

Council Questions

Qn	Councillor	Question	Response by	Response
1.	Brian Gordon	<p>This Council unanimously passed a Motion several months ago firmly supporting faith schools. However, the threat to faith schools is now greater than ever with proposals issuing from the Department of Education to compel such schools to teach subjects and lifestyles contrary to their religious ethos. Could the Leader reiterate the Council's opinion directly to the Education Secretary - that proposals to undermine the independence and integrity of faith schools</p>	<p>Cllr David Longstaff</p> <p>Chairman of the Children, Education and Safeguarding Committee</p>	<p>I will. Faith schools are an important part of the educational offer in the borough. Their integrity is important to me and most of the borough.</p>

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		would be totally unacceptable in this Borough and elsewhere around the country?		
2.	Barry Rawlings	In six weeks the Leader has already broken two of his five key local election pledges - on council tax and weekly bin collections. How many more weeks does he think it will take before residents realise he has misled them on the other three?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	I have broken no promises.
3.	Brian Gordon	Would the Chairman share the acute public concern that exists over the large increase in knife crime and murders in London? Are there any initiatives we as a	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	We need more police. We don't get our fair share from the Met. The point was well made during the election campaign. It will be made again.

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		Council or as individual politicians might pursue to try and alleviate this scourge?		
4.	Anne Clarke	Can the Leader explain how his administration is delivering on their campaign promise to stop overdevelopment in Childs Hill?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	We will ensure the most robust Barnet Plan possible is submitted and look forward to the councillor's support when this goes to City Hall.
5.	Brian Gordon	Are you pleased the taxi operating licence has been restored to Uber? Will this in his view be to the benefit of Barnet residents?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	Black cabs are vital in central London and many cabbies live in our borough. I support them but recognise the need for Uber in outer London, where taxi density is low. Around 1,789 Uber drivers live in Barnet. They will certainly be pleased.
6.	Pauline Coakley Webb	Would the Leader confirm when he was made aware of the deterioration in the Council's financial position, including that there was a	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	Post-election.

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		massive budget gap of £62 million by 2024?		
7.	Brian Gordon	The law has tightened up considerably on the issuing of Blue Badges to road users, to the point where many residents are being refused them by our Council notwithstanding their clear disabilities, backed up by medical reports. Could the Council in some way take a stand on this?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	<p>The aim of the Blue Badge scheme is to help people with severe mobility problems to access goods and services, by allowing them to park close to their destination. The scheme is open to eligible disabled people irrespective of whether they are travelling as a driver or as a passenger.</p> <p>The Council is under a legal obligation to administer the scheme in accordance with guidance issued by the Department for Transport. This guidance can be accessed at:- https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/519091/blue-badge-scheme-local-authority-guidance-paper.pdf</p> <p>Each application must be considered against the Department for Transport's criteria and as such there is no scope of influence the Council has to vary the eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Where an individual requires an assessment to qualify for a Blue Badge this is conducted via an independent mobility assessment.</p> <p>If an applicant is unhappy with the result of their Blue Badge application, they have the facility of appealing against the decision via a comprehensive appeals process.</p>
8.	Sara Conway	What are the Council and Barnet Homes doing to address the lack of co-ordination / gaps between their services on	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	<p>Barnet Homes are working jointly with Street Scene to address some current issues on some Barnet Homes Estates in relation to refuse collection and recycling. We have jointly developed a range of initiatives to foster closer working relationships including the sharing of supervisory and management information, the daily sharing of missed bin collections and refuse related matters and improved communications to residents. Both parties are also looking at collaborative working over jointly held challenges around access to bins, parking issues and littering impacting on grass cutting.</p>

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		<p>estates that are resulting in neglected areas? Rubbish collection, flytipping, tree and shrub cutting and pavement maintenance are all examples where things need improving.</p>		<p>Pavement maintenance for Barnet Homes land is routinely addressed through our Estate Inspections with referrals made to the Highways department where needed for pavements under their remit.</p> <p>The Barnet Homes cyclical programme of tree surveys continues this year with a significant number of works planned in over the course of 18/19 across the borough.</p> <p>With specific regard to fly –tipping, Barnet homes are in the process of adopting a multifaceted approach working with the Council’s Community Safety team which includes; education for residents, enforcement for commercial fly tippers and working with resident Estate Champions to identify solutions in problem areas and repeat offenders.</p>
9.	Brian Gordon	<p>Will the Chairman join Barnet residents in welcoming reports that the Home Secretary is moving towards a total ban on the Hezbollah movement in the UK?</p>	<p>Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council</p>	<p>Absolutely.</p>

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10.	Alan Schneiderman	How much has the Council spent on fuel for Streetscene vehicles since the move to Oakleigh depot and use of Harrow depot? How much was spent on fuel annually while Streetscene operated out of Mill Hill depot?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	<p>The full year fuel cost, for those services operating from Harrow and Oakleigh depot, would be only be available after the first anniversary of the move to Oakleigh Depot in August 2018. As such the fuel cost and consumption have been compared for last 3 financial years below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="969 331 1731 935"> <thead> <tr> <th>Financial Year</th> <th>Total Quantity</th> <th>Total Net Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2015/16 – Street Scene Services operating from Mill Hill Depot and smaller Grounds Depots i.e. Cophall</td> <td>888,330 Litres</td> <td>£768,119</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016/17 – Street Scene Services operating from Mill Hill Depot all year, from Harrow Depot for 4 months as well as smaller Grounds Depots i.e. Cophall</td> <td>879,573 Litres</td> <td>£791,030</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017/18 – Street Scene Services operating from Mill Hill for 4 months, and Oakleigh Depot for 8 months. From Harrow Depot for the full 12 months as well as smaller Grounds Depots i.e. Cophall</td> <td>869,541 Litres</td> <td>£821,049</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Over the last three years the amount of fuel used has decreased, but at the same time fuel cost has significantly increased, especially within the last 12 months.</p>	Financial Year	Total Quantity	Total Net Value	2015/16 – Street Scene Services operating from Mill Hill Depot and smaller Grounds Depots i.e. Cophall	888,330 Litres	£768,119	2016/17 – Street Scene Services operating from Mill Hill Depot all year, from Harrow Depot for 4 months as well as smaller Grounds Depots i.e. Cophall	879,573 Litres	£791,030	2017/18 – Street Scene Services operating from Mill Hill for 4 months, and Oakleigh Depot for 8 months. From Harrow Depot for the full 12 months as well as smaller Grounds Depots i.e. Cophall	869,541 Litres	£821,049
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11.	Rohit Grover	We hear a lot of noise from opposition councillors and their activist cheerleaders about libraries, but have we ever asked young	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	The young people’s survey was undertaken in Autumn 2017 with 500 respondents. It indicated that satisfaction with libraries amongst 11 – 18 year olds had increased from 72% in 2016 to 76% in 2017.												

