

Council Questions 24 January 2023

Q n.	Councillor	Question	Response by	Response
1	Cllr Nigel Young	According to the Institute for Government less than a quarter of council funding comes from council tax. A significant element of council funding comes directly from government, but this Conservative Government is proposing only a 3% rise in funding for councils against a backdrop of costs increasing with inflation at over 11%. This leaves a huge black hole in the council finances. Will the Leader seek cross party support to lobby the Conservative Government for a fair and reasonable funding package to support our local services.	Leader	<p>I am happy to seek cross-party support on this issue, and having already done so I am pleased to report that the Leader of the Opposition Group has agreed.</p> <p>He also agreed to join the lobbying effort on the Levelling-Up Fund bid for Colindale Station. The bid was successful and I would like to thank Cllr Thomas for his support.</p> <p>It's an example of how cross-party working can make a difference in Barnet.</p>
2.	Cllr Alison Cornelius	On 1 November 2022, an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council was held with the only item on the Agenda ' Memorial – Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II'. I am sure the Leader will agree with me that the tributes paid to the Queen for her exemplary service for over 70 years were highly fitting from both sides of the Chamber. However, although Cllr Cooke initially paid tribute to Her Majesty, perhaps the Leader would like to express his regret	Leader	Perhaps the member could be more specific about what Cllr Cooke said that she felt was inappropriate or off subject?

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		that Cllr Cooke did not stop there, but went completely off the subject, which in many people's views was highly inappropriate on this occasion?		
3.	Cllr Anne Clarke	How is the Leader working to make the borough more fun?	Leader	We are working to make Barnet a Borough of Fun in many different ways including through co-production with residents of an innovative Borough Culture Strategy, the introduction of a comprehensive programme of festivals and community events to celebrate Barnet's diverse communities - Black History Month, Pride, the Winter Festival to name only three; through our involvement in the London Festival of Architecture, by working with partners to deliver great art in the borough like the wonderful art installation by Lakwena that wraps the net zero substation at Brent Cross Town, through involving residents in our Citizens Assembly on Climate Change so we can improve our environment and get us to Net Zero, by championing the Borough everywhere I go including in media appearances, by working to make Barnet a destination not a dormitory and a place people choose to visit, live, work, rest and play.
4.	Cllr Lucy Wakeley	Will the leader join me in thanking the organisers of the remembrance services across the Borough, with a particular thank you to organisers in Edgware who ran a very moving multi-faith service?	Leader	I am delighted to thank all the organisers both of the Edgware Remembrance Service and of those services across the Borough. These services are an important part of the Borough's civic life when we remember the sacrifice that others have made both here and across the world so we can be free.
5.	Cllr Humayun e Khalick	Please would you provide an update on what the Council and partners, including the police, are doing to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in Barnet, particularly in the west of the Borough?	Chair CLLC	Barnet's Safer Communities Partnership Strategy was agreed at the November 2022 Council meeting. The strategy sets out the five priorities of the partnership. Progress updates against these priorities are reported to the Safer Communities Partnership Board including a performance dashboard. We have also launched (in partnership with the Police) 2 Community Safety Hub pathfinders, alongside Ward Walks with more to follow this year. We have also implemented a borough wide Public Space Protection Order (PSPO).

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6.	Cllr Caroline Stock	The number of cars stolen from peoples drives in the Totteridge and Woodside Ward is very high. Few of the cars are ever found, which is very distressing and costly for owners. Is there something that can be done using the ANPR system and the new installation of security cameras that can help residents and cut the number of cars leaving the Borough?	Chair CLLC	The data controller for ANPR and all ANPR related operations are managed and controlled by MPS. LBB will continue to support MPS / other agencies with investigations by providing footage when requested.
7.	Cllr Gill Sargeant	What certainty has the Government given on the future of Adult Social Care?	Chair of ASC	Central Government has cut in the region of £30m from Adult Social Care in the Barnet over the last 10 years. There is no evidence that the Government intends to do a U-turn on this direction of travel leaving the future of Adult Social Care with an uncertain future.
8.	Cllr David Longstaff	With Labour failing to deliver their promised 1% council tax refund to all residents by the autumn, and failing to deliver any council tax freeze, and supporting the expansion of ULEZ, does the Leader think introducing a £7 per hour charge to play tennis throughout Barnet at peak times will prove a successful and popular measure?	Leader	The member is incorrect. We are delivering on our promise to refund the 1% refund and I trust the Conservatives will support the budget that does this when it comes to Policy and Resources and Full Council in February. The tennis charges that have been agreed in conjunction with the Lawn Tennis Association and the money they raise allows us to refurbish all the existing tennis courts, enabling local residents to enjoy quality facilities across the Borough.
9.	Cllr Anne Clarke	I know that the Administration has already thanked the staff who planned and delivered services in the snow and ice of the weather event in December 2022. Will you take this opportunity to place on record the appreciation of all	Leader	Yes, I am very grateful for the hard work and dedication of our frontline staff who keep the borough moving in very difficult circumstances during extreme weather events.

		councillors for the dedication of so many staff in very challenging conditions?		
10.	Cllr Lucy Wakeley	Does the leader believe £80,000 on a citizen's assembly is a good use of Barnet taxpayers' money?	Leader	<p>A deliberative process is very different to traditional public consultation methods and is used to deliver actionable and realistic recommendations, it is a mechanism for bringing together a group of people to discuss an issue or issues and reach a conclusion about what they think should happen. Citizens' assemblies give members of the public the time and opportunity to learn about and discuss a topic, before reaching conclusions. Assembly participants are asked to make trade-offs and arrive at workable recommendations. These trade-offs can be made in the context of cost and benefit and therefore may result financial benefits for the council; focussing resources on the most impactful outcomes.</p> <p>At the end of the process, members of the Assembly may become champions in their communities and therefore helping to spread the message and helping change behaviours at a localised neighbourhood level – all of which help us to become a net zero borough.</p> <p>This Assembly underlines a firm commitment to bring residents and the wider community on the journey to net zero.</p> <p>To ensure the continuing progress of the recommendations of the assembly, a monitoring board will be established as well as a community action programme to begin actionining the outcomes of the assembly.</p>
11.	Cllr Ella Rose	Will the Leader join me in thanking the remarkable team at Mitzvah Day for a day filled with people giving their time to help their communities, and in particular, Shaarei Tzedek Synagogue and Alma Primary School in Whetstone for their many mitzvot?	Leader	<p>I am delighted to thank Shaarei Tzedek Synagogue and Alma Primary School for their many mitzvot, and all those involved in this very important annual event led by the Jewish community which demonstrates the solidarity and support that our communities have for each other.</p>

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12.	Cllr Alison Cornelius	Would the Leader please comment on why a Minute's silence was not held at the conclusion of 'Memorial -Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II' as is the usual custom after deaths are announced of current or former Councillors or MPs, and as was done in the main Council Meeting that evening following tributes to former Cllr Laurie Williams?	Leader	The Extraordinary Council meeting which was convened to enable Members to pay tribute to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II took place some time after the passing of the monarch. Prior to the Extraordinary meeting taking place, Members had attended other Council events where a silence was observed – the Proclamation at Hendon Town Hall on 11 September and at the Civic Service on 18 September. The marking of silence was undertaken in accordance with the agreed national protocol.
13.	Cllr Arjun Mittra	What assessment does the Leader give of the most recent budget deal and the impact on finances for Barnet Council?	Leader	The implications of the Local Government Finance Settlement are currently being worked through the Medium Term Financial Strategy to assess the impacts on the current year's budget and also impacts of future years budgets. In general terms the budget deal is not a sustainable solution for the Council.
14.	Cllr Lucy Wakeley	Does the leader know the cost of consultations since May 2022, including the £50 incentive for residents to respond to the Corporate Plan?	Leader	<p>From 1 May 2022 the council has conducted 28 consultations. 25 of these were done in-house by the Consultation and Engagement team, so the only additional costs would have been in production of comms material such as posters and paid social media ads.</p> <p>The team held a series of workshops with young people to explore some of the themes from the Young People's Perception Survey (YPS). 57 young people took part and were given a £30 Love2Shop voucher. The total cost of this was £1,710.</p> <p>The two remaining consultations were delivered by external research companies. One of these was to help shape the Corporate Plan and involved engagement from 67 residents who received £50 vouchers. The total cost of this was £3,350.</p> <p>The other consultation delivered by an external agency was about the proposed A1000 cycle lane. This had two phases of public engagement: a series of 10 workshops and focus groups. No incentives were offered for these as it was felt that this would bias the consultation.</p> <p>Costs incurred in Phase two included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - analysis of an online survey that received a response of around 1000 including

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				<p>several free text questions (cost TBC)</p> <p>- A workshop with 15 young people who were given £13 vouchers. Total cost: £450</p>
15.	Cllr Phil Cohen	The ward walk in East Barnet was successful in identifying hotspots for fly-tipping, poor lighting and anti-social behaviour. Is the aim to run them regularly and how will they be developed in the future?	Chair CLLC	Each ward will receive two walks each over a 12 month period. The schedule for 2023 has been drafted and Members will be shortly engaged on the proposed dates for their walks.
16.	Cllr David Longstaff	Supporting Town Centres was a significant part of the Labour manifesto in 2022, so, regarding residents being offered inducements to discuss the Corporate Plan, will the Leader explain why a £50 online shopping voucher, 'to say thanks for helping out' (as written on the recruitment advert), was preferable over any scheme that would have supported a purchase in a local High Street shop?	Leader	<p>The vouchers we use for thank-you payments are Love2Shop gift card. These are the UK's most widely accepted multi-retailer card and can be redeemed at over 90 high street stores. many of these brands have shops in Barnet's town centres.</p> <p>The Corporate Plan is a borough-wide engagement, so it would be difficult to choose a single shop that would be accessible for all residents. However, where residents are being engaged in a particular locality we will explore the idea of arranging incentives that can support local businesses.</p>
17	Cllr Giulia Innocenti	Does this Council have a vision for how the arts can be incorporated and promoted in Barnet?	Leader	The council is currently developing a Culture Strategy 2023-2028 for the borough. As a pathfinder project in the Community Participation Strategy it will be co-produced with residents, artists, community groups and creative organisations and professionals. Among the objectives of the Culture Strategy will be to showcase the existing arts and culture offer in our borough and to unlock the potential for greater creativity and engagement with the arts among our communities. The Culture

