



**MEETING OF BIRMINGHAM
CITY COUNCIL
12 JANUARY 2021**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL HELD
ON TUESDAY, 12 JANUARY 2021 AT 1400 HOURS AS AN ON-LINE
MEETING**

PRESENT:- Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Yvonne Mosquito) in the Chair.

Councillors

Muhammad Afzal	Eddie Freeman	Zhor Malik
Akhlaq Ahmed	Fred Grindrod	Karen McCarthy
Mohammed Aikhlaq	Paulette Hamilton	Saddak Miah
Alex Aitken	Roger Harmer	Gareth Moore
Safia Akhtar	Kath Hartley	Simon Morrall
Deirdre Alden	Adam Higgs	Brett O'Reilly
Robert Alden	Charlotte Hodivala	John O'Shea
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Penny Holbrook	David Pears
David Barrie	Jon Hunt	Robert Pocock
Baber Baz	Mahmood Hussain	Julien Pritchard
Bob Beauchamp	Shabrana Hussain	Hendrina Quinnen
Matt Bennett	Timothy Huxtable	Chauhdry Rashid
Kate Booth	Mohammed Idrees	Carl Rice
Sir Albert Bore	Zafar Iqbal	Lou Robson
Nicky Brennan	Morriam Jan	Gary Sambrook
Marje Bridle	Kerry Jenkins	Kath Scott
Mick Brown	Meirion Jenkins	Lucy Seymour-Smith
Tristan Chatfield	Julie Johnson	Shafique Shah
Zaker Choudhry	Brigid Jones	Mike Sharpe
Debbie Clancy	Josh Jones	Sybil Spence
Liz Clements	Nagina Kauser	Ron Storer
Maureen Cornish	Mariam Khan	Martin Straker Welds
John Cotton	Narinder Kaur Kooner	Sharon Thompson
Phil Davis	Chaman Lal	Paul Tilsley
Adrian Delaney	Mike Leddy	Ian Ward
Diane Donaldson	Bruce Lines	Mike Ward
Barbara Dring	John Lines	Suzanne Webb
Neil Eustace	Mary Locke	Ken Wood
Mohammed Fazal	Ewan Mackey	Alex Yip
Peter Fowler	Majid Mahmood	Waseem Zaffar
Jayne Francis		

NOTICE OF RECORDING

19421 The Deputy Lord Mayor advised that the meeting would be webcast for live and subsequent broadcasting via the Council's internet site and that members of the Press/Public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

The Deputy Lord Mayor reminded Members that they did not enjoy Parliamentary Privilege in relation to debates in the Chamber and Members should be careful in what they say during all debates that afternoon.

The Deputy Lord Mayor requested that Members ensure that their video cameras are switched off unless called to speak and that their microphone is switched off when they are not speaking.

The Deputy Lord Mayor advised Members that If they wished to speak, to indicate by using the Raise your Hand button and wait to be invited to speak and to state their name at the start of every contribution.

The Deputy Lord Mayor requested Members not to use the chat function unless they were having technical difficulties.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

19422 The Deputy Lord Mayor reminded Members that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests relating to any items of business to be discussed at this meeting

Any declarations would be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

MINUTES

The Deputy Lord Mayor advised that the vote in respect of the Motion for the Interim Statement of Licensing Policy 2020 recorded in the Minutes of the last meeting had not indicated that Councillor Hendrina Quinnen voted in favour and the Minutes should be amended accordingly.

It was moved by the Deputy Lord Mayor, seconded and –

19423 **RESOLVED:-**

That, subject to the above amendment, the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2020 having been circulated to each Member of the Council, be taken as read and confirmed and signed.

LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Years Honours

19423 The Deputy Lord Mayor indicated that it was her pleasure to congratulate those mentioned in the Queen's New Year's Honours list for services to Birmingham or who live in Birmingham as follows:-

Dame of the British Empire

Professor Karin Judith Barber

Knight of the British Empire

The Chief Constable of the West Midlands, David Thompson

CBE

Professor Shearer Carroll West

Director of Adult Social Care, Professor Graeme Betts

OBE:

Donna Karen Fraser

Mrs Karen Stephanie Williams

MBE:

Dr Anand John Chitnis

Mrs Rachel Jacqueline Davis

Mr Lee Alexander Fletcher

Mrs Sunita Ben Singal

Mr Peter Jason Taylor

Mrs Stella Winifred Thebridge

BEM

Mrs Salma Bi

Mr Steven Kapur

Mrs Adassa Cormeta Reid

Mick Braycotton of West Midland's Police

Detective Chief Inspector Jennifer Pearson of West Midlands Police received a Queen's Police Medal

The Deputy Lord Mayor asked those in the meeting to join her in congratulating them all on those marvelous achievements.

PETITIONS

Petition Relating to City Council Functions Presented prior to the Meeting

The following petitions were presented:-

(See document No. 1)

In accordance with the proposals by the persons presenting the petition, it was moved by the Deputy Lord Mayor, seconded and -

19424 **RESOLVED:-**

That the petition be received and referred to the relevant Chief Officer to examine and report as appropriate.

Petitions Relating to City Council Functions Presented at the Meeting

The following petitions were presented:-

(See document No. 2)

In accordance with the proposals by the Members presenting the petitions, it was moved by the Deputy Lord Mayor, seconded and -

19425 **RESOLVED:-**

That the petitions be received and referred to the relevant Chief Officer(s) to examine and report as appropriate.

Petitions Update

The following Petitions Update had been made available electronically:-

(See document No. 3)

It was moved by the Deputy Lord Mayor, seconded and -

19426 **RESOLVED:-**

That the Petitions Update be noted and those petitions for which a satisfactory response has been received, be discharged.

QUESTION TIME

19427 The Council proceeded to consider Oral Questions in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure (B4.4 F of the Constitution).

Details of the questions asked are available for public inspection via the Webcast.

LEAD MEMBER REPORT: WEST MIDLANDS POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

The following report of the Lead Member of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel was submitted:-

(See document No 4)

Councillor Shafique Shah moved the motion which was seconded.

A debate ensued

Councillor Shafique Shah replied to the debate.

The Motion having been moved and seconded was agreed.

It was therefore-

19428 **RESOLVED:-**

That the report be noted.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by the Deputy Lord Mayor, seconded and

19429 **RESOLVED:-**

That the Council be adjourned until 1600 hours on this day.

The Council then adjourned at 1545 hours.

At 1602 hours the Council resumed at the point where the meeting had been adjourned.

ROUTE TO ZERO REPORT

The following report of the Acting Director – Inclusive Growth was submitted:-

(See document No 5)

Councillor Waseem Zaffar moved the motion which was seconded.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Roger Harmer and Paul Tilsley gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 6)

Councillor Roger Harmer moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Paul Tilsley.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Ian Ward and John O'Shea gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 7)

Councillor Ian Ward moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor John O'Shea.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Simon Morrall and Gareth Moore gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 8)

Councillor Simon Morrall moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Gareth Moore.

A debate ensued during which following a speech from Councillor Liz Clements, as a point of clarification, Councillor Adam Higgs noted that he had not seconded the amendment by Councillor Simon Morrall.

