader tell me if he is now lobbying his government for an increased local government grant to support	This needs to be weighed up very carefully and the various changes that are coming

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		Barnet of the Chancellor's so-called living wage?	care costs by 2020 (from £7M to £13M at today's numbers of users). This figure does not include other aspects of social care such as residential care, day care etc, so it can be assumed that the full cost of meeting the living wage will be significant but this might be offset by reductions in provider profit margins or efficiency gains. Officers have not yet modelled the impact of the living wage announced in the budget.	the provision of elderly care in Barnet?	through need to be monitored very carefully and also the juxtaposition of the health service with the council needs to be monitored constantly. But is there is any shortfall, of course I will lobby for Barnet.
37	Cllr Wendy Prentice	What has been the increase in affordable homes in the borough and how does this compare to other Outer London boroughs?	<p><b>Cllr Tom Davey, Chairman of Housing Committee</b></p> <p>According to the GLA's most recent Annual Monitoring Report Barnet has delivered 1,123 new affordable homes in the past 3 years. Only one other Outer London borough (Greenwich) has delivered more new affordable homes than Barnet.</p>	Increasing in housing supply is obviously very important so it's good to know that Barnet is among the leading boroughs in delivering our homes. Can the chairman confirm that the delivery of family homes continues to be a top priority for the council?	Yes.
38	Cllr Barry Rawlings	In the Constitution it states the Chair of the Audit Committee should be an opposition member. When does the leader think he will have the courage to do the right thing and increase the integrity of the audit process by allowing the opposition to chair this committee?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b></p> <p>Cllr Salinger is doing a good job and we can be confident in his fearlessness.</p>	I am sure Cllr Salinger is doing a good job. I believe he occasionally supports the administration. But does he think that public confidence in the integrity of the council is diminished by not having an opposition chair of the Audit Committee?	No one will be surprised when I say no.

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39	Cllr Joan Scannell	In the last four years how much has been spent on expenses for attending conferences by a) senior officers and b) members?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> Conference Expenses Financial Years</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Categories</th> <th>2011/12</th> <th>2012/13</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>2014/15</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Members</td> <td>7,492.39</td> <td>6,424.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5,851.01</td> <td>3,127.00</td> <td>(total: 22,894.43)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Snr Officers</td> <td>2,985.00</td> <td>2,029.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9,445.26</td> <td>4,836.60</td> <td>(total: 19,295.86)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grand Total</td> <td>10,477.39</td> <td>8,453.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15,296.27</td> <td>7,963.60</td> <td>(total: 42,190.29)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Categories	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15		Members	7,492.39	6,424.03	5,851.01	3,127.00	(total: 22,894.43)	Snr Officers	2,985.00	2,029.00	9,445.26	4,836.60	(total: 19,295.86)	Grand Total	10,477.39	8,453.03	15,296.27	7,963.60	(total: 42,190.29)	No Supplementary	N/A
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40	Cllr Adam Langleben	Is the Leader aware that some schools are struggling to recruit staff due to a lack of affordable housing?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> Yes and the council is the second biggest contributor of affordable housing in Outer London.</p>	Will the Leader please tell me then why head teachers are saying they are struggling to recruit staff due to housing costs?	One of the things the council can't be blamed for is the price of housing in the borough.																								
41	Cllr Joan Scannell	Would the Leader comment on any recent union activity and its impact upon council services?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> The attempted strike by a few members of the union show how out of touch unions are with the reality of life. Abandoning their historic role in favour of political posturing seems silly. Their choice of leader for the Labour Party will be interesting!</p>	No Supplementary	N/A																								

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42	Cllr Gill Sargeant	The bridge from Pulse to Montrose Park is not coming before Planning until after the Summer holidays. What is being done to monitor the temporary crossing outside Plamer Court to prevent anti-social behaviour?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> Any incidents of anti-social behaviour will be investigated prior to the completion of the bridge.</p>	The bridge from Pulse to Montrose Park isn't coming before Planning until after the summer. When will the bridge come before Planning?	I do not know and will find out.
43	Cllr John Hart	Could the Leader comment on plans for the use of the NLWA site at Pinkham Way?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> As far as we are aware the NLWA have no plans to develop the site for waste disposal facilities.</p>	No Supplementary	N/A
44	Cllr Andreas Ioannidis	Is it true that the council is planning to buy and use the industrial area between Brunswick Park road and Waterfall Road to use for the relocation of the Mill Hill waste depot?	<p><b>Cllr Daniel Thomas, Chairman of Assets Regeneration and Growth Committee</b> The council is currently looking at options for the provision of its Green Streets service (Parks and Street Cleansing) across a number of possible locations within the borough. The locations considered included the Brunswick Park Industrial Estate but no plans exist to move ahead this option at this time.</p>	Does that mean that the council is probing its competence once more as Abbots Depot is not big enough to relocate the council service or does it have to do with lining the pockets of the same company, and we will just pay tens of millions?	I don't think that the two services are related in terms of where they are located and the councillor should be happy that we are no longer considering the area in his ward.

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
45	Cllr John Hart	What were the headline satisfaction figures from the latest Residents' Perception Survey?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b></p> <p>The most recent Residents' Perception Survey, conducted during Spring 2015, paints a very positive picture overall. Satisfaction with the Council remains high, with 71% of residents satisfied with the way Barnet Council run things - this has increased by 8% since Autumn 2012. In addition, nearly 8 out of ten residents (77%) feel the Council is doing a good job. Resident satisfaction with their local area as a place to live remains high and significantly above the national average at 88%. In addition, 63% of residents agree that 'the Council provides value for money for the Council Tax I pay' – a 6% year on year increase and 9% above the London average. Overall, these results are encouraging and show that, despite the challenges, the majority of residents are satisfied with the Council and the borough in which they live.</p>	No Supplementary	N/A

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
46	Cllr Devra Kay	<p>At the recent public inquiry at Hendon Town Hall that brought to public notice the sufferings of the residents on the West Hendon Estate as they are forced to live on a building site, neither a Conservative councillor nor the local MP, Matthew Offord, who lives less than a five-minute walk from the Town Hall, attended, but they cannot fail to know about the misery being caused - as they put it themselves "human torture" - that the residents are living through every day and night caused by the developers', Barratts', breaches in their contracts regarding weekend and out of hours working, continual noise including that from a 24 hour generator, dust, homes shaking with the use of heavy drills,</p>	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  We are currently monitoring the construction work at West Hendon and will investigate any complaints about work taking place outside permitted hours. Environmental Health officers and the council's planning enforcement team have been on site and we have made Barratt London aware that breaches are not acceptable, unless for exceptional circumstances. Following concerns raised by the council, Barratt has assured us that they are taking the matter seriously. We appreciate living on the site of a major regeneration scheme can be noisy and disruptive and will do our utmost to make sure the necessary work is completed in line with the considerate constructor code of conduct.</p>	<p>When will long-term monitoring on the West Hendon Estate turn into action and why did the Leader ignore the repeated offer to swap homes with a resident for a week to experience first-hand what the residents describe as the human torture they are enduring?</p>	<p>For obvious reasons.</p>