				Strategy will also provide a roadmap towards a London Borough of Culture bid for 2027.
18.	Cllr Elliot Simberg	I have been directly affected by ULEZ and had to spend funds to get a ULEZ compliant car. I am one of the fortunate ones, not all our residents are able to do this. Does the Labour group think it is fair and just to charge residents further taxes to go about their daily lives, please can the leader provide solid evidence that this charge A.is having a positive effect at reducing emissions? B. what are the charges being used for?	Leader	<p>It is neither fair nor just to continue to expose the most vulnerable Barnet residents to the serious risk to their health - including respiratory, lung cancer and cardiovascular diseases - caused by poor air quality, nor to expect the community as a whole to bear the additional healthcare costs and pressures on health services these cause. Research by Imperial College has estimated that in 2019 there were 201 deaths attributable to air quality here, the second highest of any London borough.</p> <p>We do recognise the impacts the ULEZ may have on residents least able to pay additional cost. The Mayor has announced a £110 million scrappage scheme tailored particularly for low income and disabled Londoners, charities, micro businesses and sole traders. There will also be extended grace periods (to October 2027) for disabled tax class vehicles and wheelchair accessible private hire vehicles, and an additional grace period for disabled people receiving benefits. We will be working with Transport for London to ensure the details of these and other supports for those affected by the ULEZ are publicised to residents.</p> <p>To deal with your specific questions:</p> <p>A. The best, most recent evidence of the effectiveness of the Ultra Low Emissions Zone comes from evaluation of the ULEZ expansion to the North and South Circular roads in October 2021 and tightened Low Emission Zone standards for larger vehicles, published by Transport for London in July 2022. This found a significant impact on the number of older, more polluting vehicles seen driving in London and the levels of harmful pollution Londoners are exposed to.</p>

				<p>After six months of the expanded ULEZ, nearly 94 per cent of vehicles driving in the whole zone met the ULEZ standards on an average day, up from 87 per cent in the weeks before the zone expanded and from 39 per cent in 2017. There were 67,000 fewer non-compliant vehicles on an average day compared with immediately before the ULEZ expanded - a reduction of 54 per cent. On average there were 44,000 fewer diesel cars driving in the zone each day – a 20 per cent decrease.</p> <p>TfL estimate that harmful NO2 concentrations alongside roads in inner London are 20 per cent lower than they would have been without the ULEZ and its expansion. All the monitoring sites on the boundary of the expanded zone have seen reductions in NO2 concentrations, with an estimated 17-24 per cent reduction in pollution on the boundary compared to a scenario without the ULEZ.</p> <p>The Mayor has said that any revenue raised from charges that is not spent on implementation and operational costs will be reinvested to facilitate the delivery of the Mayor's Transport Strategy, including public transport enhancements in outer London.</p>
19	Cllr Liron Woodcock-Velleman	The 27th January is Holocaust Memorial Day, the 77th anniversary of the liberation of the former Nazi death and concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau. As the grandson of a survivor, and a Councillor who represents a ward which contains some of Barnet's indomitable	Leader	<p>The Barnet annual Holocaust Memorial Commemoration will be held at Middlesex University on Sunday 29th January 2023 at 2pm. There are several speakers including a Holocaust Survivor. We in Barnet condemn the evils of prejudice, discrimination and racism, and value the right for all to live in a free, tolerant and democratic society.</p> <p>The Barnet Statement of Commitment will also be read by two students from The Compton School.</p>

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		survivors, can the Leader of the Council share what the Council is doing for Holocaust Memorial Day and join me in pledging to combat antisemitism and racism wherever it is found?		
20.	Cllr David Longstaff	Despite an overwhelming majority of residents and businesses opposing the expansion of ULEZ, the Mayor has chosen to expand ULEZ and hit thousands of families with a £12.50 per day charge for using their own vehicle. Is the Leader proud that Barnet Labour Administration didn't oppose the ULEZ expansion in their consultation submission?	Leader	<p>94% of cars are already ULEZ compliant. Our robust submission to the consultation and subsequent lobbying has helped result in the largest scrappage scheme ever of £110m that the Mayor of London has introduced to help low income and disabled Londoners as well as charities, microbusinesses and sole traders.</p> <p>It is a priority for this administration to clean-up Barnet's air, reduce childhood asthma and premature deaths caused by pollution, and protect the health of Barnet's residents – why isn't it yours?</p>
21	Cllr Ernest Ambe	This borough would for the first time take part in the London Festival of Architecture scheduled for June this year – This is novel, exciting and in line with the new administration's agenda and goal to better promote Arts and Culture across the borough. Would the council consider working with other partners nationally to celebrate more Arts events in the borough such as this year's 50th anniversary celebrations of the death of Pablo Picasso? It would be enriching and educative for residents of Barnet to	Leader	I am keen to make Barnet a Borough of Fun, and our developing Culture Strategy will be key to this. I will look into what can be done with schools and libraries to mark this year's 50 th anniversary of the death of Pablo Picasso.

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		commemorate the life of, and celebrate the works of this global artistic genius whose works have impacted the development of modern and contemporary art with unparalleled magnitude.		
22	Cllr Rohit Grover	Has the Chair of the Environment and Climate Change Committee read ward councillors' response to the results of the Garden Suburb CPZ engagement survey that was carried out in October/November 2021? The response can be viewed here: www.barnetconservatives.london/response , and was presented to officers in October 2022. If so, what are his thoughts?	Chair ECC	Parking Officers are in dialogue with Hampstead Garden Suburb ward members regarding the consultation on a proposed controlled parking zone and are due to meet on 16 January 2023. The Chair of the Environment & Climate Committee will be briefed on this once concluded.
23	Cllr Kath McGuirk	What achievements have there been in the past in promoting arts and culture in Barnet, and what is the new administration's plans to do even better on this in the future?	Leader	In recent years the council has supported creative placemaking in our town centre regeneration, we have provided a platform for local talent at our Discover Barnet Presents summer festivals. There are plans to do much more however. A programme of community and civic events is already underway with funding to support community organisations to hold events. There is also a Culture Strategy in development that will map all of our existing arts and culture assets and set how we can further develop the sector in the next five years.

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24	Cllr David Longstaff	At Policy & Resources Committee in September, a proposal was in the committee papers to increase the Garden Waste Collection charge by £10. Labour, in my view, erroneously and maliciously claimed this was an overhang from the Conservative administration, which it wasn't. How did this proposal by-pass the Environment and Climate Change Committee and end-up in the Policy and Resources papers, which are in the name of the Chair and cleared by the Chair?	Leader	The inclusion of this increase in the Garden Waste Collection charge in the September Policy & Resources papers was an error. There has never been any intention by this administration to increase this charge.
25	Cllr Simon Radford	Following reports of sewage water in Pymmes Brook, can I ask the Leader and Chair of the Environment & Climate Change Committee to write to Thames Water about the failure to ensure adequate connections to our sewer system, and to properly account for the recent reports in the East Barnet area so that something like this never happens again?	Leader/Chair ECC	<p>I can confirm that a letter has been sent by the Leader to Thames Water requesting a meeting with them to discuss their long term plans with regard to sewer connections.</p> <p>For Council information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water Companies, such as Thames Water, are responsible for Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) 2. The Environment Agency(EA) is the key regulator for managing pollution of watercourses, monitoring respective Water Company compliance. <p>The report on Pymmes Brook highlights that this is unfortunately a national issue. The EA is currently working with the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and all Water Companies across the UK to introduce new measures to limit the sewer discharges into watercourses.</p> <p>Although the Council has no powers to force Thames Water and the Environment Agency to take action, we are doing all that we can to raise awareness about this</p>

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				<p>issue, including issuing advice last year to residents setting out how they can help by checking the water flow connections in their homes, this guidance is available on the Councils website.</p> <p>On 30 November 2022 Defra announced a proposal that fines paid by water companies will be reinvested as ringfenced funds into environmental and water quality improvement projects, this from the Council's perspective is very good news as at present, money from these fines is returned to the Treasury.</p> <p>If this approach is approved it has the potential to include initiatives to restore our water environments by creating wetlands, re-vegetating river banks and reconnecting meanders to the main channel of rivers all of the things that the Council is advocating through is sustainability strategy.</p>
26	Cllr Rohit Grover	How many of the Article 4 Directions restricting permitted development rights in Barnet's conservation areas specifically refer to Air Source Heat Pumps?	Chair Strategic Planning Committee	None of the Council's Article 4 Directions restrict permitted development rights for Air Source Heat Pumps.
27	Cllr Emma Whysall	What can be done to ensure that the make-up of Barnet's first ever citizens' assembly is representative of the borough's communities?	Chair ECC	<p>We are working with Sortition Foundation who use their internationally-recognised gold standard methodology. Using a sortition method of recruitment ensures a representative makeup of the assembly. Sortition uses their open source data and formula to identify 8,000 households by lottery. Potential participants are then able to register interest, at this point they collect relevant data to ensure that the final selection of participants reflects the broader community. From these respondents, a second lottery is performed so the final participants will match the demographics for Barnet, taken from the latest census or government data.</p> <p>Additionally, TPXimpact have procedures in place to accommodate any accessibility</p>