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		people about their satisfaction with the service?		
12.	Arjun Mitra	<p>Has the Council assessed what happened in the case referred to in the “Nearly Legal” blog post about a recent court decision pertaining to the council: https://nearlylegal.co.uk/2018/06/too-soon-2/ ? And has the Council considered whether it needs to change processes or take action in light of the judgement?</p>	<p>Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council</p>	<p>The judgment relates to the operation of rent deposit schemes. Neither Barnet Homes nor the council have run such a scheme since 2013, and so the ruling is no longer relevant.</p>
13.	Rohit Grover	<p>What is the cost difference between laying small module brick pavements and concrete slab paving?</p>	<p>Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee</p>	<p>The cost difference between these two materials is outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 65mm thick Artificial stone paving varying lengths; £16.13 per m2 • 65mm thick PCC/Clay block paving; £12.63 per m2

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14.	Paul Edwards	How many children in Barnet are estimated to live in poverty a) before housing costs are taken into account, and b) after housing costs are taken into account?	<p>Cllr David Longstaff</p> <p>Chairman of the Children, Education and Safeguarding Committee</p>	<p>Official data from HMRC is from 2014 and suggests there are 15025 children living in a household with a below average income. This measure provides a broad proxy for relative low-income child poverty as set out in the Child Poverty Act 2010, and enables analysis at a local level.</p> <p>This is a decrease from 17,330 children in 2010 which is the latest information in the Children and Young People's Plan.</p> <p>In addition the Centre for Research in Social Policy makes annual estimates for the End Child Poverty Coalition of the number of children in poverty in each ward, local authority and parliamentary constituency in the UK.</p> <p>A note on the methodology is available here. http://www.endchildpoverty.org.uk/images/ecp/paper_explaining_calculations_and_method_to_ECP.pdf</p> <p>Their estimates from July to September 2017 suggest that 15664 Barnet children (18.68%) are in poverty in Barnet before housing costs and 24308 children (28.99%) are in poverty after housing costs.</p>
15.	Rohit Grover	What progress is being made on the Council's Signage Policy?	<p>Cllr Dean Cohen</p> <p>Chairman of the Environment Committee</p>	<p>We recognise the need for a signage policy and have already benefitted from the thinking of the Public Realm Forum on the subject. We are already implementing the Legible London Scheme in Cricklewood and we will be undertaking a feasibility study for Finchley.</p>
16.	Zakia Zubairi	Is Cllr Freedman a Conservative councillor?	<p>Cllr Richard Cornelius</p> <p>Leader of the Council</p>	<p>She is suspended from membership of the Conservative Party.</p>

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17.	John Hart	Could the Leader please let me know the cost of herbicides used by the Council in the years 2016 and 2017?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	In Barnet's parks and open spaces, and on public highways we use a number of herbicides for dealing with a various of different issues including clearing moss, removal of weeds on bowling greens, removal on invasive weeds such as Japanese knot weed, as well as on street weed spray. The spend was approximately £79,833 in 2016-17 and £101,212 in 2017-18, on both the herbicides and the application of on street weed spraying.
18.	Ross Houston	How many faith and community groups have the Council approached to provide free hot-desking facilities for Council staff, including Adults Social Care staff? Why are they expecting local community groups to provide this service for free?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	There are no plans to contact community groups to agree hot-desk space for council staff.
19.	John Marshall	Jeremy Corbyn was due to visit the borough on 4 th May. In the interests of community cohesion and wellbeing, could	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	I think this would be helpful. Margaret Hodge MP has labelled Jeremy Corbyn an antisemite. I wonder whether he should still have a Barnet allotment.

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		the Leader renew this invitation so that local residents can discuss the scourge of anti-semitism with him?		
20.	Gill Sargeant	Could I have an update on where the additional 100 parking spaces for the new Colindale offices will be located?	Cllr Daniel Thomas Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee	The council have secured 100 parking spaces at the RAF Museum and an additional 90 spaces at Platt Hall directly opposite the new Colindale Office. Staff will also have access to 100 spaces at the Watling Car Park site.
21.	Thomas Smith	As we renegotiate the Capita contracts to get an even better deal for residents, could the Leader remind us how much they have saved taxpayers already?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	From the start of the CSG and Re contracts to today, Council Tax would have had to have been raised by 14% (£156 p/a for a Band D equivalent) to replace the savings achieved through the contracts.
22.	Danny Rich	How many new Councillors were incorrectly enrolled in the Local Government	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) regulations changed in 2015 with the consequence that any councillors elected after that period are no longer entitled to join a LGPS. It has emerged that all newly elected members were automatically enrolled onto the Barnet LGPS due to human error on the part of the payroll team. Payroll have been instructed to correct the error and issue refunds in the July payroll.

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		Pension Scheme by Capita?		
23.	Eva Greenspan	Was the Leader as thrilled as I was to hear that Fleur Hassan-Nahoum, a deputy mayor of Jerusalem, named Barnet as a model for civic unity in the Israeli capital on her visit to the borough earlier this month?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	This is a very insightful observation. We all appreciate Barnet as an integrated borough of many communities. It is nice for this to be recognised by others.
24.	Barry Rawlings	Was the Council aware of historical subsidence issues in the Coppies Grove / Oakleigh Road, South area before purchasing Abbots Depot?	Cllr Daniel Thomas Chairman of the Assets, Growth and Regeneration Committee	The council was aware of the site condition in advance of the purchase of the Abbots Depot site. Multiple site investigations including Ground Investigation reports were carried out in advance of the purchase of the site. The reports identified variable thickness and poor competence (compressibility) of the Made Ground deposits across the site. The building contractor designed the solution with this information. It should be noted that this is a Design & Build contract and the building contractor is therefore responsible for ensuring a suitable design and is responsible for resolving any defects on the site.
25.	Val Duschinsky	Could the Leader clarify the dispute between the Council and the	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the	Yes. The dispute centres around several areas where the Mayor is mistaken. He seems unaware that anaerobic digestion is not classed as recycling in his own London Environment Strategy. Therefore disposing of food waste by incineration with energy recovery via black bin collections would not negatively impact Barnet's