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
		<p>massive lorries that are breaking up the pavements, etc. Barratts make little of all this and do virtually nothing, offering to talk about it, but urgent action is needed. As ever the Conservatives shirk their responsibilities to the people who desperately need it. Would the Leader please assure me that he will intervene to ensure that due care is extended to residents whose health, both physical and psychological is being badly affected and that they will receive fair compensation for their long-term ordeal.</p>			
47	Cllr Maureen Braun	<p>Is it true, as some claim, that the land at West Hendon was sold to the developer at below valuation?</p>	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  No. The land was sold to the developer at its restricted value (as declared by the independent District Valuation Service); the restriction being the requirement to build 500 affordable homes. There was a second 'unrestricted' valuation of £12.3m, but this would have been the price had the developer not had to deliver any affordable housing at</p>	No Supplementary	N/A

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
			all. If we were to take this figure and divide it across the 500 homes it equates to about £25,000 per affordable home - a small fraction of what it would cost the council to deliver a home directly.		
48	Cllr Paul Edwards	A new three bedroom house on Brook Valley aka Dollis Valley is on the market for £725,000. Potential buyers are told they only need a 5% deposit in order to begin a purchase, which is £36,250. Could the Leader say how he expects workers in the care sector, retail or the hospitality industry, or indeed a Head Teacher to be to be able to afford these properties?	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> Commuting is a fact of life for most of us, but I would agree that property prices are far too high.	No Supplementary	N/A
49	Cllr Maureen Braun	Can the Committee Chairman confirm what highways work is being undertaken?	<b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of Environment Committee</b> A list of all planned road works are now published on the council's website, as well as reactive works for the reactive works for the previous months. These lists and maps have been circulated to all members for the last 2 months.	No Supplementary	N/A



Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
50	Cllr Andreas Ioannidis	According to a recent Evening Standard article a number of deaths in Barnet have been caused by “killer” pollution. Would the Leader advise how many deaths there have been since 2010 with an association to air pollution, and what are the levels of nitrogen dioxide and particulate pollution across Barnet broken down by ward? <a href="http://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/londons-toxic-air-has-already-caused-1300-premature-deaths-this-year-10296515.html">http://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/londons-toxic-air-has-already-caused-1300-premature-deaths-this-year-10296515.html</a>	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> Kings College have done a statistical analysis working out how much life expectancy is reduced by exposure to air pollution. To produce the statistics for an area they then put in average pollutant levels from London Air quality network and census details for population and deaths to come up with the estimates.</p> <p>These are not actual deaths recorded by Coroners they are estimates of premature deaths. Therefore actual levels cannot be produced. Barnet has high predictions due to high population levels compared with other boroughs and some busy roads.</p>	Does the Leader then claim that the air in Barnet is clean and death has nothing to do with air pollution? Most Brunswick Park residents live near one of the most polluted roads in Europe, North Circular.	The answer to the question is quite clear but it is important that we do monitor the air quality adjacent to the North Circular, I would agree with him.
51	Cllr Caroline Stock	Does the Leader have any reflections on the anti-Semitic demonstration initially planned to be held in Golders Green, before being moved to Westminster earlier this month?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> I am glad that our streets were left peaceful.</p>	No Supplementary	N/A

<b>Qn no</b>	<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>	<b>Supplementary Question</b>	<b>Supplementary Answer</b>
52	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	Will an in house bid be allowed when streetscene services are outsourced?	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> All suitable delivery models will be considered when deciding how best to run the service in the future, including an in-house option.	Can I ask the Leader when it comes to looking at the outsourcing of StreetScene Services will he actually allow a proper full in-house bid so that members can see how this compares against the outsourcing options not just a mere consideration when even that is a move on from what we have had in the past. But will he allow a full scale in-house bid?	That will depend if there is any possibility of it being an acceptable bid for the tax payers of Barnet.
53	Cllr Caroline Stock	Could the Leader comment on the Chancellor's Emergency Budget of 8th July and what it means for Barnet?	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> It certainly will lead to a reappraisal of housing plans and confirms the budget requirements set out in March.	No Supplementary	N/A
54	Cllr Charlie Omacauley	Would the Leader advise if there are toilet facilities for public use in all Job Centres in Barnet?	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> I do not know. Such provision is a matter for the Job Centres themselves.	Would the Leader agree that it is necessary for us to visit the Job Centre because of health and safety and welfare regulations, 1992 to see that there are toilets in these organisations?	Yes but that is the responsibility of the Job Centres themselves to sort out. I would agree that it's important that facilities are made available.

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
55	Cllr Alison Moore	Will the Leader list all of the planning permissions given in Finchley and Golders Green where there was a S106 agreement for parks and green spaces made by year over the past 6 years, what monies have been drawn down and what have they been allocated to in each case?	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> Answer attached in table.	No Supplementary	N/A
56	Cllr Kathy Levine	Residents have been told documents for the depot planning application are available for view at the NLBP reception. However, when residents asked about this they were not there. In view of this is the period for consultation going to be extended?	<b>Cllr Daniel Thomas, Chairman of Assets Regeneration and Growth Committee</b> The consultation window opened 1st July. Paper copies of the planning application are available for public viewing at NLBP and Barnet House and the application is also available to view through the online planning portal. The Consultation period of 28 days is the standard period of consultation carried out by Barnet Council which exceeds the statutory requirement of 21 days. Notwithstanding this, in the interest of maximising the opportunity for local residents to provide feedback, the council will be extending the consultation window until Aug 20th. This means that in total the consultation window will be 43 days, which is double the statutory requirement.	No Supplementary	N/A

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
57	Cllr Anne Hutton	<p>According to the CELS Committee work programme the committee will discuss the future shape of library provision in Barnet at its meeting on 21 September. Due to the high level of public interest in Barnet's libraries, for instance more than 10,000 people have signed various petitions against the council's proposals to reduce library provision, residents should be given as much time as possible to read through and understand the recommendations to be considered by the Committee at that meeting. Could the Leader, therefore, please commit to publishing the officers' report on the future shape of library provision at least 10 working days before</p>	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  Agenda papers for Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee meeting of 21 September will be published on 11 September in line with statutory requirements. Where reports are of particular public interest officers may endeavour to make them publically available ahead of this deadline. If the report author has the paper ready with the required clearances from finance and legal, there is no problem with Governance publishing it early.</p>	<p>Is there an update? The response says if the paper is ready; this would have been written a few days ago. I just wondered if there was an update as to when the paper may be ready?</p>	<p>I understand that will be quite soon.</p>