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				requirements that may prevent an individual from taking part, such as translation services, accessibility needs and care/childcare arrangements.
28	Cllr David Longstaff	As the Labour Administration didn't oppose the Mayor of London's ULEZ expansion, what would the Leader say to a shift worker who drives a diesel car, older than September 2014, works nights at a hospital or care home, from 10pm to 6am, paying six £12.50 charges for the five shifts, totalling an extra £75 for a five-day working week?	Leader	<p>I refer the member to my answer to Q20 above.</p> <p>If the member wants to put me in touch with this person I am happy to meet with them.</p>
29	Cllr Rishikesh Chakraborty	How will the impact of the new Borough-wide PSPO be monitored and assessed?	Chair of CLLC	Officers of the Community Safety Team and Neighbourhood Policing Team will maintain their operational deployments to patrol Barnet so that the PSPO area is subject to an effective, consistent and sustained programme of interventions, monitoring and enforcement. A management (and partnership) process will be in place to monitor the effectiveness of the PSPO and will be reported via the Safer Communities Partnership Board's quarterly performance dashboard.
30	Cllr Lucy Wakeley	Will the leader join me in praising the officers and the previous administration for the incredible results of the last Barnet Young People's Survey that found that 90% of young people felt Barnet Council was doing a good job?	Leader/Chair CES	The survey results highlighted the positive progress that has been made in making Barnet a place that young people increasingly see as Family Friendly and that they feel the Council is doing a good job and is listening to and acting on their views and their concerns. It did also show that there is still room for improvement in a number of areas and that there are still some groups of young people, such as disabled young people, who do not feel as positively about the Council or their local area. The administration will work to ensure that these areas are addressed so that all young people in Barnet have a positive view of Barnet and the Council.

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31	Cllr Edith David	How is Barnet Council progressing with exiting the Capita "Easy Council" contracts?	Leader	<p>In line with the report to Policy and Resources Committee 19th July 2022, the Contract with Capita for IT, Customer Services and Revenues and Benefits services is extended to 31st March 2026, and for Human Resources and Finance services is extended to 31st August 2024. The Contract for Estate Services will not be extended beyond 31st August 2023. The Procurement service and the Welfare team returned to the Council in October 2022. Under the authority given to the Chief Executive at Policy and Resources Committee 19th July 2022 a number of options were discussed for returning Re services, including letting the contract run to its natural conclusion on 30 September 2023, staggering the return of services across an extended period, or bringing all services back early. Following an assessment of the pros, cons and risks of each option, the Council has mutually agreed with Capita the termination of The DRS (RE) contract for Highways, Planning, Development Control), Building Control, Regeneration, Land Charges and Cemetery and Crematorium services on the 31st March 2022.</p>
32	Cllr David Longstaff	The expanded ULEZ will have damaging impacts for local families and businesses across Barnet. Other boroughs have said they will do everything in their power to resist the expansion of ULEZ. Has Barnet Council signed, or indicated a willingness to sign, an agreement to help TfL install ULEZ equipment in our borough?	Chair ECC	<p>I refer the member to my answer to Q20 above.</p> <p>The Borough signed the Section 8 notice with TfL on 21 December 2022 in order to enable the TfL's rollout of ULEZ. . This rollout comes with a range of measures from TfL to support residents and business during its period of implementation and ultimate go live currently scheduled for August 2023. The Council will be working closely with TfL to ensure these measures are effectively enacted within the Borough.</p>

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33	Cllr Ammar Naqvi	What focus has been given to the experience of people with autism and learning disabilities within the local policing and justice systems?	Chair CLLC	<p>Mencap will be reporting on this at Safer Communities Partnership Board on 20th January. It is also worth noting that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> London Councils have circulated 'Stop and search – guidance for autistic people and police officers', November 2022, to all Community Safety Leads in London. The guidance has been written by Detective Chief Inspector Dion Brown, Metropolitan Police Service and Sean Kennedy, Barrister , working on behalf of the Metropolitan Police Service and AnnaKennedyOnline. The Youth Justice Service has met with the Service Lead for Autism and Sensory, Specialist Team, Barnet Education and Learning Service to develop an agreed interface and intervention for young people with Autism in the youth justice system (YJS), the Autism Strategy has been shared for the YJS for comment. The YJS further employs a clinical practitioner, educational psychologist and speech and language therapist to assess and support young people's individual needs.
34	Cllr Rohit Grover	Can the Chair of the Environment and Climate Change Committee confirm that the majority view of those residents that responded to the Garden Suburb CPZ engagement survey will prevail?	Chair ECC	<p>A decision on the proposed Garden Suburb CPZ has not been agreed yet. All feedback including that provided by residents, ward members and other key stakeholders, along with parking and highway safety data will be considered when confirming the final proposal for this zone.</p> <p>The Council's CPZ programme delivery sees areas with existing parking pressures consulted along with neighbouring areas that are likely to be the next parking pressure locations due to displacement of those who do not or are ineligible to purchase permits.</p> <p>The intention of this approach is to address directly the anticipated displacement over a wider area in a managed strategic approach based on experience to</p>

				<p>date. This avoids many residents having to experience the impact of displacement of parking pressures rather than letting roads get to a point where pressures are considerable and then wait a further period for the funding and development of a parking control scheme.</p>
35	<p>Cllr Andrea Bilbow</p>	<p>Barnet has the second highest premature deaths owing to poor air quality in all of London. Some areas of Barnet are in the top 5% for poorest quality air in the country. Is this acceptable?</p>	<p>Chair HWBB / Chair ECC</p>	<p>We agree that the rate of premature deaths in Barnet is not acceptable. According to the Imperial College report it is among the highest in London, and even taking account of Barnet's large population suggests we are in the most impacted half of boroughs, with 8.4 deaths per 100,000 residents.</p> <p>We are committed to reduce air pollution and it's negative impact on health, as outlined in the emerging Sustainability strategy, the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the Long term transport strategy and the Air quality action plan- those are only the most prominent strategic documents addressing air pollution.</p> <p>Most pollution in London is caused by road transport and domestic and commercial heating systems. The BarNET ZERO campaign, which will launch over the next weeks, is presenting the commitment, strategies and actions that the Council is taking and will take to make Barnet the most sustainable borough in London and tackling air pollution is a major part of the campaign.</p> <p>Besides BarNET ZERO there are several activities in place already, like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promoting alternative modes of transport to reduce car usage (walking, cycling, public transport) - Anti-idling campaign, where we support schools to encourage parents to not idle their vehicles at drop-off and pick-up, - Asthma friendly schools, where school are raising awareness on asthma, the risk factors and prevention, - Cycling trainings in primary schools, - Two School Super zones project, where we work with the schools and local

				<p>communities to create a healthier environment for children,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Air quality audits in selected schools <p>While some improvements in health are likely to be seen quite quickly following improvements in air quality, it is unlikely that the full health benefits would be realised immediately. When estimating the benefits of reducing air pollution, it's assumed that 30% of the reduction in risk of mortality occurs in the first year after pollution reduction; 50% occurs across years 2 to 5; and the remaining 20% of the risk reduction is distributed across years 6 to 20.</p>
36	Cllr David Longstaff	Prior to the onset of winter, why weren't all the borough's grit bins checked and restocked?	Chair ECC	There are 485 grit bins located across the borough. All 485 bins were checked and filled in September'22. Grit bins were also monitored and refilled four times during the recent snow period in December 22.
37	Cllr Nigel Young	As Chancellor, Rishi Sunak promised to sort out funding for social care once and for all with a 1.25% Social Care Levy on National Insurance, stating "To fund this big increase in permanent NHS spending & social care, we're making the tough but responsible choice to increase taxes". The levy has been withdrawn, but the funding that remains is still insufficient to meet the need. Barnet has one of the largest populations of older people, and with the increasing demand for services	Leader/Chair ASC	<p>On becoming Prime Minister, Boris Johnson also promised he would fix the crisis in social care, he clearly failed to deliver on this promise. It would seem that the current Prime Minister is indeed also failing to keep his promise. There is a growing older population in Barnet many of whom need care and support from Barnet Council. The LGA sums up the extent of this National Crisis:</p> <p>"We have consistently said that £13 billion is needed for social care so that its many pressures can be addressed and councils can deliver on all of their statutory duties. This is the level of investment needed to ensure people of all ages can live an equal life....." LGA 09.01.2023</p>

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		we have a current overspend in the adults' social care budget of £6.636m. Does the Leader agree that the Prime Minister has broken his promise and failed to deliver on his pledge to fix the social care crisis.		
38	Cllr Alex Prager	Can the leader please explain what caused the lack of preparedness during recent snowfall, which saw residents across the borough trapped in their homes due to the lack of preventative gritting?	Chair ECC	<p>The Council undertook action in line with the Winter Maintenance Plan during the recent snow fall, which can be found online https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-12/Winter%20Service%20Operations%20Plan%20202122_0.odt.</p> <p>The plan was fully mobilised and implemented in regard to Priority 1 and 2 Carriageways and Footways. It was further extended during the severe weather period by deploying extra teams from the Street Cleansing Service and our Highways Contractor Tarmac Kier JV, to focus on grtting and clearing roads and pavements.</p> <p>In preparation for the severe weather event we undertook to apply a full 'heavy' salt application to all Priority 1 roads across the Borough. This application was 40 grammes per square metre, a normal preventative application is in the realms of 8 to 12 grammes per square metre. However even with the scale of this application, some four times the normal preventative application, the amount of snow fall on Sunday night, circa 15 cm / 6 inches, was such that the application was not able to melt the snow through the interaction with the road surface temperature and friction caused through the movement of vehicles.</p> <p>The team continued through the night to apply additional applications of salt to the roads and this process continued in line with the Winter Maintenance Plan for the subsequent severe weather period.</p> <p>To put this into context 1,000 Tonnes of salt was used during the server weather</p>