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		Mayor of London over food waste collections?	Council	already high recycling record. Secondly, the Mayor threatens to overturn any decision made by the Council merge food waste into general waste collection. He is seemingly unaware that he can only do this provided it does not impose excessive additional cost to the authority. At £296,766 a year, it would most certainly would.
26.	Alan Schneiderman	What additional savings from stopping separate food waste collections have been identified since the 5 June Environment committee meeting? Please identify each item and its associated saving.	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	<p>The Council believes that it will save £300,000 per year from the cessation of the brown bin services.</p> <p>The Mayor of London requested a six week consultation regarding the cessation of this service. As such we have pause of the cessation to allow consultation between Thursday 28th June to Thursday 9th August 2018. During this time, we will be sharing information with them but not releasing any further details at this time to enable open and honest dialog regarding the costs and challenges of this service.</p> <p>Officers would be happy to provide information once the consultation has finished.</p>
27.	Val Duschinsky	How does Barnet compare to other London boroughs for recycling?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	Barnet is the 9th highest performing of 33 Authorities with a recycling rate of 37.4%.
28.	Pauline Coakley Webb	How much rent will the Council have to pay for Children's Services to remain at NLBP for another two	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	Since 2008, the council has been committed to leasing the first floor of NLBP 2, where the Family Services staff will be located, until June 2020. There are therefore no additional rent costs related to accommodating the Family Friendly Hub in this building.

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		years?		
29.	Val Duschinsky	How many London boroughs do not currently have separate food waste collections?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	Information available from Resource London as at November 2016 shows that 19 London Boroughs had separate food waste collections and 14 did not.
30.	Geof Cooke	The purchase of the Oakleigh Road South depot site at way above market value was approved by the Assets, Regeneration and Growth committee on a business case based on 100% transfer from Mill Hill East. When that financial case was altered by the decision to incur extra costs in hiring space at Harrow's depot in addition to using Oakleigh Road	Cllr Daniel Thomas Chairman of the Assets, Growth and Regeneration Committee	The decision to relocate parts of the service to Harrow was made in line with the Council's Constitution. The reports for all arrangements at Harrow are available on the Council's website. https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s36175/Satellite%20Depot%20for%20Street%20Scene%20at%20Forward%20Drive%20Harrow.pdf https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s37601/Harrow%20Winter%20Gritting%20Facilities.pdf https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s37635/Vehicle%20Maintenance%20-%20DPR%20Final.pdf

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		South, why was there no report to the committee and what is the additional cost in rent as well as fuel?																	
31.	Val Duschinsky	Who made the decision to switch from composting food waste collection to disposing of it by anaerobic digestion?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	Recycling and Waste Disposal is a North London Waste Authority function. This is made up of the boroughs of Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Islington, and Waltham Forest.															
32.	Anne Clarke	Given the poor state of street cleaning and overflowing bins in Golders Green town centre, what action will be taken to improve street and pavement cleanliness there?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	<p>There is generally not an issue with Golders Green town centre and we have had positive feedback since the new street cleansing machinery has been deployed. There is a Town Keeper in Golders Green seven days a week, who is supported by a town centre crew Monday to Friday. There is also a combination of mechanical & manual cleaning in the town centre.</p> <p>One weekend in early July, however, due staffing issues the weekend town keeper was not present causing an unacceptable build-up of litter. This was cleared on Monday morning and additional checks have been put in place to ensure it does not occur again.</p>															
33.	Sarah Wardle	Could the Chairman provide the number of	Cllr Gabriel Rozenberg	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Table 1: Families in TA - June 2017 and June 2018 (excl. HALDs)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Families with under 18s in</th> <th>In Borough</th> <th>In London</th> <th>Out of</th> <th>Grand</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Table 1: Families in TA - June 2017 and June 2018 (excl. HALDs)					Families with under 18s in	In Borough	In London	Out of	Grand					
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		families in Temporary Accommodation in the borough, and how this has changed over the past 12 months?	Chairman of the Housing Committee	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>household</th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>London</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total - end of June 2017</td> <td>921</td> <td>519</td> <td>123</td> <td>1563</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total - end of June 2018</td> <td>738</td> <td>590</td> <td>112</td> <td>1440</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The figures in Table 1 exclude temporary accommodation (TA) properties leased directly from Housing Associations (HALDs). Housing Associations manage the HALD units, and they provide data on the number of households – but not the number of families - within these units. Their data shows that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 204 households resided in HALD properties at end of June 2017. - 182 households resided in HALD properties at end of June 2018. <p>Barnet Homes' Nominations Team estimates that 90% of households in HALDs are families, and an analysis of HALD locations approximates that 93% of HALDs are located in borough, and the remaining 7% are in London. Using these proportions, Table 2 shows the approximate number of families in TA (including HALDs).</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Table 2: Families in TA - June 2017 and June 2018 (incl. HALDs)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Families with under 18s in household</th> <th>In Borough</th> <th>In London</th> <th>Out of London</th> <th>Grand Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total - end of June 2017</td> <td>1092</td> <td>532</td> <td>123</td> <td>1747</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total - end of June 2018</td> <td>890</td> <td>601</td> <td>112</td> <td>1603</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	household			London	Total	Total - end of June 2017	921	519	123	1563	Total - end of June 2018	738	590	112	1440	Table 2: Families in TA - June 2017 and June 2018 (incl. HALDs)					Families with under 18s in household	In Borough	In London	Out of London	Grand Total	Total - end of June 2017	1092	532	123	1747	Total - end of June 2018	890	601	112	1603
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34.	Sara Conway	How will the regeneration of parks in Burnt Oak be managed for local residents - particularly in relation to road safety on Montrose Avenue?	<p>Cllr Daniel Thomas</p> <p>Chairman of the Assets, Growth and Regeneration Committee</p>	<p>The proposed improvements to Montrose Park include a raised table on Montrose Avenue with a signalised crossing point for both pedestrians and cyclists. This will not only slow traffic but will give pedestrians priority when crossing this busy road.</p>																																			

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35.	Sarah Wardle	Would the Chairman like to comment on the recent successful prosecutions of landlords operating in Barnet without a licence for Houses in Multiple Occupation?	Cllr Gabriel Rozenberg Chairman of the Housing Committee	Yes. It is important to uphold the regulations and protect those who need it.
36.	Gill Sargeant	What additional transport arrangements have been put in place for the new Colindale offices?	Cllr Daniel Thomas Chairman of the Assets, Growth and Regeneration Committee	<p>A number of improvements are being implemented that are expected to improve travel to the new Colindale Office:</p> <p>Bus route 125 extension: TfL have announced that the extended route will start from September 2018, with the 125 bus route stopping outside the new Colindale Office</p> <p>Electric Pool Cars: There will a fleet of 20 electric pool vehicles for the use of staff during working hours.</p> <p>Pool Bikes: The Council is in the process of launching a pool bike scheme which will provide more journey options to staff.</p> <p>Colindale station upgrade: The station will have an extensive overhaul – building a new station with a bigger entrance with step free access on the existing station car park. The station will also have new pedestrian and cycle links.</p>
37.	Sarah Wardle	In light of the ongoing suffering of residents of the Chalcots Estate	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the	On 21 st June the Housing Committee agreed an additional £12.5 million to pay for fire safety works to be carried out across the borough. This will provide for the installation of sprinkler systems for blocks of flats with 10 or more floors and a single stairwell. The £12.5 million agreed by the committee is in addition to £17.5m

