

**MEETING**

**COUNCIL**

**DATE AND TIME**

**TUESDAY 27TH JULY, 2021**

**AT 7.00 PM**

**VENUE**

Dear Councillors,

Please find enclosed additional papers relating to the following items for the above mentioned meeting which were not available at the time of collation of the agenda.

Item No	Title of Report	Pages
1.	QUESTIONS TO THE LEADER (AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN IF HE/SHE HAS DELEGATED)	3 - 56

Abigail Lewis abigail.lewis@barnet.gov.uk 020 8359 4369

This page is intentionally left blank

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Response by	Response
1	Cllr Richer	Can the Leader update us on the Council's summer activity plans?	Leader	<p>As part of Discover Barnet, a campaign to support and celebrate local businesses and the people behind them, Barnet Council has launched "Discover Barnet Presents", Barnet's first-ever summer festival of events, taking place in the borough's town centres and parks from July to September.</p> <p>This work is aimed at supporting the economic recovery of our town centres as we emerge from the pandemic, encouraging the safe return to our town centres and high streets and bringing our community together.</p> <p>The summer festival's packed programme features an open-air cinema and sports screenings, community carnivals, street performers and activities for the whole family. Some of the upcoming events include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Finchley Community Carnival - 24-25 July</li> <li>• Golders Green Walkabout - 31 July - 1 Aug</li> <li>• Burnt Oak Walkabout - 7-8 Aug</li> <li>• West Hendon Walkabout - 14-15 Aug</li> <li>• Edgware Community Carnival - 21-22 Aug</li> <li>• Barnet Summertime Festival - 28-29 Aug</li> </ul> <p>The programme launched with a ten-day big screen event in Victoria Park, Finchley hosting a varied roster of films, sports and community events. The council has conducted a survey of visitors but the initial response from borough residents has been highly positive.</p> <p>More information on the Summer Festival can be found</p>

				at: <a href="https://engage.barnet.gov.uk/discoverbarnetpresents">https://engage.barnet.gov.uk/discoverbarnetpresents</a> .
2	Cllr Rawlings	Given the importance of many council workers during the Covid-19 pandemic in providing support for the most vulnerable, collecting waste, keeping high streets and parks safe amongst other matters what wage rise will the Leader be recommending to the Employers side	Leader	Staff across the Council have done an amazing job both in responding to the pandemic and also ensuring that important public services that people rely on across Barnet have continued to be delivered over the last 18 months. Local government wage increases are negotiated nationally rather than in Barnet and we will

		in negotiations and what rise does he think they deserve?		accept the agreement that employers and trade unions reach through these negotiations.
3	Cllr Byer	What are the big issues expected to be dealt with in the 2022/23 budget?	Chairman FP&C	The 2022/23 budget setting process will focus on two big issues. The first will be to get a clear understanding of the impact of the pandemic on council services and the nature of the 'new normal' we find ourselves in. This will include taking account of how activity has changed as a result of the pandemic and ensuring that future budgets are properly aligned to our revised view of anticipated costs and revenues. The second will be to support the delivery of the Barnet Plan, by ensuring that all aspects of the plan are considered in the preparation of the budget. Provision can be made for additional costs, should they be expected, if existing services and budgets are already aligned to the priorities of the plan then no budget changes will be necessary, but our analysis will help ensure that our resources continue to be used to best effect.

4	Cllr Clarke	With what regularity are Barnet Homes properties inspected for fire safety? I'm really concerned that Hermitage Court has had a broken fire gate for 3 years.	Cllr R. Cornelius	<p>Barnet Homes maintain a robust Fire Risk Assessment inspection programme in line with the requirements of the regulatory reform fire safety order 2005 and action plans on the common parts of all residential properties that it manages or maintains.</p> <p>Fire Risk Assessments (FRA's) are carried out by a competent and accredited specialist assessor at the below frequency unless risk dictates that a more regular inspection is required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sheltered Housing, Hostels and Extra Care schemes assessed annually</li> <li>• Residential blocks with 6 storeys and above assessed annually</li> <li>• Residential blocks under 6 storeys assessed either every three or five years dependent upon block specific risk</li> <li>• Street properties i.e. maisonettes or houses divided into multiple self contained dwellings assessed every three or five years dependent upon risk and/or whether they fall under the parameters of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005</li> </ul> <p>To augment the above, Barnet Homes have also been undertaking a Type 4 FRA's (intrusive) inspection programme to its residential blocks as part of the fire safety programme agreed with the council. Any actions resulting from these inspections are risk assessed and either remedied as part of the existing programme or placed onto a future programme of works.</p> <p>We are aware of the access barrier at Hermitage Court which is due to be fully replaced in early August following bespoke metal fabrication."</p>
---	-------------	---	-------------------	--

5	Cllr Grocock	Could the chairman outline briefly, progress on the principle regeneration schemes?	Chairman H&G	<p>The 2019/20 Annual Regen report was published in September 2020 and can be found at [<a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-10/Annual%20Regeneration%20Report%2019-2020_Digital.pdf">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-10/Annual%20Regeneration%20Report%2019-2020_Digital.pdf</a>] (note the link isn't currently working but the team are trying to rectify this). Since then programmes have progressed well, and were able to continue on site with relatively little disruption through lockdown. Main achievements since the last report are: Brent Cross Cricklewood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new Brent Cross West station is taking shape with the first part of the bridge installed on site.</li> <li>• Works on the new Town centre are progressing with ground remediation and early works for the first site plots, including the Whitefield Estate replacement units, underway</li> <li>• Works on the new Claremont Park and pavilion visitor centre have begun. The visitor centre is due to open later this year and the park in May 22</li> </ul> <p>A full update on the scheme is reported to Housing and Growth Committee quarterly. A link to the June update is here:  <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s65362/PUBLIC%20-%20BX%20HG%20Report%2014%20June%202021.pdf">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s65362/PUBLIC%20-%20BX%20HG%20Report%2014%20June%202021.pdf</a></p> <p>West Hendon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The current build phase which will deliver 611 homes (407 private and 193 affordable) has continued onsite and is due to complete in early 2025</li> <li>• The Cool Oak Lane pedestrian and cycle bridge completed at the end of Autumn 2020 providing an improved link between the West Hendon development and the area to the west</li> </ul>
---	--------------	---	--------------	--

				<p>Dollis Valley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Phase 3 construction commenced in October 2020 (24 month build programme) and will deliver 135 new homes.</li></ul> <p>Grahame Park:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The demolition of five residential blocks north of the Concourse has now taken place. Works to deliver new homes on this site will commence in the Autumn.</li></ul> <p>Granville Road Infill Estate Progress to date</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Works continue onsite to deliver 132 new homes including 46 affordable homes.</li></ul> <p>The 2020/21 Annual Regeneration report will be published by the end July at <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/regeneration/annual-regeneration-report">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/regeneration/annual-regeneration-report</a>.</p>
--	--	--	--	---

6	Cllr Coakley Webb	The decision of P&R to take away from area committees the ability to make decisions or amend officers' recommendations on highway matters is depriving ward members of the ability to represent and vote for the wishes of their constituents. When will this erosion of democracy be rectified?	Leader	This change has in no way eroded democracy. The council's Road Safety & Parking Scheme enables members to submit road safety and parking issues direct to the Executive Director for Environment for review. The Executive Director will be able to determine an appropriate technical solution for the issues raised in his capacity as the statutory highway officer. The intention of this model is that members will receive more timely decisions on issues raised and approved schemes will be implemented more quickly than the previous arrangement that was based on area committee meeting cycles. Members also retain the ability to bring a Road Safety & Parking fund item to the Area Committee for discussion. The Executive Director will ensure that members are engaged in the process of developing solutions for issues that have been highlighted. Any decision to decline a request for Road Safety & Parking funding will be done in consultation with the Chairman of the Environment Committee (for individual member requests) or the relevant Area Committee Chairman (for requests made by committee member items). This arrangement will be reviewed after two rounds of area committees to ensure it is working to the satisfaction of members.
---	----------------------	--	--------	---