				<p>event in December 2022, which is some 40% of our normal annual salt stock of 2,500 Tonnes.</p> <p>For information the Winter Maintenance Plan is operational between October 2022 and April 2023</p> <p>Ultimately though when presented with severe weather conditions as experienced in December 2022 it is not physically possible to reach all parts of the carriageway and footway network, thus prioritisation, this is the same for all Councils responsible for Winter Maintenance operations across the UK.</p> <p>That being said, the plan will be subject to review once the Winter Period is over, this is the normal practice each year post the winter season. This year we will incorporate the learning gained from the severe weather event experienced in December 2022. The output of this review will include an assessment of both carriageways and footways and will be reported to the Chair and Vice Chair of the Environment and Climate Change committee for consideration.</p>
39	Cllr Humayune Khalick	Following on from Cllr Lusingu's Full Council motion and the spectacular success of Barnet's Black History Month celebrations last year, please would you provide an update on plans for this year's programme and other ways that the Council will be working with, engaging and celebrating with all our diverse communities?	Chair CLLC	<p>We hope to build on the successes of BHM 2022 and begin engaging the community on it early this year. We have also used a similar funding model for our winter festival, where community groups can apply for small grants to fund events. This will be extended to a year-round programme of community and cultural event funding throughout the year to enable our diverse communities to hold events that celebrate and showcase their culture.</p>
40	Cllr Lucy Wakeley	What is the Leader doing regarding the roadworks in Edgware that are causing	Chair ECC	<p>We appreciate the issues that have been experienced by residents in Edgware as a result of safety critical works by Utility Companies and the unavoidable carriageway failure on the A5. In particular:</p>

		chaos in Edgware and surrounding wards?		<p>1. The void appearing on the A5 which meant traffic management measures were introduced for safety reasons which caused unavoidable congestion in this location. Due to the nature of this void utilities were required to undertake integrity checks on their assets below ground to ensure they had not been compromised - either causing the void or preventing the use of certain engineering techniques in its repair. In some cases, these investigations required the use of specialist inspection teams further delaying their completion.</p> <p>2. Cadent Gas are currently undertaking safety critical essential maintenance works to replace old iron gas mains with more durable plastic pipes. Ultimately these works are essential in ensuring Cadent can provide safe and reliable gas supplies to residents and businesses. These works are due to complete at the end of January.</p> <p>The Cadent Gas works are being closely monitored and through the Councils adopted Utility and Highway Charter we are seeing positive improvements with collaborative working with Utility Companies on our highway network. The Council's Street works team assess all permit applications prior to granting, including options for shared road space between utility companies to minimise disruption to residents. In addition, permits are time-challenged, where possible, to shorten the duration of works on site. Through collaboration with Cadent Gas, BT & Affinity to share road space the team managed to save 60 days of additional disruption to the network within this area.</p>
41	Cllr Ella Rose	Whetstone High Road had flooded every time there was a bit of rain for the best part of a decade, with no attention having been previously paid to the problem. Will the Leader join me in thanking the officers who solved this problem towards the end of last year and improved the lives of residents, and the	Leader	I am delighted this has been resolved, and thank officers and the current Whetstone councillors for their hard work to sort this out. I will be meeting with Thames Water soon to discuss flooding issues across the Borough.

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		abilities of businesses to run on a daily basis?		
42	Cllr David Longstaff	<p>In September/October, traffic counter cables were installed in Ashurst and Buxted Roads, N11. Please will you answer all the following:</p> <p>What is the issue that officers are seeking to resolve?</p> <p>Who authorised this work?</p> <p>Which councillors were involved?</p> <p>How many residents raised concerns?</p> <p>Did local residents raise a petition?</p> <p>If so, how many residents signed the petition?</p>	Chair ECC	<p>In response to your specific questions in relation to Ashurst and Buxted Roads:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Road safety concerns were raised via Ward Members regarding speeding and dangerous driving. 2. This was raised, and agreed, through the Road Safety and Parking Fund process by the Director of Highways and Transportation. 3. The Ward Members within Woodhouse ward as a result of issues raised by their constituents 4. There was no petition in relation to this matter 5. Not applicable as no petition raised
43	Cllr Arjun Mittra	<p>Would the Chair of Housing & Growth provide some more detail about the proposal to move Finchley Lido?</p>	Chair HAG	<p>We are exploring the potential of a future redevelopment of Finchley Lido Leisure Centre to create a modern and more sustainable facility, as the building is nearing the end of its lifespan and will in due course require significant refurbishment or rebuilding. As the lease of the Great North Leisure Park (the current location of the leisure facility) is being sold as a standing asset or with redevelopment potential, we are exploring both the possible refurbishment and/or redevelopment of the centre at Great North Leisure Park, along with a potential relocation to North Finchley Town Centre. The latter would bring a new leisure facility to the town centre as part of the placemaking aspirations of the town centre regeneration. No decisions have been made</p> <p>The Council are currently working in partnership with Regal JP to revitalise North Finchley Town Centre and the regeneration programme seeks to improve the public realm and create a thriving town centre destination for residents, businesses, and the local community. As part of exploring the options to redevelop Finchley Lido</p>

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				Leisure Centre, a new leisure facility could potentially be relocated to North Finchley to support placemaking and enhance the town centre offer. We at an early stage of exploring options and as part of this we carrying out a consultation on residents' views in terms of facilities and location.
44	Cllr Rohit Grover	Does the Chair of the Environment and Climate Change Committee agree with the basic democratic principle that instead of implementing CPZs across very large areas that for the most part do not experience parking pressures and where residents have not expressed support for them, they should only be implemented on streets that do experience parking pressures and where residents have expressed support?	Chair ECC	<p>The Environment Committee of January '21 made the unanimous decision to adopt a new approach to delivery of CPZs which sees larger areas consulted.</p> <p>The CPZ programme approved by the committee, was developed based on experience of previous CPZ deployment. The programme sees areas with existing parking pressures consulted along with neighbouring areas that are likely to be the next parking pressure locations due to displacement of those who do not or are ineligible to purchase permits. The intention is to proactively address the anticipated displacement over a wider area in a managed strategic approach based on experience to date. This avoids many residents having to experience the impact of displacement of parking pressures rather than letting roads get to a point where pressures are considerable and then wait a further period for the funding and development of a parking control.</p> <p>The current CPZ proposals are recommended to be implemented on an experimental basis. This will enable comments to be made about the operation of the zone during the first six months after implementation and facilitate a review and confirmation of the future configuration of any zone.</p>
45	Cllr Phil Cohen	What plans do we have to improve facilities for cyclists in Barnet?	Chair ECC	We are committed to encouraging cycling in the Borough and this will be a key theme when we update the Council's Long-Term Transport Strategy later this year. In the meantime, the future of the cycle lane route along the A1000 will be decided by the Environment and Climate Change Committee on 25th January. We are also progressing with the design of improvements to junctions for pedestrians and cyclists across a number of sites in the borough.

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				<p>For the immediate future, we will also be bidding for money from Transport for London to fund cycle facilities parallel to the A5 that will contribute to the Barnet Loop and for cycle paths to support school travel plans. We will also bid for funding for cycle training for up to 5000 people. We are ensuring that improving provision for cycling is built into regeneration proposals and other major developments across the borough.</p> <p>Looking forward, we have started work to identify and prioritise future potential cycle routes that will support the Council's transport, growth and wider priorities and work towards building up a coherent, good quality network linking key origins and destinations over time.</p>
46	Cllr David Longstaff	The annual conversation between ward councillors and Highways representatives on road and pavement maintenance requirements takes place each year during November and December for the following year's works schedules. When will officers arrange the meeting for Barnet Vale councillors?	Chair ECC	We can confirm that Ward Members will be contacted, by the week ending 13 January 2023, to provide details of the proposed carriageway treatments and footway relay schemes in their wards.
47	Cllr Giulia Innocenti	Does this Council believe that all children living in Barnet should have access to live arts? And if so, what policies are in place to help make that happen?	Chair CES	<p>The council supports access to 'live arts' through schools and services delivered at Finchley Youth Theatre and through our range of BACE Holiday Activity Programme in partnership with production companies service as Chickenshed, Circus Skills and other providers.</p> <p>Barnet & Culture for Youth is the borough's cultural education partnership in which the council is a key partner. In July 2022 it published its Cultural Education Strategy and among its objectives is the aim to develop borough-wide infrastructure to improve the opportunities for children and young people to access culture. The Barnet Culture strategy 2023-2028 will build on this by</p>

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				strengthening the arts and culture sector more generally. Young people will be engaged in the development of this strategy as part of our commitment to its coproduction.
48	Cllr Lucy Wakeley	I recently met with residents and business owners regarding the state of Forumside in Edgware. Forumside has big issues with fly tipping which has now caused a rat infestation. Part of this is caused by a confusion over who owns the land. There are also significant issues with anti-social behaviour. Will the leader ask officers to investigate these issues and prioritise making Forumside a safe and clean area?	Chair CLLC	<p>The response to Forumside for area based problem location is primarily led by Re Planning Enforcement for the management of the area for any untidy land; Re Environmental Health for pest control and Re Highways for the reported associated parking control (double yellow lines).</p> <p>The latter is pending the commencement of a statutory consultation on a proposal to introduce lengths of 'No waiting at any time' waiting restrictions (Double yellow lines) at Forumside. Re Highways are the lead for this consultation.</p> <p>Prior issues regarding the land being misused for fly tipping have been previously addressed by collaborative working with the Council's Community Safety Team Officers, Neighbourhood Policing Team officers, Re officers and our Parking Client Team Colleagues.</p> <p>As a result of this request to the Lead officers from these departments will convene a review meeting with those officers in late January and report back to the local ward councillors the findings, recommendations and intended actions via the elected members enquiries process.</p>
49	Cllr Liron Woodcock-Velleman	Following the cold weather in December, will the Leader of the Council join me in thanking the officers who kept Barnet moving, and share what is being done to repair the roads which may have seen increased potholes due to the snow and ice?	Leader/Chair ECC	I would very much like to join you in your comments thanking the officers who keep the Borough moving during cold and extreme weather. We have increased the resource within the Highways Inspection Team by 2 (seconded within the Highway Service), and our Highway Term Maintenance Contractor, Tarmac Kier Joint Venture, have increased the number of operational teams by a further 4 in order to respond to requests for additional carriageway and footway repairs.