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		in Camden, could the Chairman update us on Barnet's high-rise fire safety works?	Council	<p>agreed by the committee last year. This brings the total earmarked for fire safety works to £30m.</p> <p>Work is also underway to replace the cladding on three tower blocks in Barnet. Cladding similar to that used on Grenfell Tower was removed from Granville Road flats in October 2017. Barnet Homes has reviewed its Fire Risks Assessments for all the Council's high-rise blocks and has commenced a programme of fire works, including improving fire stopping provisions, replacing doors, increased ventilation to gas systems, and improving access for emergency services. Proposals for fire safety work for low and medium-rise flats will be presented to the Housing Committee in October.</p>
38.	Barry Rawlings	Please provide a breakdown of exactly how the saving of £900k for waste and recycling (R2) in the Environment savings proposals for 2019/20 will be made.	<p>Cllr Dean Cohen</p> <p>Chairman of the Environment Committee</p>	Work regarding the 2019/20 MTFP 900k saving for waste and recycling (R2) is currently ongoing. Details will be provided as part of the Environment Committee Business Planning report in the Autumn.
39.	Mark Shooter	We have recently seen vast programs to regenerate town centres in the borough. Can the Leader assure me that Hendon town centre will be looked at too,	<p>Cllr Richard Cornelius</p> <p>Leader of the Council</p>	Yes.

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		especially Brent Street and the main square on the street, Sentinel Square?		
40.	Anne Clarke	Could the residents of Hermitage Court have a ballot on the regeneration of their estate?	Cllr Daniel Thomas Chairman of the Assets, Growth and Regeneration Committee	Barnet Homes are leading on the mixed tenure redevelopment of council owned commercial accommodation in Hermitage Lane. It makes sense to consider as part of the redevelopment the adjacent council owned site The Graftons which includes 4 bungalows. Subject to planning consent this will result in the delivery of 56 new homes included 22 much needed affordable homes. However the scheme is not seeking to regenerate the adjacent council estate at Hermitage Court.
41.	Mark Shooter	Fly tipping is a terrible nuisance in the borough and no one wants to see old fridges and industrial waste piled up in the streets. Can the leader confirm how much revenue has been raised over the last year in fly tipping fines by NSL enforcement agency in counteracting this problem?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	The current NSL contract is carried out on a cost neutral basis, to trial the principle of increased environmental enforcement. The trial has been successful with 237 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) being issued for fly tipping in the period April 2017 – March 2018. We are currently procuring a new contract from which the Council will retain some of the income to put towards tackling more complex Environmental Enforcement and street cleansing.

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42.	Alan Schneiderman	Why did the Tory administration not admit during the recent local election campaign that they planned to stop separate food waste collections?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	We did not plan to do this before the election but it is a consequence of our pledge to keep collections weekly rather than fortnightly.
43.	Mark Shooter	What percentage of the overall budget is being spent on pavements and roads in Hendon ward this year, and what is the average percentage over the last 5 years?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	The percentage of the overall budget spent on pavements and roads in Hendon ward this year is 2.5%. The average overall budget spent on pavements and roads in Hendon ward over the last 5 years has been 4%.
44.	Arjun Mitra	The Guardian reports that Capita recently won an MoD contract despite having the worst possible risk rating. Does Barnet's risk register reflect a	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	<p>The council's corporate risk register is reviewed quarterly by the Financial Performance and Contract Management Committee. As reported to the Committee's meeting on 27th February 2018, Strategic Risk 023 addresses the risk that "if the commercial viability of a strategic supplier declines this could lead to operational failures resulting in service disruption/ reduction; failure to discharge statutory duties; and financial costs." The impact of this happening is rated at 5 and the likelihood of it happening is rated as 3, giving a total risk score of 15. The following mitigations are identified in the risk register:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract management framework, with policy and procedures for commercial

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		similar risk rating for its own contracts with Capita?		<p>activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract monitoring takes place monthly with quarterly reporting to Performance and Contract Management Committee • Contract register kept under review with checks on financial status of strategic suppliers • Contract management arrangements in place, including indicators to identify financial stress • Business continuity plans in place
45.	Mark Shooter	Would the Leader agree with the Pension Fund Committee's recent decision to join the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF)?	<p>Cllr Richard Cornelius</p> <p>Leader of the Council</p>	Yes.
46.	Geof Cooke	Why weren't you honest with the electorate before 3 May about the scale of problems with the two Capita contracts and the plan to bring a raft of Capita-run services back in-house?	<p>Cllr Richard Cornelius</p> <p>Leader of the Council</p>	We deal with all contractors robustly. Our reputation precedes us.

Council Questions

47.	Mark Shooter	Would the Leader agree that engagement with companies which manufacture fossil fuels is more likely to change behaviour than divestment, as suggested by Mayor Khan?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	Indeed. Our pensions and future pensions depend on proper investment decisions. Where the livelihoods of our past and present employees are concerned, there is no place for a political position.
48.	Paul Edwards	Of Barnet households living in poverty, how many include at least one adult who works?	Cllr Sachin Rajput Chairman of the Adults and Safeguarding Committee	The council doesn't have access to information about working households and poverty at the Local Authority level. The Trust for London suggest that 58% of Londoners in poverty live in a working family. This report can be accessed here https://www.trustforlondon.org.uk/data/topics/low-income/
49.	Alex Prager	During the election campaign, the Conservatives promised to continue investing £50 million in the borough's roads and pavements. Could you confirm how much of that has now been spent, how much has	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	£50m has been set aside for investment in the highway infrastructure over a 5-year period starting in 2015/16 running to 2019/20. In the first 3 years of the investment period; excluding other assets such as structures and bridges, road marking maintenance and drainage, we are projecting the spend to be over £29.8m on footways and roads.