7	Cllr Rozenberg	What explains the sudden decision by North East London Foundation Trust to terminate its contract with the North Central London CCG, described as “previously unforeseeable” and creating a situation of “extreme urgency” for the council? Why was the council not prepared for this event, given that, according to the council’s own report, “NELFT have had considerable difficulties with capacity, recruitment and retention of staff over the last 12 months”?	Chairman CES	The difficulties with capacity and recruitment are not unique to North East London Foundation Trust (NELFT) and are experienced by many providers, both within North Central London, and across the country; these difficulties increased during the pandemic. The CCG and Council have been working, over many months, with NELFT and other providers to secure more therapists and have put other programmes in place to aid recovery. However, due to the changes within the NHS outlined in the Long Term Plan and the recent Integration white paper, heralding the move towards place based care through the creation of Integrated Care Systems, NELFT, as an out of sector provider working primarily in North East London, has indicated its intention to step out of the North Central London Sub Region and with this served notice on the existing contract.
8	Cllr Jajeh	How has the Council adapted its community participation strategy approved at the June meeting of the Community Leadership and Libraries Committee in light of the changes in community volunteering and support over the past 18 months?	Chairman CLL	Development of the Community Participation Strategy was interrupted by the pandemic. It was then thoroughly reworked to reflect the upsurge in community volunteering and partnership working that has occurred over the last 18 months. Much of the strategy is about how we retain the best elements of how we have been working during Covid. For example, the Community Response programme we developed in partnership with Barnet Together has led to us rescoping the infrastructure services they provide into a bigger and more collaborative support structure for our local voluntary sector. Other innovations that arose in the pandemic are our Food Hub and Health Champions programme. Both of these are still operating and adapting to the latest stages of the pandemic and its impacts on the community. We will be looking at

				securing resources for further community projects like this. A delivery plan is now in development that will set out in more detail how the strategy will be put into practice. Updates on this delivery will be brought to future meetings of Community Leadership and Libraries Committees.
9	Cllr Schneiderman	At the 2 June 2021 Environment Committee, Conservative councillors voted against my motion for the council to recruit an in-house biodiversity officer to work on the Welsh Harp and elsewhere in the borough. They claimed that a biodiversity officer was not needed as Barnet already has the necessary skills and expertise. Has an assessment of any skills gap been made and if such a gap exists, will the decision to not recruit a biodiversity officer be reconsidered?	Leader	Biodiversity and Ecology services are commissioned for individual requirements, whether that is for planning application considerations or specific projects. This approach has worked well in delivering previous schemes and as such has not triggered any review of skills gaps. I gather Brent has a biodiversity officer but this did not prevent recently reported problems on the part of the Welsh Harp that Brent is responsible for. I would therefore question what difference this would make on the ground. We are working with all stakeholders to keep the Welsh Harp clean.
10	Cllr Prager	Was the Spring Clean project around the borough a success?	Leader	In May 2021 the Council launched a 'Pick it, Bag It, Bin It' campaign focused on reducing litter across parks and open spaces. The programme of activity includes an increase in streetscene teams across the Borough, deployed Friday - Monday to keep parks clean before, during and after weekend use. In addition to a 'deep clean' of over 20 locations across Barnet focusing on watercourses (Silkstream, Dollis Valley and Welsh Harp), clearance efforts have been supported by specialist contractors, partner agencies and community groups. The campaign has also resulted in the support of over 150 volunteer community groups who have headed out

				to make the borough's parks and open spaces tidy, family-friendly places. Efforts have also been enhanced by Council Officers who too have volunteered their time to support the campaign.
11	Cllr Conway	How will any new community safety officers be funded? And how long will their contracts be for?	Chairman SCPB	Budget has been allocated as part of the Councils covid response fund. These officers have been employed on a one year fixed term contract. A formal business case is being constructed for a future growth bid in this area.
12	Cllr Mearing-Smith	What can be done to counter the seeming increase in violent crimes across London, including in Barnet?	Chairman SCPB	Following the Government's step changes approach to the exiting of Covid 19 lockdown regulations commencing in March of 2021 there has been a pre-planned multi agency response to anticipated issues arising as we emerge from Lockdown. The approach is primarily being led by the Metropolitan Police Service locally as well as pan London. This is complemented by increased collaborative and day to day working between the officers of the Assurance Group/Community Safety Team, Adults and Children's Safeguarding Teams and the Neighbourhood Policing Teams.
13	Cllr Edwards	Could the Leader tell us how many traffic and speed surveys have been commissioned by area committees since May 2018, and the total costs incurred?	Chairman Environment	Chipping Barnet 14 £54,500 Finchley & Golders Green 11 £51,000 Hendon 11 £51,000 NB: numbers include 13 schemes in progress

14	Cllr Brayne	<p>How many vacancies are currently open for occupational therapists in Barnet's schools?  How many children with special and additional needs whose Education Health Care Plan requires them to have access to an occupational therapist are currently unable to receive this level of care?</p>	Chairman CES	<p>The North-East London Foundation Trust (NELFT) has an establishment of 4.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) posts for Occupational Therapists in Barnet. There are currently 1.2 FTE vacancies and 0.6 is temporarily vacant due to maternity leave. These are being partially covered by agency staff.</p> <p>There are 531 children and young people with Occupation Therapy (OT) in the provision specified in their Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). 26 children, mainly in special schools and Additional Resource Provisions, are receiving the full amount of support stipulated in their EHCP. 81 children are receiving part of their OT provision. The remaining 424 children are currently not receiving any Occupational Therapy. The Whittington Health NHS Trust are supporting NELFT with some OT capacity during the summer. Where families are in agreement, therapy will be provided over the school holidays.</p> <p>With the NELFT contract coming to an end, there will be a new provider for therapies from September. Barnet will also receive additional resources for therapy from the additional funding to North Central London for an accelerated programme across the area.</p>
15	Cllr Grover	<p>Does the Chair of CELS agree that the performance of officers, school heads, teachers and school governors has been heroic over the past 16 months?</p>	Chairman CES	<p>Yes. The pandemic has been an enormous challenge for schools and the wider education service and it is clear that staff in schools and centrally have had to work extremely hard to cope with those challenges and have gone the extra mile to ensure services continued to be delivered to a high quality and that children and young people were supported in the best way possible.</p>

16	Cllr Hutton	What is being done to reduce missed bin collections? And why are the reasons for these not always being recorded properly by operatives?	Chairman Environment	On occasion, a very small number of collections are missed due to various reasons, sometimes beyond the council's control. To enable us to rectify this when it happens we request that residents inform us of missed collections using our online form or via our customer contact centre who can log it on their behalf. If residents notify us of a missed collection a crew will return within two working days to collect any missed bins. Where crews are aware of issues that prevent bins from being collected such as road works or blocked access we post this information on the missed bins web page to let residents know.
17	Cllr Marshall	What proposals has the chair of the environment committee to roll out electric car charging points?	Chairman Environment	The Council's EV programme was approved by Environment Committee in Nov 2017, for which the report can be found here: <a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s43244/London Councils Agreement.pdf">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s43244/London Councils Agreement.pdf</a> . We currently have plans to install further lamp column charge points and the borough's first rapid charge points by the end of this year, and have recently finalised the installations of community charging hubs in town centre car parks. We will be taking a more comprehensive update on the programme to Environment Committee later in the year.
18	Cllr Rawlings	Years after Labour suggested it the administration is finally reviewing the CIL payments, and I welcome this. However, Barnet is still suffering from bad, over-dense and completely unaffordable development. Why is the administration so unwilling to stand up to developers and get a better deal for Barnet	Leader	Barnet was one of the first London Boroughs to have adopted a Levy in 2013, and have a successful track record having collected c. £78m since adoption. Any proposed rate change is subject to Examination in Public, and therefore requires significant evidence and analysis to justify increases. Despite a delay which was further extended by pandemic that work has now been completed, allowing Policy and Resources committee to approve the proposed rate increase in May of this year.

				<p>The increased rate, together with our proactive approach to growth, is projected to generate c.£100m of infrastructure investment in the borough over the next five years.</p> <p>While the vast majority of development in the borough is high quality and appropriate, the growth targets set in the London Plan are and will continue to be challenging.</p>
19	Cllr R. Cornelius	Is the cycle lane on A1000 regarded as a success?	Leader	<p>The Experimental Traffic Order introducing the cycle lane was published in September 2020 and was done so with the encouragement and financial support of Government. The statutory consultation period ended in March 2021. During this period and for the next few months we will continue to monitor the scheme and collect traffic data. The completed data set, together with feedback from the statutory consultation, e-petitions, impact on traffic etc will help assess the overall success of the scheme in its position within Barnet's transport strategy. This will inform any recommendations to be taken to Environment Committee in the autumn. Therefore, it is too early to come to a conclusion just yet, but we will be able to do so in a matter of months.</p>

20	Cllr Coakley Webb	A number of schools have been informed by the borough that their agreed budgets have been reduced because of either wrong advice or wrong information being given to them. At this late stage in the academic year the work and worry this has caused, along with redundancies is deeply regrettable. How did this situation occur and why did it take until recently to inform schools of the problem?	Chairman CES	<p>Officers have investigated this matter and it appears that no wrong information or advice has been given. We are aware of one school that had estimated the SEN funding on the SEN line as high needs top up plus the notional amount of funding they get for SEN within their budget share. This led to a large increase in forecast income compared to the previous year but was effectively double counting the notional amount of funding as that is already included within their budget share which they were already forecasting in full.</p> <p>The finance support which they bought in clarified the above, as well as liaising with LA staff and at this point the school amended the income forecast resulting in a reduction from their original estimates.</p>
21	Cllr Rozenberg	A recent petition entitled “Keep the A1000 bus and cycle lane” received an impressive 580 signatures. In fact it was the most popular petition on the council’s website in the past 12 months. It won more support than a rival petition calling on the council to dismantle the cycle lane. Which of the two petitions would the Leader prefer to have signed?	Leader	We are still gathering data from A1000 to support an informed decision by the Environment Committee in autumn. Once officers have completed this exercise, including the outcome of the two petitions referred to, the Council can decide the future of the cycle infrastructure along A1000. I would not sign any petition without first knowing the full facts. As this is a trial, we need more time to collect and assess the data.