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50	Cllr Dan Thomas	Barnet Labour's 2022 manifesto contains the following promise: "Freeze your council tax in 2022 and keep it low." Can you advise the precise date in 2022 when Labour froze council tax?	Leader	Yes, at the Budget Council meeting on 1 March 2022 in our alternative budget when we froze general council tax and provided for a 1% refund of the social care precept increase that had been proposed by the Conservative administration. Subsequently we have established a £2m Resident Support Fund as a targeted refund of the 1% social care precept increase and this has been made available to residents in financial crisis from 2022. We will also be proposing a universal 1% refund of the social care precept increase in council tax bills in 2023/24 at Policy & Resources and Full Council in February. I hope you will join me in voting for this.
51	Cllr Ernest Ambe	This year's Holocaust Memorial Day will be on 27th January 2023 but we will mark the this date in the borough on 29th January 2023. What plans does the new administration have to raise awareness and educate the wider public about the atrocities and evils of the Holocaust and why it is essential we live in a tolerant and inclusive society?	Chair CLLC	Each year we reflect on the atrocities of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides. The programme of the event is varied and inclusive. This year we will follow the theme set by the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust. The theme this year is 'Ordinary People'. Through education and sharing of each other's cultures, faiths, traditions and life-stories, we can promote a better understanding of each other and fight intolerance. All of us – ordinary people - have a responsibility to challenge and oppose the prejudice, racism and discrimination that can lead to the persecution of individuals and peoples here and across the world. We value the work of the Holocaust Educational Trust in schools in the borough and the religious curriculum with SACRE.
52	Cllr Dan Thomas	How many crimes have been detected and anti-social behaviour issues resolved as a direct result of the community safety hubs?	Chair CLLC	The Community Safety Hub project is a pathfinder project, which has been paused over the christmas period as planned to give time for officers to review effectiveness, they will be relaunched in February and a status update on the project and other community safety initiatives will be included within the Community Safety Report, due to be presented at CLLC on 7th February.
53	Cllr Zakia Zubairi	How is Barnet Council engaging with residents differently under the new Labour administration?	Chair CLLC	In our manifesto we said we would work to put residents at the heart of what we do. We have agreed a new Community Participation Strategy, are working in partnership with residents on Town Centre projects, co-producing a new Culture Strategy with residents, reaching out to disabled residents and other groups through Leader Listens events, introducing participatory budgeting through our community events

				<p>programme, consulting on resident participation in our Governance Review, co-producing services with residents in Adults Social Care, engaging with young people through 'My Say Matters', involving residents in the development of our new Corporate Plan, establishing a Citizens' Assembly on Climate Change and much, much more! All of this is the start of a dialogue with residents, and a different way of doing things including that we go where people are to engage with them and listen.</p>
54	Cllr Dan Thomas	Does the Leader accept that The Mayor of London has a formal leadership role in fighting crime in Barnet and the entirety of London, therefore cannot be absolved of responsibility for the current state of law and order in all parts of the capital, especially Barnet?	Chair CLLC	<p>Bearing down on violent crime and making London safer for everyone remains the Mayor's number one priority. He has acted to raise the funds necessary to invest £1bn in policing and tackling crime, following the Conservative Government's decision to cut the Met by £1bn since 2010.</p> <p>Since 2010, under the Conservative Government and Conservative Mayor, Barnet lost hundreds of experienced police officers.</p> <p>There's no doubt that the decade of Conservative austerity led to the rise in violent crime we've seen over recent years.</p> <p>The Government must work with the Mayor to support the Met's work to bear down on violence by delivering on the 6,000 additional police officers London urgently needs and commit to properly funding long-term solutions to tackle violence as the Mayor has done at City Hall.</p> <p>The Mayor has provided an additional 1,300 police for London, giving every ward in London and Barnet a minimum two Dedicated Ward Officers and 1 PCSO.</p> <p>He is funding programmes that provide young people with positive opportunities and help Londoners get out of gangs and violence and into employment and training. He's funding local sports projects to give children something to do after school. And he's established a Violence Reduction Unit, which is bringing together local councils, the NHS, schools, community groups and others to work on a shared approach to diverting vulnerable young Londoners away from violence by providing them with help and support at key moments in their lives.</p> <p>He has proposed funds for an additional 500 PCSOs in his latest budget.</p> <p>It's time for the Government to step up.</p>

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55	Cllr Geof Cooke	Do you join me in welcoming the improvements in bus connectivity from North Finchley introduced by Transport for London, including the route 112 extension providing a direct link to Brent Cross and, after much lobbying by Labour councillors and parliamentary candidates, the 383 extension to Finchley Memorial Hospital and previously the 125 extension that gives a direct link to Hendon and Colindale?	Chair ECC	Yes. Despite funding constraints, the Mayor of London has enabled TfL to expand bus services in outer London, which has directly benefited Barnet residents.
56	Cllr Dan Thomas	The Metropolitan Police Service has recruited 3,000 new police officers, thanks to extra Government funding. Will the Leader call on The Mayor of London to ensure Barnet receives our fair share of the new officers?	Chair CLLC	Happy to. Will the member call on the Government to provide the remaining 3,000 new police officers that London should be receiving from the Government of the total 6,000?
57	Cllr Linda Lusingu	Many of the borough's young people are among the most passionate advocates of the need to tackle climate change, how can they be involved in the citizen's assembly?	Chair ECC	Barnet's elected Youth Ambassadors and Youth Parliament Members are working closely with the Council and have their first Youth Assembly planned for 31 January 2023, which at least four members and the Mayor are supporting. Family Services launched the 'My Say Matters' Youth Participation Strategy in 2022 and through this work and Barnet Youth Zone, young people are being invited to consult and coproduce policy and services in the council. The council will be running a parallel Young People's Assembly on climate change for 11-17 year olds to take part in. This assembly will take place in the same time period, with the two assemblies coming together to write joint recommendations. We are aiming for the final report to be presented in Summer 2023. Invitations to apply to be part of the Young People's assembly were sent to schools across the

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				borough on the 4 Jan 2023. Further details on the progress of our assemblies can be found at: https://engage.barnet.gov.uk/barnets-citizen-assembly
58	Cllr Dan Thomas	I am pleased the Chair of Housing agreed my request for a report on damp and mould to be brought to January's Housing committee. Why didn't the Labour administration proactively instigate this?	Chair H&G	We were already planning to request that an update on damp and mould would be brought to the January Committee, and as the member now knows, Barnet Homes had already undertaken extensive work surveying and putting together an action plan to tackle damp and mould.
59	Cllr Nigel Young	Recent decisions of the Strategic Planning Committee have gone against tall and very tall buildings for example at the B&Q Site in Cricklewood and the North London Business Park. While recognising that Strategic Planning Committee Decisions are based on the planning merits of particular schemes and planning policy and are not political, does the Leader welcome these recent decisions.	Leader	Yes. And I am pleased we have submitted modifications to the draft Local Plan Enquiry in Public which set out more robust policies on tall buildings in Barnet.
60	Cllr Dan Thomas	Has any member of this administration lobbied The Mayor of London for improvements to any of the services he runs? If so, please provide the details.	Leader	Yes. I have spoken personally to the Mayor and others at the GLA about many things including improvements to bus routes, Colindale Station, how we can work together to deliver more genuinely affordable homes in Barnet, more neighbourhood police, a comprehensive ULEZ scrappage scheme, and West London Orbital Rail.
61	Cllr Ella Rose	In 2022 we saw three failed Conservative Prime Ministers reign over the worst	Leader	Yes. The mini-budget was a disaster, and the Autumn Statement did not address the disaster. The impact on residents and businesses has been terrible.

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		inflation in a decade, a tanked economy and cost of living crisis. Does the Leader of the Council agree with the Whetstone Councillors that this has been disastrous for the Council's finances, for Barnet's residents and businesses and that it's time to see a Labour government bring stability and prosperity to this country?		For the Council, the recent local government settlement did nothing to address the long-term sustainability of local government finances. The Government instead chose to expect us to increase council tax by an eye-watering 5%, which I believe will be the figure that all Conservative London Boroughs will be raising council tax by. Here in Barnet we will be keeping council tax increases below the legal maximum as promised. At the moment I believe we will have one of the lowest council tax increases in London in 2023/24.
62	Cllr Dan Thomas	Does the leader agree that Barnet's 63 councillors are, collectively, a form of citizen's assembly?	Leader	Barnet Councillors are representatives elected by the public to show leadership in delivering local services and improving the Borough. Our Citizens Assembly on climate change to tackle the climate emergency that the Conservatives refused to declare is exactly the sort of leadership that we were elected for.
63	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Does the council have sufficient supply of winter materials such as grit?	Chair ECC	Yes, the Council has sufficient salt stocks available to treat the Barnet road and footway network during the winter period, with access to further salt as and when needed in accordance with Council's Winter Maintenance Plan.
64	Cllr Dan Thomas	How will spending £80k on a citizens assembly (aka talking shop) make a real difference to the daily lives of residents?	Leader	(see Q10) A deliberative process is very different to traditional public consultation methods and is used to deliver actionable and realistic recommendations, it is a mechanism for bringing together a group of people to discuss an issue or issues and reach a conclusion about what they think should happen. Citizens' assemblies give members of the public the time and opportunity to learn about and discuss a topic, before reaching conclusions. Assembly participants are asked to make trade-offs and arrive at workable recommendations. These trade-offs can be made in the context of cost and benefit and therefore may result financial benefits for the council; focussing resources on the most impactful outcomes.