Councillor Waseem Zaffar replied to the debate.

The first amendment in the names of Councillors Roger Harmer and Paul Tilsley having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and, by the recorded vote set out below, was declared to be lost.

For the amendment (9)

Baber Baz	Roger Harmer	Julien Pritchard
Zaker Choudhry	Jon Hunt	Mike Ward
Neil Eustace	Morriam Jan	Paul Tilsley

Against the amendment (56)

Muhammad Afzal	Fred Grindrod	Zhor Malik
Akhlaq Ahmed	Paulette Hamilton	Karen McCarthy
Mohammed Aikhlaq	Kath Hartley	Saddak Miah
Alex Aitken	Penny Holbrook	Brett O'Reilly
Safia Akhtar	Mahmood Hussain	John O'Shea
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Shabrana Hussain	Robert Pocock
David Barrie	Mohammed Idrees	Hendrina Quinnen
Kate Booth	Zafar Iqbal	Carl Rice
Sir Albert Bore	Kerry Jenkins	Lou Robson
Marje Bridle	Julie Johnson	Kath Scott
Mick Brown	Brigid Jones	Lucy Seymour-Smith
Tristan Chatfield	Josh Jones	Shafique Shah
Liz Clements	Nagina Kauser	Mike Sharpe
John Cotton	Mariam Khan	Sybil Spence
Phil Davis	Narinder Kaur Kooner	Martin Straker Welds
Diane Donaldson	Chaman Lal	Sharon Thompson
Barbara Dring	Mike Leddy	Ian Ward
Mohammed Fazal	Mary Locke	Waseem Zaffar
Jayne Francis	Majid Mahmood	

Abstentions (19)

Deirdre Alden	Charlotte Hodivala	Chauhdry Rashid
Matt Bennett	Timothy Huxtable	Gary Sambrook
Debbie Clancy	Bruce Lines	Ron Storer
Maureen Cornish	Gareth Moore	Suzanne Webb
Peter Fowler	Simon Morrall	Ken Wood
Adam Higgs	David Pears	Alex Yip
Eddie Freeman		

The second amendment in the names of Councillors Ian Ward and John O'Shea having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and, by the recorded vote set out below, was declared to be carried.

For the amendment (57)

Muhammad Afzal	Paulette Hamilton	Zhor Malik
Akhlaq Ahmed	Roger Harmer	Karen McCarthy
Mohammed Aikhlaq	Kath Hartley	Saddak Miah
Alex Aitken	Penny Holbrook	Brett O'Reilly
Safia Akhtar	Mahmood Hussain	John O'Shea
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Shabrana Hussain	Robert Pocock
Kate Booth	Mohammed Idrees	Hendrina Quinnen
Sir Albert Bore	Zafar Iqbal	Chauhdry Rashid
Marje Bridle	Kerry Jenkins	Carl Rice
Mick Brown	Julie Johnson	Lou Robson
Tristan Chatfield	Brigid Jones	Kath Scott
Liz Clements	Josh Jones	Lucy Seymour-Smith
John Cotton	Nagina Kauser	Shafique Shah
Phil Davis	Mariam Khan	Mike Sharpe
Diane Donaldson	Narinder Kaur Kooner	Sybil Spence
Barbara Dring	Chaman Lal	Martin Straker Welds
Mohammed Fazal	Mike Leddy	Sharon Thompson
Jayne Francis	Mary Locke	Ian Ward
Fred Grindrod	Majid Mahmood	Waseem Zaffar

Against the amendment (2)

David Barrie	Baber Baz
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Abstentions (24)

Deirdre Alden	Charlotte Hodivala	Julien Pritchard
Matt Bennett	Jon Hunt	Gary Sambrook
Zaker Choudhry	Timothy Huxtable	Ron Storer
Debbie Clancy	Morriam Jan	Paul Tilsley
Maureen Cornish	Bruce Lines	Mike Ward
Peter Fowler	Gareth Moore	Suzanne Webb
Adam Higgs	Simon Morrall	Ken Wood
Eddie Freeman	David Pears	Alex Yip

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The third amendment in the names of Councillors Simon Morrall and Gareth Moore having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and, by the recorded vote set out below, was declared to be lost.

For the amendment (25)

Deirdre Alden	Adam Higgs	Gareth Moore
Robert Alden	Eddie Freeman	Simon Morrall
David Barrie	Charlotte Hodiola	David Pears
Matt Bennett	Timothy Huxtable	Gary Sambrook
Zaker Choudhry	Morriam Jan	Ron Storer
Debbie Clancy	Meirion Jenkins	Suzanne Webb
Maureen Cornish	Bruce Lines	Ken Wood
Adrian Delaney	Ewan Mackey	Alex Yip
Peter Fowler		

Against the amendment (57)

Muhammad Afzal	Paulette Hamilton	Karen McCarthy
Akhlaq Ahmed	Kath Hartley	Saddak Miah
Mohammed Aikhlaq	Penny Holbrook	Brett O'Reilly
Alex Aitken	Mahmood Hussain	John O'Shea
Safia Akhtar	Shabrana Hussain	Robert Pocock
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Mohammed Idrees	Julien Pritchard
Kate Booth	Zafar Iqbal	Hendrina Quinnen
Sir Albert Bore	Kerry Jenkins	Chauhdry Rashid
Marje Bridle	Julie Johnson	Carl Rice
Mick Brown	Brigid Jones	Lou Robson
Tristan Chatfield	Josh Jones	Kath Scott
Liz Clements	Nagina Kauser	Lucy Seymour-Smith
John Cotton	Mariam Khan	Shafique Shah
Phil Davis	Narinder Kaur Kooner	Mike Sharpe
Diane Donaldson	Chaman Lal	Sybil Spence
Barbara Dring	Mike Leddy	Martin Straker Welds
Mohammed Fazal	Mary Locke	Sharon Thompson
Jayne Francis	Majid Mahmood	Ian Ward
Fred Grindrod	Zhor Malik	Waseem Zaffar

Abstentions (5)

Baber Baz	Jon Hunt	Mike Ward
Roger Harmer	Paul Tilsley	

The Motion as amended having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and, by the recorded vote set out below, was declared to be carried.

For the Motion as amended (63)

Muhammad Afzal	Paulette Hamilton	Zhor Malik
Akhlaq Ahmed	Roger Harmer	Karen McCarthy
Mohammed Aikhlaq	Kath Hartley	Saddak Miah
Alex Aitken	Penny Holbrook	Brett O'Reilly
Safia Akhtar	Jon Hunt	John O'Shea
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Mahmood Hussain	Robert Pocock
Baber Baz	Shabrana Hussain	Julien Pritchard
Kate Booth	Mohammed Idrees	Hendrina Quinnen
Sir Albert Bore	Zafar Iqbal	Carl Rice
Marje Bridle	Morriam Jan	Lou Robson
Mick Brown	Kerry Jenkins	Kath Scott
Tristan Chatfield	Julie Johnson	Lucy Seymour-Smith
Zaker Choudhry	Brigid Jones	Shafique Shah
Liz Clements	Josh Jones	Mike Sharpe
John Cotton	Nagina Kauser	Sybil Spence
Diane Donaldson	Mariam Khan	Martin Straker Welds
Barbara Dring	Narinder Kaur Kooner	Sharon Thompson
Neil Eustace	Chaman Lal	Paul Tilsley
Mohammed Fazal	Mike Leddy	Ian Ward
Jayne Francis	Mary Locke	Mike Ward
Fred Grindrod	Majid Mahmood	Waseem Zaffar

Against the motion as amended (0)

Abstentions (21)

Deirdre Alden	Adam Higgs	David Pears
David Barrie	Eddie Freeman	Chauhdry Rashid
Matt Bennett	Charlotte Hodivala	Gary Sambrook
Debbie Clancy	Timothy Huxtable	Ron Storer
Maureen Cornish	Bruce Lines	Suzanne Webb
Adrian Delaney	Gareth Moore	Ken Wood
Peter Fowler	Simon Morrall	Alex Yip

It was therefore-

19430

RESOLVED:-

To endorse the Action Plan and the priority areas set out within it.