22	Cllr Bokaei	What campaigns have the Council run or are the Council planning on running to tackle obesity in the borough?	Chairman H&WB	<p>Barnet Council is committed to support national priorities to tackle obesity outlined in the Tackling Obesity: Government Strategy and the NHS Long Term Plan. We are in the process of procuring a lifestyle adult weight management services to provide 1:1 support for people with more complex issues. The service will take place in selected pilot GP surgeries and will be an addition to the existing service provided through our leisure centres (capacity for 600 adult weight management programme places each year). We are also supporting the roll out of the National Digital Weight Management programme via GP surgeries and we continue to support the National Diabetes Prevention Programme. One of the results is the attached infographic which was created with primary care partners to provide an overview of available services for those living with obesity.</p> <p>We recognise our role not only in treating obesity, but also preventing obesity. As such, we will be launching our Healthier High Streets programme in September. This will include the relaunch of the Healthier Catering Commitment and London Refill; promoting free drinking water and healthier meal options on our high streets. In addition, we have produced a series of educational videos and recipes with Bread n' Butter on a range of healthy eating topics including; smart food shopping, healthy cooking for one, eating the rainbow, cooking on a budget etc. These are in the process of being uploaded to our website and can be found on here. Additional work will be undertaken in the autumn/winter to promote these resources via our social media channels.</p> <p>In terms of campaigns for CYP we would look to</p>
----	-------------	--	---------------	--

			<p>integrate these into the strategic work on food and nutrition in order to complement and emphasise the messaging that these contain.</p> <p>Work with schools has been challenged this year due to the pandemic but moving forward we are planning to ensure that children and young people are integrated into the healthy weight strategy and actions are referenced to be specific to this population group as arrangements post Sept 2021 become clear.</p> <p>There is on-going work as part of the Healthy Schools Programme which has been online as schools has been teaching remotely. This has focussed on activities delivered online on Trans fats and sugars and is aimed at Key Stage 3. This has been received well by secondary schools as part of their curriculum.</p> <p>The Summer activity programme known as BACE has also been developed for delivery this year to encourage healthy choices and activity for children needing to access day schemes in the summer.</p> <p>There is also the intention to work with early years settings to promote the 'SMILE' resource, which also encourages healthy food choices in this setting, using a plate with a space for a new food to try for under 5s. Resources are being planned with regards to this.</p> <p>We also have the Mayor's Golden Kilometre, which was launched in 2015 and I was proud to support as Mayor in 2019. This is a project aimed at getting primary school pupils fit, active and improving concentration - as well as tackling obesity.</p>
--	--	--	--

23	Cllr Schneiderman	How long will it take to bring all of Barnet's footways/pavements and roads up to the standard that residents expect?	Chairman Environment	<p>The highways carriageways and footways are subject to an annual condition assessment</p> <p>The last condition assessment determined that <u>Estimated Value £1600m</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carriageway Value £1300m</li> <li>• Footway Value £300m</li> </ul> <p><u>Estimated Cost to bring up to standard was £139m and this is broken down as follows:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carriageway cost £96m</li> <li>• Footway cost £43m</li> </ul> <p>Each year the condition is reassessed so the above numbers change reflective of the condition of the network and the work undertaken through the annual works programmes especially the NRP</p> <p>Therefore the time taken to bring up to standard is directly related to the investment undertaken and the deterioration of the asset</p> <p>As per the Environment Committee report on the NRP of September 2020 the view is that the network condition is in steady state i.e. not getting any better or any worse.</p>
24	Cllr Wardle	How is the new highways contractor performing?	Chairman Environment	<p>The new Term Service Provider Tarmac Keir Joint Venture is providing reactive highway maintenance services. Two footway NRP schemes have been completed and a further 8 schemes are currently under construction.</p>

25	Cllr Conway	Will mask wearing be advisory in Barnet libraries and indoor civic spaces?	Leader	<p>Face coverings are no longer required by law. However, the government expects and recommends that people continue to wear a face covering in crowded, enclosed spaces. The Government also asks employers to consider encouraging, for example through signage, the use of face coverings by workers, particularly in crowded, enclosed indoor areas, where they may come into contact with people they do not normally meet.</p> <p>Therefore, in line with Government advice, face coverings will therefore be expected to be worn in settings where employees and visitors come into contact with people they do not normally meet, which includes civic spaces, libraries and some office areas. We also expect them to be worn in enclosed spaces such as lifts.</p>
26	Cllr Stock	What percentage of Barnet care home staff have been vaccinated?	Chairman Adults	As of the 13 <sup>th</sup> July, 84% of care home staff in Barnet's 81 registered care homes had been vaccinated. The SAGE guidance is that in care homes, staff vaccination levels of 80% are necessary to protect against Covid-19.
27	Cllr Edwards	Could the Leader advise which traffic calming measures have resulted from the traffic and speed surveys referred to in my previous question, by location and the total cost of these measures?	Chairman Environment	<p>Chipping Barnet 4 £45,000 High Barnet - 20mph limit  High Barnet - VAS  East Barnet - VAS  Oakleigh - VAS  Finchley &amp; Golders Green 2 £35,500 Garden Suburb - VAS  East Finchley - 20mph  Hendon 1 £23,100 Mill Hill - VAS  (VAS – Vehicle Activated Sign)</p>

28	Cllr Brayne	At the time of writing, Delta variant Covid-19 cases are rising exponentially, yet mask mandates are due to end on 19 July. Many local businesses in Barnet want, quite rightly, their customers to continue wearing masks while on the premises, at least until the current wave of infections is behind us. What words of support does Barnet Council have for such local businesses?	Leader	<p>It is likely that some local businesses will decide to continue with additional precautionary measures beyond 19th July. It is important to respect their decisions if you are entering their premises.</p> <p>The council will continue to advise the public, using a range of channels such as Barnet First and social media, on the importance of mask wearing within certain settings and other covid-secure measures to reduce transmission of Covid-19.</p>
29	Cllr Freedman	What does the Leader believe can be achieved through his recent changes to CIL funding?	Leader	<p>Policy and Resources Committee have approved a number of changes to the Council's approach to CIL Funding including a proposed change to the CIL charging schedule which is expected to increase the amount of CIL funding available and deliver more of the infrastructure requirements across the borough as well as more localised projects to benefit communities as the borough grows. Other changes include:</p> <p>Increasing the CIL budget for Area Committees from £450,000 per annum (£150,000 per Area Committee) to £1.2m per annum (£400,000 per Area Committee) for each financial year. This has been implemented to facilitate Area Committees being able to fund a larger number of projects with the opportunity to unlock greater community benefits.</p> <p>Removing the funding limit for individual CIL schemes. This has been introduced to give Area Committees the flexibility to consider using the increased CIL allocation to fund larger projects with the opportunity to unlock significant community benefits.</p> <p>Creation of a standalone Road Safety &amp; Parking Fund. This has been developed to expedite the</p>

				implementation of road safety schemes from the point of approval and to enable the increased NCIL budget to be focussed on unlocking greater community benefit as detailed above.
30	Cllr Hutton	What action is being taken to resolve the long-standing problems in Lambert Way, N12? Councillors have had meetings with residents, street scene, local police and community safety all to no avail so far	Leader	Lambert Way remains an area of challenge for Street Scene and Community Safety officers in relation to the areas waste management within the service road. There is an existing action plan in progress and several offenders have been identified for fly tipping waste offences. These offenders are subject to ongoing investigation and prosecution by the Community Safety Team. The lead officer for this location for any complaints or further information within the Community Safety Team is Ms Bevi Sandhu.
31	Cllr Wardle	How many PCNs for littering have been issued in the last 12 months?	Chairman SCPB	The activities of our enforcement contractor LAS (formerly Kingdom) were suspended from March 2020 due to the necessary redeployment of the contractor in relation to assist the council with a Covid compliance and enforcement response. As a result, there were no FPNs issued for littering during the last 12 months. This

				service has now been reinstated and LAS will resume issuing FPNs for this offence as appropriate.
32	Cllr Clarke	I've received a number of complaints from residents about the usability of the Council's electronic visitor parking voucher system – especially from older people. Has the Council done a review / impact assessment of the system for users?	Chairman Environment	We are always keen to ensure that our services have a high level of satisfaction with users. We are keen to take on feedback and continue to refine and improve any system. In this regard, the provider of the Council's parking permit system has conducted user acceptance testing, and provided a user manual and "how to" video guides which are available on the permit pages of the Council's website. There are plans to improve this by conducting further testing and creating an FAQ/help section within the parking permit system. For those residents who are unable to use online services, scratchcard visitor vouchers are available to order by telephone, email or by post. Further information on how to order or use either type of visitor voucher are available on the Council's website at <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/parking/parking-permits-and-vouchers/parking-vouchers-visitors">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/parking/parking-permits-and-vouchers/parking-vouchers-visitors</a> or by telephoning 020 8359 7446.
33	Cllr Fluss	How many primary school children in Barnet got into their first choice secondary school?	Chairman CES	On 1 March 2021 (Secondary National Offer Day), 70.43% of Barnet children, whose parents applied on time, received an offer from their first choice school.

