

Urgency Committee
Monday, 27 April 2020

ITEM 5 – PUBLIC QUESTIONS & WRITTEN COMMENTS

Qn No	Agenda Item No	Raised By	Question Raised	Answer
1.	Item 6 Approval of Emergency Decisions and Delegation to Chief Officers	Mr Levy	The Defra COVID19 guidance mentioned recommends Household Waste Recycling Centres be kept open, "Priority: Medium", with social distancing precautions, noting "Some journeys to HWRCs may be necessary to avoid rubbish building up and a public health risk." However NLWA have not reopened Summers Lane, countering in councillor's correspondence that there wasn't a listed "reasonable excuse" for such journeys in the Coronavirus Regulations. I believe this is a misreading of the said law, which clearly, intentionally uses non-exclusive definitions via the words "reasonable", "includes", "including". What is Barnet's view on whether it should be re-opened?	The London Borough of Barnet supports the principle of opening Reuse and Recycling Centres to help manage the disposal and recycling of waste during these unprecedented times. It does however recognise the need for North London Waste Authority's (NLWA) decision and the timing of it to be in line with advice and guidance from Government regarding essential travel. Equally, the NLWA needs to ensure the site could be operated and used safely whilst also adhering to social distancing requirements.