

Council Questions – 26th July (in proper order)

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
1	Cllr Brian Gordon	Would the Leader agree that Residents' Forums are principally for ordinary local residents to table issues, express their views and ask questions and not a soapbox for elected politicians?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Yes.
2	Cllr Barry Rawlings	What justification does the Leader have for not asking officers to consider the risks and opportunities of both Brexit and Remain for the Council and our partners before June 23rd?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	All this work would have been highly hypothetical, as even now it is not clear what our relationship with Europe will look like. There was widespread discussion of the perceived advantages and disadvantages of each option, but it would have been wrong to drag officers into this argument. With the new government in place, now is the time to begin working with our colleagues to advance Barnet's interests.
3	Cllr Brian Gordon	There are a number of procedural issues relating to planning committee meetings that I, several colleagues and officers consider need reviewing. How and when will there be an opportunity to do this in the not-too-distant future?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	In response to feedback from Members on the recent changes to the rules relating to planning committees, the Constitution, Ethics and Probity Committee at the meeting held on 30 June 2016 has already made some amendments to the Planning Committee Procedure Rules. Details of the changes agreed by the Committee are included on the agenda for the Council meeting this evening for consideration and agreement. If Councillor Gordon would like to make suggestions regarding any additional changes, officers can add these to the list of issues to be considered at the next Constitution, Ethics and Probity Committee which is scheduled to take place on 16 November.

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4	Cllr Reema Patel	Why did the Barnet Council fail to notify disabled recipients of freedom passes that their passes had been cancelled? Does the leader accept that failure to do so could have put residents at unnecessary risk of apprehension by transport police?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>Officers accept that when some residents received their new Freedom Passes they were not advised that the passes could be deactivated if they did not meet the current eligibility criteria. As such a small minority of residents had their passes deactivated without being provided with appropriate advice.</p> <p>Officers recognise that the process may have caused the residents involved inconvenience and distress. Everyone concerned apologises unreservedly for this. In the interests of fairness, Freedom Passes have temporarily been reissued to the 207 residents affected whilst the council carries out a review of the Freedom Pass process. On conclusion of this process review, residents will be reassessed based on the revised eligibility criteria. All 207 residents that have had their passes temporarily reissued have also been offered the facility to submit a claim for expenses incurred for the period of time when their passes were deactivated.</p>
5	Cllr Brian Gordon	Is the Leader satisfied that the enquiry into the cause of the voting problems that occurred at the London election, particularly in Wards such as mine, was fully and sufficiently investigated with a view to such a problem not being allowed to reoccur in the future?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Yes. Mr Heath produced a very clear report that set out what went wrong and made a series of recommendations – all of which were accepted by the new Returning Officer. There is now a wider review being conducted into the elections service.
6	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	How will the planned reduction in the frequency of street cleaning help to keep Barnet clean?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of	The Street Cleansing Framework which was adopted at Environment Committee on 14/7/16 sets out the approach which will support a review and redesign of street

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			the Environment Committee)	<p>cleansing services. This will ensure our cleansing services are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'intelligence-led' and data driven • Engaging with residents and businesses and enable individual and community participation • Using technology and mechanisation to improve efficiency • Following, reviewing , trialling and implementing best practice, and new ideas • Looking at generation income for the service for private works <p>Although the MTFs for cleansing are challenging, reviewing the approach and delivering services differently will allow us to focus on quality as well as cost.</p> <p>Managing demand on cleansing service will also be a key part of our work. Reducing litter, fly tipping and similar will reduce pressure on services. The Council has recently started a campaign "Keep Barnet Clean" which highlights the problem anti-social enviro crime. At the end of July a trail to increase street scene enforcement will also start to deter littering, fly tipping, dog fouling etc.</p>
7	Cllr Brian Gordon	There are concerns about the unclean state of the streets of Edgware's Town Centre due to excessive dropping of litter there, compared with other Wards. Can special attention be given to alleviating this problem?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	Edgware is one of the areas which our new increased street scene enforcement will focus on, at the end of July. The Environmental Enforcement Officers will be able to issue Fixed penalty notices for littering (including cigarette butt), dog fouling etc.

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8	Cllr Anne Hutton	How many current employees in the following sectors stand to lose pay as a result of the Unified Rewards restructuring - early years, primary and secondary sectors?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>As a result of Unified Reward, current community schools employees will see the following impact on their full time equivalent basic pay: Positive: 946 staff Neutral: 628 staff Negative: 71 staff</p> <p>We do not have visibility of the impact on pay of 7 schools. This is because they do not procure their payroll service from CSG. This includes all of the community secondary schools. Therefore the impact by sector is only shown below for Early years and Primary.</p> <p>Negative impact in early years: 4 staff (0.24%) Negative impact in primary: 67 staff (4.07%)</p>
9	Cllr Brian Gordon	The Government's Chief Inspector of Schools has recently issued a directive that many Councils are not acting sufficiently to curb extremism within schools. Would you consider this to be a problem within the Borough of Barnet?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	<p>No, but we have prioritised schools for end user WRAP3 Prevent Training and delivered training to high priority schools already.</p> <p>We have publicised the online WRAP Training to schools. Schools are able to use BPSI hours on any trained BPSI advisers to deliver WRAP3 Training to their staff. We are putting in place steps to try and train up more BPSI advisers (over the coming 2-3 months) so that we can offer real capacity in the system to provide whole-school face-to-face training for those that want to take up that option in addition to engagement with the e-training.</p> <p>'Zak' – Prevent/E-Safety Training for years 2 to 13 has been publicised to schools after being trialled by two headteachers. A training session has taken place on this</p>

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				<p>and more training for next term is planned. A number of Barnet schools have raised Prevent referrals since the beginning of 2016 and these have all been dealt with well and without problems.</p>
10	Cllr Dr Devra Kay	<p>It appears that at least some postal vote ballot papers for the Referendum were not received from Barnet by voters living abroad. An example I have is of a couple living in Israel, at the same address, making a request for a postal vote at the same time. The husband is registered in Ealing, the wife in Barnet. The husband received his form, the wife did not. Will the Leader admit that Barnet voters have been disenfranchised yet again due to the Council's inability to organise an election and that he should take responsibility for the failures under his leadership of the Council?</p>	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>No.</p> <p>If Cllr Kay provides the name of the voter concerned to me or the Assurance Director, the elections team will look into what may have happened. There are a variety of possibilities including those which may not be the fault of the council, such as postal delays. The voting and count process for the EU Referendum in Barnet went very well. The turnout for the Referendum was 72.1% with a postal vote turnout of 85%. 161,208 residents cast their vote from an electorate of 223,467. We sent out 48,148 postal votes and received back 41,229. This equates to a 85.63% turnout which is a record quantity and percentage for Barnet. We also had a record number of overseas electors, 2,500, on the register for the referendum.</p>
11	Cllr Shimon Ryde	<p>Would the Leader reaffirm, on behalf of all members, the council's long-standing position of steadfast condemnation of any form of intolerance or hate crime?</p>	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>Yes. Our long-standing zero tolerance approach to any form of hate crime is something we are totally committed to as individuals, as an organisation and as a borough.</p>

