

Council Questions – 1st November (in order)

Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
1	Cllr Brian Gordon	The detailed legal requirements for consultation in Planning matters are quite different from those in licencing . In the latter, an unobtrusive notice affixed at the premises and announcement in the local press are considered sufficient consultation with the public. Would you agree that this law is unsatisfactory in practice and that to alleviate the position somewhat licencing officers should be requested to inform Councillors as speedily as possible of any licencing application received within their Ward?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Keeping members informed of matters which affect their wards as a matter of course is good practice in a whole range of areas. I am sympathetic to the councillor's request.
2	Cllr Barry Rawlings	Given the prediction of increased inflation resulting from the fall in the value of the pound as a result of the vote for Brexit will the Council be altering the MTFS?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The MTFS has always had to adapt to different economic circumstances. This is not precluded.
3	Cllr Brian Gordon	Would the Chairman join me in commending the work of the Shomrim N W organisation for its excellent security work within the Borough, in full co-operation with the police, as exemplified by a recent scroll induction procession through the streets of Edgware which Shomrim stewarded sensitively and professionally, with no incidents?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Yes.

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4	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	How has the plan to replace paving stones with tarmac in residential streets been received by local residents?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	In a survey of roads where footway resurfacing has taken place residents were pleased, with some 91% of people agreeing the work was an improvement. The use of tarmac/asphalt based surfaces was a committee decision that Labour members did not oppose.
5	Cllr Brian Gordon	Would the Chairman join me in welcoming the Prime Minister's recent statement encouraging the re-introduction of grammar schools? If so does he believe that such schools, as in the past, could have a very positive place within this Borough?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	Yes and yes.
6	Cllr Geof Cooke	Road signs in High Road N12 by Fredericks Place welcome motorists to somewhere called 'Finchley North'. Is the administration trying to rename North Finchley or is it the result of outsourcing to people who do not know the borough?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	I am grateful the councillor has noticed this. The place is North Finchley and a replacement sign is being installed.
7	Cllr Brian Gordon	There have been well-publicised reports of a significant national increase in children calling Childline and other care agencies with urgent emotional, and potentially suicidal, issues. Do we have any statistics on this worrying development, in relation to Barnet?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	Local data shows that there are approximately 23 presentations per month at Barnet General Hospital for the most serious instances of suicide attempt or serious cutting/self harm. And there has been no notable change during the past two years. However, research indicates about a quarter of young people in the UK experience suicidal thoughts. This suggests that we need to do more locally to enable young people to disclose their feelings and to put in place more community and prevention focused solutions. This is something that we are exploring through the remodelling of CAMHS and we will be piloting the THRIVE model in schools.

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8	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Will the Leader update Full Council on progress to review the feasibility of including a diving facility in the plans for the new Copthall Leisure Centre? Many children who use the centre for diving lessons would have to travel very far to the nearest facility in Stratford. Does the Leader want to give Barnet's young people the opportunity to be the next Tom Daley or not?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The response at Policy and Resources was to amend Copthall plans so as not to preclude a diving pool. However, some evidence as to usage and cost per person is required, before going into funding and planning problems.
9	Cllr Brian Salinger	Will the Leader please provide members with a list of all planning enforcement cases that officers have handled in the last 2 years advising which they consider to have reached satisfactory outcomes and which are still outstanding. Will the leader ensure that the list shows the dates on which the first complaint about each of the developments was logged?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The volume of cases means that this list will have to be supplied separately to the councillor and published online.
10	Cllr Paul Edwards	In 2014/15 the Council introduced a charge to residents in receipt of Council Tax benefit of 8.5%. Could the Leader advise how many people received a summons for non-payment of this 8.5%, how many of these had court charges added to this debt, what this charge was, and how many cases ended up with bailiff's being used?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	In 2014/15, 1703 summonses were issued to recipients of Council Tax Support (CTS) (those now incurring 8.5%). Court costs of £72 were added to all these accounts, with a further £25 added when a liability order is granted by the magistrates' court. It should be noted that some court costs may have been subsequently waived where the customer has engaged with the Revenues team. None of these had been passed to the bailiff for enforcement. A hardship fund to assist residents with their council tax has

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				<p>been established. In 2015/16, 513 claims were received, of those 109 were successful and payments totalling nearly £100,000 were made. Claims can be made via the Welfare Reform Taskforce, who carefully assess each case. Some claims have been refused because they did not demonstrate any exceptional circumstances or hardship, had inessential expenses, failed to engage with the Taskforce, or failed to provide the information needed. Most were declined because the council tax could actually be afforded.</p> <p>The Welfare Reform Task Force in place since 2013 offers joined up support to people affected by a range of Welfare Reforms including the introduction of a local Council Tax Scheme. This includes supporting people to access a range of discretionary funds where appropriate including discretionary Council Tax Relief, Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) and Crisis Fund.</p> <p>The Welfare Reform Taskforce has generated positive outcomes for residents and the council such as assisting claimants to find work, or move to more affordable housing. Applications for Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) are also assessed by this team. DHPs assist residents with temporary shortfalls in housing benefit, while they seek work and engage further – such improving budgeting and other skills, or finding cheaper accommodation to move to.</p>

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11	Cllr Brian Salinger	Will the Leader outline his understanding of the powers of planning enforcement officers to vary the conditions that have been applied to a planning application by (a) other planning officers when a planning application was granted, (b) by elected members at formal committee meetings and (c) by the planning inspectors on appeal?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Conditions attached to a planning permission can only be varied on an application under section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act or on appeal subsequent to a refusal to grant such an application. Such changes will go to Planning Committee for approval or can be determined by Delegated Powers.

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12	Cllr Jim Tierney	<p>The parking control hours on the northern side of Hervey Close N3 at the junction with Ballards Lane are 8am to 6:30pm Monday to Saturday. There is no parking allowed on the southern side during these hours.</p> <p>After these hours however there is unrestricted parking on both sides at that junction. This effectively reduces Hervey Close to one lane at that point allowing just one vehicle at a time through in either direction.</p> <p>As a consequence, motorists on Ballards Lane needing to enter Hervey Close are often obliged to queue and wait there until they can get through. On occasion I have even noticed motorists being obliged to reverse back out of Hervey Close into the main road, Ballards Lane.</p> <p>Could I ask therefore that in order to keep Hervey Close free for two-way traffic we consider extending the control hours on the southern side at this junction to 10:00pm or even later?</p>	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	This is a matter that needs to be discussed at the Area Committee.