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
		<p>the meeting on 21 September, i.e. no later than Monday 7 September, publicising it and making copies available in libraries? If you cannot make this commitment to library users, please indicate why, and say if you will have the report published any earlier than the normal five days before the committee.</p>			
58	Cllr Nagus Narenthira	<p>Can the leader state what his plans are for parking and transport of council staff when the council offices move to Colindale?</p>	<p><b>Cllr Daniel Thomas, Chairman of Assets Regeneration and Growth Committee</b>  The plans for the new council HQ in Colindale include a limited number of parking spaces. It is envisaged that the majority of staff based out of the new HQ in Colindale will travel by public transport, cycling and walking and we will continue to work with staff to prepare them for the move.</p>	No Supplementary	N/A
59	Cllr Amy Trevethan	<p>What level of demand from other local authorities and other potential purchasers did the market testing for Barnet's Education &amp; Skills services</p>	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b>  Financial modelling of potential demand was undertaken as a cautious best estimate. Through the procurement process, it is the responsibility of the bidder to satisfy</p>	No Supplementary	N/A

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
		indicate?	themselves that they can generate sufficient income to support their guarantee of the savings to the Council.		
60	Cllr Adam Langleben	Has the Leader made any assessment of the need for key worker housing in the borough?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> The council continues to maximise the supply of housing, including affordable housing.</p>	Further to the staggering answer from Cllr Cornelius that he believes that he has no role whatsoever in the final affordable housing in the borough, does he believe that the council has any role in providing truly affordable housing for key workers in this borough?	Yes, of course I do but rising housing prices are not within the control of this council. If the market system works and it's working against us at the moment and members of the opposition should understand the work of markets and the foolishness of trying to resist them.
61	Cllr Gill Sargeant	What health facilities are scheduled for the Colindale regeneration?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> During the past twelve months the Council has chaired a Colindale Health Facilities Board, bringing together public health and all relevant NHS Partners involved in the decision-making process for delivery of future provision of primary care. An Option's Appraisal was completed and given approval by NHS England through its internal decision-making process in June 2015 (feedback has indicated that the report is amongst the best Option's Appraisals they have ever received). This approval now means that formal engagement with Members and other key stakeholders can begin in August 2015, with</p>	NHS England received a number of bids. Could you tell me how many bids it received for practices from the Colindale area? You might not have the information now but if you could let me have it.	I don't have it and will make sure it is available.

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
			<p>a full public consultation planned for late September 2015.</p> <p>Additionally it is worth noting that in early 2015 NHS England received a number of bids to its National 'Primary Care Infrastructure Fund' for expanded capacity from practices local to the Colindale area and known to have patients registered within the area. Many of these have been supported and therefore additional capacity at these practices is anticipated to be delivered over the coming year or two.</p>		
62	Cllr Barry Rawlings	As there are several 'non Doms' living in Barnet does the Leader welcome the Government's u turn on their tax status in line with Labour policy?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b></p> <p>Everyone should pay their share of taxes. Non-residents should also pay for the use of our NHS facilities.</p>	No Supplementary	N/A
63	Cllr Devra Kay	With the same throwing of caution to the wind that the Conservatives demonstrated by awarding a ten-year contract to Capita that has proven to be, in spite of the Leader's ill-informed assurances otherwise, a disaster both financially and in the declining standards	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b></p> <p>As discussed at the Environment Committee - the contract has a number of break clauses that can be used if required. All staff have been given the opportunity to stay with the authority and work within the Street Scene service and staff will be given ample opportunity to decide what course of action is best for them as we undertake the consultation process</p>	May I question the point of asking supplementary questions and the Leader replies in such derisory terms?	The answers match the sincerity of the questions.

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
		<p>of our services, how can the Leader possibly justify plans to outsource Barnet's Summers Lane Amenity &amp; Recycling Centre (CARC) to London Waste Authority for 40 years - until 2055 - while setting a precedent in depriving transferring Barnet workers of a comparable pension. Is this the Conservatives taking their usual recklessness with the future security of tax-payers to its extreme, as it is impossible for those now involved to either predict what circumstances will be in 40 years time and unlikely that they will live outlive the contract and have to take any responsibility for it?</p>			



Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
64	Cllr Andreas Ioannidis	In Abbots depot there are mature trees and bats. What are the provisions to ensure these are not lost and disturbed as the planning application is not very clear?	<p><b>Cllr Daniel Thomas, Chairman of the Assets Regeneration and Growth Committee</b></p> <p>The planning application for the Abbots Depot site is accompanied by an Arboricultural impact assessment, tree protection method statement and ecology and bat surveys. These surveys concluded there was low bat-related activity on the site and the submitted application include plans to remove trees from the site. The Council's Arboricultural Officer and other external consultees including Natural England and the London Wildlife Trust have been consulted on the submission and any comments received will be taken into account in the determination of the application.</p>	When the bats survey will be completed and as the planning application suggests that 15 trees will be cut to avoid ... are described by the planning office as irreplaceable, can you please let us know why and when they are going to be replaced, the trees.	These are planning concerns and these will all be discussed at the planning committee. The surveys have already been completed and submitted with the planning application and we are awaiting submissions from Natural England and the London Wildlife Trust. So we wait for that to come and it will be dealt with at planning stage.
65	Cllr Alan Schneider man	How much will the Council's 'resident engagement' on a so called 'new strategy' for the Borough's parks and green spaces cost?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b></p> <p>It is not possible to identify the cost of the residents engagement part of the development of the strategy. The total cost for the development of the strategy is £80,000.</p>	Wouldn't it have been a better idea to spend £80,000 actually improving our parks rather than wasting on a private, yet more, consultants?	It would appear that the councillor wishes just to say where money should be spent rather than consult residents. It's important that we have proper consultation.
66	Cllr Amy Trevethan	Given that the subcontractor identified to deliver school meals, ISS, is already a major market player, how can the Council be sure that ISS will bid for other	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of the Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b></p> <p>Arrangements for gainshare and exclusivity (i.e. the circumstances under which any bid would be submitted from the joint venture) form part of the discussions taking place in</p>	No Supplementary	N/A

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
		school meals work as part of the JV, when they could bid for this work independently and not have to then split the profit?	Dialogue and would ultimately form part of the contract.		
67	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Given that part of the section 106 agreement for the Archer Academy was ringfenced funding to improve the crossing at the junction of East End Road and Market Place, why has no work been done to plan for it. Does the Council realise that it must be a priority for the safety of the children who will be attending the Archer Academy at their new premises from September?	<b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of Environment Committee</b> Yes and feasibility studies are underway.	Can you tell me why it has taken two years to come up with this? The planning permission was given two years ago and I am wondering whether they are trying to 'pull a fast one' and not spend the money.	As Cllr Mittra knows this was only brought to my attention last week, just before the Environment Committee and it was resolved there that this will now be proceeding
68	Cllr Andreas Ioannidis	Would the Leader explain why the Chair of the Environment Committee has repeatedly failed to meet with Councillors and residents in Brunswick Park?	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> Perhaps the councillor asking has difficulty in representing his residents effectively to the committee.	Could you please tell me why the Environment Committee Chairman has repeatedly failed to meet with Brunswick Park residents? With the residents, not myself.	I am not aware that that has happened and I would be shocked if Cllr Ioannidis could not get to me with Cllr Cohen. Cllr Cohen is a very friendly person and Cllr Ioannidis should