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12	Cllr Arjun Mittra	When can we expect the promised consultation and works for Stanley Road to be implemented?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	The proposed School Keep Clear marking and double yellow lines on Stanley Road and Egans Close were advertised on 30 June for a 3 week period. Subject to no objections being received the lines will be implemented prior to the start of the Autumn term.
13	Cllr Shimon Ryde	The way in which people of different races, faiths and backgrounds live and work harmoniously and co-operatively is one of our borough's defining characteristics. Does the Leader share my hope that this long may continue to be the case?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Yes. Barnet is rightly proud of its reputation as a borough where people of all different backgrounds, races and faiths live peacefully and work constructively with one another. We are all responsible for making sure this remains to be the case. Whilst one can never take things for granted, I am confident that Barnet's communities will continue in this vein.
14	Cllr Gill Sargeant	What date has been set to start building the bridge over from the Pulse development?	Cllr Dan Thomas (Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee)	It is the responsibility of the developer to set a commencement date once all necessary permissions have been obtained. The developer is still in discussions regarding the treatment of vegetation on either side of the proposed bridge as well as aspects of the proposed bridge design.
15	Cllr Shimon Ryde	I understand the council has been in close liaison with the police in recent weeks given the upsurge in the number of hate crimes reported in other areas. Has there been any increase in reports of hate crime in our borough?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Following the referendum on 23rd June there has been a reported increase in Race Hate crime nationally and in London. Barnet has also seen an increase in reporting. In the 16 days following the referendum there rate of Race and Faith Hate crime reporting rose by approximately an average of 1 additional offence per day compared to the levels over the previous 3 months. (There were 44

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				<p>reported offences between 23rd June to 8th July – an average of 2.75 per day compared to an average of 1.7 per day in the 3 month period prior to the referendum).</p> <p>The police have not identified any specific trends, patterns or community tension issues however this situation is being monitored by the councils Community Safety Team and Equalities Team who are in close liaison with the police.</p> <p>Barnet Police confirm (at time of writing) that there are no specific trends or patterns behind the figures that indicate one particular groups is specifically being additionally targeted or that one group of offenders have come to the fore, however, the police are monitoring the situation closely and continue to deal with all forms of hate crime as a serious matter.</p> <p>Should any community tension issues arise or be identified, the police and council are ready to take any action necessary to address the issues in coordination with the Communities Together Network and Barnet Multi Faith Forum.</p> <p>Community Cohesion Remains High •The Spring 2016 Resident Perception Survey shows that community and cohesion perception measures continue to remain high in Barnet and have remained constant for the last four years.</p>

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				<p>-85 per cent of residents agree that their local area is a place where people from different ethnic backgrounds get on well together which has remained level since 2012 and is in line with the national average[1].</p> <p>-81 per cent of residents also agree that there is not a problem with people treating each other with respect and consideration and this has remained level since 2010.</p> <p>Barnet – A Safe Borough Racist and Religious Hate crime in Barnet is around 13% lower than the rate for London overall (statistics source: based on number of crimes per 1000 population, date period 12 months to May 2016).</p> <p>The rate of Violent crimes in Barnet is 27% less than the London average (per 1000 population in 12 months to May 2016). Barnet has the 4th lowest rate of Violence with Injury offences out of the 32 London Boroughs.</p> <p>Taking action against Hate crime Barnet Council and Police are committed to working together with residents and communities in Barnet to tackle Hate Crime. We will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the police in taking robust action against perpetrators, • Supporting the needs of victims and working to prevent repeat victimisation as part of our drive to provide a victim centred approach to victims of

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				<p>crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working in partnership with the Barnet Communities Together Network and Barnet Multi-Faith Forum to promote community wellbeing and encourage cohesive and safe communities. • Barnet police recently reinstated the Diversity officer role to ensure they are as available as possible to those from all communities, faiths and backgrounds.
16	Cllr Kath McGuirk	How many CCTV cameras have been removed in the last 10 years and what were the locations?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>24 cameras of the borough's Public Spaces CCTV scheme have been removed or de-activated over the last 10 years, the locations of these cameras are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TH1 A1000 junction with Woodhouse Road N12 • TH6 Stanhope Road car park N12 • TH8 Lodge Lane (car park) N12 • TH10 A1000 junction with Woodside Park Road N12 • TFL56A5 Cricklewood Broadway opposite Bus Garage • H113 Queens Road NW4 • C78 Cricklewood Lane nr Elm Grove NW2 • HS41 Hampton Square N14 (2 cameras reduced to 1 camera) • EB47 Church Hill Road opposite Car Park • EB48 Church Hill Road (East Barnet) Car park Barnet EN4 • HB60 High Street j/w Normandy Avenue • HB61 Fitzjohn Avenue Car Park • HB65 Victors Way by Car Park

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB68 Stapylton Road Car Park • BO72 Barnfield Road Car Park • BO129 Lanacre Avenue j/w Angus Gardens • MH95 Bunns Lane – in Station Car Park • FC105 Popes Drive rear of Tesco's • MB133 A406 over Mutton Brook (West) • MB134 A406 over Mutton Brook (East) • Camera at Templewood point NW2 • Camera at Harpenmead point NW2 • Camera at Granville point NW2 • Camera at Llanelly road NW2 <p>From time to time CCTV camera locations will be removed, de-activated or moved in with the 'Surveillance Camera Code of Practice' published by the Home Office (under Section 30 of the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012) which requires a regular review of surveillance systems and camera locations.</p> <p>Our CCTV camera locations are subject to a regular review to ensure that our deployment and use of CCTV is effective, necessary and proportionate.</p> <p>The improvements and enhancements to our CCTV scheme over the last 18 months have resulted in a more productive and effective CCTV service. Over the last 6 months (to May 2016) the CCTV control room spotted 737 incidents, up from 304 during the same period a year ago (increase of 140%). Over the same period there was a 158% increase in the number of incidents the control</p>

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				<p>room were able to spot following notification from another agency such as the police and a 96% increase in the number of incidents identified directly by the control room. In areas covered by CCTV in Barnet the proportion of crimes solved is greater by a factor of 80% than areas not covered by CCTV.</p> <p>Some examples of the recent outcomes following CCTV control room interventions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -several people arrested for a serious assault in Edgware -suspects for sexual assaults identified -potential robbery in park prevented and as a result of which three people were arrested for possession of offensive weapons <p>Barnet currently has 120 active CCTV cameras in the Community Safety Public Spaces CCTV scheme. These include nine new locations installed in April (2016),</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC 155 Woodhouse Road, near Friern Barnet Lane • FC 152 Ballards lane, near Christchurch Ave • FC 153 High Road A1000-Opposite Leisure Way • FC 154 High Road A1000-Opposite Leisure Way • GG150 Golders Green Road next to Ambrose Avenue • GG151 Golders Green Road next to Alba Gdns • H149 The Boroughs Adj to Egerton Gdns

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CD146 Colindale Ave-by roundabout adj Aerodrome Road • H148 Station Road A504 adj to Midland Hotel <p>Additionally a further nine cameras are due to be installed at new locations within the next three months.</p>
17	Cllr Anthony Finn	<p>Given that politicians of all parties have been re-emphasising their condemnation of any form of intolerance, does the Leader agree it was regrettable that, at the launch of his party's report into internal anti-Semitism no less, the Labour Leader appeared to draw a comparison between the State of Israel and 'self-styled Islamic states'? Does the Leader share the view of Lord Sacks – former Chief Rabbi and a Freeman of this Borough – that Mr Corbyn's remarks were unacceptable; does he condemn them; and does he agree that the Leader of the Barnet Labour Group should also speak out to denounce them?</p>	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>Whatever their motivation, Mr Corbyn's comments were unfortunate and have been seen by many to compound an existing problem among a small minority of Labour party members and supporters.</p> <p>The comparison drawn is certainly one I find to be baseless, distasteful and unacceptable and one I'm sure Members from across the chamber would condemn.</p>
18	Cllr Barry Rawlings	<p>Have there been any declarations of interest from community groups to run Childs Hill Library, and if not will it be closed?</p>	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>The closing date for expressions of interest to run one or more of the Partnership Libraries is the 31st July 2016. Five information sessions have been held across the borough and a range of organisations, community and</p>