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13	Cllr Brian Salinger	Will the Leader please explain to members why, when a new development takes place and a new name or road name is given to a development, the planning records for the development remain under the former address?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Planning records and associated decision notices cannot be amended retrospectively and therefore retain the original building / road name.								
14	Cllr Ross Houston	Please would the Leader provide the most up to date figures for the length of time families currently in temporary accommodation have spent there?	Cllr Tom Davey (Chairman of Housing Committee)	<p>At the end of September 2016 there were 2887 households in all temporary accommodation (TA) of which 225 were in emergency TA. No families were in TA with shared facilities (B&B).</p> <p>Average time in TA:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Average Time(weeks)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ETA</td> <td>56</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other TA</td> <td>161</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>152</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Average Time(weeks)	ETA	56	Other TA	161		152
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15	Cllr Brian Salinger	In 2015 I raised with the leader the question of posters and notices that regularly illegally appear on council lamp-posts, fences and other places in the Borough. The Leader acknowledged that it was a problem. What has changed since then and does the Leader think that it is any less of a problem now than it was then?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>If reported by members of the public or noted whilst inspections are being conducted by the council's Highways Inspectors, arrangements for removal of such illegal adverting will be made.</p> <p>No change in policy is required just further information and action.</p>								

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16	Cllr Kath McGuirk	Would the Leader provide an update on the number of hate crimes reported in Barnet since the EU Referendum?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>As per the information provided in the report to the Community Leadership Committee on 7th September 2016:</p> <p><u>Hate Crime following EU referendum</u> Following the EU referendum on 23rd June 2016 an increase in reported Race and Religious Hate crime was observed nationally and in London. Barnet has also experienced an increase in rate of reported Race and Religious Hate Crimes in the two week period following the referendum. By the third week after the referendum the rate of reports in Barnet fell back to the pre-referendum levels.</p> <p><u>How big was the increase?</u> The average weekly number of Race and Religious Hate Crimes in Barnet is 10 per week^[1]. During the week following the referendum there were 26 reports, and 19 in the week after that. There were 10 reports in week 3, which is back in line with the average level. This means that during the two weeks following the referendum there were in total 25 more Race and Religious Hate Crimes reported than would normally be expected (i.e. around 2 additional offences per day for a two week period).</p> <p><u>Any patterns?</u> Barnet Police have not identified any specific trends or patterns associated with the increase that would indicate any one particular group is being specifically targeted or that one group of offenders have come to the fore.</p>

^[1] Based on 24 months July 2014 – June 2016 (1066 Race and Religious Hate Crimes.)

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				<p><u>Race and Religious Hate Crime – Long term levels and comparisons to London</u></p> <p>During the last 12 months the level of Racist and Hate Crimes reported in Barnet has risen, however the increase is in line with the overall London increase. The level of Race and Religious Hate Crime in Barnet remains considerably below the London average:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the 12 months to May 2016 there were 557 Racist and Religious Hate Crimes in Barnet. • This was an increase of 68 (13.9%) offences from the previous year. • This increase is in line with the London wide increase over the same period (13%). • Per head of population the rate of Racist and Religious Hate Crimes in Barnet is 13% lower than the London average. <p><u>Levels of Anti-Semitic and Islamophobic crime in Barnet:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the 12 months to May 2016 there were 121 reported Anti-Semitic Offences in Barnet, compared to 120 in the previous year. • In the 12 months to May 2016 there were 34 reported Islamophobic Offences in comparison to 21 in the previous year.

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17	Cllr Brian Salinger	Will the Leader join me in congratulating Baroness Evans of Bowes Park who spent her childhood as a resident of North Finchley, and who is a former pupil at Henrietta Barnett school, on becoming the Leader of the House of Lords?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Yes, I echo Cllr Salinger's congratulations. It is great to see people who have lived or been educated in the borough reach such positions and for there to be local knowledge available in the House of Lords.
18	Cllr Anne Hutton	With public library space reducing in size how will that be managed at busy times? North Finchley library, for example, is often very busy and there are few, if any, seats available at times. Who will be responsible for turning residents away if the library becomes over crowded? Does that not put staff in an untenable position if they have to turn residents away from a public space? And what happens when there is no staff and the library is overcrowded?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	<p>Visitors to libraries tend to ebb and flow and to date, there have been no occasions we are aware of when residents have been asked to leave a library space due to overcrowding. The reduced spaces for library activity are differentiated between Core, Core Plus and Partnership Libraries, reflecting the current patterns of usage. Events are currently timetabled to take numbers into account and this will continue in staffed opening hours.</p> <p>In the event that a library space becomes overcrowded in the future, during staffed hours, the library staff would need to address this. Should this occur during unstaffed hours, the CCTV operative would alert the contracted security company.</p>
19	Cllr Brian Salinger	Earlier this year the Council announced a significant sum of money to be shared by schools to ease the problems of 'unified pay'. Will the Leader please provide members with a statement showing how much was allocated to each school?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	After extensive consultation unified reward is now being implemented for all directly employed council staff and community schools. Unified reward provides a pay and reward system which is fairer, more flexible and rewards performance. A Collective Agreement was achieved with the Trade Unions on the 31st May 2016 and the changes became effective for corporate staff from the 1st October 2016 and for community schools from the 1st April 2017. Overall the impact of unified reward is cost neutral. However in the first year the impact of pay protection (for those negatively impacted by unified reward)

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				has an additional cost. The council has set aside a reserve to assist with this. The worst case scenario per community school has been estimated, however this will be verified and agreed with each school individually over the next few months.
20	Cllr Barry Rawlings	Would the Leader advise how many claims and how much money has been paid out by the Council in insurance claims as a result of people tripping on uneven or damaged pavements each year since 2010?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	Since April 2010 1,159 claims have been received in respect of people claiming to trip on uneven or damaged pavements. 66% of these claims were repudiated. The value of repudiated claims isn't recorded. Details of claims paid out and costs in relation to repudiated claims are included in the table appended.
21	Cllr Gabriel Rozenberg	What is the total amount of private investment secured for the regeneration and redevelopment programme?	Cllr Dan Thomas (Chairman of Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee)	The council's existing regeneration programme will see £6bn of private sector investment over the next 25 years, create around 27,000 new homes and up to 30,000 new jobs. The programme will also generate £11m of additional recurrent income for the council by 2020.
22	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Halfway through the centenary of the World War 1 commemorations, could Barnet finally honour their pledge to install the plaque from Brackenbury Road into East Finchley library?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Could the councillor share the details with me and I'd be happy to assist.
23	Cllr Gabriel Rozenberg	Aside from the new homes, what benefits are residents and the council as an organisation seeing as a result of the borough's regeneration and development	Cllr Dan Thomas (Chairman of Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee)	Beyond the 5,000 new homes delivered so far and the further 20,000 set to be built by 2025, there are a range of other benefits resulting from our regeneration and development schemes.

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		schemes?		<p>For the council, the growth generated will be critical in meeting our future financial challenges. By 2020 there will be £11m of recurrent annual income that will help fund services.</p> <p>There will also be significant investment in local infrastructure, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - £3.4m in highway improvements in Colindale - £11m to improve Colindale tube station - £97m government grant for a new Thameslink station at Brent Cross - New community facilities e.g. OneStonegrove and Hope Valley Community Centre in Dollis Valley - New library at Grahame Park and a new campus for Barnet and Southgate College - £6m new Youth Zone - New schools - Public realm improvements <p>The schemes will also help create 30,000 new jobs and new opportunities for apprenticeships.</p>
24	Cllr Paul Edwards	In 2015/16 the council increased the contribution of those in receipt of Council Tax Support by almost 2.5 times to 20%. Could the Leader advise how many people received a summons for non-payment of this 20%, how many of these had court charges added to this debt, what this charge was, and how many cases ended up with bailiff's being used?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	In 2015/16, 4386 summonses were issued to recipients of Council Tax Support (CTS) (those now incurring 20%). Court costs of £72 were added to all these accounts, with a further £25 added when a liability order is granted by the magistrates' court. It should be noted that some court costs may have been subsequently waived where the customer has engaged with the Revenues team. 59 CTS cases had been passed to the bailiff for enforcement in 2015/16.