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				<p>At the end of the process, members of the Assembly may become champions in their communities and therefore helping to spread the message and helping change behaviours at a localised neighbourhood level – all of which help us to become a net zero borough.</p> <p>This Assembly underlines a firm commitment to bring residents and the wider community on the journey to net zero.</p> <p>To ensure the continuing progress of the recommendations of the assembly, a monitoring board will be established as well as a community action programme to begin actionining the outcomes of the assembly.</p>
65	Cllr Anne Clarke	The Government's Autumn Budget allows local authorities to increase council tax by up to 5% a year from April 2023 without a referendum. Why would the government expect such an increase is necessary?	Leader	<p>The Government would not provide local government with the necessary funds to run local services, and are instead expecting us to increase council tax – one of the most regressive taxes that there are. We do not think this is the right thing to do and <u>will not</u> be raising council tax by the legal maximum (5%).</p>
66	Cllr Dan Thomas	On election night, the Labour leader stated his party won Barnet because Conservative supporters stayed at home. This implies that Labour did not win because of its election pledges. Is this the reason why Labour aren't bothered about delivering their main promise on council tax?	Leader	<p>We are delivering our main promise on the 1% council tax refund. In fact we have doubled what we promised to deliver.</p>
67	Cllr Liron Woodcock-Velleman	The cost-of-living crisis has been brought about by a Conservative government incapable of making decisions to protect the most vulnerable. What is the Council	Leader	<p>As well as the measures outlined in the September 2022 P&R paper we have developed a number of targeted initiatives that support residents with the raising energy prices which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Launching our warm spaces programme, which opens our libraries and takes a community-led approach at provide spaces where residents are welcomed, provide

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		doing to protect our residents over the winter with rising energy costs?		<p>a warm space, some company, activities and offer further advice on the support available to residents. We currently have 29 warm spaces in Barnet;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In partnership with Barnet Homes, we have undertaken targeted campaigns to encourage residents to take up central government initiatives such as Sustainable Warmth, which includes a number of incentives including funding to upgrade and improve energy-efficiency in households with an EPC rating of D, E, F, or G. This campaign included Barnet Homes sending out 7,900 letters to eligible households; - As well as keeping our Cost-of-Living Hub updated with funding and support initiatives available to support residents with energy costs, we also developed a 10 top tips to save energy which launched in October; - As part of the CoL approach and in line with sustainability goals we will continue to support residents in leveraging Government initiatives that enable energy efficiency and savings for households.
68	Cllr Dan Thomas	Some residents will have a shorter journey when using community skips, as opposed to using Summers Lane. However, heavy skips and tippers need to be transported across the borough for the service to work. Given the council has declared a climate emergency and takes it's CO2 footprint extremely seriously, when will the council calculate and publish the CO2 footprint of the community skip service?	Chair ECC	The community skip service has only been operational since November '22, therefore direct CO2 comparisons are not currently possible. The community skip programme has been widely welcomed and well used by residents.
69	Cllr Phil Cohen	Would he agree that the NHS is not safe in this government's hands, particularly given they have failed to deal with a massive shortage of staff, a backlog of treatment affecting millions of people stretching way before the pandemic, and	Leader	Nurses, and other health workers, should be given a decent pay increase, and I urge the Government to sit down with the unions to reach an agreement on a fair pay settlement.

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		<p>a cost of living crisis leading to nurses using food banks to survive. Nurses are voting with their feet and leaving through burnout – official workforce figures from North Central London NHS, which covers Barnet Hospital and the Royal Free, shows that in September 2022 there were 1508 nurse vacancies, the highest vacancy group along with support to clinical staff , and over 600 nurses and other staff had left since March with 230 costly bank and agency nurses brought in as cover. We clapped nurses in the pandemic but should we not reward them now with a decent pay increase for all they have done?</p> <p>(Figures from NCL ICS workforce report Sept 2022 presented to NCL Joint health scrutiny committee)</p>		
70	Cllr Dan Thomas	<p>At a recent P&R meeting, the leader utilised a members item to authorise £15k for biodiversity projects, claiming a decision made at committee was more transparent and accountable. If the leader truly believes this, why is he proposing to switch the council to a cabinet system, which replaces decisions made by committee with diktats from individual councillors?</p>	Leader	<p>In our manifesto we promised to make Barnet's decision-making process more transparent, efficient and accountable – and that is exactly what we are doing.</p>

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71	Cllr Ernest Ambe	BT's public phone booths were once a feature of the high street as they were used by many people. Today, mobile phones have them redundant and they have now become eyesores and hideouts for criminality and anti-social behaviour on our high streets especially on West Hendon Broadway and Vivian Avenue. What plans does the council have to hold BT's foot to the fire to remove these outdated, un-needed and incongruous phone booths in West Hendon to help enhance the beauty of our high streets.	Chair ECC	The council regularly engages with BT regarding the removal of its assets on the borough's high streets. While many are surplus to requirements, BT has a legal requirement to maintain a certain level of provision. The council has successfully negotiated the removal and relocation of phone boxes in town centres that are the focus of wider public realm improvements. Officers will seek to work with Barratts and BT to reduce the number of kiosks as part of the planned Highways improvements.
72	Cllr Dan Thomas	Unfortunately, Cllr Schneiderman did not directly answer this question at the last council meeting, so I am giving him another opportunity to do the decent thing and answer it directly: How will increasing parking charges by 10% help residents and businesses?	Chair ECC	<p>Unfortunately, the damage caused to the economy by the Conservative Government has not changed since Cllr Thomas last asked this question. Therefore, the answer as set out below remains the same.</p> <p>The proposed increases are 5% less than the Barnet Conservatives proposed in their budget and are in line with inflation which is unfortunately high due to the Conservative Government crashing the economy.</p>
73	Cllr Geof Cooke	Please could you provide an update on Barnet's programme of installing electric vehicle charging points in the borough including the outcome of bids for funding from national government?	Chair ECC	To date the following EV charge points have been installed and are currently operational: 200 Lamp Post mounted charge points, 2 car park hubs consisting of 6 dual chargers and 4 car parks with 1 dual charge point in each. Most of these charge points were supported by Grant funding secured from Go Ultra Low City Scheme (GULCs) (£500K). In addition, £3.5M grant funding was secured from the Office of Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV), which is supporting the roll out of a programme of 510 charge points across 38 residential streets. This programme is ongoing at present and is planned to be completed at the end of this financial year. More recently the Council secured a further £1.65M of Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Scheme (LEVI) Grant funding to support a project to deliver 100 rapid EV charge

				points across Barnet Town Centres. This project is currently in the planning stages with delivery expected later in the year. A further ambitious grant funding bid is currently being prepared with a target to submit this month. This would be to support a substantial EV charge point installation programme next financial year.
74	Cllr Dan Thomas	At the last council meeting, why was Cllr Schneiderman forced to amend his written answers to Questions 24 and 46, as confirmed to me by the monitoring officer?	Chair ECC	Cllr Schneiderman agreed to amend the answers prior to the meeting due to a factual inaccuracy. For the record, there has never been any intention by this new administration to increase Garden Waste charges.
75	Cllr Andreas Ioannidis	As someone who has been a councillor in the borough for many years, I have heard many families complain about the lack of specialist support for families with children and adults with ADHD. Whilst autism and other neuro-disabilities families seem to be well supported by the council, I have little information about ADHD support. What specialist support does the council currently provide to children and families with ADHD.	Chair CES	<p>This page of the Barnet website provides a summary of the services that the council provides: https://www.barnet.gov.uk/children-and-families/support-parents-and-carers/adhd-support-parents-and-carers. Services, some of which are commissioned externally, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Barnet Integrated Clinical Service (BICS), a service which completes assessments and provides behaviour management strategies concerning children. -CAMHS also provide behaviour management strategies following completion of assessments -Family practitioners in 0-19 Early Help services provide support to children who have ADHD -ADDISS https://www.adhdbarnet.org.uk/ provide support for parents of children with ADHD. They have open drop in sessions, parent workshops and behaviour management training. They provide training to voluntary sector partners and to schools. -Barnet Mencap currently offer parenting programmes for parents with children with ADHD <p>Children and Family Services is also reviewing the parenting support programmes available in Barnet for children with ADHD and has contacted other organisations such as Add-Vance working in other authorities to ascertain whether they will be willing to do similar work in Barnet.</p>

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				<p>The responsibility to meet a child's educational needs rests with the school. The Barnet Education and Learning Service (BELS) provide training to school staff on special educational needs and inclusion (including ADHD). Each school has a named Educational Psychologist who will support the school with any SEN and inclusion issues. BELS also have an Inclusion Advisory Team who operate mainly as a traded service to schools but do provide some core support as well. If the child's needs requires more specialist support they will be assessed for an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP). If it is deemed that they require an EHCP then the plan will identify what specialist support is required</p>
76	Cllr Dan Thomas	Will the Leader commit to ensuring the carbon emission resulting from the citizens assembly is net zero?	Leader	<p>TPXimpact, who have been commissioned to deliver this assembly have committed to offset any emissions associated with the delivery of this contract using gold standard projects.</p>
77	Cllr Ella Rose	Will the Leader explain what the process is to secure a 20 mile an hour zone on streets where residents overwhelmingly want to see speeding restrictions?	Chair ECC	<p>We are developing a proposed policy and process to take forward the resident-led approach to designation of 20mph zones agreed at the last meeting of the Council.</p> <p>We intend to go out to consultation on the proposed policy; this will cover the criteria that will be set for designation (such as the minimum size of a zone and types of street that can be included) and the process that will be followed.</p>
78	Cllr Dan Thomas	At the last council meeting, the Leader only answered one part of Question 81, so I am resubmitting the part he failed to answer: A high proportion of Labour councillors who sat during the 2018-2022 term had no employment interests declared at the end of the last municipal	Leader	<p>No more than the Conservatives.</p>