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19	Cllr Anthony Finn	What is the comparative funding of London boroughs?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	See below:																																																																								
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		Hounslow	31.1	259,052	119.98
		Islington	52.9	211,047	250.74
		Kensington and Chelsea	31.5	155,930	202.32
		Kingston upon Thames	12.0	163,906	72.96
		Lambeth	69.3	310,200	223.55
		Lewisham	59.6	281,556	211.71
		Merton	22.6	202,225	111.70
		Newham	70.7	314,084	224.98
		Redbridge	33.0	284,617	116.11
		Richmond upon Thames	12.3	189,145	65.21
		Southwark	73.5	293,530	250.33
		Sutton	24.8	193,630	127.82
		Tower Hamlets	68.7	263,003	261.08
		Waltham Forest	44.5	262,566	169.42
		Wandsworth	47.0	308,312	152.30
		Westminster	57.9	223,858	258.43
		London Boroughs Total	1,375	8,308,369	166
20	Cllr Reema Patel	Does the Leader have an analysis of the cost of Brexit for the borough and our public services; and an explanation for his lack of leadership on the issue?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	It is far too early to tell what the impact will be on our local and national economy and what this will mean for our budget. There will be risks and opportunities, but much depends on how businesses, investors, consumers and governments react. Our excellent links to our Conservative government will stand us in good stead. There is no leadership in blind guesswork or alarmism.	

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21	Cllr Anthony Finn	What is the taxpayer spend in the form of council tax raised and central government grant expressed on a per capita basis across the London boroughs?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Column F of spreadsheet below shows council tax raised and RSG expressed on a per capita basis across London boroughs.

A	B	C	D	E	F
London Borough	Revenue Support Grant 2016-17 £m	Council tax income 2016/17 (Excluding GLA) £m	Total Funding (RSG & Ctax) £m	Population in 2014 (2012-based SNPPs)	Funding per Capita £
Barking and Dagenham	36.7	49.3	86.0	190,560	451.32
Barnet	36.8	151.7	188.6	363,956	518.08
Bexley	21.9	94.2	116.2	234,271	495.85
Brent	56.0	98.3	154.3	314,660	490.34
Bromley	21.3	135.7	157.0	314,036	499.86
Camden	54.8	95.4	150.2	224,962	667.56
City of London	10.6	6.0	16.7	7,604	2,192.91
Croydon	46.8	143.5	190.3	368,886	515.85
Ealing	48.4	115.9	164.2	340,671	482.09
Enfield	46.6	107.9	154.5	317,287	486.84
Greenwich	53.1	75.8	129.0	260,068	495.87
Hackney	69.1	67.9	137.0	252,119	543.36
Hammersmith and Fulham	38.5	53.9	92.3	179,850	513.43

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	Haringey	51.0	87.2	138.2	258,912	533.68
	Harrow	21.9	105.3	127.2	242,377	524.77
	Havering	20.9	108.4	129.2	239,733	539.10
	Hillingdon	29.4	106.6	136.0	281,756	482.75
	Hounslow	31.1	86.6	117.6	259,052	454.14
	Islington	52.9	76.9	129.8	211,047	614.99
	Kensington and Chelsea	31.5	74.3	105.8	155,930	678.62
	Kingston upon Thames	12.0	84.9	96.9	163,906	591.07
	Lambeth	69.3	98.9	168.3	310,200	542.40
	Lewisham	59.6	86.6	146.2	281,556	519.25
	Merton	22.6	78.9	101.5	202,225	501.96
	Newham	70.7	66.1	136.8	314,084	435.56
	Redbridge	33.0	94.9	128.0	284,617	449.68
	Richmond upon Thames	12.3	113.3	125.7	189,145	664.40
	Southwark	73.5	84.9	158.4	293,530	539.50
	Sutton	24.8	85.4	110.1	193,630	568.82
	Tower Hamlets	68.7	76.9	145.5	263,003	553.41
	Waltham Forest	44.5	86.1	130.6	262,566	497.44
	Wandsworth	47.0	50.8	97.7	308,312	317.02
	Westminster	57.9	49.2	107.0	223,858	478.09
	London Boroughs Total	1,375	2,898	4,273	8,308,369	
22	Cllr Alon Orbach	What has the council done to assure residents who are citizens of other EU countries following the EU referendum result?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	I have made public comments, printed in the press and published on the council's website. The Leader of the Opposition has done likewise. All have been clear that the borough will remain a tolerant and open place.		

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
23	Cllr Anthony Finn	How is government support for each borough determined?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Formula funding is determined mostly by four-block model: relative needs (takes into account authority's relative need by considering factors such as socio-economic and demographic data), relative resources (a negative figure which looks at how much income authorities can raise locally and therefore require less central support), central allocation (allocated on a per head of population basis), floor damping (reallocates funding allocated through the previous three blocks to ensure authorities are receiving a guaranteed minimum proportionate change in grant from previous year)
24	Cllr Phil Cohen	What specific interest has there been from voluntary and community groups to run East Barnet library in the so-called Partnership model, and doesn't the lack of any such publicly-announced bids reveal the failure of this approach instead of developing a properly funded and managed public library service, which the vast majority of our residents want?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The closing date for expressions of interest to run one or more of the Partnership Libraries is the 31st July 2016. Five information sessions have been held across the borough and a range of organisations, community and resident groups have attended to find out more about the opportunity.
25	Cllr John Marshall	What is being done to try and obtain a minimum baseline funding guarantee for future years?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	P&R agreed for an 'efficiency plan' detailing our plans to 2020 responding to the funding challenges in return for a minimum funding guarantee as set out in provisional local government finance settlement to be submitted to DCLG. This would cover the Revenue Support Grant and

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
				Transitional Grant and therefore would provide some certainty over that period. However there is more work to be done with central government in respect of certainty around other grants; namely: New Homes Bonus and Better Care Fund
26	Cllr Ross Houston	Only 18% of new homes delivered in Barnet over the last year were affordable against a target of 40% - is the administration actively discouraging developers from including higher percentages of affordable homes in planning applications?	Cllr Tom Davey (Chairman of the Housing Committee)	No. In recent years we have delivered more affordable units than many of our Labour-run neighbours.
27	Cllr John Marshall	Following his success earlier this year in getting the government to agree to review the needs assessment that underpins the funding settlement, will the Leader continue to make representations to ensure this – especially given the possibility of new ministerial leadership in various departments?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	This campaign remains a key priority and I will be making Barnet's case directly to ministers. Government funding to London must be apportioned to reflect a changing landscape of need. The historical concentration of resources in inner London is now outdated. It cannot be right that Camden should receive well over twice the funding per head Barnet does.
28	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Does the Council Leader accept that the election fiasco was not limited to events on polling day, but also the registration of voters, handling of Postal Votes and handing of polling cards?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	I do not believe this is the case, but as maintaining public confidence in the electoral registration function is key, General Functions Committee on 29th June agreed the terms of reference for a review of the function which includes external challenge, gives the public the opportunity to comment on their concerns, and which reports back to General Functions Committee in November.