To note that the Council is committed to delivering additional resources to the Route to Zero R20 work including the establishment of a Climate Change and Sustainability Team led by a new Assistant Director for Climate Change and Sustainability, the resources for which will be sought through the Medium-Term Financial Plan at February 2021 City Council.

The City Council's desire to be Net Zero Carbon by 2030 and support the reduction of carbon emissions across Birmingham is reliant upon National Government and the Combined Authority adopting a more ambitious approach to tackling the climate change emergency.

Currently neither are demonstrating the required leadership having set targets to be net zero carbon by 2050 and 2041 respectively.

The City Council will require support in both the provision of resources and changes to national policy to allow for the full delivery of the items contained within the Action Plan to reach the target of carbon neutrality by 2030.

By not doing so National Government and the Combined Authority will be failing in their duty to take seriously the existential threat that climate change poses and will be failing to grasp the economic opportunities that de-carbonisation of our local economy can bring. In the context of Covid-19, this is of greater significance as we seek to rebuild and renew the City once the coronavirus pandemic has finally passed.

The Council resolves to write to the Government to set out the necessary asks (in both resource and policy terms) in order to facilitate our transition to net zero carbon.

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR THE MEETING

It was proposed by the Leader, Councillor Ian Ward and seconded by Councillor Robert Alden that the overall time for the meeting be extended by 15 Minutes to allow 30 minutes to be allocated to agenda item No. 9.

The Deputy Lord Mayor sought agreement and it was-

19431

RESOLVED:-

That the overall time for the meeting be extended by 15 Minutes to allow 30 minutes to be allocated to agenda item No. 9.

ROUGH SLEEPING ADDENDUM TO BIRMINGHAM HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION STRATEGY

The following joint report of the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods and the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care was submitted:-

(See document No 9)

Councillor Sharon Thompson moved the motion which was seconded by Councillor Paulette Hamilton.

A debate ensued during which Councillor Morriam Jan declared an interest in that she worked directly with homeless people on a day to day basis

Councillor Sharon Thompson replied to the debate.

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The Motion having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and, by the recorded vote set out below, was declared to be carried.

For the Motion (83)

Muhammad Afzal	Eddie Freeman	Saddak Miah
Akhlaq Ahmed	Fred Grindrod	Gareth Moore
Mohammed Aikhlaq	Paulette Hamilton	Simon Morrall
Alex Aitken	Roger Harmer	Brett O'Reilly
Safia Akhtar	Kath Hartley	John O'Shea
Deirdre Alden	Adam Higgs	David Pears
Robert Alden	Charlotte Hodivala	Robert Pocock
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Penny Holbrook	Julien Pritchard
David Barrie	Jon Hunt	Hendrina Quinnen
Baber Baz	Mahmood Hussain	Carl Rice
Matt Bennett	Shabrana Hussain	Lou Robson
Kate Booth	Mohammed Idrees	Gary Sambrook
Sir Albert Bore	Zafar Iqbal	Kath Scott
Marje Bridle	Morriam Jan	Lucy Seymour-Smith
Tristan Chatfield	Kerry Jenkins	Shafique Shah
Zaker Choudhry	Julie Johnson	Mike Sharpe
Debbie Clancy	Brigid Jones	Sybil Spence
Liz Clements	Nagina Kauser	Ron Storer
Maureen Cornish	Mariam Khan	Martin Straker Welds
John Cotton	Narinder Kaur Kooner	Sharon Thompson
Phil Davis	Chaman Lal	Paul Tilsley
Adrian Delaney	Mike Leddy	Ian Ward
Diane Donaldson	Bruce Lines	Mike Ward
Barbara Dring	Mary Locke	Suzanne Webb
Neil Eustace	Ewan Mackey	Ken Wood
Mohammed Fazal	Majid Mahmood	Alex Yip
Peter Fowler	Zhor Malik	Waseem Zaffar
Jayne Francis	Karen McCarthy	

Against the motion (0)

Abstentions (0)

It was therefore-

19432 **RESOLVED:-**

That the Rough Sleeping Addendum (Appendix A) is approved and the Interim Director of Neighbourhoods be authorised to publish and disseminate the document as appropriate, as part of the City's overall Homelessness Prevention Strategy.

PROVISIONAL DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

19432 The Deputy Lord Mayor asked Members to note that the provisional date of the next meeting of City Council is 2 February 2021.

The meeting ended at 1803 hours.

APPENDIX

Questions and replies in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure B4.4 F of the Constitution:-

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR ROBERT ALDEN**

A1 Home to School Transport Improvement Board

Question:

Will you commit to the Home to School Transport Improvement Board meetings being held in public, with published paperwork and recorded\streamed meetings?

Answer:

It is was never my intention that the Home to School Transport Improvement Board would be a public meeting as it is not a formal decision-making forum for the purposes of Local Government legal requirements; it therefore does not need to comply with the requirements in relation to access to information. The purpose of the board is to provide an inclusive forum that allows key stakeholders (particularly Head Teachers, parents and carers,) the opportunity to constructively influence and shape the implementation of the recommendations of the EY report, the Cabinet report of 15th December 2020 and any other improvements to the Home to School Transport Service. The Terms of Reference will set out how the board will operate.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR DAVID BARRIE**

A2 COVID Marshalls

Question:

What was the process followed for the recruitment of COVID Marshalls, including any checks carried out such as DBS?

Answer:

All of the Covid Marshalls have been recruited through Hays Recruitment Agency which is a Birmingham City Council procured contract.

The job description was approved through the job evaluation process and as part of this the necessity for a DBS check is considered. The Covid Marshal job description determined that a DBS check was unnecessary because they will not be in control of vulnerable persons. Therefore, the City Council is legally obliged not to ask for such checks.

In addition, all training requirements for the role have been undertaken by Environmental Heath.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR
DAVID PEARS**

A3 Home to School Transport Improvement Board

Question:

Will you commit to allowing an opposition Member to sit on the Home to School Transport Improvement Board?

Answer:

Yes – one seat on the Board will be allocated to an opposition Member.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR
JON HUNT**

A4 CIL Review and Crowdfunding

Question:

Currently only 12 Wards are benefitting from the Community Infrastructure Levy. Although it is acknowledged the threshold for this Levy in Birmingham is very high, only a fraction of the City is currently benefitting which is disappointing considering current ongoing development and forthcoming development pipeline. Could you please explain why this has been allocated to so few wards in the City?