34	Cllr Rawlings	Why are solar panels on open spaces still in the Council's budget?	Chairman Environment	This was due to an administrative error. A correction note was issued and is included on the council website alongside the council papers from the 2 March meeting.
35	Cllr Rozenberg	Will you call on Barnet Homes to think again on the proposed demolition of homes on The Grange Estate and their idea of building over open land on Brownsell Green?	Leader	Barnet Homes is currently reviewing responses to its consultation on proposals to build new council housing at the Grange, Tarling Road and Brownsell Road. It is also taking account of additional feedback from the planning service on the proposals to date. Once this review has completed Barnet Homes will undertake further consultation with local residents on options to amend the proposals in line with feedback from the consultation where possible.
36	Cllr Mearing-Smith	Would the leader agree that the result of the Edgware by-election was a result of the Conservative Party's focus on the people's priorities in Barnet?	Leader	Absolutely. Resident's saw through Labour's desperate claims about solar farms and appreciate this Conservative-run council focussing on people's priorities.

37	Cllr Pauline Coakley Webb	What update is there on sorting out the long-term funding for our maintained nursery schools?	Chairman CES	We are still waiting for confirmation of the details but Ministers have promised to deliver a solution to the long-term funding of maintained nursery schools.
38	Cllr Grover	What are the Leader's views on the initial boundary proposals on constituencies that would impact Barnet?	Leader	These initial proposals are bad for Barnet, and make no sense in terms of either administration or local connectivity. We have submitted a motion with an alternative proposal to this Council meeting.
39	Cllr Schneiderman	The Government's Environment Bill says that it expects food waste to be collected separately and treated through anaerobic digestion. Why does Barnet's Conservative administration continue to claim that the science shows that incinerating food waste has the same environmental impact as anaerobic digestion?	Chairman Environment	A report on food waste collections to the council's Environment Committee meeting of 13 September 2018 noted that there are a number of studies into the environmental benefit of Anaerobic Digestion versus Energy from Waste and highlighted two academic studies that support the role of incineration in food waste treatment. The report noted that the London Environment Strategy (LES) offers very little evidence of the benefits of food waste being treated at Anaerobic Digestion facilities rather than going to Energy from Waste facilities, and that the LES concurs with the Waste Framework Directives view that Anaerobic Digestion and Energy from Waste are at the same level within the waste hierarchy.
40	Cllr Richman	There are a number of immensely large scale housing developments, particularly in Colindale, which have recently received planning approval. Can the Leader set out what plans are in place to address the huge need for sufficient social infrastructure to accommodate the existing and new residents, which will number in the many thousands?	Chairman H&G	In planning for the expected future growth within the Borough, the Council has produced a new Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) with a view of understanding what specific infrastructure needs the expected growth will put upon the Borough. The IDP has identified a potential need for more than £1.2b of investment in infrastructure across the Borough over the next 15 years. £657m has been identified to be required within the first 5 years.  For the Colindale area, the Council has already invested significantly in local parks and schools with further

				<p>projects expected to deliver in the coming years.</p> <p>Recently approved changes to the Council's CIL Charging Schedule means that new developers will be required to contribute more to the provision of social infrastructure resulting from growth. The early identification of required future projects linked with growth through the IDP puts the Council in a stronger position when negotiating contributions such as S106 agreement with developers.</p>
41	Cllr Conway	Why is there no funding available for community events as part of the 'Discover Barnet Presents...Summer Festival 2021'?	Leader	<p>The council offers assistance to eligible community organisations in need of financial support to host events through the Corporate Grants Scheme. In addition, The Event Umbrella (TEU) as the professional organisers of the Discover Barnet Presents programme are required as part of their brief to provide support to residents and community organisations to deliver their own events. This support takes a number of forms but includes help with promotion, COVID-19 risk management, sourcing staff and volunteers and identifying partners and suppliers. Community members are also being actively sought to help shape and participate in TEU-led events. There are currently 14 community/partner events being held across the borough that are being actively promoted through Discover Barnet Presents.</p> <p>Through this approach the council is providing much-needed support to high streets, town centres and community groups while fully meeting the requirements of the Welcome Back Fund and avoiding the need to establish an additional means of disbursing funds to community organisations.</p>

42	Cllr Brayne	How many people in Barnet are estimated to be currently living with some form of Long Covid? How many of them are children?	Chairman HWBB	<p>We have some limited information on the number of people with Long COVID in Barnet but information on this new disease is improving with time. There are two sources of information on likely numbers of local residents – estimates based on national survey and local use of health services.</p> <p>1) The Office for National Statistics is now undertaking a regular survey of long COVID and symptoms, using self-report rather than medical diagnosis. In the latest survey published in 1st July 2021, ONS found about 1.5% of the English population is affected by long COVID. Of these about 90% have had symptoms for longer than 12 weeks and about 19% of those with long COVID report that their ability to perform activities of daily living are affected a lot. In Barnet this would equate to about 5,900 adults with long COVID, 5310 with symptoms for 12 weeks or longer and 1,100 affected a lot by long Covid. However, the number of people in an area will depend on previous levels of infection and potentially other factors that we do not yet understand. We estimate that this figures are likely to be an underestimate of those with Long COVID in Barnet. The ONS survey also does not include children and young people.</p> <p>2) In North Central London CCG area, the NHS has established a long COVID service which sees people with suspected COVID in local practices using a multi-disciplinary team meeting approach with onward referral to a specialist service at UCLH if needed. For children and young people (CYP), the NHS were able to provide recent data for NCL as a whole, but not disaggregated for Barnet. The service have seen 30 CYP patients seen at UCLH since December and 20 patients</p>
----	-------------	---	---------------	---

				<p>discussed at virtual multi-disciplinary team meetings (at GP practice level) since May. No data for adults has been received as yet. The NHS, in some of their preliminary planning for long COVID clinics in January, estimated at least 1980 residents with long COVID of 12 weeks or more and about 400 severely affected by Long COVID in Barnet.</p> <p>In summary, our current estimate is that there could be around 6000 adults in Barnet with long COVID of whom between 400 to 1100 are severely affected. A small number of Barnet children are likely to be affected but we do not have an estimate of the number. As information on this condition improves, we will be able to give more accurate estimates.</p>
43	Cllr Grover	Do we have any available statistics on whether pupil numbers for schools are declining in some parts of the borough?	Chairman CES	Officers will circulate a list of schools where the roll declined between October 2016 and October 2020. The spreadsheet shows the percentage change in the number of pupils across all year groups, for primary and secondary schools that had a decline in roll number over the period. Numbers declined in 28 primary schools.

				The rate of decline varied between 2.37% and 33.71% and was spread across several different post-codes.
44	Cllr Edwards	Could the Leader advise which traffic calming measures have been refused by location?	Chairman Environment	A 20 mph zone in Queens Avenue, Chipping Barnet
45	Cllr Wardle	Can the lead member for sport & physical activity confirm how leisure centre provision and take up is going?	Chairman Adults	In line with the Governments Spring 2021 Roadmap, leisure centre services have been reinstated across the borough using a phased approach & Covid secure measures. Outdoor exercise started on 29 <sup>th</sup> March, the centres re-opened on 12 <sup>th</sup> April and an enhanced activity programme started on 17 <sup>th</sup> May. Usage levels since re-opening have exceeded expectations, particularly in comparison to usage during October 2020 (the last time facilities were operational under restrictions). Pre-paid memberships are currently 8,852 which is 80% of pre-Covid membership levels. There were 3,037 new memberships between April – June, demonstrating the appetite amongst residents to utilise leisure facilities. FAB (casual Pay and Play) memberships are now 27,962 demonstrating an 11% increase. Customer feedback has been positive across the Partnership, particularly in respect of Covid-19 compliance and feeling safe when using the leisure facilities. This has been supported by regular visits across the leisure portfolio by Council Officers to ensure secure Covid-19 measures are in place and practiced.