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
				Complete detailed design November 2016 Construction February 2017
31	Cllr Eva Greenspan	How might the UK's decision to leave the EU impact upon the council's future budgetary position?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	It really is too early to tell. Much will depend on the wider economic situation and the spending decisions the government takes as a result. Other variables for the council would be council tax and business rate revenues, given that we are expecting growth from our developments. New income or cost saving opportunities may arise from the new relationships set to be forged.
32	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Now that officers have visited Manor Cottages Approach and Long Lane to look at the ASB on the green, when can we expect action to build a fence and gate?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	<p>Officers conducted a joint site visit with TFL on 30th June, as a result of which TFL were asked to provide a gating solution to green area off Long Lane. TFL are currently reviewing the gating options and suitable gate design for the location. We are seeking confirmation from TFL that the gating will go ahead and of the timeframe (typically there is a 12 week timeframe with TFL gating programs). In addition TFL will be carrying out some clearance work on the overgrowing weeds that were identified at the location.</p> <p>An additional issue was raised during the site visit on the 30th June which was gaps in existing fencing at Manor Cottages Approach. The Community Safety Team are currently assessing this issue in liaison with police and TFL colleagues and will be confirming the recommendations for this location (including consideration of fencing / gating options).</p>

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
33	Cllr Eva Greenspan	Would the Leader share the widely held concerns about anti-Semitism in the Labour Party and amongst the hard left?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>One recognises that it is only a small minority, but this is a problem they really must sort out. It should be unequivocal that anti-Semitism is unacceptable.</p> <p>There are issues with various forms of intolerance across the political spectrum – all of which must be confronted and stamped out.</p>
34	Cllr Laurie Williams	Why does the administration schedule Committee meetings on the same night where the members and subs are on both? This has happened twice recently.	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Every attempt is made to avoid this, but occasionally there is real need for additional meetings or for existing ones to be rescheduled and the calendar is already very full. Any changes required are made in accordance with Section 4.2 of the Meeting Procedure Rules set out in the constitution – this includes consultation with committee members and Group Leaders.
35	Cllr Eva Greenspan	Would the Leader encourage the Barnet Labour Group to push to ensure that the next Leader of their party makes tackling anti-Semitism a higher priority?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	I'm sure this is something the Labour Group in Barnet would want to do.
36	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	What consultation has taken place with residents over the plan to stop using paving stones in most residential roads and switch to using tarmac/asphalt?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	A report was submitted to the Environment Committee on 14 July recommending the use of standard materials for footway construction. All Ward Councillors have been consulted with regard to the Year 2 Network Recovery Programme and residents notified prior to any work commencing. It is not Council policy to consult residents as to the material used. Customer satisfaction surveys will be carried out on some schemes this year to gauge public opinion and these results will be published.

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
37	Cllr Val Duschinsky	One potential upside to Brexit is the reduction in red tape and burdensome regulation e.g. around procurement directives and waste levies. Does the Leader share my view that the government should consider carefully which are strictly necessary and avoid simply introducing Whitehall replicas to replace them?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Deciding what will happen to the large number of EU regulations post –Brexit is a substantial challenge and a key part of the government’s preparations. Many of the existing regulations and standards are important and beneficial and will be continued in some capacity. However, it is an opportunity to review which fall into this camp and which would benefit residents, businesses and government by being discontinued. I would caution against merely replicating all of them with Whitehall versions.
38	Cllr Agnes Slocombe	How much of the £20million GLA Air Quality fund to help local councils has been allocated to Barnet?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	Barnet has so far been awarded a total of £530,000 to fund schemes to aid air quality, following a number of successful bids.
39	Cllr Val Duschinsky	How surprised are you that Mayor Khan has already gone back on his housing pledges?	Cllr Tom Davey (Chairman of the Housing Committee)	Not especially. It was pointed out prior to his election that he would be unlikely to deliver the number and percentage affordable he was promising.
40	Cllr Nagus Narenthira	Can the Leader explain why nothing has been done yet to solve the parking signage problem near Sainsbury’s local in Grahame Park?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	There is private signage indicating that it is a loading bay. The Council will consider parking restrictions with the associated Traffic Management Order once the layby has been formally adopted. The private company, Genesis have been alerted to the issue and have addressed the signage.

Qn.	Councillor	Question			Answer by		Answer			
		Ealing	23.4	99	16	23.59	99	18	+0.8%	-2
		Croydon	19.85	140	21	23.64	96	17	+19.1%	+4
		Hammersmith and Fulham	27.82	65	14	24.36	92	16	-12.4%	-2
		Camden	34.71	19	7	24.96	84	15	-28.1%	-8
		Greenwich	31.47	41	10	25.54	78	14	-18.8%	-4
		Brent	25.95	81	15	26.66	68	13	+2.7%	+2
		Enfield	23.05	104	18	27.00	64	12	+17.1%	+6
		Westminster	31.68	39	9	27.69	57	11	-12.6%	-2
		Lewisham	28.55	57	13	28.59	48	10	+0.1%	+3
		Lambeth	34.18	23	8	28.91	44	9	-15.4%	-1
		Southwark	35.38	17	6	29.49	40	8	-16.7%	-2
		Waltham Forest	30.24	47	12	30.19	35	7	-0.2%	+5
		Haringey	37.7	13	5	31.04	30	6	-17.7%	-1
		Islington	42.65	6	3	32.53	24	5	-23.7%	-2
		Newham	40.41	11	4	32.94	23	4	-18.5%	-
		Barking and	31.32	42	11	34.64	12	3	+10.6%	+8
		Hackney	45.06	5	2	35.28	11	2	-21.7%	-
		Tower Hamlets	45.88	4	1	35.66	10	1	-22.3%	-

The broad trend shown in the table is that inner London boroughs have been becoming less deprived, whilst outer London has seen increases in its levels of deprivation – as measured by the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

Barnet is currently shown to be the 25th most deprived local authority in London. Despite a small increase in its ranking within London (having been 24th most deprived in 2004), the comparative deprivation score has increased since 2004 (by 10%).

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
42	Cllr Barry Rawlings	<p>Will the Leader instigate a full day workshop to include councillors, senior managers and partners to discuss the finding of the recently published report of the Smith Institute Towards a Suburban Renaissance</p> <p>http://www.smith-institute.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Towards-a-suburban-renaissance.pdf ?</p>	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>The key themes of the Smith Institute report are already addressed in the Council's work on growth and regeneration, welfare reform and Entrepreneurial Barnet; and in our work with other London Boroughs and the GLA on devolution. There is thus no need for a workshop on the report.</p>
43	Cllr Val Duschinsky	<p>What additional costs are there to boroughs by virtue of their size?</p>	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>By virtue of having the largest population in London, there are more costs to delivering services and in all cases funding does not increase proportionate to the costs. In addition to that, Barnet's RSG funding per capita is lower than other London boroughs. Barnet also has the highest number of care homes which therefore attracts an older population to the borough.</p> <p>The new funding distribution method for RSG takes into account the wider resources available to councils including Council tax, when distributing RSG. There is no proposed damping or scaling. This further disadvantages Barnet's funding position.</p>

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
44	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Morning deliveries to Oak Lodge School are blocking Hampstead Heights, trapping cars from Heath View, Heath View Close and Maya Road. Can the suppliers be asked to park more considerately please?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	The Council's Highways Inspector will speak to the school and construction company to address the issues caused by the construction deliveries to the School.
45	Cllr Mark Shooter	What assurances have been given by the new Mayor of London that he will continue City Hall backing for the Brent Cross scheme and that he won't undermine all the good work done to get to this point?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>The Council is continuing to work closely with the GLA to deliver the comprehensive development of Brent Cross Cricklewood.</p> <p>The regeneration of this Opportunity Area is key policy of the London Plan, and both the GLA and TfL remain committed to ensuring, and actively participating in its delivery, and as such no further assurance has been required.</p> <p>I have, though, spoken to Mayor Khan, impressing upon him the importance of this scheme to Barnet and to London as a whole.</p>
46	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	The Council has stated that studies show that most littering takes place within 5 metres of a bin. In addition to encouraging people to bin their litter, what is being done to ensure that bins are emptied more regularly- there are frequent examples across the Borough of overflowing bins on streets and in parks?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	The councillor is quite right and the collection of bin contents needs to match the rate of deposit.