Answer:

The aim of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is to generate funds which can help to contribute to the infrastructure required to deliver the relevant plan; the Birmingham Development Plan 2031. It is not intended to fund all the associated infrastructure costs.

The CIL setting process is set out in Regulations. This process determines that the CIL is set at level guided by the viability of various development types, in different areas of the local authority area. When deciding the levy rates, an authority must strike an appropriate balance between additional investment to support development and the potential effect on the viability of developments.

For the current charging schedule, a high level viability assessment of various types of development across the city was carried out. In accordance with the Regulations, this evidence, which led to the proposed charges, was published and subject to two public consultation rounds and an examination in public before approval.

The viability assessment determined that only 4 types of development were chargeable:

- Residential development in particular higher value Wards
- Hotels within the city centre
- Student accommodation
- Larger supermarket developments

All development within the proposed Sutton Coldfield urban extension was exempt from CIL.

Due to the city's development patterns and trends, CIL chargeable development only occurs in these twelve wards (consisting mainly of residential development and purpose built student accommodation). The CIL Regulations do not allow the authority to transfer these local CIL funds to other wards within the city.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR
ZAKER CHOUDHRY**

A5 Paradise Square Redevelopment

Question:

Could the Leader inform the Council how much capital the Council, specifically, has put into the Paradise Square redevelopment, including the Centenary Square refurbishment, setting out the repayment schedule for this capital?

Answer:

The redevelopment of Paradise Square and the refurbishment of Centenary Square represents excellent value for money for the people of Birmingham.

Paradise Square Redevelopment:

The council has not put any direct capital funds into this project. BCC was awarded an Enterprise Zone grant of £139m for both phases 1 and 2 of the Paradise redevelopment by the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP).

Centenary Square - funded as below:

Direct Council Funds:

- | | |
|--------|---|
| £0.03m | - direct revenue funding from directorate |
| £3.1m | - capital contribution approved by cabinet and subsequently funded by prudential borrowing over a standard 20 year asset life |
| £1.2m | - Section 106 – ringfenced receipts held by the council for specific purposes and locations (usually infrastructure) |

External body funds:

- | | |
|--------|--|
| £10.4m | - Enterprise Zone grant awarded by GBSLEP. |
|--------|--|

As accountable body to the GBSLEP, the council undertakes borrowing on their behalf and repayments are made from the uplift in non-domestic rates generated from the 39 sites identified within the Enterprise Zone investment plan. The cost of both Paradise and Centenary Square grants will be repaid by 2046.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR
PAUL TILSLEY**

A6 Disposal of Multi Storey Car Park at Brindley Drive

Question:

It is understood the car park at Brindley Drive is in the process of being disposed of meaning the city will be losing 610 car parking spaces a significant number of which are used by disabled badge holders. This has caused significant concern to the neighbouring entertainment and cultural centres. This allocation will be in part, accommodated by the new Chamberlain Square car park. Could the leader clarify how many spaces will be available in the new car park for members of the public, setting out how many spaces will be available for the disabled and for electric vehicle charging?

Answer:

The Brindley Drive multi storey car park supplies 610 spaces. Of this amount, 100 spaces are physically secured and dedicated for private use by the owners of Baskerville House, therefore providing 510 spaces for public use. There are 8 disability blue badge holder spaces and of note a further 6 blue badge dedicated spaces that will remain on the highway outside the car park.

Planning consent for the new Chamberlain Square Car Park contains 550 car spaces. Phase One construction is complete and scheduled to be officially opened week commencing 11th January. There are 292 spaces delivered to modern high specification standard with full illumination and security CCTV of which 30 spaces are dedicated for disabled use. There are proposals to include 20 electric vehicle charging spaces within the phase 2 extension.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR BABER BAZ**

A7 City Assets

Question:

Of the assets currently owned by Birmingham City Council either inside or outside the city boundary, could you detail which assets are earmarked for sale or development and confirm which wards these fall into?

Answer:

Please see attached schedule detailing those Council owned assets which have been declared surplus or identified for disposal. Officers are undertaking an ongoing Asset Review, which will identify further potential surplus assets to complement this existing programme of sale.

Those assets once identified following Ward Member consultation, will be reported in accordance with the appropriate governance arrangements.

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BCC Sites Forecast for Disposal up to 31/03/2023		As at 06/01/2021		
BCC Sites Forecast for Disposal up to 31/03/2023	Locality	Anticipated Year of Disposal		
(Phase 1) Peddimore Employment Site, Peddimore Lane, Wishaw Lane, Sutton Coldfield	Sutton Coldfield	2020/21		
Lee Bank Business Centre, 33 Holloway Head, Lee Bank	Ladywood	2020/21		
Southside Business Centre, Ladypool Road	Sparkbrook	2020/21		
Northside Business Centre, Wellington Road, Winson Green.	Winson Green	2020/21		
Unit 4 Small Heath Business Park, Talbot Way	Small Heath	2020/21		
Site Ptg Key Hill, Hockley	Hockley	2020/21		
363-365 Dudley Road, Winson Green	Winson Green	2020/21		
*Coleridge Chambers & Ruskin Buildings 173-209 Corporation St	City Centre	2020/21		
Site B Land at Lea Ford Way, Stechford	Stechford	2020/21		
*Soho Loop Land Swap (Dudley Road)	Winson Green	2020/21		
Brindley Drive Multi Level Car Park, City Centre	City Centre		2021/22	
*The Brasshouse Language Centre, 30 Sheepcote St, Ladywood	Ladywood		2021/22	
Holiday St Car Park, Ladywood	Ladywood		2021/22	
Pitman Building & Murdoch Chambers, 139-161 Corporation Street, City Centre	City Centre		2021/22	
Lawson Street, Car Park, Lancaster Circus	Aston		2021/22	
Car Park, Upper Gough Street/Chapmans Passage, off Holloway Head, Ladywood	Ladywood		2021/22	
Arena Central, Broad St. (Phase 3)	City Centre		2021/22	

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Land fronting Station Rd, Stechford, adj new Cascades Pool.	Stechford		2021/22	
Site known as Ventureast Project (Eastside Locks Site), Lawley St/Ashted Row & various Holdings, City Centre	Aston		2021/22	
*(Phase 2 Estimate) Peddimore Employment Site, Peddimore Lane, Wishaw Lane, Sutton Coldfield	Sutton Coldfield			2022/23
Land at Great Charles St k/a Ludgate Hill Car Park, City Centre	City Centre			2022/23
Plot 6 Aston Manufacturing Hub, Aston Regional Investment Site, Aston Hall Road	Aston			2022/23
Newtown Swimming Pool & Community Centre, Newtown	Newtown			2022/23
Site from AWM at Eastside (Fox St/Grosvenor St)	Digbeth			2022/23
Sites at the Meadow Housing Estate, Stechford	Stechford			2022/23
Land at Lionel Street, Snow Hill, City Centre	City Centre			2022/23
(2 Sites) Corner of Princip St & Lancaster Street	Aston			2022/23
Site of Fmr Beaufort Special School, Coleshill Road, Washwood Heath.	Washwood Heath			2022/23
Former Wattville Infant School (inc Caretakers House) George St, Handsworth	Handsworth			2022/23

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR ADAM HIGGS**

B1 Covid Business Grants – Rate of Payment

Question:

For each phase of the Government's support grants for businesses, what was the total number of grants issued per week from the date the money was first made available by Government?