Council Questions

		<p>been allocated, and what the time-frame would be to complete the road and pavement improvements in Barnet?</p>		
50.	<p>Pauline Coakley Webb</p>	<p>Given Barnet council's children's services were rated as 'inadequate' and are still in need of more resources, will the Leader confirm that he will write to the government minister responsible to stress that current Government funding is pushing services to the brink and risks putting children and young people at risk?</p>	<p>Cllr David Longstaff</p> <p>Chairman of the Children, Education and Safeguarding Committee</p>	<p>The Council continues to invest in children's services. There are a number of organisations that are raising the issues regarding the children's services funding with government nationally. We continue to work with those organisations to provide an evidence based to be considered as part of the comprehensive spending review.</p>

Council Questions

51.	Alex Prager	Since the May elections the new West Hendon councillors have been thrown in the deep end with three incidents of burst water mains in the ward. What provisions have the Council ensured are being implemented by Thames Water to address this?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	<p>Thames Water have a programme of works to replace the old Victorian water mains with new plastic pipes. We have regular meetings with Thames Water to co-ordinate their works and discuss and agree the forward programme of works including their traffic management.</p> <p>Unfortunately, due to the ageing infrastructure there is the increased risk of burst mains. The council and its representatives are on hand to ensure the swift repair of any burst water mains so that delays and congestion are always kept to a minimum.</p> <p>In the monthly Communication to Ward Members' the planned programme of works by utility companies will be highlighted.</p> <p>http://public.londonworks.gov.uk/roadworks/home</p>
52.	Sara Conway	What is the timetable for the gating of the Watling Avenue steps, the deep clean and the application for permanent stop-up?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	<p>A Temporary Traffic Management Order is being prepared to close the 2 stairwells and associated public footpaths on either side of Watling Avenue. This will allow the installation of gates at the top and bottom of the stair wells as well as new gates to prevent the use of the footpaths by the end of August 2018.</p> <p>Upon confirmation the Council's Community Safety Team are to notify the Burnt Oak Ward Members, Local Police Team and shop with frontages of the impending closures.</p> <p>Once approved the steps both sides will be secured and deep cleaning undertaken followed by a monthly inspection regime by the Community Safety Team and Street Scene area supervisors.</p>
53.	Alex Prager	I have noticed an alarming increase in planning applications for	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the	<p>We have to make sure that the new Barnet Plan is robust. Development and conversion is always dependant on adequate infrastructure.</p>

Council Questions

		residential properties to be converted into flats or HMOs. How are we ensuring ensure that our streets don't become overcrowded?	Council	
54.	Alan Schneiderman	What progress has been made in investigating methods for people who want to continue to recycle food waste?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	<p>The best option is always to reduce food waste or recycle or compost within the home. The Councils will increase promotion through food waste reduction campaigns and initiatives alongside the North London Waste Authority, and national campaigns. We are also work with getcomposting.com to make home composting units, wormeries and bokashi bins available to all residents at significantly reduced rates. This range of products can be use by all different size of households – the smallest option takes up no more room that the brown bin!</p> <p>Street Scene officers have also been in contact with officers from other London Boroughs to request information on the services they either provide or support to enable residents to recycle food waste in addition to, or in place of, council provided collection services. Investigations are ongoing regarding community composting initiatives where by information will be made available to schools and community groups and support/advice could be provided to help establish these initiatives.</p>
55.	John Hart	Would the Leader join me in congratulating the Royal Air Force on its 100 th anniversary, and expressing our gratitude that Hendon was	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	Yes.

Council Questions

		included in the flypast?		
56.	Gill Sargeant	How many Council officers have expressed an interest in cycling to the new Colindale offices and how many are realistically expected will do so?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	Approximately 6% of staff have expressed an interest in cycling, however this number has started to increase due to the various cycling schemes the council is running, such as free cycle training. The introduction of the pool bike scheme throughout the borough will make bikes more accessible to users which will enable staff to incorporate cycling into their journeys to the new site.
57.	Lachhya Gurung	In May, Barnet residents gave us a resounding mandate on a manifesto which included pushing City Hall to provide the police officers we have already paid for. Has the Leader raised this with the Mayor of London since?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	I am in contact with the Mayor of London's office.
58.	Danny Rich	When will the Section 106 road safety measures for the Sweets	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of	This is a really difficult situation and TfL are heavily involved and concerned over bus delays. It would be good to find a solution.

Council Questions

		Way development affecting High Road/Friern Barnet Lane be started and completed?	the Environment Committee	
59.	Laithe Jajeh	Members may have read in the Guardian this month that the number of first-time buyers nationwide has grown by 8.1% this year while the number of buy-to-let mortgages fell by 9.8%. Are any comparable figures available for Barnet?	Cllr Gabriel Rozenberg Chairman of the Housing Committee	Comparable figures for first -time buyers are not available at a borough level.
60.	Barry Rawlings	What will the impact be on the proposed Environment saving of £300k (R1 - NLWA levy) for 2019/20 if approximately 5,000 tonnes of food waste per	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	The saving in relation to the NLWA levy relates to all of the levy of which there are many parts. If food waste is disposed of in the general waste bin then there will be additional residual disposal costs, but if more dry recycling is collected then there will be decreased residual disposal costs. The increase in disposal cost has been taken into account and is offset by the significant savings in collection costs. Last year the Council collected 134,00 tonnes of household waste, of which only 4,600 was from brown bins.

Council Questions

		annum are disposed of in general waste in 2018/19?		
61.	Laithe Jajeh	The same article said the average first-time buyer was 30 years old with a gross household income of £42,000. Would the Chairman agree this demonstrates the success of Government housing policy and, indeed, of the borough's vigorous housebuilding programme?	Cllr Gabriel Rozenberg Chairman of the Housing Committee	Yes.
62.	Sara Conway	In 2015 there were 59,803 under 18s in Barnet that were library users. Please advise how many under 18s in Barnet	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	As at 31/3/18 there were 50,196 residents with either a child or teen library card (0-17 year olds). This figure is calculated on an annual basis. Please note that 10 libraries were closed during 2017/18 for periods of time for reconfiguration works which may have impacted this year's figures. It is not possible to assess how many young people used a library for exam revision as there is no mechanism for calculating this.

Council Questions

		were library users in 2017/18 (please break down by month or quarter if possible), how many under 18s are currently library users and how many used library facilities during the April-June exam revision period?		We continue to promote the use of libraries including our digital resources to all our residents.
63.	Alex Prager	Given the Ultra Low Emission Zone is now a reality, does the Leader share the frustration of my ward colleagues and I that the Mayor chose to extend it up to, but not including, the North Circular? As a result, West Hendon is entirely excluded, even though 7 of the 15 schools with	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	Yes, it is very frustrating. The pollution is almost entirely down to TfL-administered A-roads and motorways. The Mayor does not seem to want to do anything about this.