46	Cllr Rawlings	The increase in biodiversity is welcome, but why have the administration decided the best way to reach this goal is by allowing vegetation to grow through cracked pavements and in pot-holed roads	Chairman Environment	We have an agreed budget to ensure the roads and pavements are safe for public use. There are also strict intervention levels to ensure the highway is kept in safe condition. At times our pavements may not look pristine, but they are kept safe. The council completes up to four weed treatments of all footways across the Borough each year.
47	Cllr Richer	What does the Leader believe are the reasons for the Conservatives winning a second seat in East Barnet at the recent by-election?	Leader	The hard work of dedicated activists, a fantastic candidate, and evidence that this Conservative Council has been improving the lives of our residents.
48	Cllr Conway	How much are The Event Umbrella being paid?	Leader	The budget allocated presently to deliver the Summer Festival 2021 is £306,850. This includes the delivery of 8 separate events as well as support to community-based events organisers. Of this amount £216,850 of this is expected to be funded from the Welcome Back Funding.
49	Cllr Rozenberg	The monitoring systems that the council set up to monitor usage of the A1000 cycle lane have been repeatedly vandalised. What is being done to tackle this menace?	Chairman Environment	We are aware of this situation and we are working with our survey company to keep a close eye on the survey equipment. This vandalism will not affect our survey results as we will ensure that sufficient survey durations are maintained. We cannot guarantee, of course, that the additional time required and equipment replacement arising from this vandalism will not incur additional costs. Survey cameras were also installed close to some of the rubber pneumatic tubes and if footages of the vandalism are captured on video, the survey company may report the incidents to the police.

50	Cllr Jajeh	How well covered are we, financially, for COVID this year?	Chairman FP&C	Based on what we believe we will encounter (based on the last 12 months experience and our current information), the funds brought forward from last year (£8.4m C19 funding earmarked for 21/22 costs) plus some additional funding available in 21/22, provides sufficient to cover costs known at this stage. This situation may well evolve, however, and we will continue to keep it under review.
51	Cllr Schneiderman	When will the Barnet's sustainability strategy be published? Will it be open to consultation by residents and interested organisations?	Chairman Environment	Officers are currently working on producing Barnet's first Sustainability Strategy. We are aiming for a draft strategy to be taken to P&R Committee in the Autumn / Winter 2021, following which a public consultation will be undertaken.
52	Cllr Richer	How does Barnet's housing delivery compare with other boroughs?	Chairman H&G	"Housing delivery figures published by the GLA show that for the period April 2020-21 there were 661 starts on site in Barnet, and 283 homes completed. For the same period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enfield had 551 starts on site and 273 completions</li> <li>- Haringey had 226 starts on site and 146 completions</li> <li>- Brent had 491 starts on site and 797 completions</li> <li>- Waltham Forest had 228 starts on site and 731 completions.</li> </ul> <p>Housing delivery figures for the whole of London can be found at  <a href="https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/affordable_housing_starts_and_completions_-_end_of_march_2021.pdf">https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/affordable_housing_starts_and_completions_-_end_of_march_2021.pdf</a>"</p>

53	Cllr Edwards	Could the Leader advise what impact the pandemic has had on poverty amongst children across the borough?	Leader	<p>Prior to the pandemic, published figures highlighted the progress that had been made in Barnet on reducing the number of children living in poverty, with 14.0% of children under the age of 16 living in low income families in 2016 compared to 24.9% in 2006. A draft of a Life Chances strategy had been approved for public consultation in March 2020 when the pandemic struck. The pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on children and young people in areas such as education, mental health and child poverty. Following consultation, including with children and young people a revised Life Chances Strategy, which provides a needs analysis setting out the impacts of Covid, was approved by the Children Education and Safeguarding Committee in January 2021. The Life Chances Strategy can be found here:</p> <p><a href="https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s62664/Appendix%201%20-%20Life%20Chances%20Strategy%20Final%202020-2024_1.0.pdf">https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s62664/Appendix%201%20-%20Life%20Chances%20Strategy%20Final%202020-2024_1.0.pdf</a></p>
54	Cllr Prentice	Who were the winners and runners up in Barnet's Civic awards this year?	Chairman CLL	<p><a href="#">The link to all the winners and runner are included on the following link via the Barnet Council website: Civic awards   Barnet Council</a></p>
55	Cllr Rawlings	Will the administration support Barnet Labour's call for a new library as part of the Edgware development?	Leader	<p>The emerging scheme in Edgware gives an opportunity to drive investment in the Edgware community, both in terms of new housing across a range of tenures but also new public realm, green space and community and cultural infrastructure. More work is required to develop the detailed proposals, including consultation</p>

				with the local community, and library provision will be considered as a part of this process.
56	Cllr Brayne	What work will be done this summer to help schools improve ventilation, so that our children do not have to suffer from airborne illnesses, and ensuing absences, next term?	Chairman CES	Officers are not aware of any works that are being planned to deliver improved ventilation in schools over the summer. Schools have been advised that occupied areas should be well ventilated before school begins and throughout the day, This is achieved through opening windows and, where appropriate and safe to do so, doors. This should allow sufficient air change to dispel airborne contaminants. For schools with mechanical air conditioning systems, these should be set to the maximum external air intake setting. Again, this should allow sufficient air change to dispel airborne contaminants.
57	Cllr Mearing-Smith	Did the Government cover our COVID costs last year?	Chairman FP&C	Yes - the outturn position reported for FPCC in June was £76.2m of funding received during the year on top of £8.8m brought forward from the previous year, against which £76.6m was spent, leaving an £8.4m amount carried forward to the new financial year.
58	Cllr Conway	Why is the Council giving away the iconic and much-loved Hendon Library?	Leader	The council is not 'giving away' the Hendon Library. The Council will remain as owner and freeholder of the existing building and it will not be demolished, indeed there are proposals to enhance and restore the building and increase public access. The rationale for moving the Hendon Library service across the road is detailed in the full business case to be considered by Policy & Resources Committee on 20th July.

59	Cllr Grover	What is happening with the East Finchley CPZ implementation?	Chairman Environment	<p>Our activity log for the East Finchley CPZ implementation is as follows:</p> <p>Works notification letters circulated to residents updating on scheme and permit information Monday 12 July 2021</p> <p>Residents apply for permits Monday 26 July 2021</p> <p>Contractors begin work on site 9 August 2021</p> <p>Works complete 31 August 2021</p> <p>Warning notices to vehicles not displaying permits Monday 7 September</p> <p>CPZ operational &amp; parking enforcement begins Monday 13 September</p>
60	Cllr Clarke	What's the expected date of the return of separate food waste collections in Barnet?	Chairman Environment	<p>Decisions on the reintroduction of food waste will be based on the governments emerging policy which is currently out for consultation. When legislation is enacted we will implement the appropriate policies that apply to Barnet.</p>
61	Cllr Rutter	How has the council's approach to partnership work been affected by the voluntary, community and faith sector response to Covid 19?	Chairman CLL	<p>Barnet's Covid19 Community Response was delivered in close partnership with the Voluntary Community and Faith Sector (VCFS), who were at the centre of efforts to ensure our most vulnerable residents were protected and supported. This approach provides a model of good practice that we are now working to adapt and embed as our approach to partnership working with the VCFS from now on. The significant increase in resident volunteering throughout the pandemic has also helped support the response, and VCFS partners have worked</p>

				with volunteers to deliver innovative responses, such as an oximeter delivery service. More recently our partners at Volunteering Barnet have been able to deploy around 500 people in vaccination support roles. Achievements like this have shown that we achieve much more when we collaborate with VCFS partners, and the Community Participation Strategy approved by Community Leadership and Libraries Committee commits us to maintaining this approach.
62	Cllr Schneiderman	Why does Barnet continue to refuse to declare a climate emergency despite the fact that a majority of all councils, run by all political parties have done so?	Chairman Environment	The Council passed a resolution noting that the same environmental challenges that are faced by the UK are also faced in Barnet, and that Barnet's commitment to remain a green and pleasant borough goes hand-in-hand with the Council's commitment to fighting climate change and pollution. The Council believes that climate action is more important than statements. Officers are currently working on producing Barnet's first Sustainability Strategy which will include actions to support sustainability and climate change.
63	Cllr Rozenberg	The funding and financing package recently agreed with TfL includes at least £100 million for healthy streets and active travel programmes in Greater London, to be allocated by the Mayor of London. What plans does Barnet have to bid for this funding, and what healthy streets and active travel programmes is it looking to bring forward?	Chairman Environment	We expect a decision on the amount of funding available to Barnet by the end of July. We will then determine how much of our submitted priorities will be able to progress.
64	Cllr Stock	How many people came out to help clean up our borough for the Spring Clean?	Leader	While we don't have exact figures for how many joined us for the spring clean, we do know that over 150 volunteer community groups came and helped out.