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
					have no problem.
69	Cllr Nagus Narenthira	What is the programme for repairing cracked and raised pavements in Colindale?	<b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of Environment Committee</b> Routine safety inspections are carried out on each road twice a year, any defects identified which are at intervention level are then risked assed to determine the priority of repair.	No Supplementary	N/A
70	Cllr Amy Trevethan	What role has the London Borough of Barnet played to date in the formulation of the proposal for a new c.1800 place free school on the site of the Underhill stadium?	<b>Cllr Daniel Thomas, Chairman of the Assets Regeneration and Growth Committee</b> The development, approval and funding of Free Schools is the responsibility of central government through the Department for Education (DfE). The council has provided school place planning information to both the DfE and the Ark Academy Trust.	No Supplementary	N/A
71	Cllr Adam Langleben	Would the Leader tell me how many Barnet Homes tenants across the borough are 'non-secure' tenants who have been in the same property for more than five years as of 13 July 2015?	<b>Cllr Tom Davey, Chairman of Housing Committee</b> 489 non-secure tenant households have been living in the same property for more than five years.	Considering the drastic reduction in social housing units in this borough over the next decade, will the Chair of the Housing Committee please tell me how many of these 489 non-secure tenants households he anticipates will be rehoused in London or the Borough of Barnet?	It's not possible to give any numbers without knowing individual specifics of cases.

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72	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	What is the connection between the planned 'new strategy' for parks and open spaces and the plans set out in the Council's budget for 'increasing income from wider park assets'?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b></p> <p>The Parks and Open Spaces Strategy is being developed to enable the Authority to assess the quality and use of its green spaces, and invite residents to comment on how they current use the facilities and what investment they would like to see in the future. A separate project is focused on how we can potentially derive income from disused assets within green spaces, as well as the future development of events within parks.</p>	<p>Isn't it the case that the council's intentions are far clearer from the medium-term financial strategy where it talks about increasing income from wider park assets then it is from their consultation which looks to set out a new strategy for parks and open spaces. Isn't this just about privatising our parks and allowing more private enterprise rather than local residents to make full use of them.</p>	<p>I'm not sure that private enterprise would welcome taking over the administration of the parks service but it is a question that we do have to raise. What do we want from a modern park? What should they be like? And we also do have to balance the limited resources at our disposal to maintain them.</p>
73	Cllr Andreas Ioannidis	How many LOBO (Lender Option, Borrower Option) loans does the council have?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b></p> <p>Six.</p>	<p>Could the Leader let us know which are the six companies, how much are we borrowing and what interest we pay per each company please?</p>	<p>Not off the cuff, no.</p>
74	Cllr Charlie Omacauley	What is the council's remit with regards to serious gang crimes?	<p><b>Cllr David Longstaff, Chairman of Community Leadership Committee</b></p> <p>Barnet's Youth Offending Management Board - of which the Locality Authority is a statutory member - is responsible for overseeing the Council's work with young offenders, including those linked with gang violence. The Council has worked with partners to produce a serious youth violence strategy which aims to reduce the prevalence and impact of serious youth violence, in particular by focusing on preventative action.</p>	<p>No Supplementary</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
			<p>Responding to gang crimes specifically is led by the Metropolitan Police Trident Unit with our local policing teams. In 2015-16 the council invested further funding to increase targeted provision for young people who are suspected of or involved in gangs. This includes targeted outreach work, one to one engagement with young people who are associated with gangs and specialist interventions where required to meet the needs of the young people concerned. This investment followed on from the successful delivery of the 2014-15 pilot project in and around Burnt Oak (funded through the leaders fund) where the evaluation highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Reduction in average risk score of individuals supported at the start of the pilot from 31.1 to 27.4 after six months (out of a high scoring of 48 – most concern)</li> <li>• The cohort were assessed for criminality – there was an average of 1.6 crimes per month 12 month prior to the pilot and this was reduced to 1 crime allegation a month once they were supported by the project.</li> <li>• Detail around ‘engagement’ highlighting positive engagement, participation in activities and education.</li> <li>• Violent Crime trends – 24 months up to March 2013 the area covered by Pilot project accounted for 14.4% of (non-DV) crimes in Barnet where a victim was under 18 years</li> </ul>		

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			<p>old. Between April and August 2014 this fell to 12.7%. This is an important outcome as the analysis of the previous 3 years for Burnt Oak showed a continued increase year on year, this was the first time in 3 years the area had seen a reduction. It is our view that the pilot project contributed toward this reduction.</p> <p>Although small in numbers the evaluation showed a movement in the right direction.</p>		
75	Cllr Gill Sargeant	Would the Leader provide an update on the Aerodrome Road crossing?	<p><b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of Environment Committee</b></p> <p>The proposal to upgrade the existing pedestrian island was subject to the agreeing the exact locations of the entrance points to the new Peel Centre Development. The Planning Application for the Peel Centre is being reported to the Planning Committee on 29 July 2015, which will confirm the locations of the access points. Subject to Committee approval, detailed design of the crossing will commence with the crossing anticipated to be implemented by the end of the year. In the meantime the pedestrian islands currently in place on Aerodrome Road will continue to provide a facility for pedestrians to cross the road.</p>	This crossing was first agreed last year, 2014. Could you let me know if this crossing will be in operation by the end of year?	I will have to write to the member on that.

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
76	Cllr Anne Hutton	<p>Could the Leader please say why there have been no meetings of the Children's Trust Board for over a year? The last four meetings have been cancelled, including the one scheduled for 23 July and the next one is not until January 2016. I know the Board is being reorganised but the Terms of Reference haven't been revised and these state that meetings will be quarterly and the dates for each year set in advance. Why is this reorganisation taking so long? When will the 'annual' report be published? Is anyone undertaking the work of the Trust Board? If so who is it and where are the relevant reports?</p>	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b>  There was a meeting of the CTB on the 5<sup>th</sup> March this year with another being scheduled in September. The premise of the question is unfounded.</p>	<p>Could I have an answer to the questions please? There were some questions asked that haven't been answered. It wasn't unfounded. The council calendar clearly says those meetings had been cancelled. Could we please have the minutes of the meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> March and the agenda.</p>	<p>I'm sure that can be made available to the councillor.</p>
77	Cllr Amy Trevethan	<p>Can the Leader confirm on how many occasions the LBB has advertised for a new</p>	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  The Council has only advertised for one new school since 2011 - Millbrook Park Academy. For Millbrook Park, the requirements were</p>	<p>Given the centralised approached to school commissioning adopted by the Conservative Government,</p>	<p>The answer is that we are doing the best we can and we are doing a good job and the number</p>