Answer:

The Council has put in place arrangements for the administration of the following five schemes:

- Local Restrictions Support Grant (Open) (for Tier 2 from 14 October to 4 November and Tier 3 from 2 December onwards);
- Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) (for national lockdown 5 November to 1 December and Tier 3 from 2 December);
- Local Restrictions Support Grant (Sector) (for 1 to 4 November);
- Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) (from 14 October);
- Christmas support payments for 'wet led pubs'.

Applications for the new grants to support businesses, due to the restrictions imposed from Tier 2 and during the national lockdown, opened on 25 November. This is an online process and businesses in Birmingham **are only having to make one application for all grant schemes (including any future schemes)**. This approach is different to most councils which are dealing with applications on a scheme by scheme basis – but we think that one application will maximise the available funding considerably and reduce the burden for businesses. This will continue to be the process as the Council awaits further Government guidance on the schemes for Tier 4, National Lockdown and the new grants announced this week. **Our process also ensures that businesses are automatically triaged for a discretionary application if they do not fit the mandatory criteria.**

The approach in Birmingham has been significantly influenced by our ongoing dialogue with key stakeholders such as the Chamber of Commerce and Business Improvement Districts.

The task is huge – over 13,000 claims for (currently) against five schemes to consider (around 60,000 considerations). Payments started to be made for the initial claims (from 25 November) within two weeks (7 December). The influx of so many applications in a short space of time means it is not possible to assess all payments at once – there are just too many and each requires an individual assessment to establish:

- the sector of the business;
- the rateable value of each business;

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- for the discretionary scheme what the affect has been;
- whether or not the business is/was open or closed; and
- the applicable dates for each scheme for each business.

Further assurance checks are made via the Government's 'Spotlight' system and Companies House once the above criteria have been considered and met.

The current average speed from application receipt to payment is around 25 calendar days. This one payment covers all the grant schemes the businesses are eligible for. We paid 100% of the 'wet led' pubs which applied for the specific grant before Christmas – within days of the announcement. The total staff working on grants in the Council is now nearly 100 (the normal resource for Business Rates is around 25 FTE). Overtime is in place and being maximised in addition to the number of staff who opted to work over the Christmas period to help to keep the momentum going. The team are working hard to clear the applications as quickly as possible. Emails are being sent on a regular basis to all businesses still waiting for payment to try to prevent unnecessary contact.

Detailed below are the grant stats up until 8 January 2021 against each of the current schemes. Please note that one business may receive multiple payments but only need to fill in one form. The Council started accepting applications on 25 November 2020.

Mandatory and Council Grants

Period of Report: From 25 November to 8 January 2021	
Total No. of Applications Received	13,100
Total No. of Applications Paid/approved for payment	5,224
Total Value of Applications Paid/approved for payment	£7.910 million

Scheme	Total Confirmed/ Paid No.	Total Confirmed/ Paid £
LRSG(S)	60	£52,814
LRSG(O)	1438	£1,368,745
LRSG(C)	3301	£5,456,903
LRSG(C)Disc (ARG)*	280	£886,969
Wet Pubs	145	£145,000
Total	5,224	£7,910,431

Additional Restrictions Grants

		Award
Received	925	

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Awaiting further information	60	
More information received	22	
Confirmed (Approved)	830	£1,304,108.40
Duplicate	15	
Rejected	162	
Total	2014	

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR SIMON MORRALL**

B2 Covid Business Grants – Interest Earned

Question:

In total, how much interest has the Council accrued from business Covid Grant money paid to it by the Government from all of the available schemes, whilst it has been in Council accounts waiting to be paid out to businesses?

Answer:

The Council manages its cash inflows and outflows in aggregate on a daily basis. It is not possible to separately attribute interest to a single item.

What can be said is that the government has supported all councils cashflow by paying grant sums early. The council has equally paid out business grants as quickly as it could.

In the current environment the safest place to hold cash in the short term is with the government's Debt Management Account Deposit Facility (DMADF). Up until recently, the DMADF account was charging negative interest rates, that is to say it was charging councils for holding their cash. Currently the DMADF deposit rate is 0% for overnight deposits and only 0.01% for deposits for over a week.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP**

B3 Covid Social Isolation Payments

Question:

How many requests for social isolation payment requests has the Council received in total and how many of these have been paid out up to 31 December?

Answer:

The Benefit Service met the Government's deadline of accepting applications for the Social Isolation Payments (SIPs) of £500 on 12th October 2020. This follows the announcement of the scheme on 25th September 2020.

The volume of claims received (around 500 per week) have continued to be higher than the estimate provided by the Department for Health and Social Care's (DHSC) of around 200 per week. The team have had to deal with multiple issues verifying the data through DHSC's 'CTAS' eligibility checker. As a consequence, the process has taken longer than anticipated. Concerns have been raised directly with DHSC and examples of the types of issues facing the Council have been provided. This is not unique to Birmingham, with other councils experiencing similar difficulties. The situation is being closely monitored with escalations in place.

As of 31st December 2020, the Social Isolation Payment figures were:

Claims received 6,171 which is far greater than the predicted volumes and the associated administration funding received.

Out of the 6,171:

- 310 were duplicate applications;
- 3,439 had been awarded;
- 142 had been refused due to citizens not meeting the mandatory criteria;
- 1,221 applications were awaiting further information from the Citizen and/or waiting for the CTAS eligibility validation system to be updated;
- 1,059 applications had been received over the Christmas period and are being processed;

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY**

B4 Covid Social Isolation Payments time taken

Question:

What is the average time taken to pay out a social isolation payment from the initial date of request?

Answer:

There are various factors outside of BCC control that contribute to the length of time it takes to make a payment. In the majority of applications, the evidence for verification is not provided and numerous checks need to be made, from responding to the citizen to request various documents to contacting the employer. These verification steps are mandated upon BCC from DHSC and take a considerable amount of time.

Initially the biggest time delay was caused by inaccurate information displayed on the CTAS test and trace system that again BCC are mandated to use to verify a citizen's isolation status. These issues result in continuous rechecking and rework for BCC. Added to this the high volume of claims received, over twice the number estimated by DHSC, has meant additional staff resources being utilised to meet the demand. The Council's request to DHSC to accept alternative forms of evidence (such as screen shots) was turned down.

Once all the necessary documentation is received and the CTAS system shows eligibility the payment is then processed and authorised. However, the average for time taken to make payment from date of initial request, given all of these factors, is 13.5 days.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR EDDIE FREEMAN**

B5 Covid Business Grants Outstanding

Question:

As of the date answering this question, how many outstanding applications for each type of covid grant for businesses and individuals are there, broken down by scheme?