65	Cllr Conway	Why did the millions of pounds spent on Montrose Park not include basic community safety infrastructure?	Leader	Meetings were undertaken with the secure by design team and the community safety team prior to construction phase. Safety issues were taken into account . The improved visibility and sight lines through the park were seen as a positive improvemnet and could assist with many of the the issues around antisocial behavious and perception of crime. Lighting has been included in the main path network, taking into account the impact on biodiversity and the riparian environment.
66	Cllr Richman	I have been involved for over two years in seeking an SNT Hub in West Hendon. Suitable premises have been identified, repeated meetings held, police have visited and the premises are offered rent-free. It is understood that the Met Police agree in principle. Can the Leader assist in progressing this very important matter? The residents of West Hendon need to be protected, need to have their homes and communal spaces properly policed, and need to have their police operating locally.	Leader	The residents of West Hendon, like all Barnet residents, deserve to live in a safe, welcoming environment. I will be delighted to again raise this with the Borough Commander, but the truth is that at present Labour Mayor Sadiq Khan is not prioritising protecting Barnet residents, and is a key roadblock on this initiative.
67	Cllr Clarke	Poor repair of potholes leads to aggregate all over the roads and pavements. What is Barnet doing to ensure that potholes are repaired right in the first place?	Chairman Environment	In addition to agreed specifications which the contractor must follow, Highways Officers are now auditing random repairs to ensure the appropriate quality of work is being applied.

68	Cllr Shooter	What is the Council doing to support our high streets?	Chairman H&G	<p>The Council continues to support high streets through a combination of physical improvements, events, publicity, work with local businesses, and investment in cleaning and maintaining the public realm. Some examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ongoing support to inform businesses of the changing government Covid19 guidelines to ensure they operate in a safe and compliant manner.</li> <li>- the Discover Barnet campaign, which aims to raise awareness of the High Street offer and build familiarity between our residents and local independent traders on our high streets. The current focus of messages is: shop safely and shop local.</li> <li>-The Discover Barnet Presents Programme.</li> <li>- The temporary streetspace fund, providing over 25 parklets across 10 town centres</li> <li>-Fast track street trading licensing to support traders to access outdoor trading space to build capacity and customer confidence.</li> <li>- The Town Centre Windows competition which encourages our independent businesses to help promote our businesses to refresh and animate their shop windows for the chance to win £3,000 to re-invest in their business.</li> <li>- A dedicated daily town keeper resources has been provided for each of our main town centres as part of the £1.1m investment in improved street cleansing</li> <li>- Additional seasonal evening cleansing has been agreed, to support the evening economy.</li> </ul>
----	--------------	--	--------------	--

69	Cllr Schneiderman	Will Barnet follow the lead of other councils and finally stop using glyphosate as a weed killer?	Chairman Environment	<p>There are currently no plans to stop using Glyphosate. On the 15th March 2017, the European Union (EU) Risk Assessment Committee stated; 'There is no evidence to link glyphosate to cancer in humans, based on available information. Glyphosate should not be classified as a substance that causes genetic damage or disrupts reproduction'. The same conclusion was also reached by other organisations which includes the; European Food Safety Authority; National Authorities outside the EU (Canada, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand) On the 16th May 2017 the Commission agreed that the discussions with member states about possible renewal of the glyphosate licence could restart. Subsequent to which on the 20th July 2017 the Commission restarted the discussion with member states, with an objective to have those discussions finalised in the Autumn before proceeding to vote. On 12 December 2017 the Commission adopted the act to renew the approval of glyphosate for 5 years. The Council takes an integrated approach to weed control which includes chemical and nonchemical solutions such as mulching of shrub and rose beds in our Parks and Highways. This includes the use of glyphosate on a minimal and targeted basis to control weeds in parks and on the highways. The Council recognises the importance of closely managing the use and distribution of pesticide and herbicides, and all staff and contractors employed on work which requires the use of chemicals are fully trained and issued with the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). In accordance with European Union Commission and UK standard guidance, the Council will continue to monitor the advice in respect of the use of Glyphosate. In addition it will continue to review an approach which is</p>
----	----------------------	---	-------------------------	---

				<p>in line with industry and technological development for the treatment and management of weeds and invasive species. We have trialled a number of alternatives, such as steam and hot non-chemical foam, but all have proved to be either unsuccessful or cost prohibitive or both.</p>
70	Cllr Brayne	How does Barnet intend to address the London-wide problem of falling school rolls and concomitant cuts to school budgets?	Chairman CES-	<p>Where a school is experiencing falling rolls, officers work with the Headteacher and Governing Body to consider the need to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) for the school. Where the proposed reduction in PAN is a permanent change, it can be achieved through the consultation process which is laid down in the School Admissions Code (SAC) and needs to take place a minimum of 18 months ahead of the proposed PAN reduction. Some schools have chosen to ask officers to apply a 'soft cap' to the school's PAN. This cap helps the school to manage the reduced PAN temporarily before the permanent reduction takes place. Following a reduction in the PAN, some Barnet schools have been able to repurpose some of their accommodation to</p>

				<p>attract additional income e.g. the creation of SEND satellite classes for our Special Schools or space for 2 year olds. Officers have also supported schools that wish to make changes to their structure or governance e.g. schools that have chosen to merge with another school or have chosen to federate their Governing Body in order to achieve better economies of scale across two or more schools.</p>
71	Cllr Smith	How has the Council been doing, financially, excluding the effect of COVID?	Chairman FP&C	<p>The council performed well, financially, during the last year, responding effectively but also cautiously to the pandemic. The outturn report received by FPCC showed that services added £6.6m to specific reserves, with a further £10.5m added to corporate provisions for future risks. This equates to an overall breakeven excluding Covid costs once the transfers to reserves were made. It should be noted that the amounts set aside are linked to specific risks, as some activities were deferred from 20/21 to 21/22, and some further costs are anticipated (such as increased levels of bad or doubtful debt, or increased levels of inflation). Additionally, overall council resources beyond the current year remain unclear, again emphasising the need to be cautious in our financial planning.</p>

72	Cllr Conway	Why is the council able to respond quickly to install CCTV in a graveyard but not to help protect Burnt Oak's children and young people?	Leader	A decision to install portable CCTV for this location was taken following sustained and repeated vandalism at the Church graveyard. It was considered logistically viable and necessary following consultation with the local Police, the Police Borough Commander, Ward Members , the Chair of the Safer Communities Partnership Board and the Church. The councillor is aware of the ongoing discussions to provide some additional interim CCTV within Burnt Oak following what we believe to be an extremely serious but one-off incident.
73	Cllr Richman	Does the Leader agree that the West Hendon Playing Fields will be a fantastic benefit to the residents of West Hendon and further afield and can he confirm that environmental issues have been and will continue to be at the forefront of consideration moving forward and an expert ecologist engaged in the subsequent stages of development?	Leader	As part of the Feasibility Study a Preliminary Ecology Assessment was undertaken. The recommendations arising from this study will be progressed and developed to support a future planning application. One of the key design principles guiding the design and development of the proposal has been to enhance the existing ecological features of the SSSI through improved access and interpretation and to ensure that increased activities and facilities will not adversely impact upon these features.
74	Cllr Clarke	Are there any conflicts if developers could pay to choose their planning officer with Barnet Council?	Chairman Planning	Due to administrative complexity the council no longer offers this service. While the offer was in place, strict controls were in place to ensure high quality decision making and no conflicts of interest

75	Cllr Sowerby	Can we judge how successful the council has been in helping business through the covid pandemic?	Chairman H&G	<p>Since the start of the COVID pandemic, the council has provided a wide range of supports to businesses, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivering 13 separate business grant schemes, which to date have paid out over £78m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small Business and Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grants = 4,008 businesses benefiting to a value of £63.3m</li> <li>• March 2020 to September 2020 Discretionary Grant = 333 businesses benefiting to a value of £3.3m</li> <li>• Local Covid Alert Level Grants = 2,351 businesses benefiting to a value of £29.6m (data as at 10th May 2021).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Supporting town centre businesses as set out in the answer to question 59 above.</li> <li>• Supporting business start-ups through initiatives such as Pop-Up Business School which in 2020 had over 100 participants, 40% of whom were previously unemployed</li> <li>• Delivering a webinar series for businesses to enable them to access professional and technical support as they start to recover from the pandemic</li> </ul> <p>Council officers will continue to assess the health of Barnet businesses as we emerge from the pandemic.</p>
76	Cllr Sara Conway	Why was the former Chair of the Safer Communities Partnership Board able to announce CCTV support for a graveyard without prior consultation with officers?	Chairman SCPB	Please see Q72 - question repeated

77	Cllr Rozenberg	How many Low Traffic Neighbourhood-style schemes currently operate in Barnet? How many of them does the Conservative Group wish to abolish?	Chairman CES	There are currently no operational LTN type schemes within Barnet. There are 2 schemes in Barnet where Neighbourhood Measures for traffic and travel are being proposed which could be broadly described as “LTN type” schemes, but they have not been implemented yet. These are at Colindale/Burnt Oak and Brunswick Park. These schemes are funded by DFT /TfL grant funding for active travel. These potential schemes will be subject to the normal consultation processes before implementation.
78	Cllr Bokaei	How is progress coming along at the new station being built as part of the Brent Cross town project?	Chairman H&G	The delivery of the train station is well advanced and is scheduled to open by December 2022. Regular updates are provided to the Housing and Growth Committee. The latest report attached here PUBLIC - BX HG Report 14 June 2021.pdf (modern.gov.co.uk) confirms that the slow platform concrete raft foundations have now been poured following completion of the piling works. Piling works on the eastern entrance to the Station have been completed with pilings commencing on the fast platforms. Installation of the Eastern Overbridge was successfully completed over the May Day Bank Holiday weekend. The second part of the bridge has now been delivered to be installed later this year: Transforming Brent Cross Cricklewood   Second part of new bridge is delivered (transformingbx.co.uk) . Updates with drone footage and photographs are regularly provided at www.transformingbx.co.uk . The website also provides an update (including photographs) on Brent Cross Town, where infrastructure works are well underway.