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		school since 2011, and also advise me of any outlines/specifications for a new school that the LBB has devised and advertised to potential school sponsors or providers.	designed to meet the needs of the new housing development. If any future schools were to be advertised, it is anticipated that each school would have area specific requirements.	could the Leader explain why the council has not played a more proactive role in ensuring that new school proposals are wholly appropriate to local needs.	of school places that have been created in Barnet is testament to that.
78	Cllr Arjun Mitra	The administration has repeatedly broken its promises to fix the plant boxes at the junction of Long Lane and Church Lane. Why were promises made to rectify this if there was no sincere intention of doing so?	<b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of Environment Committee</b> Limited resources meant priority had to be given to emergency repairs. However, this work should commence within 8 weeks if the quote requested is acceptable.	No Supplementary	N/A
79	Cllr Phil Cohen	Will the Leader explain why the Conservative councillors on the Adults & Safeguarding Committee voted down a Labour proposal for the council to adopt the Mental Health Challenge setting out concrete actions to promote mental health across all of its business, including	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> The Council, working with its NHS partners, is leading the way to ensure comprehensive support for people with mental health needs. This includes public health support for mental wellbeing, voluntary sector mental health care, services to help people with mental health problems get back into work, access to psychological therapy, and support for those with complex mental health needs. For older people with mental health needs, our dementia care system includes specialist advisors, the memory assessment service, &	The Leader doesn't seem to recognise that the Mental Health Challenge isn't just another charter, it's supported by all the major national mental health organisations including the Royal College of Psychiatrists, hundreds of local authorities including many Conservative controlled ones. So why is Barnet always so complacent at being the odd one out and feels it doesn't	We are hardly complacent about this. We are very proactive behind the scenes and it's important to recognise achievement rather than just publicity stunts.



Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
		<p>appointing an elected member as 'mental health champion' across the council? Doesn't this confirm that the Conservatives cannot be trusted with the health of our people?</p>	<p>support for individuals and their families through our dementia cafes and neighbourhood model of day services. Both the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Adults Committee have considered and reviewed our progress on mental health in recent months. The Council is frequently called upon to sign up to charters of all kinds - however, what matters is putting in place the services and support that make a difference to residents.</p>	<p>need a mental health champion?</p>	
80	Cllr Agnes Slocombe	<p>Would the Leader advise what guarantees there are against any future reduction in the number of CCTV cameras in the borough once the CCTV service is transferred to the police, and will there be a proper review of the location of cameras to ensure they are in the correct places to assist with the fight against crime?</p>	<p><b>Cllr David Longstaff, Chairman of Community Leadership Committee</b> The cameras are not being transferred to the police. The placing of cameras in the borough is based on crime data - all the current locations are based on crime data. Any future moves would consider crimes types which can be detected by CCTV for example street based crime.</p>	No Supplementary	N/A
81	Cllr Andreas Ioannidis	<p>When was the last time that an environmental test/examination was undertaken for pollution at the Abbots Depot</p>	<p><b>Cllr Daniel Thomas, Chairman of Assets Regeneration and Growth Committee</b> The responsibility for monitoring the Abbots Depot site lies with the Environment Agency rather than the Council. Any pollution from</p>	No Supplementary	N/A

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
		<p>site? Was the dust outside these facilities tested? What were the specific outcomes of such tests/examinations? How often does the council perform such tasks? And what method/type of test/examination were undertaken?</p>	<p>the site is mainly caused by dust from road haulage and debris from skips rather than vehicle exhaust pollution. This was in the past monitored by the Environment Agency who police Winters and GBN Waste management licences. The new proposed Depot will contain significantly newer Euro 5-6 diesel engines with reduced air pollution from exhaust that will conform to the stricter 2020 London Low Emission zone. They also will reduce dust as not carrying earth or building materials as the current skips at Winters. The refuse lorries will not hold refuse on site they collect in borough and transfer to Brent Terrace, only food and paper will be recycled in an enclosed building on site. Therefore there will be less dust in the future from the proposed Abbots Depot and Street Cleaning vehicles will be on hand in the Depot to increase local street cleansing if required. Monitoring of Waste Sites is carried out by the Environment Agency rather than the Council. The Environment Agency together with the Council's Scientific Services Team have been consulted on the application and any comments will be taken into account in the determination of the planning application.</p>		
82	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Does the leader have confidence in the members' enquiries system and its	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> Yes, I believe this is improving although I am disappointed that it has taken so long to get enquiries answered and actioned.</p>	No Supplementary	N/A

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
		performance in the last 6 months?			
83	Cllr Geof Cooke	In the Council's IT change management regime, how does 'aligned with ITIL' differ from 'complying with ITIL' apart from not being independently audited?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  ITIL is a set of best practice guidelines and requirements for IT service management. While there is no accreditation for ITIL in itself, ISO 20000-1 is modelled on the principles of ITIL and is the standard which was adopted in 2013 for Barnet as agreed with the Council. The ISO standard was conceived to enable organisations to prove that they are applying principles such as ITIL through a formal accreditation. Our IT service continuously maintains ISO 20000-1 accreditation and so can demonstrate ITIL v3 alignment.</p>	No Supplementary	N/A
84	Cllr Phil Cohen	It is now 5 months since the Libraries consultation closed. Would the Leader explain why the council refuses to publish the full consultation report which was due to come to the July CELS committee and has now been delayed until September – could it be that the vast majority of respondents to the	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b>  Over 3,700 responses to the consultation were received, collected through a variety of mechanisms, providing both qualitative and quantitative data - collating and analysing responses has taken time. It is anticipated that the full consultation report will be available by the end of July.</p>	No Supplementary	N/A

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
		consultation were not in favour of any of the options presented and now the administration don't know what to do?			
85	Cllr Laurie Williams	What has been done to help find a new depot for the Barnet Community Transport Group?	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> As part of the council's plan to vacate the current Mill Hill Depot site it will engage with current occupants at the existing Depot Site (such as Barnet Community Transport) that do not form part of the Councils planned relocation to the Abbots Site.	No Supplementary	N/A
86	Cllr Adam Langleben	Would the Leader tell me how much has the Council paid to landlords in incentives in 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15 and the current financial year to date?	<b>Cllr Tom Davey, Chairman of Housing Committee</b> The Council has paid the following incentives to Landlords: 2012/13 - £53,058.28, 2013/14 - £566,538.12 and 2014/15 £720,643.44. YTD – £207,127	Could the Chair of the Housing Committee tell me if he believes that any councillor has been in receipt of an annual incentive?	Mr Mayor I don't have access to that information.
<b>Question time ends</b>					
87	Cllr Geof Cooke	Since Capita took over the Council's IT, which items of software have been 'soft launched', i.e. released without informative error messages or proper testing leaving users, including the general	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> Our IT service does not release applications or portals into the live environment without the appropriate levels of testing. In appropriate cases, such as the citizen portal/my account representative groups from across the resident user communities are involved in piloting. All parts of the new web site have undergone testing at the		

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		public, to find the bugs?	component level and system-wide including with Council service representatives for sign-off and release. There is a process in place to capture and resolve any residual bugs as and when they are identified whether internally or by the public through the Contact Centre. The status of bug fixes is managed and reported periodically to Council stakeholders.		
88	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Was the recent "Team of the year" award to the libraries department a "Thank you and goodbye" award? Surely a carriage clock is more usual?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  The award reflected the team's good work. We know that cost pressures and changing habits mean there will have to be some changes to the service, but I am sure the good work will continue in the future.</p>		
89	Cllr Andreas Ioannidis	At the last meeting, the Chair of the Chipping Barnet Residents Forum (in her reply to question 12 at that Forum) had to answer questions from residents relating to a call for the resignation of a Brunswick Park councillor – would the Leader explain why residents are asking for the resignation of that councillor?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  This is Labour Party mischief.</p>		