Answer:

The Council has put in place arrangements for the administration of the following five schemes:

- Local Restrictions Support Grant (Open) (for Tier 2 from 14 October to 4 November and Tier 3 from 2 December onwards);
- Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) (for national lockdown 5 November to 1 December and Tier 3 from 2 December);
- Local Restrictions Support Grant (Sector) (for 1 to 4 November);
- Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) (from 14 October);
- Christmas support payments for 'wet led pubs'.

Applications for the new grants to support businesses, due to the restrictions imposed from Tier 2 and during the national lockdown, opened on 25 November. This is an online process and businesses in Birmingham **are only having to make one application for all grant schemes (including any future schemes)**. This approach is different to most councils which are dealing with applications on a scheme by scheme basis – but we think that one application will maximise the available funding considerably and reduce the burden for businesses. This will continue to be the process as the Council awaits further Government guidance on the schemes for Tier 4, National Lockdown and the new grants announced this week. **Our process also ensures that businesses are automatically triaged for a discretionary application if they do not fit the mandatory criteria.**

The approach in Birmingham has been significantly influenced by our ongoing dialogue with key stakeholders such as the Chamber of Commerce and Business Improvement Districts.

The task is huge – over 13,000 claims for (currently) against five schemes to consider (around 60,000 considerations). Payments started to be made for the initial claims (from 25 November) within two weeks (7 December). The influx of so many applications in a short space of time means it is not possible to assess all payments at once – there are just too many and each requires an individual assessment to establish:

- the sector of the business;
- the rateable value of each business;
- for the discretionary scheme what the affect has been;
- whether or not the business is/was open or closed; and

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- the applicable dates for each scheme for each business.

Further assurance checks are made via the Government's 'Spotlight' system and Companies House once the above criteria have been considered and met.

The current average speed from application receipt to payment is around 25 calendar days. This one payment covers all the grant schemes the businesses are eligible for. We paid 100% of the 'wet led' pubs which applied for the specific grant before Christmas – within days of the announcement. The total staff working on grants in the Council is now nearly 100 (the normal resource for Business Rates is around 25 FTE). Overtime is in place and being maximised in addition to the number of staff who opted to work over the Christmas period to help to keep the momentum going. The team are working hard to clear the applications as quickly as possible. Emails are being sent on a regular basis to all businesses still waiting for payment to try to prevent unnecessary contact.

Detailed below are the grant stats up until 8 January 2021 against each of the current schemes. Please note that one business may receive multiple payments but only need to fill in one form. The Council started accepting applications on 25 November 2020.

Mandatory and Council Grants

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Wet Pubs	145	£145,000
Total	5,224	£7,910,431

Additional Restrictions Grants

		Award
Received	925	
Awaiting further information	60	

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More information received	22	
Confirmed (Approved)	830	£1,304,108.40
Duplicate	15	
Rejected	162	
Total	2014	

The total applications received is now in excess of 13,000, which in turn requires each application to be looked at and assessed against five schemes. It is therefore not possible to provide details of the outstanding applications by scheme – as this will only be determined as each case is assessed.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR CHARLOTEE HODIVALA**

B6 Covid Business Grants time to process

Question:

What is the average time take from the date of receipt of application to pay out to the date payment was made, for the award of each type of government funded covid business grant

Answer:

The Council has put in place arrangements for the administration of the following five schemes:

- Local Restrictions Support Grant (Open) (for Tier 2 from 14 October to 4 November and Tier 3 from 2 December onwards);
- Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) (for national lockdown 5 November to 1 December and Tier 3 from 2 December);
- Local Restrictions Support Grant (Sector) (for 1 to 4 November);
- Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) (from 14 October);
- Christmas support payments for 'wet led pubs'.

Applications for the new grants to support businesses, due to the restrictions imposed from Tier 2 and during the national lockdown, opened on 25 November. This is an online process and businesses in Birmingham **are only having to make one application for all grant schemes (including any future schemes)**. This approach is different to most councils which are dealing with applications on a scheme by scheme basis – but we think that one application will maximise the available funding considerably and reduce the burden for businesses. This will continue to be the process as the Council awaits further Government guidance on the schemes for Tier 4, National Lockdown and the new grants announced this week. **Our process also ensures that businesses are automatically triaged for a discretionary application if they do not fit the mandatory criteria.** The approach in Birmingham has been significantly influenced by our ongoing dialogue with key stakeholders such as the Chamber of Commerce and Business Improvement Districts.

Government guidance

The Council has to ensure that the grants are paid in line with the guidance. The Government has put in place measures to check payments are made accurately 'post payment'. Any grants paid in error are likely to have to be repaid. Hence, our process could not fully commence until the full guidance had been received which was:

- LRSG Open (Tier 2 – effective from 14 October) – guidance finalised 23 November;
- LRSG Closed (Lockdown was 4 November) – guidance finalised 23 November;

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- Tier 3 updated guidance (Tier 3 – effective from 2 December) – 18th December;
- Christmas Support payments for wet-led pubs – 10th December.

Progress and resourcing

The task is huge – over 13,000 claims for (currently) against five schemes to consider (around 60,000 considerations). Payments started to be made for the initial claims (from 25 November) within two weeks (7 December). The influx of so many applications in a short space of time means it is not possible to assess all payments at once – there are just too many and each requires an individual assessment to establish:

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The current average speed from application receipt to payment is around 25 calendar days. This one payment covers all the grant schemes the businesses are eligible for. We paid 100% of the 'wet led' pubs which applied for the specific grant before Christmas – within days of the announcement. The total staff working on grants in the Council is now nearly 100 (the normal resource for Business Rates is around 25 FTE). Overtime is in place and being maximised in addition to the number of staff who opted to work over the Christmas period to help to keep the momentum going. The team are working hard to clear the applications as quickly as possible. Emails are being sent on a regular basis to all businesses still waiting for payment to try to prevent unnecessary contact.

Detailed below are the grant stats up until 8 January 2021 against each of the current schemes. Please note that one business may receive multiple payments but only need to fill in one form. The Council started accepting applications on 25 November 2020.

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Due to the complexity of administering so many schemes over a very short period of time, it is not possible to breakdown the receipt and payment of each grant type without considerable resource being invested. The team is fully stretched with staff transferred from tax collection to grant payments and overtime being fully maximised.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY**

B7 Covid Business Grants Process

Question:

What differences were made to the process for applications for COVID business grants for the latest round in November compared to the process earlier in the summer?

Answer:

First scheme

In March 2020 the business grant scheme was based around the fact that all businesses were closed. The payment was a fixed one-off lump sum (either £10,000 or £25,000) depending on the rateable value. The Council therefore put in place a process for one application for the following schemes:

- Small Business Grant Funding, a one-off grant for businesses receiving Small Business Rates Relief in 2020 to 2021; and
- Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant Scheme, a one-off grant for businesses in the retail, leisure or hospitality industry which are occupied in 2020 to 2021.

The simplicity of this scheme meant we were able to automate a significant part of the process. A separate application was required for the Councils discretionary scheme.