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
47	Cllr Mark Shooter	Could the Leader confirm the total amount deposited in the Icelandic banks prior to 2008 and the total received back by the council?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Deposits of £27.4m were made. The council has recovered £28.53m, which represents all of the principle and £1.13m in interest.
48	Cllr Dr Devra Kay	After the terrible incident in which a young woman was raped in Long Lane, Finchley in an area by Victoria Park which is notoriously ill-lit and the site of another rape a while ago, and with the alleged rape of a teenage girl last week in Leisure Way on grassland behind the Finchley Lido and Vue around midnight, as well as a recent rape and an attempted rape on the West Hendon Estate, both late at night, would the Leader agree to review the level of lighting not just in these areas, but all local parks and similar areas of high risk for women out alone?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>Lighting at these locations has not been raised as a specific issue by the Neighbourhood Policing Teams or the investigating teams and so no request to change or review lighting levels has been made by the police to the council. Should the police identify lighting as a factor behind crimes at a specific location and make a request then the council will consider that request and review those lighting levels.</p> <p>The incidents the councillor refers to are indeed terrible and Police investigations are on-going. Generally, sexual assaults are relatively uncommon in our borough, with the rate of such crimes being 29% below the London average.</p>
49	Cllr Mark Shooter	What is the tenure and leasehold status of the properties the council owns in The Burroughs and what are the plans for them?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>The council owns the following properties in The Burroughs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hendon Town Hall: leased to Middlesex University until 2030 with an option to exit lease in 2020; currently undergoing rent review - Building 9: currently undergoing rent review - Hendon Library; first floor leased to Middlesex University; following implementation of library strategy, ground floor being re-configured and first floor currently

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
				<p>undergoing rent review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fenella: rent review underway, potential to dispose of asset - Ravensfield; rent review underway, potential to dispose of asset - 17A The Burroughs; shop owned by the council and New lease to be completed - St George's Lodge 79 The Burroughs NW4 – Held over, lease expired. <p>There is ongoing dialogue with Middlesex University to agree future utilisation of space for mutual benefit, as part of their strategic planning later this year</p>
50	Cllr Reema Patel	Will the leader support the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan's statement that those who are EU nationals - who work hard and contribute to the UK, are welcome in both London and in Barnet?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Yes.
51	Cllr Graham Old	What became of the council's application for EU funding support for the small business hub we are hoping to establish in the borough?	Cllr Dan Thomas (Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee)	The bid submitted was not successful on this occasion. Officers are now pursuing an alternative approach to supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs in the borough that delivers the same businesses outcomes as the original funding bid, but which makes use of council assets such as the soon to be built HQ in Colindale and some space in four of the Borough's libraries.

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
52	Cllr Ross Houston	Please provide the most up to date figures for the number of families living in temporary and emergency accommodation, including the number of children.	Cllr Tom Davey (Chairman of the Housing Committee)	<p>Total Number of Households in all forms of temporary accommodation (including emergency accommodation) Q4 2015/16: - 2,941</p> <p>Number of Children in all forms of temporary accommodation Q4 2015/16. This includes non-dependents: - Aged 0-9 months = 22 Aged 9 months to 5 years = 443 Aged 6-10 years = 352 Aged 11-17 years = 386 Unknown D.O.B = 32 Total = 1235</p>
53	Cllr Graham Old	Does the Leader know the extent of the extreme-left activist group Momentum's activities in Barnet and which, if any, Labour councillors are members of, or financially supported by, it?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	There does seem to have been at least occasional activity, although I don't know how far they have succeeded in infiltrating local associations or influencing the Labour Group. Membership or financial support would surely be declared on the member's register of interests.
54	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	Is the Leader embarrassed that less than a third of residents are satisfied with the council's parking service?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	<p>Resident satisfaction with parking in Barnet has improved by ten percentage points over the last three years. However, it remains slightly below the London average of 33%.</p> <p>No one who receives a parking ticket is going to be happy.</p>

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
55	Cllr Graham Old	Would the Leader join me in congratulating the council's Trading Standards team for the success of their long and complex investigation that brought Martin Marcus to justice for his letting agency scam which defrauded dozens of victims out of over £200k? What message does he think this operation sends to others contemplating similar con tricks?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>This sends a strong message to all traders, that unfair and fraudulent trading will not be tolerated within the Borough.</p> <p>Following the sentencing of Mr Marcus the trading standards team have undertaken a week of action visiting letting agents in the borough to check whether they were complying with their legal obligations. 86% of traders visited were compliant and the team are working with the traders where issues were discovered.</p> <p>Due to the success of this week the trading standards team will be undertaking further weeks of actions in relation to other key areas to work with traders to continue to improve the fair trading environment.</p>
56	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Brompton Grove continues to attract parking problems and crime. When will the council put the community first and adopt the road?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Brompton Grove is a partially made up road at the end of 3 cul-de-sacs. It would require extensive expenditure to bring it up to an adoptable standard.
57	Cllr Bridget Perry	What progress has been made on improving high speed broadband connectivity in Chipping Barnet?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Agreement has been secured with Virgin Media to invest in new high speed Broadband cables, starting in Friern Barnet and working up to Chipping Barnet over the next 12 months. Once completed this work will make a significant contribution to faster broadband speeds for residents in the East and North of the Borough. Work to install these new cables is expected to commence in the Autumn.

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
58	Cllr Barry Rawlings	Will the Leader convene a meeting of the Barnet Strategic Partnership as a matter of urgency to discuss the effects of Brexit in the borough?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The council continues to work closely with all our partners on an ongoing basis.
59	Cllr Bridget Perry	Can the Leader give assurances that he would oppose development on the Whalebones Park site in High Barnet?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Yes, it is important that this much valued land is protected. I know that the ward councillors and Theresa Villiers MP think likewise.
60	Cllr Arjun Mittra	How many of the agreed 50 Syrian refugees have been housed in Barnet?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	So far, 5 families and a total of 17 people have been successfully resettled in Barnet.
61	Cllr Bridget Perry	Does the Leader welcome the inclusion of affordable workspace provision in the revised plans for the Brake Shear House development and would he agree that such provision is an important means of supporting business locally?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The approach within the planning application itself is a matter for consideration by the Planning Committee. The provision of such floor space is however encouraged in the planning brief for the site which has been adopted by the Council.
62	Cllr Nagus Narenthira	Why does the Leader think residents in Colindale deserve to have the parking and traffic chaos that will result from the council offices being located in Grahame Park?	Cllr Dan Thomas (Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee)	The office move includes within the planning permission, condition for parking places and therefore it is not anticipated that the move of the office block will cause traffic chaos. The council is also working with staff to encourage them to use more sustainable forms of transport. The move of the office block will in fact provide a much needed boost to the local economy.