Council Questions

		illegally high NOx levels are within the ward.		
64.	Pauline Coakley Webb	South Friern Library has no additional entrance or exit making it difficult to use any of the space for commercial purposes rather than library use. When will the Conservative administration admit that commercial use of this library was a gross error and return the space for both library and community use?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council Chairman of the Community, Leadership and Libraries Committee	I think a dose of reality is required here.
65.	Saira Don	Was the Leader as disappointed as I was to see Burnt Oak's high street so talked down in the pages of the	Cllr Daniel Thomas Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth	Burnt Oak is a successful and vibrant retail centre. Snobbish people may not like the look of some shops. But they are busy so clearly their customers have a different view. Capitalism is alive and well in Burnt Oak. The Council for its part has put efforts into BOOST and there is more to do.

Council Questions

		Financial Times this month?	Committee	
66.	Alan Schneiderman	<p>What will be the additional cost in the council's levy paid to the North London Waste Authority for the 2019/20 financial year as a result of stopping separate food waste collections this year, given that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The current North London Waste Authority gate fee for disposing of food waste is £31.39 and that this will apply until at least December 2019. ◦ The current North London Waste Authority gate fee for disposing of general waste is £89.47 per tonne. ◦ Barnet collects an average of 5,000 tonnes of 	<p>Cllr Dean Cohen</p> <p>Chairman of the Environment Committee</p>	<p>It is not possible to provide a reliable answer to this question as the price varies according to a complex formula.</p>

Council Questions

		food waste a year.		
67.	Alison Cornelius	Could the Leader confirm that, despite the Council being a victim of a £2 million fraud, the cash has been recovered?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	Yes. The money is back in the bank.
68.	Arjun Mittra	Can we have an update on the signing of a new lease for Mill Hill Cricket Club?	Cllr Daniel Thomas Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee	Heads of Terms for the Mill Hill Village Sports Club lease are drafted and with the tenant, who understandably will not sign until access to the old NIMR site (for the potential re-location of the St Kiernans Gaelic Football Club) has been confirmed. This work is underway by the LBB Estates team and will be resolved as soon as possible.
69.	Alison Cornelius	Does the Leader share my shock that, in just one day of a diabetes awareness event at Brent Cross Shopping Centre last month, 23 people found out they had Type 2 diabetes and a further 20 discovered they	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	Yes. Greater efforts need to be made to raise awareness and for residents to control their diets and live more active lives.

Council Questions

		were pre-diabetic?		
70.	Paul Edwards	Does the Borough have any data on the number of Barnet families who have been referred to a local foodbank in the years a) 2015, b) 2016 and c) 2017?	Cllr Sachin Rajput Chairman of the Adults and Safeguarding Committee	The council doesn't keep records of the number of families referred to local foodbanks. A recent mapping exercise conducted by Public Health found 28 organisations in Barnet who make referrals and give out food bank vouchers.
71.	Gill Sargeant	When will works begin for the bridge over to Montrose Park from Pulse?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	Fairview have now tendered for the bridge to get costs for building the bridge and unfortunately it has come in over budget. They are now considering their next steps. This may include reducing costs (value engineering) or delivery at current costs. This decision is currently with higher levels and no formal decision has been made yet.
72.	Alan Schneiderman	What is the expected drop in the council's recycling rate from stopping food waste collections, suspending green waste collections for a period of the year and removing	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	The expected reduction in the recycling rate, if it was assumed that there were no increases through other improvements is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stopping food waste collection – approximately 3.0%. • Pause in garden waste collections – none, as the pause period agreed is the same as in 2016/17 which showed • Removal of bring bank sites – approximately 0.2%. <p>The existing blue bin recycling service has the capacity to accept significant further performance increases in the level of recycling, in terms of the quality and quantity of materials collected. Officers will be identifying areas of the borough where there is scope to deliver improvements in performance.</p>

Council Questions

		recycling bring back sites?		
73.	Nagus Narenthira	Please clarify what conditions are placed in the S106 agreement in terms of facilities for social residents in Beaufort Park?	<p>Cllr Daniel Thomas</p> <p>Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee</p>	We have reviewed the section 106. There are no specific conditions relating to use of facilities by social rather than market residents. The only restriction that applies to social residents and not market residents is that the price affordable housing residents need to pay for car parking permits within the site are controlled in the s106.
74.	Barry Rawlings	The surveyor's report into Oakleigh Depot subsidence problems suggests that ongoing maintenance would be needed to deal with the problem. What will the ongoing maintenance cost be each year, is this factored into current budgets and who will pay for it?	<p>Cllr Daniel Thomas</p> <p>Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee</p>	<p>The Council does not expect to be to be left financially disadvantaged through any problems caused by its design and build contractor</p> <p>It should be noted that this is a Design & Build contract and the building contractor is therefore responsible for ensuring a suitable design and is responsible for resolving any defects on the site.</p>

Council Questions

75.	Pauline Coakley Webb	<p>Does the Leader think that a basic charge of £1261 which just covers cones and signs based on arranged contractors' rates plus overhead costs for arranging works/Traffic Orders etc. is a grossly unfair and high charge for one side of two stretches of road for the East Barnet festival on one day? Will the Leader review these preposterous charges and ensure that community events are not forced to cancel due to such high rates, and that the fee will not increase next year</p>	<p>Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee</p>	<p>Fees and Charges are reviewed and agreed annually by the Environment Committee. These include costs associated with traffic management to facilitate Special Events.</p>
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Council Questions