Latest scheme

The Council has put in place arrangements for the administration of the following five schemes:

- Local Restrictions Support Grant (Open) (for Tier 2 from 14 October to 4 November and Tier 3 from 2 December onwards);
- Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) (for national lockdown 5 November to 1 December and Tier 3 from 2 December);
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Applications for the new grants to support businesses, due to the restrictions imposed from Tier 2 and during the national lockdown, opened on 25 November. This is an online process and businesses in Birmingham **are only having to make one application for all grant schemes (including any future schemes)**. This approach is different to most councils which are dealing with applications on a scheme by scheme basis – but we think that one application will maximise the available funding considerably and reduce the burden for businesses. This will

continue to be the process as the Council awaits further Government guidance on the schemes for Tier 4, National Lockdown and the new grants announced this week. **Our process also ensures that businesses are automatically triaged for a discretionary application if they do not fit the mandatory criteria.**

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Total	2014	

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCLLOR ROBERT ALDEN**

C1 DBS assurance for home to school transport

Question:

From what date have you as Cabinet Member been able (or will be able) to categorically say that every single individual working in contact with children on the home to school transport service has had a fully cleared and approved DBS check in place?

Answer:

I can categorically state that I have been assured that there are no individuals in contact with children from the home to school transport service that have not had a fully cleared and approved DBS check.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCLLOR EWAN MACKEY**

C2 Home to school transport”

Question:

How many unannounced inspections of home to school transport suppliers have been undertaken since February to check on quality and safety?

Answer:

From February 2020 to present there have been 591 unannounced quality and safety inspections carried out. From September 2020 when the compliance team was established these checks have included Covid 19 checks which include cleaning touch points, internal cleanliness of vehicles, ventilation, correct PPE and social distancing.

In addition, there have been 272 unannounced vehicle maintenance inspection carried out at supplier's premises.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCLLOR CLANCY**

C3 SEND Consultant

Question:

In both November (C16) and December (B16) you neglected to answer the question on consultancy spend within SEND. Whilst it was promised the first week of January, please provide it here so it is in public. As a reminder, the request was to tell us who received this money and what benefit the council obtained from it. Please could you therefore answer the question again with the missing information included, namely:

- Interim/consultant details (named where permissible)**
- Reports produced**
- Performance improvement that has been made as a result of these costs**

Answer:

Work has been completed on the resource list to provide:

- a list of the activities or reports interim resource and consultants were involved in
- a summary of the improvements that have been made as a result.

We have highlighted those that are consultants and provided comparable grades for the interim officer resource that are backfilling vacancies or providing additional officer capacity.

We have also provided a cumulative count of the number of agency resources that have been in post during the period.

Appendix to C3

Area & Number of resources between Sept 2019 and Nov 2020	Consultant or Comparable role grade for interim resource (backfilling vacancies or providing additional officer capacity)	A high-level list of activities they've been involved with	A summary of the improvements they've made (bullet points of what has improved since the consultants have been here).	Number in post at end of Dec 2020
SEND Strategic Transformation Sensory Consultant 1 resource	CONSULTANT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Review of sensory resource bases * Review of FAMS * Supporting implementation of recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of more inclusive provision for children with physical difficulties <p>Improved use of resources through use of sensory resource bases</p>	1
Home To School Transport Interim Transport Manager Operations, Commissioning & Contracts 1 resource	Grade 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed system requirements for the Home to school transport database • Procurement Business case for the purchase of the new system (365 Response chosen) • Implementation Plan for 365 • Communications Plan for the implementation of 365 • Mobile Phones for Guides requirements document • CXM Bus Pass Administration requirements • Also developed the daily route report which underpins the Daily SitRep reporting to Chief Executive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taken the request for a new transport system from concept, through requirements definition and procurement to commencement of operational roll out and live testing. <p>Defined additional costs to cover data requirements for BCC in the absence of a legacy database and revised the business case to justify new requirements. Revised business case includes the cost of project management.</p>	1
Home To School Transport	Grade 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Weekly & monthly performance reports * Safeguarding process for complaints * data analysis from supplier returns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robust compliance team who apply safeguarding checks at schools and supplier premises to ensure vehicles and staff are compliant. 	1

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Area & Number of resources between Sept 2019 and Nov 2020	Consultant or Comparable role grade for interim resource (backfilling vacancies or providing additional officer capacity)	A high-level list of activities they've been involved with	A summary of the improvements they've made (bullet points of what has improved since the consultants have been here).	Number in post at end of Dec 2020
Interim Safeguarding & Compliance SEND Transport Manager 1 resource		(monthly)	<p>Vehicle inspections carried out to ensure vehicles transporting clients are fully roadworthy and feedback given to supplier they additional checks to ensure compliance.</p> <p>Supplier performance has improved as a result of the checks and visits made to schools and suppliers, once concerns are identified and improvement plans are agreed.</p> <p>Depot Audits at supplier premises to ensure policies are being applied throughout the operation against their contract.</p> <p>Regular supplier meetings to ensure performance issues are identified and actioned.</p> <p>Safeguarding tracker to capture safeguarding complaints ensure escalated to LADO and managed appropriately in a timely way.</p> <p>Supplier monthly reporting processes are accurate and identify DBS application's so they are processed as quickly as possible to ensure supplier has sufficient staff to</p>	

City Council – 12 January 2021

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			<p>delivery service.</p> <p>Improved communication and feed back to suppliers is carried out in a timely was to ensure failings identified are rectified.</p>	
Home To School Transport Interim Ops Manager (Transport) 1 resource	Grade 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephone systems – Cirrus • Email system – Cirrus Omni • Bus Pass report • Invoice reports • Staff 1-to-1 • Complaints • Restructure operations service • Performance Improvement - guides 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify current telephone system failings resulting in Cirrus implementation. Daily / weekly reports regarding the Cirrus phone system. Calls answered / abandoned. Time taken to answer calls / calls being abandoned in compliance with the BCC KPI's of 90% answered – 10% abandoned. Ensuring the team meet these KPI's <p>Bus Passes- Identifying hidden issues within the service; identifying the weakness in the service and ensuring new staff are training in the processing of these bus passes. Identifying improvements with the system to avoid the volume of future applications given the 80% rejection rate.</p> <p>Invoice reports – ensuring the overdue invoices are processed in a timely manner considering value and age of invoices and finding solutions to improve</p>	1

City Council – 12 January 2021

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			<p>service</p> <p>Redesign of the variation form to provide transparency with the variation form process submitted by contractors asking for price increase/ decrease</p>	
Home To School Transport Interim Senior Compliance Officer 1 resource	Grade 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supplier performance figures on a daily and weekly basis • Carry out record and report on Supplier Audit. • Daily engagement with suppliers to address any issues identified within compliance checks. • Recognize training needs for drivers and suppliers relating to compliance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robust and engaging compliance team in place. <p>Robust procedures implemented to improve supplier /driver compliance</p> <p>Implemented a revised parking plan at 2 schools to date (Calthorpe & Dame Ellen Pinsent)</p> <p>Allocate work to the compliance team to ensure work is completed and prioritised.</p> <p>Advise suppliers on compliance matters i.e. procedures and technique to improve performance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved communication with suppliers, schools and internal teams to ensure concerns are addressed and recorded in a timely way • Support other service areas to address any safeguarding /compliance issues and resolve in a timely way. 	1