79	Cllr Conway	Why is Barnet's CCTV so outdated?	Leader	As with most technology it is outdated as soon as it is purchased. Our CCTV cameras are regularly serviced and where needed replaced often with newer versions of the same type of hardware. There is currently a strategic review of all CCTV hardware and software and resourcing requirements. The review will also consider how best to increase our CCTV coverage across the borough with a view to enhance crime prevention in Barnet.
80	Cllr Grover	I understand that CAFT and Internal Audit Officers have been re-deployed into other areas in order to help with the Council's pandemic response efforts. Has this had an impact on the Council's risk control environment?	Leader	We do not believe that this redeployment has a detrimental effect on the Council's risk control environment. Internal Audit staff were redeployed to the Essential Services Hub (ESH) and as such could also give advice on processes and internal control the ground at the ESH in real time. Although 300 audit days were lost due to the redeployment Internal Audit were still able to complete sufficient work for to give a Reasonable Assurance opinion overall, having completed 82% of the Audit plan by year end. CAFT officers were only ever redeployed for a 4-hour period on any given day to assist with Covid Business Compliance and Enforcement which allowed for business as usual counter fraud activities to be conducted during the remaining 4 hours thereby ensuring that we were still able to ensure we had an effective counter fraud response at all times.

81	Cllr Conway	How long was Parkguard's time at the Burnt Oak Parks increased after the fatal stabbing? And how long does the team spend in each park each day?	Leader	<p>Parkguard have increased the frequency with which they visit the high footfall parks in Burnt Oak.</p> <p>They operate an intelligence-led service, and so patrol where patrols are known to be needed more – spending longer in the parks where that is deemed necessary.</p> <p>The amount of time each park patrol can take is at least half an hour, and often an hour and more. In high footfall parks, more than one patrol a day are frequently made</p>
82	Cllr Gurung	How does the Council recognise the wonderful work of smaller groups within the voluntary, community and faith sector?	Chairman CLL	<p>Our VCFS has been instrumental in the community response to Covid, and it has often been smaller groups that have had the most impact with parts of our community that can be harder to engage. We also know that many small organisations are struggling to sustain their business as a result of the pandemic, through our partners in Barnet Together we have made funding available to help support them. One of the functions of our new strengthened Barnet Together infrastructure alliance will be to extend its reach and ensure more smaller groups are able to access its support. This includes training, networking, access to funding and capacity building.</p>
83	Cllr Sara Conway	How is the Parkguard service financed?	Leader	<p>Budget has been allocated as part of the Councils covid response fund.</p>

84	Cllr Freedman	What is being done to counter fly tipping in parks?	Chairman SCPB	<p>The council has increased the level of Street Scene resource operating in parks and open spaces from Spring managing litter and also dealing with material tipped in these locations. Three additional Street Scene teams have been introduced for a six month period as part of the Pleasant Parks initiative to undertake deep cleanse activity in 23 park/open space sites from Dollis Brook &amp; Silkstream down to Welsh Harp. The Greenspaces team has also commissioned the services of a specialist contractor to clear tipped material and cleanse water courses that run through or along the same sites. The Pleasant Parks initiative also includes a pilot with Park Guard, a new partner providing enforcement/reassurance patrol services in parks and open spaces since 5 May. The three dedicated Street Scene Fly-Tipping crews that work on an area based model also support the clearance of dumped material in parks and open spaces.</p>
85	Cllr Conway	What happens to security and safety in our parks when the Parkguard pilot concludes?	Leader	<p>The Council is currently piloting the Parkguard model which will be reviewed following contract expiry in September 2021. Any subsequent recommendations for consideration will be reported to a future Theme Committee as appropriate.</p>

86	Cllr Richman	The post office in Hendon is said to be closing. Can the Council assist the residents of Hendon to ensure that a replacement post office will open in Hendon?	Leader	As an independent organisation the council has limited powers to compel the Post Office to keep specific locations open. We understand that the developer is in discussions with the freeholder about re-provision on a different site in the local area.
87	Cllr Conway	Why wasn't the environmental health out of hours noise service number working on weekend 26/7 June?	Chairman Environment	'As far as we are aware the phone line was working - 5 service requests were recorded by the team on 25 <sup>th</sup> and 26 <sup>th</sup> June. These were received through the out of hours noise line.
88	Cllr Byers	What kind of demand has there been for our online library services so far this year?	Chairman CLL	The pandemic has seen a significant increase in the demand for online library services. Issues of ebooks and eAudiobooks totalled <b>52,013</b> during 2020/21 representing an increase of <b>78%</b> compared to 2019/20. In addition, there were <b>2,674</b> attendances at <b>92</b> online library events and activities during the year. Events ranged from children's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) activities to children's creative writing competitions and adult author talks. In January 2021 the Library Service also established an online and telephone IT support line for residents to obtain assistance using their own digital devices. This service has received 72 enquiries to date.
89	Cllr Conway	Has Barnet bid for MOPAC round 3 of funding to help counter VAWG on our streets?	Chairman SCPB	On 3 June 2021, the Home Office announced a third round of 'Safer Streets' funding, specifically aimed at improving the safety of public space for women and girls. Bidding is open too Police Crime Commissioners (MOPAC for London) and local authorities. MOPAC usually takes the lead on bidding for London, as in Round 1 & 2, with local authorities applying to MOPAC for bespoke project funding. Round 3 closes on 15 July 2021 following which the VAWG Delivery Group will set out a proposal to secure funding from MOPAC.

90	Cllr Smith	What is being done in Barnet to support our nurses?	Leader	<p>The council has been working jointly with the North Central London CCG and the Tavistock NHS Foundation Trust to offer a broad package of support for all health and care staff, including nurses working in and with care home and those working for NHS provider organisations, including access to wellbeing services and counselling. In June, plans to build 130 new homes for the use by local NHS workers were approved by Strategic Planning Committee at Finchley Memorial Hospital, demonstrating the council's commitment to ensuring high quality housing for key workers as we emerge from the Pandemic.</p> <p>The Finchley Memorial Hospital scheme explicitly redresses the difficulties faced by the NHS in recruiting and retaining staff to areas with high living cost like Barnet. The proposal provides a range of affordable tenures – social and affordable rents as well as shared ownership – to meet the particular needs of NHS staff at different life and career stages. It is targeted at NHS staff in salary bands 3-8d with a starting salary of £19,757 per annum. NHS staff in Barnet will be prioritised. The scheme also provides publicly accessible landscaped spaces for residents.</p>
91	Cllr Conway	What preparations is the Council making for the trial of misogyny hate-crime reporting?	Chairman SCPB	<p><a href="#">According to the Parliament website, a bill to make motivation by misogyny an aggravating factor in criminal sentencing; to require police forces to record hate crimes motivated by misogyny; and for connected purposes is at the 2nd reading stage - Hate Crime (Misogyny) Bill - Parliamentary Bills - UK Parliament. The Hate Crime Lead will meet with the Hate Crime coordinator and local Policing representative to consider any potential adjustments in relation to the</a></p>

				<a href="#">work of the hate crime reporting centres that may be required.</a>
92	Cllr Shooter	How many affordable houses have been built in the borough so far this year?	Chairman H&G	85 affordable homes have been built in the borough between 1 April to 30 June 2021
93	Cllr Conway	Will this Council support the development of a safe haven network for children and young people experiencing violence or threats of violence?	Chairman CES	The council will support the development of a proposal for a safe haven network that enables consideration of need and cost
94	Cllr Byers	How many trees have we planted in the past 12 months, and what tree building plans do we have for the rest of 2021?	Chairman Environment	712 semi-mature trees planted in winter of 2020/21 in streets and parks Woodland creation in Friern Retail Park with Dwight school and 820 saplings planted with schoolchildren 2021/22. 200 semi-mature trees in parks 750 semi-mature trees in streets Woodland creation. A further 1,000 saplings with Dwight School planned this winter