76.	Sara Conway	<p>Please provide a breakdown of income and expenditure for the Burnt Oak Town Centre project that was match funded by the Mayor of London. In the answer please say how the responses from the public consultation were reflected in the actual spend; how delayed the work programme was, and how much longer will it take to do the remedial works on the library disability access; and please provide details of how late the repairs to the newspaper kiosk were done and whether there was any</p>	<p>Cllr Daniel Thomas</p> <p>Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee</p>	<p>The council approved a Town Centre Strategy for Burnt Oak in November 2017 following a period of public consultation. This included a range of proposals that residents helped to define and prioritise. The Strategy is available online.</p> <p>Town Centre strategies look across a range of services to coordinate actions to celebrate the character of an area, support business and develop design proposals that improve the attractiveness of the area over the short, medium and long term.</p> <p>A range of short term actions were part funded by GLA and council funding.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="952 582 1473 746"> <tr> <td>GLA</td> <td>£269,048</td> <td>38%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LBB</td> <td>£408,014</td> <td>58%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IGCUK</td> <td>£23,000</td> <td>3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£700,062</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Delivery of these works started in July 2017 and all components apart from the bridge mural are now complete which has been delayed due to availability of contractors. The delivery phase was due to last 6 months, so there has been a delay of 6 months.</p> <p>A breakdown of how the funds have been allocated is below.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="936 1021 1861 1385"> <thead> <tr> <th>Item</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Development of town centre strategy</td> <td>70,973.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Business Survey and Support</td> <td>45,953.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Engagement events</td> <td>13,919.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project management- strategy and delivery</td> <td>92,623.31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Delivery phase- tender preparation and contract management</td> <td>16,893.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Delivery phase- planning guidance</td> <td>9,394.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	GLA	£269,048	38%	LBB	£408,014	58%	IGCUK	£23,000	3%	Total	£700,062		Item	Amount	Development of town centre strategy	70,973.70	Business Survey and Support	45,953.00	Engagement events	13,919.60	Project management- strategy and delivery	92,623.31	Delivery phase- tender preparation and contract management	16,893.24	Delivery phase- planning guidance	9,394.00
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Council Questions

		compensation paid to the owner who couldn't work?		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Public realm improvements- library and church, cycle stands, de-cluttering</td> <td>199,674.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shopfront improvements and kiosk</td> <td>162,320.38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Replacement of bus shelter</td> <td>14,318.34</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Highways Preliminaries & Tree Protection</td> <td>31,397.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Committed but unspent funds- Mural and contingency reserves</td> <td>42,594.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>700,062.01</td> </tr> </table> <p>The council's contractor, Conways, have resurfaced the ramp outside the library to address the drainage issue. This has been tested and found to be satisfactory.</p> <p>The project included a design and replacement of the newspaper kiosk. There were a number of issues with the installation which resulted in a six month delay. During this period the contractors offered the business owner a portacabin to work from as a temporary measure but he declined. The business owner has also been received a number of goodwill gestures including equipment, support, changes to the kiosk design and additional repairs following incorrect usage of the shutter.</p>	Public realm improvements- library and church, cycle stands, de-cluttering	199,674.03	Shopfront improvements and kiosk	162,320.38	Replacement of bus shelter	14,318.34	Highways Preliminaries & Tree Protection	31,397.45	Committed but unspent funds- Mural and contingency reserves	42,594.96	TOTAL	700,062.01
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77.	Arjun Mittra	It has been reported that Council contractors have charged the organisers of the Barnet Medieval festival £3,000 for the installation of banners along Barnet High Street? Was this	<p>Cllr Dean Cohen</p> <p>Chairman of the Environment Committee</p>	<p>Council Officers have reviewed the charges from our Street Lighting Contractor and the fee made to install and remove the 26 banners has been deemed to be reasonable based on the time taken, the resources deployed and the fact that the work was carried out at night. The proposed charge included a provision for Traffic Management which proved not to be required and as such the charge has been reduced accordingly. It would not be appropriate to disclose the actual charge but it is confirmed as being substantially lower than £3,000.</p>												

Council Questions

		figure acceptable? Will it be refunded?		
78.	Paul Edwards	According to the draft Housing Strategy, £41m has been taken away from Barnet residents who rely on Welfare benefits as a result of the current Government Welfare Benefit reforms. What is the weekly financial reduction per household because of these cuts in Welfare benefits?	Cllr Sachin Rajput Chairman of the Adults and Safeguarding Committee	The figure of £41m comes from research commissioned by the Council to understand the cumulative impact of welfare reform on Barnet residents. This was based on the data from August 2016 and looked at the combined impact of the under-occupancy charge, reduction in council tax support, the Local Housing Allowance cap and the benefit cap at £26,000 per year. The research suggests that working-age households in Barnet have seen household incomes fall by an average of £24.23 per week up to April 2016.
79.	Gill Sargeant	When was the loading bay outside Sainsburys in Grahame Park Way implemented?	Cllr Daniel Thomas Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth	The Loading bay was implemented week commencing 29 January 2018.

Council Questions

			Committee	
80.	Alan Schneiderman	Why was no publicity given to the change from composting food waste to anaerobic digestion?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	The North London Waste Authority did not inform the Council as to their change.
81.	Nagus Narenthira	Why were the residents of Pulse, Rhythm, Edition and Beaufort Park residents not consulted on CPZ proposals of the surrounding streets?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	<p>Pulse, Rhythm, Edition and Beaufort Park are private developments that are located outside the boundary of the Colindale CPZ; and as such would have their own parking agreements with the developers.</p> <p>For consultations, there are no set guidelines advising what roads to include within a distribution area. For the Colindale CPZ we replicated the distribution carried out in the preliminary consultation.</p> <p>The use of notices on lampposts are utilised to engage with those who are outside of the consultation distribution area but may have an interest in providing feedback to the consultation.</p>
82.	Gill Sargeant	Would the Council ensure that all residents of Beaufort Park and Pulse are consulted about the CPZ as many of them at present park on the public roads?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	Street notices outlining the proposals for the Colindale CPZs were erected on lamp columns and other street furniture on-street throughout the area. All users of the public highway are therefore invited to comment on the proposals.

Council Questions

83.	Alan Schneiderman	What consideration was made of the impact on the council's budget from changing the duration of the suspension of garden waste collections?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	It was envisaged that a temporary service suspension of the garden waste collections for three months would enable up to £80,000 of operational savings to be made. As the Environment Committee Chairman Stated during the Environment Committee meeting on 5th June, a 6 week suspension (as was carried out the previous year) would deliver an up to £40,000 of savings.
84.	Sara Conway	Why are the lights not turned on in Watling Park (as they are in Silk Stream and Montrose parks) where residents are deeply concerned about community safety, exacerbated by ASB related drinking and possible prostitution and rough-sleeping?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	<p>The lights running through Watling Park were switched off following a series of assaults that took place in the park at night. The police requested this action.</p> <p>Although it is often believed that by lighting a park at night it makes it a safe place, it can actually have the opposite effect as you are unable to see into the surrounding area.</p> <p>There are safe lit alternative routes around the park that residents may wish to use at night.</p>