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
90	Cllr Phil Cohen	How will further council cuts brought on by the Government's draconian austerity measures affect the provision of adult social care in Barnet?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> There will be changes that are yet to be proposed and resolved.</p> <p>These proposed changes will be consulted on and have equality impact assessments carried out as appropriate. Any consultation responses and equalities impacts will need to be taken into account in the eventual decision making process.</p>		
91	Cllr Anne Hutton	How many air pollution monitoring systems are due to be installed in Barnet, and where?	<p><b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of Environment Committee</b> Barnet currently have 2 continuous air pollution monitoring stations and 15 diffusion tube locations which is accepted as satisfactory by the GLA and DEFRA.</p>		
92	Cllr Amy Trevethan	Regarding the proposal for a new free school on the site of the Underhill stadium: Can the Leader provide me with details of what consultation, if any, will take place with residents of the roads around Underhill stadium besides planning consultation, which only encompasses planning considerations.	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> The proposal will be fully consulted through the planning process. The Council is not yet aware of what other consultation will be undertaken by the school proposers. In council commissioned school schemes, it is usual to hold information events for neighbours ahead of the formal planning process and the council will be encouraging the school proposers to follow this practice.</p>		

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
93	Cllr Adam Langleben	Further to question 114 at the January council meeting and question 122 at the meeting before and question 92 at the meeting before that, would the Leader tell me yet how much Re has made in profit?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  Re has made £2.4m of profit after taxation up to the period Dec 2014 (18 month period), the audited accounts are accessible via Companies House. In the same period Barnet has secured guaranteed savings of £7.3m. Additional benefit to Barnet by way of dividends will be payable on over achievement of guaranteed income (net of recovery of cost in generating this) &amp; on securing business outside of the borough which are projected to happen later in the contract.</p>		
94	Cllr Phil Cohen	Now there is only one bidder for the Education and Skills and School Meals contract is there not a strong case for postponing the procurement process as uncompetitive, and reinstating an in-house bid so there is a level playing field for the process?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  No.</p>		

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
95	Cllr Arjun Mitra	Is it the usual practice of a competition to only have one team? If the Council thinks this is appropriate for commissioning contracts, will it at least ensure that this is not the practice for sporting competitions in the borough?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> Thank you for this facetious question.</p>		
96	Cllr Amy Trevethan	What assessment has the Council made of the implications the judgement Nzolameso v City of Westminster for moving families outside of the Borough of Barnet, especially in the context of Barnet's 'one offer only' policy?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> The judgement stated that local authorities have a statutory duty to provide accommodation in their own area "so far as reasonably practicable", that any accommodation must be suitable to the needs of the homeless person and each member of the household, and that location can be relevant to its suitability. This has placed an increased responsibility on local authorities to ensure that they are tailoring each offer to the individual circumstances of each case. This includes the impact that moving a household out of the borough has on the welfare of any children. As part of this the local authority must consider the disruption of any move on a child's social and educational development as well as to promote, and safeguard, their welfare. In addition, a local authority must adequately explain their reasons for not placing a</p>		



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			<p>household in borough through a comprehensive accommodation procurement strategy and placements strategy, covering all forms of tenure. Barnet Homes is in the process of finalising a PRS Procurement Strategy and it is being extended to cover all forms of tenure. The council has a one offer only policy because there is a high demand for housing in the borough and a limited supply of homes. The judgment does not in itself make this policy unreasonable, it simply means that Barnet Homes has to ensure that offers are affordable, reasonable and take full account of a household's needs as described above. Barnet Homes has reviewed and amended its procedures in light of this to ensure the decisions are robust.</p>		
97	Cllr Adam Langleben	<p>Would the Leader tell me how many non-secure tenants (as of 13 July 2015) are living on: a) the West Hendon estate b) Stonegrove estate?</p>	<p><b>Cllr Tom Davey, Chairman of Housing Committee</b>  West Hendon = 174  Stonegrove = 0</p>		
98	Cllr Andreas Ioannidis	<p>Will the Leader agree to look at introducing audio minutes?</p>	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  No.</p>		

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
99	Cllr Adam Langleben	Should tenants and leaseholders on fixed incomes (pensions for example) being decanted from estates to new builds be facing unsustainable increases in services charges and rent?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> No.</p>		
100	Cllr Zakia Zubairi	Many of Barnet's schools were built quite a long time ago. What checks have taken place to ensure there is no asbestos in school buildings?	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b> Barnet has long had a published policy, available on the intranet and supported by surveys, to define how asbestos will be managed in its buildings. Many schools will have asbestos incorporated in the fabric of the building which will have been risk assessed and is now being managed in line with policy. Policy requires that asbestos in buildings is reviewed on a regular basis (usually annually). Barnet is currently undertaking a review of its policy to reflect changes in legislation and delivery of support services. The council is also about to embark on a major refresh of its survey database to ensure all premises managers will be able to reference up to date information on line.</p>		

Qn no	Councillor	Question	Answer	Supplementary Question	Supplementary Answer
101	Cllr Adam Langleben	What has the Leader learnt from his experiences in dealing with casework from residents who have been forcibly removed or evicted from their homes at Sweets Way?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>  That mischief and misleading advice from so-called campaigners makes life difficult for all and lead to bad outcomes for those in need of help. Barnet Homes have performed to a very high standard and we can all be proud of them and the part that Cllrs Houston and Marshall play in their administration.</p>		
102	Cllr Agnes Slocombe	Would the Leader advise what is being done to remove and stop fly posting on empty shop fronts?	<p><b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of Environment Committee</b>  An Enforcement officer would investigate ownership of the property and then make contact requesting removal. This may entail the property owner requesting LBB to remove, which may incur a charge. If the content was offensive it would be removed immediately.</p>		