95	Cllr Conway	What impact has the fly-tipping taskforce had?	Chairman Environment	<p>The fly tipping working group is a cross service and stakeholder group with the objective to focus on enhancing efforts to tackle fly-tipping and emphasis on greater collaboration and consistency of approach between stakeholders. The group has a delivered a number of actions to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Cross Service/stakeholder fortnightly case conference held to investigate and develop action plans for addressing complex fly tipping cases;</li> <li>* Front-line operational Street Scene Supervisors upskilled in evidence identification and gatehring skills to support enforcement</li> <li>* Green space/verge planting out pilot -Burnt Oak - grass spaces typically fly tipped, plated out with hardy shrubs to remove tipping location and enhance public realm;</li> <li>* Recycling service relaunch - Graeme Park Estate - introduction of improved recycling facilities, domestic recycling storage solutions and tailored marketing to increase recycling and mitigate fly-tipping.</li> </ul> <p>The group is also working on a number of live actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Implementtion of mobile/re-deployable CCTV pilot (mobile data and independently powred units) to enable camera use in difficult/remote locations;</li> <li>* Enhancement of the council's online environmental crime/problem reporting mechanism to increase prominence on the website;</li> <li>* Development and roll out of a high profile communications campaign to deter fly tipping and to encourage residents to report fly tipping incidents to the council;</li> <li>* Viability assessment of consolidating dedicated fly</li> </ul>
----	-------------	--	-------------------------	---

				<p>tipping resource from LBB and Barnet Homes into one operational team;</p> <p>Development of a "one stop shop" pilot web page with useful sign posts for environmental issues e.g. how do I sign up for a green bin, how do I report fly-tipping etc.</p>
96	Cllr Shooter	Can the Leader provide an update on the Hendon Hub project?	Leader	<p>The full business case was considered by Policy &amp; Resources Committee on 20th July, the item was then referred to the meeting of the Council on the 27th July. Subject to the outcome of this meeting, a planning application will be submitted thereafter. Middlesex University now have approval from their Governors to proceed to sign the agreement for lease.</p>

97	Cllr Conway	How much is fly-tipping costing a. the Council and b. Barnet Homes every year?	Leader	The council employs three dedicated fly-tipping crews that work on an area based model. The cost of this resource is £270,000. Barnet Homes has confirmed that it employs two fly tipping crews to deal with fly tip incidents across its estate at a cost of £165,000. b. in the 2020/21 financial year the cost to Barnet Homes to manage fly-tipped refuse was circa £170k.
98	Cllr Teare	Are our enforcement officers focusing on masks that have been littered across the borough?	Leader	The dropping of facemasks in public spaces will be viewed as littering. Our enforcement officers will be dealing with this under the Environment Protection Act.
99	Cllr Prager	What work is the Council doing towards equality, diversity and inclusion?	Leader	The Council recently published a refreshed EDI Policy and action plan. This contains a large number of activities the Council expects to take forward in the next 12 months to respond to the needs of all the communities in Barnet. The Council has also increased its efforts to promote EDI within its own workforce, including reviewing its recruitment and grievance policies, providing additional training to managers, and introducing more opportunities for coaching and mentoring
100	Cllr Weeden-Sanz	How many potholes have we filled this year?	Chairman Environment	The New Term contractor have carried out 987 pothole repairs from 1st April 2021 till date.

101	Cllr Rutter	How much capital spending has the borough committed to further improving our infrastructure around children and education?	Leader	<p>The Education Capital Programme is primarily funded through DFE Grant and issued from Central Government.</p> <p>The Infrastructure Delivery Plan identifies £81.6m of infrastructure need over the next 5 years. It is assumed that a large extent of the required investment would be achieved through grant funding and S106 agreements.</p> <p>The approved Capital Programme includes £41.279m of Capital spending relating to Children Education and Safeguarding. of this number there are live projects relating to new builds provided additional school places (£22.4m), Schools Enhancements (7.6m) and Special Educational Needs Provision (£1.7m).</p> <p>Officers continue to assess future need for education provision and update future requirements as appropriate. The current assumptions on future need are contained within the £81.6m identified within the IDP.</p> <p>Please also see table at end of questions - Proposed capital programme by Theme Committee</p>
102	Cllr Freedman	How many planning enforcement notices have been issued over the last 12 months	Chairman Planning	<p>173 Enforcement Notices and Breach of Conditions Notices have been issued in the past 12 months. In the same period 92 Planning Contravention Notices were also served.</p>

103	Cllr Richman	Can the Chairman for Environment update Council on the current state of air pollution in West Hendon, and what measures are being planned to improve air quality?	Chairman, Environment	<p>West Hendon has a lot of construction development and the major sites have been visited to ensure all plant and machinery complies with GLA guidance to reduce emissions. We have not had recent dust complaints but we also advise contractors to suppress dust.</p> <p>Furthermore, the A5, which runs through the ward, is one of the busiest roads in the borough</p> <p>We monitor 17 sites across the borough; in 2013, 13 sites exceeded Nitrogen Dioxide national air quality targets, this fell to just 2 sites in 2019 and none in 2020 (partly due to lockdown). This shows traffic and general pollution levels are improving, more details can be found on the Barnet air quality monitoring page: <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/environmental-problems/air-quality/air-quality-monitoring">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/environmental-problems/air-quality/air-quality-monitoring</a></p> <p>We have a continuous monitor in Chalgrove School Hendon, within 1-2 km that does near real time measurements.</p> <p>Additionally, Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) expansion that comes in to force in October, will hopefully improve emissions in the A406 area, which we will continue to monitor.</p>
104	Cllr Prager	How can voluntary, community and faith sector groups participate more widely with the Council and with other groups?	Chairman CLL	<p>Our new strengthened infrastructure arrangements with Barnet Together function as an alliance in which the VCFS and the council work in partnership to plan and deliver how best to support residents. This will provide opportunities for direct collaboration with the council and is based on a commitment to co-design solutions with the sector. There are already a number of thematic groups that meet regularly to focus on topics such as Environment, Communities and Faith, Adults etc. These enable VCFS groups to participate with partner</p>

				organisations and the council. More of these will be established in the coming months.
105	Cllr Teare	How has the council spent the government's welcome back funding?	Leader	<p>The Council has developed an Action plan according to the Welcome Back Funding guidelines that sets out a programme of eligible activities that we will deliver until March 2022 when this funding expires. The grant has specific criteria and must support our high streets to reopen safely. Within this criteria, the council has scoped a range of activities that fall within the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Communications and public information activity to ensure that reopening of high streets can be managed successfully and safely</li> <li>- Business-facing awareness-raising activities to ensure that reopening of high streets can be managed successfully and safely.</li> <li>- Temporary public realm changes to ensure that reopening of high streets can be managed successfully and safely.</li> <li>- Support and promote a safe public environment for a high streets visitor economy.</li> </ul>

**Table in relation to question 101**

Appendix J1 Proposed Capital Programme by Theme Committee

Theme Committee	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Total	Grants	S106	Capital Receipts	RCCO/MRA	CIL	Borrowing	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Adults and Safeguarding</b>	6,289	4,799	4,060	4,130	2,974	22,252	16,113	530	90		4,440	1,079	22,252
<b>Brent Cross</b>	140,861	131,773	50,302	2,403		325,339	307,522		900			16,917	325,339
<b>Children, Education &amp; Safeguarding</b>	14,347	33,073	3,114	180		50,715	42,952	2,004	599		497	4,663	50,715
<b>Environment</b>	34,527	18,134	7,643	7,483	6,370	74,157	2,953	4,387	2,405	440	12,000	51,973	74,157
<b>Housing and Growth Committee</b>	116,062	140,126	66,927	61,318	26,673	411,105	50,253	11,535	16,125	491	15,746	316,956	411,106
<b>Policy &amp; Resources</b>	5,695	23,908	600	600	600	31,403	50		4,269		5,000	22,084	31,403
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>317,781</b>	<b>351,813</b>	<b>132,647</b>	<b>76,114</b>	<b>36,617</b>	<b>914,972</b>	<b>419,843</b>	<b>18,456</b>	<b>24,388</b>	<b>931</b>	<b>37,683</b>	<b>413,671</b>	<b>914,972</b>
<b>Housing Revenue Account</b>	62,044	98,907	64,952	52,142	46,494	324,538	20,280		5,866	112,628		185,764	324,538
<b>Total - all services</b>	<b>379,825</b>	<b>450,720</b>	<b>197,598</b>	<b>128,256</b>	<b>83,111</b>	<b>1,239,510</b>	<b>440,123</b>	<b>18,456</b>	<b>30,254</b>	<b>113,559</b>	<b>37,683</b>	<b>599,435</b>	<b>1,239,510</b>