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25	Cllr Gabriel Rozenberg	Earlier this year the council began to install CCTV outside schools with identified problems with parking on zig-zag lines etc. in order to enforce against dangerous behaviour and improve safety for children. How many schools are now included in this scheme and how has it been received?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	By November 2016, thirty schools will have infrastructure installed to support CCTV enforcement cameras, with cameras being moved between sites. These enforcement cameras have been well received by the schools with many emails articulating strong support for the scheme. The CCTV Moving Traffic Contravention Cameras outside of the schools are particularly important from a safety point of view because they help to enforce against illegal parking outside of school premises and in doing so make it safer for children in and around school areas.
26	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	Will the leader give a commitment that the administration will not push forward with any plans that threaten the ability of the Blind and Partially Sighted bowling club to be able to continue playing in Barnet?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	There is a suggested saving of £100k in the MTFs concerning bowling greens. However, there are offsetting benefits that we cannot lose and this facility is should be protected in my opinion.
27	Cllr Gabriel Rozenberg	Could the Committee Chairman provide an update with regards to the delivery of the new Youth Zone in the west of the borough?	Cllr Dan Thomas (Chairman of Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee)	<p>1. Update on key project milestones</p> <p><u>Lease agreement</u> General principles of Heads of Terms of Lease have been negotiated and agreed by LBB and Barnet Youth Zone and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 125 year lease • peppercorn rent • no break clauses – with restrictions on the use of the land • no assignment/sale without landlord’s consent <p>Following pre-planning advice, HB Law will be instructed to draw up an agreement for lease.</p> <p><u>Planning and development</u> Intent to dispose of land has been advertised as a public notice in the local press for two consecutive weeks in accordance with Section 123, no objections were raised by residents. Following</p>

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				<p>changes to the indicative red line, HB law have advised disposal is re-advertised for a two week period.</p> <p>A design team has been appointed by OnSide who have started to develop the indicative designs for the Youth Zone in tandem with the council’s Montrose Playing Fields Master Plan.</p> <p>OnSide are seeking pre-application planning advice, and will submit a pre-application pack to Barnet planning on 28 October in order to identify any planning issues and requirements before a formal planning application is submitted.</p> <p>Local residents and Members will be kept fully informed throughout the planning process via engagement events and consultation. Engagement events have already been held in Montrose Playing fields and Burnt Oak around the master plan for Montrose Playing fields and Silkstream Park’s regeneration, information about Youth Zone was shared with local residents at both events.</p> <p><u>Community Engagement</u> Young people have been actively involved in the initial stages of the project as part of a Young People’s Development Group, meeting weekly to develop branding for the proposed Youth Zone. In June, around 2,000 young people from across the borough voted for their preferred name and logo for the new Youth Zone, ‘Unitas’. A brand launch event was held in September at Saracens, attended by chairman of Barnet Youth Zone Keith Black and Cllr Thompstone.</p> <p>OnSide continue to engage with the voluntary and community</p>

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				<p>sector from the outset, regularly attending Practitioners Forums, meeting with local organisations and holding stalls at a number of local events and fun-days. OnSide have had discussions with several local groups including the Scouts and Saracens around how they can support each other in the future.</p> <p>2. Next steps The project will return to ARG once the development for lease has been drafted and a pre-planning application advice has been given.</p> <p>The formal planning process will commence in proper from January, with planning and construction likely to take at least 18 months to 2 years with an opening of the Youth Zone estimated to be in Autumn 2018.</p>
28	Cllr Barry Rawlings	May I take this opportunity to thank the Leader for agreeing to my request for a book of condolence following the death of Shimon Peres and would he like to join me in presenting the book to the Israeli Embassy?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	I thank Cllr Rawlings for his involvement in this and agree it would be appropriate for us to present the book to the embassy together, reflecting the broad support such commemorations have in this council and borough.
29	Cllr Rohit Grover	Does the Committee Chairman welcome recent recognition from the Mayor of London for the borough's air quality and our efforts to improve it? What further action is the council taking in this regard?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	Yes, I'm pleased to say the Mayor and GLA have awarded the borough Cleaner Air Borough status for the standard of our 2015 work and the strength of future plans. The council has published a cleaner air action plan for 2016-20.

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30	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Many people consider the letter that suggested voting for Sadiq Khan would result in wealth taxes on jewellery sent by the Conservative Party to Hindu and Tamil residents in Barnet during the London elections to be racist (http://www.politics.co.uk/news/2016/03/15/zac-goldsmith-warns-ethnic-minorities-that-sadiq-khan-will-p). Would the Leader of the Council advise if he understands that letters like this damage community relations?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>There were ill-advised elements of both campaigns for the Mayoralty. In Barnet both parties are very hot on promoting positive and respectful community relations.</p> <p>I would caution Cllr Mittra from going too far down this path given the continuing troubles the wider Labour Party is experiencing.</p>
31	Cllr Rohit Grover	Does the Leader agree that the Business Rates Retention Scheme being worked up by the government must incentivise and reward boroughs for local growth?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>Yes, this is potentially a great opportunity to incentivise and reward the local growth that will help drive the economy and deliver the new homes people need. It can give boroughs control over their own destinies if the proceeds of growth are locally retained to fund the services and infrastructure we require. There will have to be some re-distribution, but if rates are all sent to the Mayor or other parts of the country then nothing will really have changed from now.</p>
32	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	Why does the Leader believe that his administration does not have the capability to run efficient high quality in-house street scene services?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>I want the best for Barnet and will support the best of a range of options being considered. A wholly in-house option was assessed at an earlier stage and found wanting.</p>
33	Cllr Rohit Grover	How important will it be for the system to be re-baselined to reflect current distributions of need when transferring to rate retention?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>Vital.</p> <p>The current distribution is based on an outdated analysis of where need is located. The demographic and socio-economic changes that have taken place in London mean that large outer-</p>

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				<p>London boroughs like Barnet are now unfairly underfunded. It cannot be right that Camden receive over two and a half times the funding per person that Barnet gets. If we were funded to the same level, instead of charging council tax we could give each Band D household £240 per year.</p> <p>This is an important opportunity to rectify this situation. If not re-baselined it will only increase the future burden on services and the local taxpayer.</p>
34	Cllr Paul Edwards	<p>The Conservative government was elected in 2015 on a manifesto pledge to "preserve the integrity of the single market" and ensure British markets can take full advantage of the trading opportunities the single market offers. Yet it looks like the country is heading for a "Hard Brexit." Does the Leader support the Conservative manifesto pledge or does he favour a deal which would see the UK ceasing to be a member of the single market, which is the inevitable outcome of hard Brexit?</p>	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Alas, it is not in my power or influence to determine the nature of the UK's negotiating position or the outcome that will be achieved.
35	Cllr Val Duschinsky	<p>What proportion of pupils in Barnet are now being taught in schools rated as 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by OFSTED?</p>	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	95%