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103	Cllr Andreas Ioannidis	How many children attending Barnet schools, broken down by age, are currently known to be smoking? And how many were there in 2010?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>            We don't have that precise data as it isn't collected. The data we have is from the national survey which gives data for the country as a whole. This shows that 8% of 15 year olds are regular smokers and 10% are occasional smokers. Modelled estimates have been produced using a number of surveys and datasets which have given estimated numbers for Barnet for 2009-12. There is no earlier or later data.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="752 683 1357 1278"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="752 683 927 767"></th> <th data-bbox="927 683 1077 767">Estimated number in Barnet</th> <th data-bbox="1077 683 1227 767">Estimated % in Barnet</th> <th data-bbox="1227 683 1357 767">Estimated % England</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="752 767 927 852">Regular Smokers Aged 11-15</td> <td data-bbox="927 767 1077 852">419</td> <td data-bbox="1077 767 1227 852">2.00%</td> <td data-bbox="1227 767 1357 852">3.10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="752 852 927 936">Regular smokers aged 15</td> <td data-bbox="927 852 1077 936">240</td> <td data-bbox="1077 852 1227 936">5.50%</td> <td data-bbox="1227 852 1357 936">8.70%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="752 936 927 1021">Regular smokers aged 16-17</td> <td data-bbox="927 936 1077 1021">855</td> <td data-bbox="1077 936 1227 1021">9.70%</td> <td data-bbox="1227 936 1357 1021">14.70%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="752 1021 927 1106">Occasional Smokers aged 11-16</td> <td data-bbox="927 1021 1077 1106">241</td> <td data-bbox="1077 1021 1227 1106">1.10%</td> <td data-bbox="1227 1021 1357 1106">1.40%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="752 1106 927 1190">Occasional Smokers aged 16</td> <td data-bbox="927 1106 1077 1190">133</td> <td data-bbox="1077 1106 1227 1190">3.10%</td> <td data-bbox="1227 1106 1357 1190">3.90%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="752 1190 927 1278">Occasional Smokers aged 16-18</td> <td data-bbox="927 1190 1077 1278">407</td> <td data-bbox="1077 1190 1227 1278">4.60%</td> <td data-bbox="1227 1190 1357 1278">5.80%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Estimated number in Barnet	Estimated % in Barnet	Estimated % England	Regular Smokers Aged 11-15	419	2.00%	3.10%	Regular smokers aged 15	240	5.50%	8.70%	Regular smokers aged 16-17	855	9.70%	14.70%	Occasional Smokers aged 11-16	241	1.10%	1.40%	Occasional Smokers aged 16	133	3.10%	3.90%	Occasional Smokers aged 16-18	407	4.60%	5.80%		
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104	Cllr Agnes Slocombe	Is the council able to do anything about estate agents boards that get left for long periods of time – even after properties are sold or re-let?	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> Estate Agency boards must be removed within 14 days of completion of a let or sale. Failure to do so is a criminal offence. Although a number of complaints are received by the enforcement team estate agents usually prove willing and able to remove boards within a short period of time.		
105	Cllr Arjun Mitra	Is it good for tackling crime in East Finchley that there are to be 3 Sergeants in 3 months?	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> Chop and change is never good, but the Police are doing a good job.		
106	Cllr Andreas Ioannidis	What is the latest update on the number of empty homes in the borough?	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> Figure on 16th July 2015 confirmed by Council Tax Total – 4,333  Private Sector Long term Empty Properties – 2,901 (empty over 6 months)  Second Homes-2,557		
107	Cllr Arjun Mitra	Please provide a ward breakdown of spend on fixing pavements and potholes by ward since 2010.	<b>Answer by the Leader</b> We would need to run an extensive management system report for this information which will be provided to you directly at the earliest opportunity.		
108	Cllr Amy Trevethan	According to a report on the future delivery model of Education and Skills services to CELS (12 January 2015),	<b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b> A single-bidder situation is not unusual in a Competitive Dialogue process and does not		

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		<p>“The overall conclusions from the soft market testing exercise are that there is a positive interest from the market in these services and that there are sufficient potential participants in the market to ensure a competitive procurement exercise, in the event that the Council pursues one of the joint venture options.” - CELS 12 January 2015, Education and Skills – Future Delivery of Services (Agenda Item 7). Could the Leader explain whether or not he is satisfied that there are ‘sufficient potential participants in the market to ensure a competitive procurement exercise’ now that only one participant remains?</p>	<p>in itself undermine the integrity of the procurement process, as the main competition is actually against the objectives that have been set for the exercise, not against other bidders. In respect of value for money, we have set very clear objectives for this procurement, against which any final tender would be evaluated. Whilst price will play an important part in that evaluation, we have always been clear that the ability to maintain excellent service quality and effective relationships with schools is more important in respect of these services – it is not about getting the cheapest bid. Only 30% of the evaluation criteria relate to financial benefit and the successful bidder will need to meet all of the objectives that have been set for the project relating to service quality, engagement with schools and meeting the MTFS savings target. A significant level of financial modelling has previously been carried out for the in-house model (with investment) and the social enterprise model. The Final Business Case will include a comparison of the final tender against those benchmarks, as well as a comparison against the current service provision.</p>		

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109	Cllr Arjun Mittra	What services do the council provide to those who have been bereaved?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b></p> <p>For those choosing Burial, we offer a grave selection so they can choose an area of their choice in the Cemetery as long as it is available. A choice of plot sizes and classes are offered, as well as the opportunity to purchase a grave or later use. The bereaved can choose to have a grave for family use, providing space for up to 4 coffins depth. A choice of wooden grave surrounds are available, which defines the area of the plot. Services can be held in one of the chapels, with a variety of service lengths. For those choosing cremation, we supply an environmentally friendly bio degradable box for the cremated remains, although other options are available. Services are held in our south chapel. An organist service is provided, or any music of choice. If the cremated remains are to be sent abroad we offer an overseas certificate and if they are going to another crematorium in the UK we give them a UK certificate. We also offer a service to store cremated remains until the bereaved have decided there intentions for the cremated remains. With burials and cremation Hendon offers bearing services and cd's and iPhone adaptors for their music in during the service. Also in the south chapel we have the availability to web cast the service to the bereaved that cannot attend the service. There are a number of Memorial options including; Niches, Archway</p>		

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			<p>Memorials, Roses, Lily Pond Tablets, book of remembrance, plaques and cremated remains ash plots. The bereaved are provided with help and support in choosing their memorial options by staff that understand the difficult time the bereaved are experiencing.</p> <p>Hendon also organises Exhumation if required by a family who wish to have a body or cremated remains removed from a burial plot and either moved to another burial plot or abroad etc, We liaise with funeral directors the bereaved have chosen to use to exhume their loved one. We also offer a memorial (headstone) service and advise the bereaved of their options for memorials for their grave and liaise with our partner memorial company. Hendon offers a service for the bereaved who cannot attend the Cemetery on the anniversary or birthday of their loved one, where anniversary flowers are placed on their loved ones graves and a photo is sent to them. We provide the following services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Arrange and organise funerals in accordance with the provisions of Public health (Control of Disease) Act 1978. This is a statutory requirement</li> <li>2. Provide advice on how to access help and other relevant resources e.g. how and where to access social funds (SF200)</li> <li>3. Provide impartial information about local funeral directors and the services they might</li> </ol>		



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			<p>provide</p> <p>4. Provide advice on how, where and when to register a death</p> <p>5. Assist bereaved families to locate Wills and other relevant documents for probate.</p> <p>6. Protect, secure and insure properties of a deceased person until relatives / beneficiaries are found and are in a position to obtain probate</p> <p>7. Liaise with her majesty coroner's office, Treasury solicitors dept. hospitals, executors, other local authorities, care homes, genealogist and solicitors</p> <p>8. We liaise with Barnet homes, housing associations, landlords etc.</p>		
110	Cllr Amy Trevethan	Has the Council undertaken a risk assessment of proceeding with the procurement for the Education and Skill services given that only one participant remains? What risks did this assessment identify?	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b></p> <p>Officers carried out a risk assessment and concluded that the key risks related to the ability to demonstrate best value and the risk of schools disengaging from the process. In respect of the demonstration of best value risk, mitigation has been put in place, including more detailed award criteria, more detailed dialogue with the remaining bidder and the use of benchmark comparisons. In respect of the risk of schools disengaging, we have actually found that the number of head teachers willing to participate in the dialogue and evaluation process has increased.</p>		