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		year. Is the Barnet Labour Group the party of the unemployed and retired?		
79	Cllr Arjun Mittra	Does the Chair of the Housing and Growth Committee share my continuing concerns over plans by Peabody to install heating and hot water meters on Strawberry Vale next year? Given the continuing uncertainty over energy prices and a cost-of-living crisis it seems to be the wrong time to increase costs on some of the poorest in the borough.	Chair HAG	The need to install the meters is part of a new system required by the Government's Decarbonisation Programme. Peabody challenged the requirement but the challenge was unsuccessful.
80	Cllr Dan Thomas	At the last council meeting, the Labour Group supported my motion (14.4) to freeze the garden waste charge for the rest of the council term. But why was Cllr Schneiderman forced to withdraw his amendment to my motion?	Chair ECC	Cllr Schneiderman agreed to withdraw the amendment prior to the meeting due to a factual inaccuracy. For the record, there has never been any intention by this new administration to increase Garden Waste charges.
81	Cllr Zahra Beg	Please provide an update on the work that Barnet Homes and the Council have been doing to tackle the problem of damp and black mould in homes in Barnet.	Chair HAG	For a full update please see the report submitted to 17th January Housing and Growth Committee (item 8 Agenda for Housing and Growth Committee on Tuesday 17th January, 2023, 7.00 pm (modern.gov.co.uk))

82	Cllr Dan Thomas	Please provide the total council tax and adult social care levy increases for each year since 2010, along with future proposed increases within the latest version of the MTFS.	Leader	Year	Total	Ctax	Precept	
				2010-11	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	Actual
				2011-12	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	Actual *CT freeze grant received from government
				2012-13	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	Actual *CT freeze grant received from government
				2013-14	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	Actual *CT freeze grant received from government
				2014-15	-1.00%	-1.00%	0.00%	Actual *CT freeze grant received from government
				2015-16	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	Actual *CT freeze grant received from government
				2016-17	1.70%	0.00%	1.70%	Actual
				2017-18	3.00%	0.00%	3.00%	Actual
				2018-19	3.00%	0.00%	3.00%	Actual
				2019-20	2.99%	2.99%	0.00%	Actual
				2020-21	3.99%	1.99%	2.00%	Actual
				2021-22	4.99%	1.99%	3.00%	Actual
				2022-23	1.00%	0.00%	1.00%	Actual
				2023-24	3.80%	1.80%	2.00%	Proposed
				2024-25	4.80%	2.80%	2.00%	Proposed
				2025-26	4.80%	2.80%	2.00%	Proposed
				2026-27	4.80%	2.80%	2.00%	Proposed
83	Cllr Tim Roberts	Since declaring a Climate Emergency, what steps has the council taken to meet our commitment to the planet?	Chair ECC	Since declaring a Climate Emergency, regular updates have been provided to the Environment and Climate Change Committee on progress on Sustainability Initiatives. Full updates can be found in the committee reports for meetings on 6				

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				<p>September 2022, 21 November 2022 and 25 January 2023.</p> <p>Examples of steps the council has taken include:</p> <p>Launch of anti-idling campaign in June 2022, progress with installation of electric vehicle charge points, delivery of PSDS3, a joint research project with Middlesex University on behaviour and attitudes towards climate change in the borough, involvement in a pan-London project to improve re-use and repair services, planning of a Citizens' Assembly on Climate Change and Biodiversity (including a parallel Young People's Assembly), submitted an application for funding to have approx 500 low-energy performing properties retrofitted through the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, completed a project to pilot a Net Zero Estates Tool.</p>
84	Cllr Dan Thomas	The Mayor of London is responsible for policing in London, so surely the Leader will agree that he shares some, if not all, responsibility for the Met being placed in special measures?	Leader	The Mayor of London takes his responsibilities seriously, and has taken robust action to address failings in the Met.
85	Cllr Anne Clarke	What is Barnet doing to encourage the creative and cultural sector in the borough?	Chair HAG	The council is currently developing a Culture Strategy 2023-2028 for the borough. As a pathfinder project in the Community Participation Strategy it will be co-produced with residents, artists, community groups and creative organisations and professionals. Among the objectives of the Culture Strategy will be to showcase the existing arts and culture offer in our borough and to unlock the potential for greater creativity and engagement with the arts among our communities. The Culture Strategy will also provide a roadmap towards a London Borough of Culture bid for 2027.
86	Cllr Geof Cooke	Do you welcome the fact that the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, has listened to the consultation responses and decided not to impose the great majority of bus	Chair ECC	Yes. It is welcome news that the Mayor of London is prioritising bus routes in outer London, including Barnet.

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		service cuts that would otherwise have been required as a condition of the funding settlement imposed by national government?		
87	Cllr Ammar Naqvi	What benefits does our membership of the Local Government Association bring?	Leader	Amongst many other things - national lobbying to improve local government and services, discounted access to training, member development, professional development and other events, policy briefings and support, peer review, information and learning on best practice and innovation, the opportunity to influence the LGAs work through membership of boards, commissions, advisory groups or the Councillors' Forum, access to support and advice for councillors through the political group offices, access to up-to-the-minute news, briefings and daily news relevant to local government, support on national media relations including in times of crisis, access to legal advice, opinions and guidance on complex issues, opportunities to join special interest groups, networking opportunities.
88	Cllr Kamal Gurung	What groups, and through which channels, is the leader planning to hear from as part of the leader listens events?	Leader	The Leader Listens programme is a manifesto commitment and a pathfinder project within the Community Participation Strategy. It will reach out to residents and groups whose voices are not always heard. These will be in-person meetings and in the first year I will be going to meet residents with a disability. The first of these meetings took place at the end of last year with the Barnet Mencap 'Have Your Say' User Group. Following the success of that event we are now planning further events with other groups and I will provide an update on these when the meetings have been confirmed.
89	Cllr Claire Farrier	How is the new Biodiversity Officer adding to the Parks and Greenspaces team?	Chair ECC	The Biodiversity Officer has been working alongside colleagues in the parks and planning department to promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species. This has included gathering baseline intelligence to inform a future plan, supporting a review of planning applications, assessing reports of encroachment on sites of

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				importance for nature conservation (SINC) and local nature reserves (LNRs), developing management plans for woodlands and preparing a brief to commission a Local Nature Recovery Plan, which will align with a new Parks and Open Spaces Strategy and sustainability strategy.
90	Cllr Danny Rich	How will Barnet Council promote the London Living Wage?	Leader	The council is working with the Living Wage Foundation to become an accredited Living Wage employer. In addition to paying all council staff the Living Wage, this will also ensure that the Living Wage is also paid to contractors and employees of partner organisations. As an accredited Living Wage employer, the council will also use its position as a major employer and community leader to promote the living wage and encourage other local employers to adopt it
91	Cllr Edith David	How are the new locations of the Council's upgraded and expanded CCTV system being decided?	Chair CLLC	<p>Locations are decided as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Availability of associated infrastructure such as power / transmission / fibre. - High crime trends / hot spots - these are areas where reported crime is significant and has been reported to MPS. An assessment has been carried out to determine if the installation of CCTV services would deter crime. - Arterial Roads - major roads leading in / out of the borough which are owned by London Borough of Barnet and where there is a power supply / fibre availability. These routes have been selected to ensure LBB is able to capture footage of vehicles & persons entering / leaving the borough to detect / deter crime & to assist MPS / other agencies with criminal investigations. - Transport links - entrance to stations with high reported crime figure. This is to capture suspects entering / leaving / moving around the borough. - Green spaces - to capture car parks leading to green spaces where power/transmission is available. - High footfall areas - such as town centres.