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36	Cllr Barry Rawlings	In 2016/17 the Conservative government gave Barnet the 7th lowest award of Revenue Support Grant funding per capita in London – will the Leader be able to secure a better settlement for Barnet for next year and the future?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The disappointing RSG settlement last year merely confirmed that the long established funding formula continues to disadvantage boroughs like Barnet. Having made representations to the government I achieved an additional £2.8m in funding. I continue to lobby for a change to the formula – to reflect current needs – and hope this will be successful. It would be helpful if Cllr Rawlings would also convince Mayor Khan to focus more of his investment away from the Zone 1 Labour heartlands.
37	Cllr Val Duschinsky	Does the Committee Chairman welcome the Department for Education’s announcement that a number of new free schools are to be supported to open in the borough over the next couple of years?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	Yes. The announcement of three new free schools to be established in Barnet is very welcome. The Saracens High School and The Compton Cricklewood will provide new secondary school places to help meet the needs of Barnet’s growing primary school population as the children move through to the next phase. The Windmill School will provide new places for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and will help meet the projected shortfall in this type of specialist provision.
38	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Will the Leader meet with me and the Leader of the Labour Group to discuss ways LB Barnet can commemorate the centenary of the founding of the RAF, given our history of the production of aircraft, and the museum?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Yes. The centenary of the founding of the RAF in 2018 will be an important occasion which I am certain the borough would want to commemorate and celebrate. I am grateful for the councillor’s enthusiasm.
39	Cllr Val Duschinsky	Would the Leader welcome the progress made towards achieving our aim of step-free access at Mill Hill Broadway station and will he join me in advocating for the scheme to receive the necessary funds from external partners when	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Yes and yes.

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		the project reaches that stage?		
40	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	When will remedial work on roads where surface dressing and micro asphalt resurfacing work was not carried out correctly be completed?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	Some remedial work has been carried out. There is more to do. All works are still within the Maintenance Period (24 months) with agreed defects being rectified by the contractor.
41	Cllr John Marshall	Barnet is in the top five local authority areas nationally for attainment at GCSE and A-level, but is also ranked 2nd and 3rd respectively for progress made at secondary age in English and Maths. Barnet also performs very highly in terms of social mobility, as measured by The Sutton Trust's Social Mobility Index. Does the Leader think this is partly because of, or in spite of, the presence of grammar schools in our borough?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	I am proud of what pupils and teachers achieve across the broad variety of schools. Clearly performance is very high with young people able to access excellent opportunities to reach their potential. Undoubtedly, the borough's grammar schools are part of this and make a fantastic contribution towards our collective success.

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42	Cllr Anne Hutton	With, presumably, fewer computers available in public libraries with reduced space, how will access to them be managed especially at busy times? Who will determine how long computer sessions should last? Especially if there is no staff around to tell residents to move when their time is up!	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	As is currently the case at Edgware library, once an individual has reached the end of their allocated time slot on a Netloan-linked computer terminal, access will automatically end.
43	Cllr John Marshall	Should there be parental demand, would the Leader be open to exploring the possibility of additional grammar places in the borough?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	The borough's existing grammar schools are immensely popular and vastly oversubscribed, so it would seem there is a demand. We would of course have to consider the details, working with government and providers, and consult widely. I do believe that grammar schools accord with the aspirational nature of many of our residents.
44	Cllr Barry Rawlings	Will the Leader join me in pressing for parking restrictions on the Meadway to restrict commuter parking near High Barnet station that blights the lives of local residents?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	This is a matter for the Area Committee and ward councillors.
45	Cllr John Marshall	Whatever happens with regards to grammar schools, will the council continue to give its full and enthusiastic support to the diverse mix of schools the borough enjoys?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	Of course. The rich diversity in types of school – comprehensive, academy, free, special, faith and grammar – we have in the borough is key to our success. It means there is choice for parents and an education to meet each child's needs. We believe that grammars can be part of this mix, but we would remain enthusiastic supporters of all Barnet's schools, many of which exist thanks to the government's reforms.

Council Questions – 1st November (in order)

Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
46	Cllr Arjun Mittra	A large blue container has been in place in the car park in Brownswell Road for almost a year. Despite several requests it has not been removed. Can it be please?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	Officers have investigated this matter and have since identified the owner of the container in question. We are currently liaising with the owner regarding its removal.
47	Cllr Eva Greenspan	Does the Leader agree that Barnet's existing grammar schools make a positive contribution to the educational offer available in the borough?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	Yes, these are highly successful schools which deliver their pupils with outstanding educations, extra-curricular activities and prospects in adult life. I am supportive of, and grateful to, all outstanding schools, whatever their model.
48	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	In the streetscene alternative delivery model business case, why was the assessment of the in-house option based on the pre-December 2015 service rather than on a future service with the potential to deliver improvements, innovation and savings?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	<p>In terms of the Alternative Delivery Model for Street Scene services, the initial outline business case assessed and evaluated seven potential options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-house (pre-December 2015) • In-house (with management support from The Barnet Group) • Local Authority Trading Company (The Barnet Group) • Outsourced • Shared Service • Employee Mutual, Social Enterprise, and Trusts • Joint Venture and Partnerships <p>The selection of these options was based on sector-wide best practice knowledge, experience of other alternative delivery models at Barnet Council, and current service arrangements.</p> <p>The issues which had arisen with the in-house service (pre-December 2015) which the 2015 Audit report highlighted, included a lack of understanding of how to achieve the MTFs, failure to identify savings, lack of financial forecasting and no assurance measures being in place.</p>

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Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
				<p>As this is the most recent and best guide of how a future service would also perform it received low scoring in a number of the key criteria such as “Cost v Savings”, “Track Record” and “continuous service improvement”.</p> <p>It was clear that the pre December 2015 street scene model would not be able to manage the transformation process, and so alternative models will be assessed to ensure the good quality customers services are delivered in the future.</p>
49	Cllr Eva Greenspan	Does the Leader agree it is rank hypocrisy when those who aggressively advocate for an exclusively comprehensive state education sector send their own children to private or selective schools?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Quite. This has been all too common. Although my opinion will count for little with left wing aristocrats.
50	Cllr Anne Hutton	If a young person under 16 goes into an unstaffed library with an adult and the accompanying adult then leaves after a while but the student doesn't want to leave – how would that situation be managed?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	If the child is obviously under the age of 15 and unaccompanied, our protocols direct the CCTV operator to keep a close observation on the child whilst they despatch a member of our contracted security company to the relevant library. The security guard will then approach the child to establish the situation, and if necessary, to try to contact a parent or guardian. The same process would apply if another member of the public alerted the CCTV operator directly. In both instances, for the safety of the child or young person, they would be encouraged to stay in the library until the parent or guardian arrived to collect them. The details of the accompanying adult would be established through the card registration system and be warned that should this happen again, the permission to use self –service opening would be withdrawn.