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111	Cllr Adam Langleben	Further to Q118 tabled at the January Full Council Meeting, Will the Leader further elaborate on his 7 word answer - what criteria is applied to achieve the correct "careful balance" in discussions with developers over regeneration schemes? Please send me a full copy of this criteria.	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b> The councillor knows full well what I meant.</p>		
112	Cllr Arjun Mittra	When will the Council pay any attention to Cherry Tree Wood and ensure the bins are regularly emptied, the lavatories are maintained and litter is removed?	<p><b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of Environment Committee</b> Cherry Tree Wood is managed in line with all other parks and has a scheduled litter and bin clearing collections. The current schedule provides for the whole park litter picked and bins emptied 3 times per week with the exception of the playground which is visited 5 times per week. Additional resources are allocated to all Barnet parks at the weekend when we have good weather in order to manage the increased use.</p> <p>The park toilets are visited and cleaned twice a day during the spring/summer seasons and once a day for the rest of the year. We are working with our contractors to provide improved toilet roll and soap dispensers in order to ensure all the toilets have enough</p>		

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			<p>consumables to remain operational. Additionally the cleaning contractor is currently implementing a tracking system so that we will be able to track what time the toilets are cleansed every day.</p>		
113	Cllr Andreas Ioannidis	<p>How many parking tickets were given in each ward on each day of each bank holiday weekend (including the Monday) in May 2015: eg on 23rd of May, 24th of May and 25th of May 2015 as well as on 2nd of May, 3rd of May and 4th of May 2015?</p>	<p><b>Cllr Dean Cohen, Chairman of Environment Committee</b>  PCN's issued are not recorded by ward; however the figures relating to PCN's issued borough wide by date are as follows:</p> <p>2/5/15 – 331  3/5/15 - 218  4/5/15 – 462  Total – 1,011  23/5/15 – 376  24/5/15 – 216  25/5/15 – 388  Total – 980</p>		
114	Cllr Amy Trevethan	<p>The business case for the future delivery model of the school meals service assumes a 20% profit margin. How many school meals services is the Leader aware of that generate a 20% profit margin?</p>	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b>  The 20% margin relates only to the gross profit on the anticipated growth in the service and does not represent the overall (net) profit margin for the entirety of the service. This is because there is an element of fixed costs that has already been recovered through existing trading levels. It is not, therefore, comparable to reported profit margins from other catering operations. Through the</p>		

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			procurement process, it is the responsibility of the bidder to satisfy themselves that they can generate sufficient income to support their guarantee of the savings to the Council.		
115	Cllr Adam Langleben	Would the Leader tell me how much in Barnet Homes property rent income comes from housing benefit?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>            In 2014/15: £33.5m of total of £60.5m (debit) i.e. 55.5%. For temporary accommodation this figure was: £14.4m of a total £16.7m (debit) i.e. 86.1%</p>		
116	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Will the Council ensure that unadopted roads such as Brompton Grove N2, which provide important access routes, are properly maintained and that parked vehicles are taxed or removed if they do not carry a SORN.	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>            If an unadopted road runs over land which is privately owned the responsibility for repairs and maintenance lies with the landowner and not the Council. Brompton Grove is such a street and therefore not maintainable by public expense. The maintenance of the road rests with the residents who are responsible for the section of the road immediately fronting the property.</p> <p>However the Highways Act 1980 (s230) makes provision for the authority to instruct the residents to carry out works to remove any danger or for the authority to carry out the works themselves and recover all reasonable costs incurred from the owners.</p> <p>The management of private streets does not fall within the remit of the Council; however the Council has a general duty of the</p>		

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			<p>Highway Authority to ensure public safety. The council can therefore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Write to the residents reminding them of their obligation to maintain the private street.</li> <li>• Undertake the repairs and the authority recovers the costs from the residents of the street.</li> </ul> <p>With regards to untaxed vehicles, the Council has the power to remove untaxed vehicles from adopted public highway and land owned by the Council. We do not have the same powers in regard to unadopted highway land.</p>		
117	Cllr Phil Cohen	How many individual letters and emails has the Leader received from residents since the start of the consultation calling for the library service to be retained as it is and rejecting all three options proposed by the council?	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b></p> <p>The consultation has provoked and elicited a large number and wide variety of responses and suggestions. This is a good thing. Some have argued against any change. Of course, the three options were illustrations that helped gauge priorities and put the challenge in perspective. The actions and plans of neighbouring Labour authorities show that change is coming to all library services, but I hope we can develop plans to keep all our libraries open.</p>		
118	Cllr Amy Trevethan	Can the Leader confirm to me the average profit margin of school meals services in England?	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b></p> <p>The council does not hold detailed financial data on other authorities' catering services. Through the procurement process, it is the responsibility of the bidder to satisfy</p>		

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			<p>themselves that they can generate sufficient income to support their guarantee of the savings to the Council.</p>		
119	Cllr Adam Langleben	<p>Would the Leader tell me the percentage inflation on property prices in NW9 since 2002?</p>	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>            In 2002 the average house price in NW9 was £156,515. In 2014 this had increased by 88% to £295,050. The average price paid so far in 2015 is £309,802. (Land Registry House Price Index) Year Average NW9 house price:</p> <p>2002: £156,515            2014: £295,050</p>		
120	Cllr Arjun Mittra	<p>I have asked for officer plans to improve the pedestrian crossing at the junction of East End Road and Market Place. Will the Leader of the council take responsibility and ensure that these are provided to me?</p>	<p><b>Answer by the Leader</b>            As part of the Planning Permission, the crossing facility was identified to facilitate safe walking access for the pupils to walk between the Beaumont Close and Stanley Fields sites. The crossing is therefore required by September 2016 when both facilities will be in operation simultaneously. A feasibility study has already been commissioned and subject to the outcome of the feasibility, which will determine which type of crossing (i.e. whether a Zebra or Pelican crossing) to be implemented, officers will then be able to confirm the timescale for delivery. The Environment Committee agreed at its meeting of 15th July 2015 for this scheme to be given priority and implemented as soon as possible.</p>		

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121	Cllr Andreas Ioannidis	How much money in total is being spent each year on agency staff in Barnet's Schools?	<p><b>Cllr Reuben Thompstone, Chairman of Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</b></p> <p>Under staffing regulations the appointment of school staff is delegated to each school. In relation to supply/agency staff, individual schools would source agency staff to meet the needs of their individual settings. The Council does not therefore capture any data about the number or costs of agency staff in schools.</p>		