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer										
63	Cllr Brian Salinger	Will the Leader please make a full statement detailing when and how much money was received back from the Icelandic Banks. If he is able can he also detail the amounts received by way of interest payments before the banks collapsed?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>Deposits of £27.4m were made. The council has recovered £28.53m, which represents all of the principle and £1.13m in interest.</p> <p>Interest on Icelandic banks was due to be paid on maturity and therefore no interest was due or received before the collapse of the banks.</p>										
64	Cllr Anne Hutton	Following the response to Q38 at the council meeting on 4 April could the Leader tell me how many school attendance orders have been issued with regard to home educated children over the last 5 years?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>2011/12</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012/13</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013/14</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014/15</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2015/16</td> <td>3*</td> </tr> </table> <p>Most SAOs are issued to parents rejecting normal school offers. Home educators whose provision is unsatisfactory tend to comply with expectations before an order is issued, which is a positive. Of the three issued in the current school year, two children are now abroad, and the other was revoked as the EHE was reviewed and found to be satisfactory.</p>	2011/12	0	2012/13	0	2013/14	4	2014/15	0	2015/16	3*
2011/12	0													
2012/13	0													
2013/14	4													
2014/15	0													
2015/16	3*													

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
65	Cllr Brian Salinger	Will the Leader please list all the buildings which are owned by the Council but occupied by other parties, where a formal lease has not been signed or where the existing lease has expired. In each case can the leader advise members of the date (or month/year) when each of the buildings was occupied or when the lease expired?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	This information is being gathered for the councillor.
66	Cllr Arjun Mittra	When can we expect improvements to pedestrian crossings on East End Road for the Archer Academy to be enacted?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	The locations of the two zebra crossing have been confirmed and consultation is currently being undertaken with local residents. Subject to the required S106 funding being received it is anticipated that the crossing will be installed in the Autumn.
67	Cllr Sury Khatri	Will the council meet the established deadline for vacating the current depot site at Mill Hill East? As I hear that this is not the case, why not?	Cllr Dan Thomas (Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee)	The original agreement between the council and the Inglis Consortium, who are re-developing Mill Hill East, required the council to vacate the Mill Hill depot site in its entirety by the end of December 2016. Following discussions between the council and the Inglis Consortium it has been agreed that the council will not be able to fully vacate the site by Dec 2016 and a revised timetable has been agreed. The original plan was to locate our depot at the Pinkham Way site owned by the Labour-run North London Waste Authority. It is a result of NLWA decisions that the Pinkham Way site is no longer available, hence our recent search for another site. The Judicial Review challenge brought against the Planning decision relating to the development of the new depot provision on

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
				<p>Oakleigh Road South also delayed commencement of works to provide the council's new depot facility. The revised programme will see a phased release of the Mill Hill depot site to the Inglis Consortium with the final areas handed over in August 2017. The phased approach is not expected to have any detrimental impact on either the council or the Inglis Consortium and in fact, the council has been able to provide the early release of some areas of the site to the Inglis Consortium well ahead of the original schedule, providing significant benefit to the re-development at Mill Hill East.</p>
68	Cllr Ross Houston	Please would the Leader advise what the most up-to-date position is on the council's temporary accommodation budget?	Cllr Tom Davey (Chairman of the Housing Committee)	At the end of Quarter 1, a £130k overspend was projected for the Council's Homelessness budget of £5.56m.
69	Cllr Sury Khatri	What steps are being taken to support the Football and Rugby clubs affected by the new Copthall Leisure Centre?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>Sport & Physical Activity and Parks Officers are working to establish re-locating the Gaelic Football Club to the National Institute Medical Research in Mill Hill. A formal decision will be concluded by September 2016, it is anticipated that for the 2017 Season the Gaelic Football Club will be founded at this new location. Mill Hill Rugby Club will not be moving location from Barnet Copthall, the Sport & Physical Activity Project has updated proposals for the redevelopment of Copthall Leisure Centre at the Copthall Community Sports Group and subsequent meetings are now being co-ordinated with the Clubs to clarify proposals and outline process.</p>

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
70	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	Given that NSL – the council’s parking enforcement contractor - failed to meet all Key Performance Indicators during Quarter 4 of 2015/16 why did the Conservative councillors on the Environment Committee force through a contract extension?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	The extension was agreed in order to allow sufficient time to investigate the benefits of entering a joint contract with neighbouring boroughs which has the potential to generate significant savings in the future. There are currently fourteen KPI’s measured as part of the contract and only one of these is not meeting the required target. The way the contract operates means that if only one of the fourteen KPIs is not being met then there is failure in that month. This is what has led to failure in quarter four, despite the majority of KPIs being met.
71	Cllr Sury Khatri	As the residents lives in Mill Hill has been blighted by the many big development projects, how does the Leader expect Mill Hill residents to cope with the effect of the many cumulative impacts and effects this has on the residents lives as a result of the multiple development proposals currently in train? Is it not time that we should halt, an take a breather and not give any encouragement to any such future activities?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The Deputy Mayor raises an important point. We must always strive to strike a balance to deliver new homes, schools and facilities, whilst preserving the character and landscape of our borough.
72	Cllr Gill Sargeant	What plans are in place to build a cycle track from Montrose Park to Colindale station via the Pulse development?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	There is a plan to build a cycle path that will link the two. This will be via the bridge that is part of the S106 Pulse agreement. The bridge will be wide enough to accommodate bicycles and pedestrians. This proposal is due to go to Planning for determination.

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
73	Cllr Sury Khatri	Following on we as an administration make a great play the houses being built and that many are 'Affordable Housing'! Everyone sane person knows that this is patently not the case, especially for the residents of Mill Hill, if I may so say Barnet too, and their children etc. This is pure and simple insulting residents' intelligence. Why do we persist in peddling this line ?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The Deputy Mayor makes an important point. Clearly homes are not affordable enough for some. More development is needed to increase supply and that brings its own problems. A balance needs to be achieved.
74	Cllr Barry Rawlings	Will the Leader follow Barnet Labour's lead in committing to the 2% precept for the next 2 years to help protect adult social care?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The social care precept will be considered as part of the budget and council tax setting process.
75	Cllr Sury Khatri	Why are citizenship ceremonies being done at the registry office and how many residents go through this process annually?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	There were 1279 citizenship ceremonies in 2015/16. Citizenship ceremonies are temporarily being held at the registry office due to the need to consolidate Registrar's staff in one location to manage the workload and stem the decline in service performance. However, it is planned that these will resume at Hendon Town Hall before the end of the year when the entire service relocates there.

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
76	Cllr Phil Cohen	What were the reasons behind Barnet's failure to secure EU funding to set up a Barnet Business Hub? I understand our bid did not meet several of the criteria required by the GLA who arrange the bids, for example it was too similar to an existing London-wide Growth Hub website, and there was little involvement from local partners, so why did the council not properly check first with the GLA that our bid met the necessary criteria?	Cllr Dan Thomas (Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee)	The GLA do not provide detailed feedback on the content of bids prior to submission, only following the formal assessment process, so it was not possible to account for these points prior to submission of the bid. The intention to create a business hub in Barnet for local entrepreneurs remains. Officers are currently pursuing an alternative approach to supporting small businesses that will deliver the same outcomes as the bid, and makes more use of council assets such as the forthcoming new headquarters in Colindale and some space in parts of four of the Borough's libraries.
77	Cllr John Hart	Does the Leader consider that the decision to leave the European Union will affect Barnet's finances negatively?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>It is too early to tell. In addition to potential economic impacts, both shorter and longer term, and their effect on council funding, any changes to interest rates could impact the financial position. The Pension Fund Committee will look to ensure the fund performs well, adapting to new circumstances as required.</p> <p>As councils come to rely less on government funding and more on council tax and business rate receipts, the growth agenda becomes vital. We have been working with partners to keep development schemes on track and, so far, the news has been positive, with continued commitment and with another milestone achieved at Brent Cross.</p>