Council Questions – 1st November (in order)

Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
51	Cllr Eva Greenspan	Would the Leader comment on the report of the Home Affairs Select Committee into anti-Semitism in the UK?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	All discrimination is wrong. It is also wrong where attempts to stop it are frustrated within organisations. It is simply shocking in the 21 st century.
52	Cllr Barry Rawlings	Will the Leader now agree with Labour that serious consideration needs to be given to an orbital rail system to support the Brent Cross development?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The councillor knows of my support as Cllr Cooke announced it at a previous council meeting.
53	Cllr Maureen Braun	Does the Leader welcome the record confiscations and costs awarded by the court in the recent joint CAFT and planning enforcement case and how important does he think such prosecutions are in deterring others from abusing the system?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Yes. The deterrent effect of massive confiscations cannot be underestimated. Enforcement is difficult and protracted. Success should be celebrated.
54	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	How can outsourcing the delivery of streetscene services to a private company deliver the savings outlined in the Medium-Term Finance Plan by 2019/20 - given that the Council's own outline business case says that this option would not go live until 2019 and taking into account the cost of the procurement exercise?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	<p>As highlighted in the Alternative Delivery Model for Street Scene the initial outline business case discussed at Environment Committee in 29th October, a outsourced model does have risks associated with achieving 2017/18 savings, owing to delays with project timescales if a procurement was undertaken. It should be noted however that a level of service transformation such as those for our commercial waste service, or implementing new ways of working from our street cleansing framework will still be worked on during any potential procurement process.</p> <p>The aim of the Alternative Delivery Model for Street Scene is to ensure we have the right service delivery model for many years to come, on that delivers a high quality service as well as value for money for local residents and businesses. Any estimated costs involved with the transformation of services, procurements</p>

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Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
				processes or savings proposals will be evaluated and detailed within the OBC 2 report that will be considered by the Environment Committee in March 2017.
55	Cllr Maureen Braun	Does the Leader accept that residents want and expect enforcement action to be taken against planning breaches and will he continue to push for cases to be taken forward?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Absolutely and they must be wherever possible.
56	Cllr Anne Hutton	Most school libraries close at the latest by 4.30 how can the leader guarantee young people will have access to public libraries when they need them?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	<p>There will be a range of staffed opening hours (morning, afternoon, evening, weekend) at each site and scheduled across the network. During self-service opening, young people aged 16-18 (and those aged over 15 in Year 11) will be able to access self-service hours with parental permission. Younger children can access the library during self-service opening hours if accompanied.</p> <p>A survey was undertaken with all secondary schools in the borough as part of Library Service review. All schools who responded (19 out of 25 requests) stated that they offer after-school facilities in their school library or other study space. Schools tend to open for up to an hour before school and for one-and-a-half to two hours after school for pupils to come into school to access study space and computers. The offer ranges from making general use of the school library, through to supervised study clubs for pupils needing assistance with their homework. Some offer more access for older children, particularly sixth formers who can work unsupervised and who can enter school as long as it is open. As the exam season</p>

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Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
				<p>approaches, most schools offer homework clubs, revision sessions and exam preparations at weekends and holidays too.</p>
57	Cllr Maureen Braun	<p>Could the Leader or Committee Chairman update Council on the difficulties experienced when transferring enablement services to Aquaflo and how these have subsequently been resolved?</p>	<p>Cllr Sachin Rajput (Chairman of Adults and Safeguarding Committee)</p>	<p>A full report on this was presented to the Urgency Committee on 17th October. This set out the actions taken by officers to ensure that difficulties were dealt with and that care was provided to those needing short term enablement support.</p> <p>These actions included putting in place alternative care, extensive welfare checks, social work reviews and providing additional out of hours management and care worker support.</p> <p>At the Urgency Committee, the Leader, the Deputy Leader and the Leader of the Opposition noted the commitment of council officers in dealing with this situation and commended and thanked them for their work.</p> <p>A further report will be presented to the Adults and Safeguarding Committee outlining the lessons learned, following a full review.</p>
58	Cllr Barry Rawlings	<p>When will LB Barnet's IT be fit for purpose?</p>	<p>Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)</p>	<p>It is, but we are always looking for improvement. Does the councillor have a particular IT difficulty that I can help with?</p>
59	Cllr Shimon Ryde	<p>Could the Committee Chairman confirm the level of interest from local community groups in taking on the four partnership libraries and update Council on the progress made in helping them prepare their bids?</p>	<p>Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)</p>	<p>Eleven organisations/community groups submitted an Expressions of Interest application to run the four Partnership Libraries. Of these, six have been selected to develop detailed business cases. The council has met each of the prospective organisations to establish their support requirements. The council has hosted a number of information events and on-site visits and provided more detailed information to each</p>

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Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
				prospective partner on various aspects of running a library, policies and procedures, legal and governance and other factors. Prospective providers have also been encouraged to submit questions onto the procurement portal.
60	Cllr Arjun Mittra	What is the council policy on trimming back overgrown trees? Despite my requests, the branches of a tree outside 27 Manor Park Road is growing ever near the houses, but the council refuse to cut it back. Why is this?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	All street trees in Barnet are surveyed every three years as part of ongoing cyclical management programme and works identified. Our efforts are concentrated on larger trees which carry more risk, both in terms of subsidence and personal injury. In this instance, the tree was inspected following the request and a works order was issued to the contractor to carry out works outside of the normal cyclical program. The works are still outstanding with the contractor, and a reminder has been sent to ensure that pruning takes place.
61	Cllr Shimon Ryde	How many partnership libraries are there in neighbouring boroughs?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	There are a number of different models of community-led, managed or supported library spaces. A review of neighbouring council websites show that Camden has three community-managed libraries whilst Enfield has 13 variations of community-run libraries (current and proposed).
62	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	How much extra (based on current membership levels) would members of each Barnet bowling club playing on a council managed green have to pay under the administration's plans to save money by making all those clubs self-managing and self-funding?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Discussions are ongoing with individual bowling clubs as each club's circumstances are different. These discussions include means of generating income from sources other than membership fees and reductions in operating costs. Any effect of the initiative on membership costs will not be known until the completion of discussions and the definition of possible new arrangements, targeted for the end of December this year.