Council Questions

85.	Arjun Mittra	Could we have an update on the status and progress of the Tarling Road community hub?	Cllr Daniel Thomas Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee	<p>The build of the new Tarling Road Community Centre is progressing well and the scheme remains on track to complete construction in Autumn this year.</p> <p>City YMCA have been provisionally offered an agreement to lease the building, which includes the requirement to act as the community centre's management organisation. City YMCA are now planning to liaise directly with the local community and potential users of the building to ensure the best possible use of the space, and that the centre is financially sustainable.</p>
86.	Alan Schneiderman	During the suspension of garden waste collections, are residents allowed to put garden waste in their black bins?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	<p>During the suspension of garden waste over the winter period residents will continue to be able to home compost and take their waste to our Reuse & Recycling Centre at Summers Lane, N12 0RF.</p> <p>Any waste placed into the green bin during the suspension will be collected on the resumption of the service. Residents cannot put garden waste into the black bin.</p>
87.	Sara Conway	Is it possible to address key public health concerns in Watling Park from apparent increase in sightings of rats eating food waste that is not disposed of in the bins and also from regular broken glass due to park-drinkers?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	<p>Cleansing is done regularly in Watling Park, and known hot spots are frequently checked. There has not been an increase in reporting of rats, or litter in parks outside of litter seasonal reported on very hot summer weekends when park usage is at its peak.</p> <p>As part of the revised Burnt Oak action plan for 2018 the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for street drinking in Burnt Oak will be introduced in August 2018. The PSPO includes Watling, Montrose and Silkstream Parks. To support the enforcement of this PSPO an additional CCTV unit has been commissioned to overlook the main entrance of Watling Park. Officers from the local Police, Community Safety, Street Scene and NSL teams are undertaking joint enforcement patrols to manage this area.</p>

Council Questions

88.	Arjun Mittra	How many books were borrowed from East Finchley Library in the six months before the building was reconfigured, and how many were borrowed in the six months after the building was reopened, following the reconfiguration?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	<p>In the 6 months before the building works 54,547 items were issued. In the 6 months after the building works 20,370 items were issued. However, issues will typically vary across the year. A comparison of quarter 1 issues (April to June) at East Finchley Library for 2016/17 and 2018/19 are below:</p> <p>A-J 2016/17 = 10334 issues A-J 2018/19 = 11188 issues</p>
89.	Alan Schneiderman	What was the forecast revenue for the last two financial years from renting space in Barnet libraries? How much of that forecast was actually realised?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	Please see final page appended to the Questions and Responses.
90.	Alan Schneiderman	When will dockless bikes be introduced in Barnet?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the	The Council has secured the services of Ofo to provide dockless cycles for a 12-month pilot initiative in the borough. We expect the first Ofo bikes to arrive in the borough later this summer. We are in close contact with Ofo and cycling groups to assess the latest developments in the sector in order to provide the best possible benefits for our residents and visitors to the Borough.

Council Questions

			Environment Committee	
91.	Arjun Mittra	What was the cost to the Council of the Mayor-making ceremony this year?	Cllr Richard Cornelius Leader of the Council	Catering costs were £2,983.80
92.	Alan Schneiderman	What assessment has been made of the cleanliness of town centres following staff cuts and the increased use of machinery?	Cllr Dean Cohen Chairman of the Environment Committee	Town centres are frequently visited and monitored by the relevant area supervisor. The introduction of increased mechanical cleaning ensures a thorough cleanse of town centres and has improved quality and reduced the requirement for additional manual cleaning. The town centres are not subject to significant levels of complaints. Additional benefits will also come from the introduction of time banded collections to town centres, which will reduce the number of wheeled bins left on streets and fly tipping. The first of these time bands is currently being rolled out in Mill Hill Town Centre.
93.	Arjun Mittra	How many businesses in East Finchley does the Council source supplies or have contracts with?	Cllr Daniel Thomas Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee	The Council pays for services from 12 suppliers in the N2 (East Finchley) postcode.
94.	Geof Cooke	The Council extracted Section 106 monies from	Cllr Daniel Thomas	Officers are aware of the Church's intention to occupy Solar House in August with the first service commencing 9 September. Changes to the current operational CPZ will be implemented on the 3 September.

Council Questions

		<p>St Barnabas Church to pay for a CPZ review to take effect before the church moves into Solar House in High Road, North Finchley. The church is scheduled to move in next month and parishioners will arrive in large numbers for services from September 2018 but the public consultation, let alone implementation of any change, has not taken place. Why?</p>	<p>Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee</p>	
95.	Alan Schneiderman	<p>Who is responsible for the problems at the Oakleigh depot and when will they all be resolved?</p>	<p>Cllr Daniel Thomas Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee</p>	<p>As with all construction projects that the council delivers, the contract to construct the depot at Oakleigh Rd included a 12-month Defect Liability Period. During this period problems with design and workmanship are identified and are required to be rectified by the contractor prior to the final payment of the contract sum. This process is in place and being actively managed on this project. The contractor is working through the list of defects and many have been resolved. Remaining items need to be scheduled for completion at a time that will cause the least disruption for the service. The contractor will not receive the final payment until all identified</p>

Council Questions

				defects are resolved to the council's satisfaction.
96.	Alan Schneiderman	When will the additional costs incurred as a result of the Oakleigh depot problems be recovered?	Cllr Daniel Thomas Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee	The Council is currently holding back a retention payment linked to resolving all identified defects relating to the build contractor, therefore there is presently no cost to be recovered.
97.	Anne Hutton	What is the current situation with the Church Farm House building?	Cllr Daniel Thomas Chairman of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee	Under the terms of their current lease, Middlesex University were permitted to use the building as educational offices so they have conducted some refurbishment and office conversion works to allow this. They must also allow for some community use of the building though so the university has confirmed it will make space within the building available for community hire. In order to facilitate this, the university is currently ascertaining whether the office space can be isolated so as to mitigate the need for a security guard to be on site for the duration of any hire. Property Services are monitoring progress and awaiting confirmation that all arrangements have been made.

Council Questions

Commercial Space in Library Buildings

Site	Forecasted rent	Agreed rent as at 20 Jul 18	Comment
Hendon	£154,000.00	£155,950.06	
Golders	£28,822	£30,000	
Chipping	£28,652	£30,000	
Childs Hill	£10,000	£10,000	
Mill hill	£32,040	£42,000	
Edgware	£4,000	£3,000	
Offers negotiating			
North Finchley	£43,983	£26,000 (1 st offer)	
Sites still advertised			
East Finchley	£18,210		Recently re-advertised due to previous tenant withdrawing
East Barnet	£46,500		Recently re-advertised for short-term tenancy
Sites in which further works required or being used by council service			
Osidge	£0	£0	Currently being utilised by the library service
Church end	£0	£0	New accommodation for The Network
South Friern	£0	£0	Space is difficult to let so possible options are being
Burnt oak	£0	£0	Space is difficult to let so possible options are being
Totals	£366,207	£296,950.06	