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
78	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Can planning applications put conditions on rent increases and service charges on developments?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	No. Levels of rent and service charges are not planning matters that can be included in conditions on planning permissions.
79	Cllr John Hart	Does the Leader welcome the launch of the council's enforcement campaign against those who litter, fly-tip and allow dogs to foul in the borough?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	Yes. Enforcement is part of a well-rounded approach to ensuring we have a clean and green borough.
80	Cllr Dr Devra Kay	In spite of assurances that asbestos would be removed during the demolition of the West Hendon Estate according to the strictest safety procedures, this appears not to have been the case. It was acknowledged that asbestos was present in the ceiling and floor tiles and in the old heating system and during the recent demolition of Franklin House, windows were removed and ceilings were left hanging, exposed to the open air, particles of dust blowing from the windows and onto cars. The building is now demolished and the ceilings and floors crushed with the rest of the debris in the open air on site. I have requested an independent inspection, but have been told that the Council would never pay for it, and a recent inspection due to the request is not independent. It claims	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>Greater London Demolition has been contracted by Barratt Metropolitan LLP for the demolition of 1-32 Tyrrel Way, 1-76 Franklin House and 11-98 Marriotts Close. All asbestos material is dealt with in strict accordance the HSE Managing and Working with Asbestos Approved Code of Practice and Guidance for the Control of Asbestos (2012).</p> <p>The process for asbestos removal varies depending on the type, amount and location. For high and medium risk material the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is notified prior to removal, the removal of asbestos is carried out under controlled conditions and (on completion) a re-occupation survey is undertaken. These activities are completed prior to demolition. For low risk material where practicable the above process is also followed and the asbestos is removed prior to demolition. There can be exceptions where lower risk material, for example textured decorative coating, is not removed prior to demolition.</p>

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
		<p>that the asbestos is low risk. Yet when flat 150 Marsh Drive had similar asbestos removed, the flat was sealed up and the resident was not allowed to enter the flat until the job was completed. Even if risk is low, there is a risk, and removal of asbestos has not been dealt with responsibly. Workmen are unprotected, and residents are fearful of the health implications. I ask the Leader to agree to a genuinely independent inspection and report with no connection to the project and to ensure that proper care is taken in future demolition. There is photographic evidence of Franklin House.</p>		<p>A small amount of material containing low risk asbestos has not been removed prior to demolition at West Hendon, this includes textured coating to the ceilings and walls only and forms significantly less than 0.1% of the overall crush/demolition material. As stated above this approach is in accordance with the HSE Guidance and is accepted practice on construction sites. All other asbestos containing materials have been removed.</p> <p>The West Hendon Scheme is independently assessed by the Considerate Constructors scheme. At the most recent assessment the independent assessor scored the site 9 out of 10 for safety (exceptional) and awarded the scheme a Performance Beyond Compliance Certificate.</p>
81	Cllr John Hart	<p>Given the budgetary pressure that local authorities are under, is it not right that people should take personal responsibility for their behaviour rather than expecting other people to pick up their rubbish and the taxpayer to pick up the bill?</p>	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	Yes.
82	Cllr Arjun Mitra	<p>How many times, since January 2013, has Barnet challenged SEN provision requests and how often is Barnet successful in challenging an SEN provision request?</p>	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>None. The council determines the provision made for young people with an Education, Health and Care Plan. It is for the parents to challenge the provision if they disagree with the offer.</p> <p>Since 2013 there have been 132 tribunal appeals, of</p>

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
				<p>which 9 have been found in favour of the appellant (with 13 cases still to be heard this year).</p>
83	Cllr John Hart	<p>What progress has been made towards achieving step-free access at Mill Hill Broadway Station and how has this come about?</p>	<p>Cllr Dan Thomas (Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee)</p>	<p>The quality of access and subsequent movement around the station is not commensurate with a station catering for circa 2.7 million passengers per annum. Local groups, Councillors and the local MP Dr Offord have long argued that the lack of step free access is a clear gap in the quality of the service.</p> <p>As a result Dr Offord MP instigated and now chairs a project stakeholder group working to realise the potential for Step Free Access at Mill Hill Broadway Station. Councillor Val Duschinsky is leading on the development of proposals for the Council and is joined by various Elected Members and a range of stakeholders representing the different interests, including the Chair of the Mill Hill Neighbourhood Forum.</p> <p>This group instigated a tender process via a TfL framework in spring 2016 that has resulted in the award of a contract to rail specialists, Pell Freshman, to develop the feasibility study that will assess the various constraints and options for delivery of Step Free Access at the station. It will result in a 'preferred option' that has been analysed and appraised in sufficient detail with which to apply for the next funding round for Step Free</p>

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
				Access projects in 2019. This study is expected to be completed by Winter 2016.
84	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	Why does the Leader think only 35% of residents are satisfied with the state of our roads and pavements?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Because the roads and pavements need more work – this is now in hand.
85	Cllr Maureen Braun	The Chancellor has indicated that Corporation Tax could be further cut, to as low as 15%, to ensure Britain remains an attractive prospect for businesses. Would the Leader be supportive of such an approach, given the advantages it could have for Barnet's businesses?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Britain needs to show it is open for business and create a competitive environment to attract investment. Lowering Corporation Tax could be part of this.
86	Cllr Gill Sargeant	What plans are there for football facilities for the residents of Douglas Bader Park?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	<p>The Council is currently undertaking a borough wide review of playing pitch provision, to understand the supply and demand in Barnet, both for winter and summer sports. One of the sports being specifically look at is football. The review will be considered by Environment committee by the end of the year, following which future plans for sports provision in our green spaces will be developed</p> <p>Currently club football is played on both Copthall and Montrose Playing fields.</p>

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
87	Cllr Maureen Braun	Would the Leader like to comment on the launch of Barnet's new Domestic Violence and Abuse Services which will bring together the council and its partners to deliver a multi-agency approach to tackling all forms of domestic violence?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>The Council has successfully commissioned a range of domestic violence and abuse and sexual violence services; to not only support victims, but perpetrators as well. These services are not new to the borough; they are essential services and after a service review they proved to be very successful; hence they were re-commissioned.</p> <p>Barnet council had a successful launch that was opened by the Interim Chief Executive and closed by the Right Worshipful Mayor; which reaffirmed the partnership working in the borough.</p> <p>The services support male and female victims.</p> <p>The council is committed to working to reduce this level of violence and keeping victims safe. There has been a particular focus on young people, 16 year plus and older people.</p> <p>The range of services are varied and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy and support services; • Refuge provision; • A perpetrator service and a MARAC Service. <p>Work is taking place to address domestic violence and abuse and violence against women and girls issues in Barnet.</p>

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
88	Cllr Phil Cohen	Will he undertake to ensure that the Chipping Barnet Area Committee finds a suitable community venue convenient for local residents to attend future meetings, and reverse the current plan to hold them at Hendon town hall, which would undermine the whole point of having localised area committees?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Various options are being considered in terms of viability and this work will be reported back to the respective Chairmen of the Forum and Area Committee.
89	Cllr Anne Hutton	How many home educated pupils successfully achieved GCSE courses between 2010 and 2015?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	The LA does not have a statutory duty to collect GCSE entry or attainment data for elective home educated pupils, and therefore does not hold this information.
90	Cllr Barry Rawlings	Have there been any declarations of interest from community groups to run South Friern Library, if not will it be closed?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The closing date for expressions of interest to run one or more of the Partnership Libraries is the 31st July 2016. Five information sessions have been held across the borough and a range of organisations, community and resident groups have attended to find out more about the opportunity.
91	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Have any official congratulations been sent to the re-elected London Assembly Member for Barnet & Camden? If so, when?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	I congratulated the Assembly Member at the count.