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Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
63	Cllr Peter Zinkin	Are residents generally pleased with the footway resurfacing work which has been ongoing across the borough?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	Yes, there is a very high level of satisfaction. 91% of those surveyed agreed that works had improved their street.
64	Cllr Anne Hutton	Could the leader please confirm the size of the Church End library in the Gateway project?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	Paragraph 6.2 of the “Agreement for Lease”, shared with Cabinet Resources Committee on 25th February 2014, states that there should be provision for a library comprising 842sq.m. located on the ground and lower ground floors of the redeveloped Gateway House. The current Church End library is 595sq.m in size.
65	Cllr Peter Zinkin	Is the council working with local health providers to ensure the best adult care we can?	Cllr Sachin Rajput (Chairman of Adults and Safeguarding Committee)	Not as well as we should. There will be lot about this in the motion section of the meeting.
66	Cllr Barry Rawlings	Has the Council reached agreement on how many unaccompanied Syrian children it will be accepting?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The Council is working with the Home Office, Association of Directors of Children’s Services and the DfE to ensure that children who are eligible to be unaccompanied asylum seekers under the Dubs amendment are appropriately placed across the country, The Government has set a cap of 0.07% of the child population as UASC in any region. London is above this percentage. Barnet is, however, ensuring that despite the overall cap we offer placements to children. We are still working through the exact details on numbers. Under the Dublin III arrangement Barnet has worked with the Home Office and placed 4 children (approximately 10% of those eligible)
67	Cllr Bridget Perry	Could the Leader explain what the council is doing to support apprenticeships in the borough?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding)	The Entrepreneurial Barnet approach sets out the Council and partner’s commitment to encouraging skilled employees and entrepreneurs, and apprenticeship opportunities form a key part of that approach. The council supports local businesses to encourage them to

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Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
			Committee)	<p>provide apprenticeship opportunities. The council uses the planning process to encourage developers to provide apprenticeships on our regeneration and building sites. The implementation of a Supplementary Planning Document will see developers commit to delivering 300 apprenticeship opportunities on our building sites in the next 10 years. The council would like to work with local businesses who will be taking on apprentices as part of the new Apprenticeship Levy being introduced and is speaking to local businesses about the support they will need. As an employer, the council has a commitment to supporting apprentices, and along with other delivery partner organisations, have pledged to appoint 82 apprentices in this financial year.</p> <p>The Council also encourages local people to consider apprenticeships as a career choice through a range of activities. Partners promoted the ‘Get In, Go Far’ apprenticeship campaign in August and September as part of their support for young people around exam results days. Cambridge Education will hold their annual Apprenticeship Event at Middlesex University during the Autumn term and support schools in providing information and contacts about apprenticeship pathways. Partners share local apprenticeship opportunities through an Employability Group to make sure that they are well advertised. Finally a range of partners work with young people to ensure that they are supported to apply for an apprenticeship and to remove any barriers that they may have to starting- for example with help to apply for the CSCS card needed for construction roles, with travel costs or with life skills support.</p>

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Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
68	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	One of the advantages of transferring streetscene services to The Barnet Group (as listed in the council's outline business case for an alternative delivery model) is "opportunities for staff". What are those opportunities?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	<p>TBG Flex is an opportunity for the Barnet Group employees to access flexible benefits as well as a range of different benefits rather than the standard LGPS. The Barnet group have found that these benefits are more attractive to certain applicant, who have a more flexible career path.</p> <p>There are wider opportunities to working within the Group, as most new roles are advertised internally before they search externally and therefore for staff transferring into the Group, they would have the opportunity to apply for a wider range of roles within Barnet Homes and Your Choice. The Group also offer internal development opportunities on projects and secondments, and have provide plenty of examples of where staff have been given the opportunity to widen their expertise and ultimate gain promotions or indeed external roles as a result of working within the Group. The Group also provide volunteering opportunities, mentoring and many other aspects linked to their people strategy</p>
69	Cllr Bridget Perry	Previously it was revealed that Barnet had the fourth lowest proportion of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) in the country. Are we continuing to work to ensure this good record is maintained?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	<p>The latest National NEET figures were published in April 2016 and we were joint 5th nationally with 2% NEET</p> <p>Of the four Local Authorities who performed better, only one has a larger 16-18 population than Barnet.</p> <p>We are continuing to work with schools to identify and support those young people who are at risk of becoming NEET and helping them to make a successful transition to Education, Employment or Training.</p>
70	Cllr Ross Houston	How much income has LB Barnet achieved from right to buy sales since 2010?	Cllr Tom Davey (Chairman of Housing Committee)	Right to Buy sales have generated £50.8m since 2010 (up to Q1 of 2016/17). Pooling payment for the same period has been £8.8m and therefore the retained amount is £42m.

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Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
71	Cllr Bridget Perry	How many people have the council helped off benefits and into employment and what role has the Welfare Reform Task Force had in this process?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>Ongoing council schemes had supported over 1200 people into work at the end of August.</p> <p>This includes the WorkFinder project which is active on Housing Estates in Barnet, public health funded projects to support people with health and employment side by side and the Welfare Reform Taskforce which supports people affected by Welfare Reforms to find work. Many of these residents will be claiming benefits including out of work benefits and Housing Benefits.</p> <p>During this same period over 800 people have been supported by the Welfare Reform Task Force to move into work and as a result are no longer affected by the overall cap on benefits.</p>
72	Cllr Barry Rawlings	Would the Leader please provide details of the number, frequency and types of health and safety incidents that have been reported/recorded each year in Barnet's libraries since 2010?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	<p>This information is being collated and will be made available soon.</p> <p>In the meantime, previous figures released are appended.</p>
73	Cllr Mark Shooter	What has been the percentage change in the MOPAC 7 key target crimes since the baseline of 2012?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	As at 7 September 2016 Barnet has shown an 18.5% reduction in the MOPAC 7 crime since the 2012 baseline.
74	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	How much would a procurement exercise to outsource streetscene services to a private company cost to run?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	A review of the cost of procurement for Street scene service will be completed as part of the Alternative Delivery Model for Street Scene project. These costs will form part of the overall assessment criteria to establish a preferred option for delivery between the short lists of options from the initial outline business case. Cost of implementation of each option, be it a procurement process, a service transform programme run by the Barnet group and the council, or setting up a shared service with another council will be taken into account along with the ongoing

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Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
				cost of the delivery model. This work is scheduled to be considered by Environment Committee in March 2017.
75	Cllr Mark Shooter	There have been intensive campaigns by the police to tackle gang crime in neighbouring boroughs like Brent. Is there any evidence that this has displaced problems to Barnet and, if so, will the council be requesting more concerted action by the police and the Mayor of London to remedy this?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>There are a number of reasons as to why gang related crime takes place in Barnet this includes displacement that can happen across London and, recent evidence, shows across counties as opposed to a single neighbouring borough.</p> <p>We continue to put pressure on the police to ensure an adequate response.</p>
76	Cllr Ross Houston	How much money from right to buy sales has LB Barnet had to relinquish as a result of not using it within the required timescale?	Cllr Tom Davey (Chairman of Housing Committee)	No retained RTB monies have been returned to the Government, although an error with the Department for Communities & Local Government's system led to a payment of £793k last year. This will be corrected and the monies returned before the end of this financial year.
77	Cllr Mark Shooter	What incidents of hate crime have there been in the borough?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>As per the information provided in the report to the Community Leadership Committee on 7th September 2016:</p> <p><u>Hate Crime following EY referendum</u> Following the EU referendum on 23rd June 2016 an increase in reported Race and Religious Hate crime was observed nationally and in London. Barnet has also experienced an increase in rate of reported Race and Religious Hate Crimes in the two week period following the referendum. By the third week after the referendum the rate of reports in Barnet fell back to the pre-referendum levels.</p> <p><u>How big was the increase?</u> The average weekly number of Race and Religious Hate Crimes</p>