92	Cllr Marianne Haylett	How many residents in Barnet are now using foodbanks?	Chair CLLC	<table> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Foodbanks</th><th colspan="4">Variance</th></tr> <tr> <th>2021</th><th>2022</th><th>#</th><th>%</th></tr> <tr><td>January</td><td>7,268</td><td>8,880</td><td>1,612</td><td>22%</td></tr> <tr><td>February</td><td>8,481</td><td>9,362</td><td>881</td><td>10%</td></tr> <tr><td>March</td><td>14,621</td><td>9,525</td><td>-5,096</td><td>-35%</td></tr> <tr><td>April</td><td>8,572</td><td>9,597</td><td>1,025</td><td>12%</td></tr> <tr><td>May</td><td>10,912</td><td>10,673</td><td>-239</td><td>-2%</td></tr> <tr><td>June</td><td>7,836</td><td>6,737</td><td>-1,099</td><td>-14%</td></tr> <tr><td>July</td><td>6,491</td><td>9,335</td><td>2,844</td><td>44%</td></tr> <tr><td>August</td><td>9,808</td><td>9,945</td><td>137</td><td>1%</td></tr> <tr><td>September</td><td>6,655</td><td>10,709</td><td>4,054</td><td>61%</td></tr> <tr><td>October</td><td>7,068</td><td>12,852</td><td>5,784</td><td>82%</td></tr> <tr><td>November</td><td>9,749</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>December</td><td>8,320</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Total / YTD Total</td><td>107,802</td><td>99,637</td><td>990</td><td>18%</td></tr> </table> <p><i>Note: Data collection starts from Sept 2020 so have only captured from 2021 to get full year view. There is a 2-3 month lag in data collection</i></p>	Foodbanks	Variance				2021	2022	#	%	January	7,268	8,880	1,612	22%	February	8,481	9,362	881	10%	March	14,621	9,525	-5,096	-35%	April	8,572	9,597	1,025	12%	May	10,912	10,673	-239	-2%	June	7,836	6,737	-1,099	-14%	July	6,491	9,335	2,844	44%	August	9,808	9,945	137	1%	September	6,655	10,709	4,054	61%	October	7,068	12,852	5,784	82%	November	9,749				December	8,320				Total / YTD Total	107,802	99,637	990	18%
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93	Cllr Tony Vourou	Are there now any parks or open spaces in Barnet that are considered "low quality/low value"?	Chair ECC	I was pleased that the Environment and Climate Change committee held on 9 June 2022 unanimously agreed to scrap the quality/value assessment designation introduced by the previous Conservative administration.																																																																										
94	Cllr Matthew Perlberg	What can we do to ensure the maximum use is made of Barnet's growing number of electric vehicle charging points?	Chair ECC	The Council is currently in the process of conducting a statutory process which proposes designated parking bays for each existing lamp post mounted EV charge point. This is intended to facilitate easy access to charge points for EV owners and mitigate charge points being blocked by non electric vehicles. It is also intended to roll out future lamp post charge points with dedicated bays as they are installed rather than doing this retrospectively, subject to the outcome of the statutory																																																																										

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				<p>process. The Council is currently implementing a programme to install 510 charge points (non-lamp column) across 38 residential roads. Up to 15 charge points will be located in each road along with bay monitoring technology which monitors and live reports on the charge points that have free access. This should avoid the need for dedicated parking bays across these charge points as it is anticipated that whilst some may be blocked there would always likely be some that are accessible. All charge points installed in car parks already have dedicated bays for EV only. Barnet has shared data on charge point locations with existing national mapping facilities, such as Zapmap and are also working with the Councils Communications Team to promote the use of the charging infrastructure provided to date.</p>
95	CLlr Arjun Mittra	Does the Leader of the Council agree with the view of the opposition that the reintroduction of the skips scheme is a “white elephant”?	Chair ECC	<p>Certainly not. The reintroduction of community skips has been widely welcomed and well used by residents. I am grateful to all members, including some opposition councillors, who have helped to promote the programme.</p>
96	CLlr Geof Cooke	Do you think that the reliability and frequency of the Great Northern and Thameslink rail services through Barnet, commissioned by national government, meet the needs of the local population?	Chair ECC	<p>No. Many Barnet residents are being let down by Great Northern and Thameslink rail services and deserve an improved frequency and much better reliability.</p>
97	CLlr Giulia Monasterio	What are the Council’s plans for International Women’s Day?	Chair CLLC	<p>There will be a paper going to CLL in February 2023 which will set out the full details of the Community Events Programme and its alignment with the aims of the administration. This will include a proposed calendar of cultural festivals and awareness events that the council will officially mark throughout the year, and help enable communities to celebrate. This will be a pilot first year where we refine this approach and the processes through which we apply it - such as the small grants programme for community events that has been part of BHM and the Winter Festival so far.</p>

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98	Cllr Arjun Mittra	How many residents have availed themselves of the new community skips scheme?	Chair ECC	As of the 5 January 2023, 1,477 households have used the Community Skip service over 15 operational days, since its launch in mid-November 2022, averaging 98 households using the service per day.
99	Cllr Anne Hutton	What's the timetable and process for the co-production steering group for the Borough culture strategy in 2023?	Leader/Chair CLLC	<p>A call for Steering Group members is currently open on our engage Barnet website where applicants can complete a registration form. Places on the steering group are extremely limited, and candidates' answers will be assessed by a panel of council representatives and an independent chair. We want to ensure that those selected for the group are a representative mix of members that reflect the wider diversity of the borough.</p> <p>The registration period is open until 27 January 2023. Successful applicants will be notified by 10 February and the first Steering Group meeting will be held between 20 February and 3 March 2023.</p> <p>More information about the process can be found at https://engage.barnet.gov.uk/culture-strategy</p>
100	Cllr Paul Lemon	How is the council supporting the most vulnerable during the Cost-of-Living Crisis?	Leader	<p>In September 2022 the Policy & Resources committee approved a series of measures to support Barnet residents struggling with the cost-of-living crisis. The measures approved include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A £2m Residents' Support Fund to provide financial support to residents in crisis. This £2m is part of a wider £9million funding package, which includes the household support fund, discretionary housing payment and school uniform fund; - A new online application form that streamlines applications as well as investment in backend systems that provide a data-led approach to inform how we can reach and identify income maximisation opportunities for residents experiencing financial

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				<p>vulnerabilities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further funding to the voluntary and community organisations by match funding £150k to the Barnet Together Alliance Community Response Fund, providing a £300k fund to enable community-led initiatives and support networks to residents; and - Hiring and partnering with BOOST and Citizens Advice Barnet to fund additional outreach workers who provide specialised advice to residents experiencing financial difficulties.
101	Cllr Richard Barnes	Does Barnet have a night-time economy strategy?	Chair H&G	<p>Not at present although this is included within the existing Growth Strategy and is a priority theme within the borough's new Town Centre Framework, which is currently in development. Officers have already engaged with the GLA's Night Time team and is working with Cllr Anne Clarke in her role as the borough's Night Time Champion.</p>
102	Cllr Geof Cooke	What benefits to the borough do you expect from the new Brent Cross West railway station due to open soon?	Chair H&G	<p>The new Brent Cross West railway station will bring a range of benefits to the area. Most notably the new station is critical to unlocking the comprehensive redevelopment of the Brent Cross Cricklewood development area. The new station creates a viable investment that enables Brent Cross Town to come forward. Investment into the area has recently been evidenced by the announcement of major investment in the early plots of the development (https://argentllp.co.uk/2022/10/20/related-argents-brent-cross-town-development-attracts-international-investment-from-invesco-real-estate) and the Sheffield Hallam university announcement of a new campus in Brent Cross Town (Transforming Brent Cross Cricklewood University campus announced for Brent Cross (transformingbx.co.uk)).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Up to 7,500 new homes · Improved accessibility from the new station and improved walking and cycling routes (Connectivity 12mins to Kings Cross & St Pancras International; 15 mins to Farringdon; 32 mins to Luton Airport Parkway; 50 mins to Heathrow Airport ; 59 mins to Gatwick airport)

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Improved accessibility from the new station and improved walking and cycling routes (Connectivity 12mins to Kings Cross & St Pancras International; 15 mins to Farrington; 32 mins to Luton Airport Parkway; 50 mins to Heathrow Airport ; 59 mins to Gatwick airport) · Three million square feet of new employment space · Thousands of new jobs created at all skill levels and across a range of sectors. · 50 acres of green space · 3 new / improved schools · Improvements to existing open spaces (already visible from the opening of Claremont Park and the Exploratory Park)
103	Cllr Zahra Beg	Where will the next community safety hubs pilot be located?	Chair CLLC	The Community Safety Hubs are currently paused from the festive period and will restart w/c 6th February. A report is currently being drafted on the learning outcomes from the first two pathfinder hubs and considerations for future hubs. The proposed locations of the next pathfinder hubs are part of that review.
104	Cllr Arjun Mittra	How will the council's arts and culture strategy promote the contribution of artists and musicians from Barnet? For example, will the council support the idea of a memorial in East Finchley to locally born singer George Michael?	Leader	We are committed to coproduction in developing the Culture Strategy and are actively seeking collaboration and contribution from across Barnet's communities and creative sectors. Celebrating the cultural heritage of the borough is a key aim of the strategy and suggestions for things such as a George Michael memorial would definitely be encouraged.
105	Cllr Nagus Narenthir a	What is the outline approach for the Council's revised Civic and Community Events programme?	Chair CLLC	There will be a paper going to CLL in February 2023 which will set out the full details of the Community Events Programme and its alignment with the aims of the administration. This will include a proposed calendar of cultural festivals and awareness events that the council will officially mark throughout the year, and help enable communities to celebrate. This will be a pilot first year where we refine this approach and the processes through which we apply it - such as the small grants

				<p>programme for community events that has been part of BHM and the Winter Festival so far.</p> <p>We have already allocated a total £30k to our hugely successful Black History Month celebrations and nearly £17k to 17 organisations out of our Winter Festival Fund. A procedure on the how we will distribute funding to our community organisations and our other events has been developed which includes details of how our grantees will be supported through the grant funding process.</p> <p>There will be an element of coproduction and co-delivery involved in all events delivered .</p> <p>The list of civic events organised by the Mayor's Office is as follows: January - Holocaust Memorial March – Commonwealth Day March-April – Mayor's Civic Service April – Civic Awards Ceremony May – Annual Council May - Coronation of King Charles III June – Armed Forces Day November – Remembrance</p>
106	CLlr Geof Cooke	How has the new Community Skips service been received by residents and staff?	Chair ECC	The community skip service has been very well received and used by residents. There have been many compliments from residents for the staff running the skip service.
107	CLlr Arjun Mittra	The heavy snowfall in December 2022 highlighted a need to review the priority gritting routes to include more walking routes. Is this feasible?	Chair ECC	We can confirm that the plan will be subject to review once the Winter Period is over, this is the normal practice each year post the winter season. This year we will incorporate the learning gained from the severe weather event experienced in December 2022. The output of this review will include an assessment of both

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				carriageways and footways and will be reported to the Chair and Vice Chair of the Environment and Climate Change committee for consideration.
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