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92	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	Will the leader apologise for the incompetent management of the Council's finances which lead to £2 million being lost as a result of ignoring Council policy and depositing money in collapsed Icelandic banks - money which could have gone to libraries and other vital Council services?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The council received back £1.13m more than it put in.
93	Cllr Alon Orbach	Have all local authority schools been provided the correct information regarding Unified Pay?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	There is a joint responsibility between the Schools and Barnet to ensure that the data is as accurate as possible and the robust process has included providing the Schools with spread sheets of their data for checking and then re-checking of any amendments authorised by them. Once the UR letters are produced for individual staff the Schools are also asked to check these before distribution.
94	Cllr Gill Sargeant	What plans are in place for residents of Clayton Field to have pavements now that there is a through route from Lanacre Avenue?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	Barnet Homes advise that Clayton Field is not configured in a way which lends itself to be made into a pavement. The other side of Clayton Field is a Home Group Housing Association Estate.
95	Cllr Phil Cohen	If the council goes ahead and moves East Barnet library to the proposed Victoria Recreation Ground leisure centre in New Barnet how will it obtain rental income from letting space out, given the size of the library will be massively reduced?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Income generation from library buildings is a complex matter. I trust that we will be successful and hope that we can count on the councillor for his support in keeping the libraries open.

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
96	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Given the recent elections fiasco in Barnet, can the Leader confirm he has no plans to run whelk stalls, or conduct any events in breweries? Does the Leader of the Council think the council is performing as competently as it should be?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	Politicians don't run elections.
97	Cllr Alon Orbach	On what basis is the minimum age needing adult supervision in unstaffed libraries set?	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	The age was based on consideration of a number of factors including government guidance, resident feedback and safeguarding practice.
98	Cllr Reema Patel	Does the Leader agree the decision not to take the full 2% social care precept has been a mistake given the Adults & Safeguarding Committee were told the extra £411k invested in telecare would have saved the council about £240k every year?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	The decision taken on the social care precept delivered an additional £1.7m for adult social care, whilst seeing the bottom line of residents' council tax bills remain frozen.

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
99	Cllr Barry Rawlings	In less than 4 years the Government's and Council's commitment to eliminate child poverty will elapse - what are the chances of either keeping their promise? I will accept an answer between the range nought and zero.	Cllr Reuben Thompstone (Chairman of Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee)	<p>The government's new Life Chances Strategy sets out a renewed commitment to fight disadvantage and extend opportunity. The new strategy marks a shift from traditional measures which have looked at income as the key determinant of child poverty, towards a wider focus on the lack of opportunity which is causing some children and families to remain behind. Using the income based measure, Barnet has a lower level of child poverty than the London average (21.2% compared to 36%) with a total of 17,330 children. Relative to other London boroughs, Barnet is ranked 25th out of 33 local authorities and nearly all of the LSOAs in Barnet have become less deprived relative to the rest of London since 2007.</p> <p>Our new Children and Young People's Plan 2016-2020 includes a clear Child Poverty Action Plan setting out the council's and partners' commitment and priorities for the next 4 years to further reduce child poverty. This sets out actions that need to be targeted at both the child themselves, and at their wider environment, including their family, and the community in which the child lives, moving beyond the previous measure of income as the key determinant of child poverty.</p>
100	Cllr Gill Sargeant	When will the area near the bus stop at the Concourse be resurfaced?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of	The area near the Concourse is not on the current year's work programme for carriage or footway re-surfacing. A highways inspector has visited the site and the location

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
			the Environment Committee)	<p>does not meet the current intervention levels for remedial action.</p> <p>The area will need to be resurfaced during the comprehensive redevelopment, but would be wasteful if carried out now.</p>
101	Cllr Arjun Mitra	How many times, since the start of their contract with Barnet, has Baker Small Solicitors acted for Barnet to challenge requests for SEN support/provision, and how often are Baker Small Solicitors successful and unsuccessful when operating in this capacity?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>Barnet does not challenge requests for support, rather parents can challenge the level of provision the council offers.</p> <p>In 2015 there were 20 cases where Baker Small was the representative for Barnet. Of these 11 went to final hearing and 9 were dismissed (i.e. the Tribunal did not uphold the parental appeal).</p> <p>In 2016 there have been 8 cases where Baker Small was the representative for Barnet. Of these to date 1 case has been agreed and the 7 other cases have been recalled from Baker Small.</p>
102	Cllr Alan Schneiderman	Now that a final settlement has been reached on the Tory administration's deposits in collapsed Icelandic banks, will a review be undertaken to ensure that lessons continue to be learnt and that never again will the Council's treasury management policy be so flagrantly breached on such a regular basis?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>An independent review was undertaken by Deloitte following the collapse of the Icelandic banks.</p> <p>Alignment with Treasury Management Strategy and monitoring of this is undertaken by PCM.</p>

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
103	Cllr Phil Cohen	<p>Does the council agree with other councils represented on the North Central London joint health overview and scrutiny committee that a key worker housing strategy is needed for public sector employees faced with the almost impossible task of finding affordable accommodation in London? Those councils said health bodies should work with local authorities on this so does Barnet agree and will it encourage the development of such a strategy</p>	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>The Council's Housing Strategy recognises the need to increase the supply of housing and deliver homes that people can afford. Our plans to deliver 29,000 new homes through our growth and regeneration plans will help to ease the pressure on housing costs in the long term, and the Council is making use of its own land to deliver new affordable and mixed tenure homes for sale and for rent.</p> <p>The Council's Housing Allocations Scheme gives higher priority to households who are working, providing access to affordable rented homes in the borough, including public sector workers on modest incomes.</p> <p>Barnet Council is also leading work on the health and care estate for the whole of North Central London as part of London's health devolution work and an OPE bid. Development of key worker housing is one of the aims of that work.</p> <p>Perhaps Cllr Cohen would like to attend and observe a future meeting of the joint committee, given that he has so far neglected to do this in his current role.</p>
104	Cllr Gill Sargeant	<p>What are the latest plans for the new community centre in Grahame Park?</p>	Cllr Dan Thomas (Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee)	<p>The Council is working in partnership with Genesis to ensure appropriate facilities are re-provided to replace the community, health and children's centre facilities, by maximising the opportunity to integrate and improve those services. The latest plans set the intention for these services to come together within a standalone community building.</p>

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				<p>Genesis as lead developer intends to bring forward a detailed planning application for the concourse phases of Grahame Park in January 2017. This will include detailed design for the new community building.</p> <p>Genesis' appointed architects have been instructed to engage with end-users from health, children services and the community over the next 13 weeks to develop the design to work with local need. Local groups should have more certainty about what the building will look like in October 2016.</p>
105	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Has Barnet Homes had complaints about the letterboxes on the new doors they are installing on estates? They are extremely difficult to use, and often result in scratched hands. Will they consult with Royal Mail about a better letterbox design?	Cllr Richard Cornelius (Leader of the Council)	<p>To date we have had two complaints from residents about the letter plates fitted. One came from a resident who stated that the post office would not deliver to their home. However they were still delivering to other properties within the same block with the same doors and when the resident was asked to provide any further information around this matter none was forthcoming.</p> <p>The second complaint was from a resident who complained that the letterplate had been damaged by the post worker who, in attempting to push an oversized object through the box, pushed the brushes out of their mountings. This was attended to and the brushes refitted.</p> <p>In addition three Councillors have raised queries regarding the letter plates. In response to the query</p>

Qn.	Councillor	Question	Answer by	Answer
				<p>previously raised by Cllr Cooke and Cllr Mittra our Assistant Director of Operations offered to meet these parties on site to discuss the matter however this offer was not taken up.</p> <p>No complaint has been raised by the Post Office directly to Barnet Homes.</p> <p>We would confirm that we have instructed our supplier to provide proposals on alternative letter plates together with details on any costs, fire engineering and secure by design implications to determine if a more suitable product is available. We do not intend to consult with the Post Office over this matter.</p>
106	Cllr Gill Sargeant	Will the Council please investigate the need for second zebra crossing on Aerodrome Road?	Cllr Dean Cohen (Chairman of the Environment Committee)	There are currently no proposals to investigate a second zebra crossing on Aerodrome Road.