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Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
				<p>in Barnet is 10 per week^[1]. During the week following the referendum there were 26 reports, and 19 in the week after that. There were 10 reports in week 3, which is back in line with the average level. This means that during the two weeks following the referendum there were in total 25 more Race and Religious Hate Crimes reported than would normally be expected (i.e. around 2 additional offences per day for a two week period).</p> <p><u>Any patterns?</u> Barnet Police have not identified any specific trends or patterns associated with the increase that would indicate any one particular group is being specifically targeted or that one group of offenders have come to the fore.</p> <p><u>Race and Religious Hate Crime – Long term levels and comparisons to London</u></p> <p>During the last 12 months the level of Racist and Hate Crimes reported in Barnet has risen, however the increase is in line with the overall London increase. The level of Race and Religious Hate Crime in Barnet remains considerably below the London average:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the 12 months to May 2016 there were 557 Racist and Religious Hate Crimes in Barnet. • This was an increase of 68 (13.9%) offences from the previous year. • This increase is in line with the London wide increase

^[1] Based on 24 months July 2014 – June 2016 (1066 Race and Religious Hate Crimes.)

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				<p>over the same period (13%).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per head of population the rate of Racist and Religious Hate Crimes in Barnet is 13% lower than the London average. <p><u>Levels of Anti-Semitic and Islamophobic crime in Barnet:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the 12 months to May 2016 there were 121 reported Anti-Semitic Offences in Barnet, compared to 120 in the previous year. In the 12 months to May 2016 there were 34 reported Islamophobic Offences in comparison to 21 in the previous year.
78	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	How many and what is the value of insurance claims submitted to the council as a result of damage caused by the micro asphalt and surface dressing road resurfacing treatments?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	29 claims have been submitted with a total reserve of £38,725 attributed to them.
79	Cllr Bridget Perry	What message does the Leader have for those people misusing Blue Badges?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>We are taking a firm line with motorists who misuse or obtain Disabled Blue Badges fraudulently, to stop them using a parking space that someone else genuinely needs.</p> <p>Disabled Blue Badges can only be issued to a person in genuine need of a badge and then subsequently only used by the named badge holder, or by a person who has dropped off or is collecting the holder from the place where the vehicle is parked.</p> <p>It is a criminal offence for anyone else to use or obtain a blue badge in any other circumstances. Individuals caught breaking the blue badge rules could face prosecution.</p>

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Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
				<p>Since last October, our Corporate Anti-Fraud Team have investigated 149 cases of blue badge fraud and/or misuse which have resulted in 18 successful prosecutions and 2 cautions being issued by the council. Penalty Charge Notices issued as a result of these investigations have generated £3,825 and costs awarded through the courts of £7,913 – totalling £11,738 of revenue for the council, with additional fines to the offenders totalling £4,955.</p>
80	Cllr Reema Patel	<p>What commissioning, procurement and delivery lessons have been learned from the disastrous implementation of the new enablement contract?</p>	<p>Cllr Sachin Rajput (Chairman of Adults and Safeguarding Committee)</p>	<p>A full report on this was presented to the Urgency Committee on 17th October. This set out the actions taken by officers to ensure that difficulties were dealt with and that care was provided to those needing short term enablement support. The report also set out details of the procurement and mobilisation process. The report showed that the procurement process followed EU and Council rules and also included a working group of adult social care service users and carers. The mobilisation process followed the Council's structured project management approach.</p> <p>As we noted at the Urgency Committee, a further report will be presented to the Adults and Safeguarding Committee in due course outlining the lessons learned, following a full review.</p>
81	Cllr Joan Scannell	<p>Would the Leader agree that the openings of One Stonegrove and Hope Corner Community Centre, on the Stonegrove and Dollis Valley regeneration schemes respectively, show the capacity for redevelopment to deliver enhanced community facilities as well as the much needed new homes?</p>	<p>Cllr Dan Thomas (Chairman of Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee)</p>	<p>Yes, these two examples show what can be achieved.</p> <p>The Stonegrove Regeneration has seen an excellent community facility which not only includes a new community centre run by a resident lead Community Trust but also a nursery, a café and a new Church building to replace the previous building.</p> <p>On Dollis Valley, the new enhanced community centre is managed by the same organisation that managed the previous Valley Centre. The new centre has improved facilities which will</p>

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Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
				allow new and more activities to take place. There is a café on the ground floor which is open to the general public and also a new nursery. Both facilities are now fully operational and open for business.
82	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	What penalties have been imposed on contractors not carrying out resurfacing properly or not using materials that conform to the required specification?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	LoHAC is a joint initiative between TfL and twenty London boroughs. Poor work will have to be put right and there are ongoing discussions as to these specific issues.
83	Cllr Wendy Prentice	The council is to consult on plans for the East Barnet partnership library to be included in the design plans for the brand new leisure centre at Victoria Recreation Ground, due to open in 2019. Does the Committee Chairman agree this could provide a great co-location opportunity that could further enhance what is already going to be a highly valued new facility for the local community?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Yes. The proposal offers an opportunity to provide new, modern, fit for purpose library facilities co-located with leisure facilities, a café and parking. In our library consultations so far, residents have expressed support for the idea of co-locating libraries with other services as a way to ensure a sustainable future for library services. Many thousands of residents use our leisure centres and co-locating the library would help promote a greater use of the library.
84	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	When will an equalities impact assessment be carried out on plans to make Barnet bowling clubs self-managing?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Equalities impact assessments will be developed concurrent with the development of possible new arrangements.

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Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response																
85	Cllr Wendy Prentice	There have been many emails from residents asking whether the council scans for microchips the bodies of those cats recovered by our services having been sadly killed in road accidents. Could the Leader confirm the current situation?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>From 1 November 2016 any deceased dogs or cats that are removed from public or private land will be scanned for identification chips. If an ID chip is detected the owner will be identified and contacted.</p> <p>Chipped animals will be stored at our depot for 2 days giving owners the opportunity to recover their animal if they wish.</p>																
86	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	How much money in total has been spent on cycling in Barnet over the last 3 financial years (2013/14, 2014/15, and 2015/2016). For each year, how much has been spent on a) cycle parking, b) cycle training, and c) cycle routes?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	<p>The following data relates to cycling related work funded through Local Implementation Plan (LIP) funding or Borough Cycling Programme Funding from TfL. It generally includes grants paid and staff time for appropriate projects. Cycle training costs for 2013/14 were as part of more general school based road safety work so the sum identified is not calculated on the same basis.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>LIP & BCP funded</th> <th>cycle parking</th> <th>cycle training</th> <th>cycle routes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>17,447</td> <td>47,000</td> <td>630,316</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014/15</td> <td>94,608</td> <td>87,338</td> <td>226,562</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015/16</td> <td>115,856</td> <td>164,824</td> <td>207,926</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Additional cycle training has also been delivered as part of Air Quality projects.</p>	LIP & BCP funded	cycle parking	cycle training	cycle routes	2013/14	17,447	47,000	630,316	2014/15	94,608	87,338	226,562	2015/16	115,856	164,824	207,926
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Council Questions – 1st November (in order)

Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
87	Cllr Alison Cornelius	There are severe financial pressures in adult social care and the health service in North Central London. To what extent could increased integration between these operational and geographic areas help deal with these challenges?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>Increased co-operation and integration between CCGs, trusts and boroughs will be important in realising efficiencies, benefiting from economies of scale and ensuring there is access to specialist services for those who need them.</p> <p>Health and social care are deeply interconnected and dependent upon one another, but are not always aligned as well as they should be. The health service needs to support, including financially, the work councils do to prevent and delay people from needing to use primary and secondary care and to reduce, in particular, the number of A&E admissions.</p> <p>Residents of one borough may need to access hospital or specialist treatment in another borough, so geographically joined-up working is also important.</p> <p>If this can be got right it will go some way to meeting current and forecast challenges, but it is likely to be insufficient on its own. People really must try to embrace healthy lifestyles to reduce the chance of developing conditions linked to obesity, such as diabetes, which are a time-bomb for our nation's health and wellbeing.</p>
88	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	In each road where the surface dressing treatment was used: a) What date was the initial treatment, (b) when was the road swept for loose stones, (c) was the work monitored while in progress and (d) what checks were carried out on the finished work by council officers?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	All the roads were visited at least three times after completion to identify any snagging and remedial works. The relevant Code of Practice for Surface Dressing requires two carriageway sweeps after installation. However, the roads in Barnet were swept at least twice, some three times and in some cases 4 times after the application of the surface dressing. The roads will continue to be monitored during the 24 month maintenance period.

Council Questions – 1st November (in order)

Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
89	Cllr Alison Cornelius	Could Council be updated on the progress of the #KeepBarnetClean campaign and the enforcement action being taken against those that are caught defiling the borough?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	<p>#KeepBarnetClean launched in July 2016 and has been received well by residents and businesses who are keen to see those who litter, fly tip, fly post, graffiti etc. in our borough tackled. This scheme has included the use of the new fly tipping FPN enacted by government in May 2016. Community groups in the borough have also taken up the mantle of organising clean up days, supported by the council.</p> <p>About 100 FPNs were issues in the first month of the scheme. A full update report will be presented to Environment Committee on 8th November.</p>
90	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	In surface dressed roads, what monitoring was carried out on loose stones being flicked by traffic on to pavements and grass verges? How often were these pavements/grass verges swept/cleaned?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	<p>The roads were swept 48 hours and 7 days after completion of the surface dressing. Some of the roads were swept for a third time during the following weeks. There was also an additional carriageway sweeping programme carried out jointly by the Council's DLO organisation, supported by the Conway/Aecom, in June/July this year, some 9 months after the initial installation.</p> <p>Works were monitored during the treatment process and snagging and remedial checks were carried out after the initial installation. Additionally, there was an inspection by a specialist, together with appropriate testing to confirm compliance. We will continue to monitor the condition of the roads during the 24 month maintenance period.</p>
91	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	Were warning signs in place in all roads surface dressing was undertaken and what were the speed limits? Were warning signs/speed limits kept in place until the thorough sweeping of all loose stones had taken place?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	<p>The usual signs were in place.</p> <p>The sweeping regime is covered in Q88</p>

Council Questions – 1st November (in order)

Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response
92	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	Why is the council planning to take a bowling green away from Mill Hill Bowls Club, as well as reducing the space of the club house and changing rooms and removing the ladies toilets? What account has been taken of the fact that the blind and partially sighted bowlers that use the club require that extra space?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>The club have agreed in principle to incorporate the blind bowlers into the Mill Hill club.</p> <p>The space requirements of the newly formed club are being considered as part of ongoing discussions.</p>
93	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	What funding streams has Barnet applied for over the last 3 financial years for cycling in Barnet, and which applications have been successful?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	<p>Barnet has identified cycle related work Local Implementation Plan (LIP) Annual Spending Submissions to TfL for the last three years and these proposals have been approved.</p> <p>An application was made in 2013/14 for funding from TfL's Borough Cycling Programme over three years. This resulted in funding for a range of cycling projects including additional cycle training, support for 'Bike-it plus' in schools, provision of cycle parking including residential cycle parking at Barnet Homes sites and cycle officer funding.</p> <p>2014/15 - £242,500 2015/16 - £234,500 2016/17 - £240,500</p> <p>An application was made in 2015/16 for Extra Child Cycle Training from TfL (additional BCP funding) and £7000 awarded.</p> <p>Additional cycle training has also been delivered with funding secured from Air Quality project applications.</p>

Council Questions – 1st November (in order)

Qn	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Response																				
94	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	How much has been spent on Barnet's overall Transport Strategy over the last 3 financial years (2013/2014, 2014/15 and 2015/2016). For each year, please show the proportion spent on a) new Highways schemes, on b) Highways maintenance and on c) cycling infrastructure and activities?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of Environment Committee)	<table border="1" data-bbox="1223 331 2000 695"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1223 331 1375 485">Transport Strategy funding</th> <th data-bbox="1375 331 1527 485">a) new Highways schemes*</th> <th data-bbox="1527 331 1695 485">b) Highways maintenance**</th> <th data-bbox="1695 331 1832 485">c) cycling infrastructure and activities</th> <th data-bbox="1832 331 2000 485">Overall</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1223 485 1375 555">2013/14</td> <td data-bbox="1375 485 1527 555">2,038,536</td> <td data-bbox="1527 485 1695 555">9,591,260</td> <td data-bbox="1695 485 1832 555">747,870</td> <td data-bbox="1832 485 2000 555">12,681,358</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1223 555 1375 625">2014/15</td> <td data-bbox="1375 555 1527 625">1,403,389</td> <td data-bbox="1527 555 1695 625">5,470,317</td> <td data-bbox="1695 555 1832 625">464,951</td> <td data-bbox="1832 555 2000 625">8,096,479</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1223 625 1375 695">2015/16</td> <td data-bbox="1375 625 1527 695">1,878,745</td> <td data-bbox="1527 625 1695 695">14,993,975</td> <td data-bbox="1695 625 1832 695">568,614</td> <td data-bbox="1832 625 2000 695">18,349,359</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="1223 703 2051 799">*a) new Highways schemes –this covers all work to develop, design and implement changes to the Highway (generally traffic management and parking schemes).</p> <p data-bbox="1223 804 2051 863">**b) Highways maintenance – bridge maintenance costs are not included</p>	Transport Strategy funding	a) new Highways schemes*	b) Highways maintenance**	c) cycling infrastructure and activities	Overall	2013/14	2,038,536	9,591,260	747,870	12,681,358	2014/15	1,403,389	5,470,317	464,951	8,096,479	2015/16	1,878,745	14,993,975	568,614	18,349,359
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