City Council – 12 January 2021

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Home To School Transport Interim Compliance Officer 1 resource	Grade 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Safeguarding and PATS training program to be delivered to 480 guides in the new year. • Driver and Guide handbook to be issues to all guides and then drivers. • Daily compliance reports • Supplier check reports • Investigation findings for safeguarding complaints 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per Compliance Manager and Senior Compliance Officer 	1
Home To School Transport Interim Compliance Performance Officer 1 resource	Grade 3	Generate information from the Compliance team and Assessment officer to develop and produce accurate information that can provide an overview of the service performance and suppliers, identify trends and areas of improvement. Provide additional support to the Compliance team to carry out site visits and depot audits as required.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directors and Heads of service are now understanding the performance of suppliers and identify social, mechanical or performance trends at source and in the coming weeks/ months note an increase in service delivery 	1
Link Service Interim Link Officers 4 resources	Grade 3 / 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Responding to contact from parents and schools via email and telephone * Support families through the needs assessment process * Signposting families to relevant support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing support to families (24 new referrals in Jan 20 > 205 in Dec 20) New satisfaction survey launched in Dec 20 recorded a positive rating of 4.78 / 5 	5

City Council – 12 January 2021

Area & Number of resources between Sept 2019 and Nov 2020	Consultant or Comparable role grade for interim resource (backfilling vacancies or providing additional officer capacity)	A high-level list of activities they've been involved with	A summary of the improvements they've made (bullet points of what has improved since the consultants have been here).	Number in post at end of Dec 2020
Senar - Case Work Interim PO / SEND Case workers 32 resources	Grade 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Statutory processes for assessment and review of EHCPs * Research and respond to complaints * Associated case work, including consultations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in the backlog of assessments from 500 to 200 • Complaints allocation process • 5,271 outstanding reviews closed with all action completed • 2,873 outstanding reviews actioned and awaiting issue by Business Support 	22 (Including 1x Special School Provision Lead & 3x Operational Leads)
Senar - Case Work Interim Tribunal Officers 3 resources	Grade 5	Managing the throughput of mediations, appeals and tribunals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High level of compliance with statutory timelines. • Robust mediation process to ensure resolution 	1
Senar Recovery - Annual Review Interim Annual Review Officer / Plan Writers 23 resources	Grade 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Reviewing and actioning 9,197 outstanding annual review paperwork * Reviewing and actioning newly received review paperwork 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5,271 outstanding reviews closed with all action completed • 2,873 outstanding reviews actioned and awaiting issue by Business Support • Reduction in the backlog of assessments from 500 to 200 	6
SENAR Recovery - Annual Review Interim SEN Coordinator - EHCP Reviews 1 resource	Grade 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Managing allocation of paperwork to officers * Maintaining record of activity * Liaising with schools to obtain further information as required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5,271 outstanding reviews closed with all action completed • 2,873 outstanding reviews actioned and awaiting issue by Business Support 	1

City Council – 12 January 2021

Area & Number of resources between Sept 2019 and Nov 2020	Consultant or Comparable role grade for interim resource (backfilling vacancies or providing additional officer capacity)	A high-level list of activities they've been involved with	A summary of the improvements they've made (bullet points of what has improved since the consultants have been here).	Number in post at end of Dec 2020
Transformation & Project Support Interim Transformation Lead/Programme mgr 1 resource	Grade 6 / 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Review recovery project * Draft EHCP multi agency QA framework * Draft managing send provision model * PCF briefing * Internal engagement and briefings * Multi agency operational stakeholder engagement * Draft Pathways * Resource tracker & resource plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a contact database for families 5,271 outstanding reviews closed with all action completed • 2,873 outstanding reviews actioned and awaiting issue • Multi agency operational stakeholder engagement • Progress against the written statement of action 	1
Transformation & Project Support Interim Performance Lead 3 resources	Grade 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * HST dashboard * HST immediate fixes plan * HST weekly sit rep report * HST contract performance reporting schedule * SEND dashboard * SEND Weekly sit rep report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visibility of data • Improved data reliability 	1
Transformation & Project Support Interim Project Manager 1 resource	Grade 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Developing & managing local provision project plan and associated governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DLP project launched 	1
Transformation & Project Support	Grade 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * School Planning meeting documentation * Local offer website upload 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local offer website launched in Jan 2021 Improved communication with special school transport leads 	2

City Council – 12 January 2021

Area & Number of resources between Sept 2019 and Nov 2020	Consultant or Comparable role grade for interim resource (backfilling vacancies or providing additional officer capacity)	A high-level list of activities they've been involved with	A summary of the improvements they've made (bullet points of what has improved since the consultants have been here).	Number in post at end of Dec 2020
Interim Project Support Officer 2 resources		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Weekly report and liaison with special schools * Consolidation report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Input to Home to school transport improvement programme 	
• Resources no longer in post as of end December 2020				
SEND Strategic Transformation Strategic SEND Consultant 1 resource	CONSULTANT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Funding comparison for special schools to inform the special school funding review * Preparatory work for the DLP project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DLP project launched • Special school funding review in progress 	0
Home To School Transport Interim Transport Operations Manager 1 resource	Grade 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Mobility Assessment Risk Assessment Process. • Review of Current Assessment Process and recommendations • Provide guidance on improving safer accurate assessments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved Risk Assessments are being carried out. Engage with relevant service areas to obtain all relevant information to produce accurate information and assessments. 	0
Home To School Transport Guide transformation lead 1 resource	Grade 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business case to support the reduction of Agency Guides • 1st Draft Business Case in relation to SEND Transport Application process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution to the service Saving Strategy and improved gatekeeping and application of policy conditions relating to transport eligibility 	0
Home To School Transport Interim SEND Transport manager	Grade 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * DfE bid for COVID funding * Deed variation for supply of guides * Deed variation for alteration of DBS process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The service has had improved leadership and structure in order to achieve a number of significant improvement key tasks. This development has worked in 	0

City Council – 12 January 2021

Area & Number of resources between Sept 2019 and Nov 2020	Consultant or Comparable role grade for interim resource (backfilling vacancies or providing additional officer capacity)	A high-level list of activities they've been involved with	A summary of the improvements they've made (bullet points of what has improved since the consultants have been here).	Number in post at end of Dec 2020
1 resource		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Communication & Implementation plan * Org chart for restructure * Summer operations plan * Draft revised risk assessment process * Contribution to immediate fixes plan, weekly and daily sit rep, monthly covid plan, service dashboard and revised implementation plan 	partnership with the recommendations outlined in the Service Investigation Report. The service is now able to ensure early identification of operational concern and introduce strategies in order to improve performance and administration across the service as a whole	
Home To School Transport Interim Safeguarding & QA Lead 1 resource	Grade 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * initial safeguarding audit of suppliers * DPS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contracts confirmed with suppliers baseline safeguarding reports 	0
SEND Strategic Transformation Interim Post 16 SEND Lead 1 resource	Grade 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Review of post 16 service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations to improve preparation for adulthood 	0
SEND Strategic Transformation Interim SEND Transformation lead 4 resources	Grade 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Review of SENAR administration services * Draft review recovery project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5,271 outstanding reviews closed with all action completed • 2,873 outstanding reviews actioned and awaiting issue by Business Support 	0

City Council – 12 January 2021

Area & Number of resources between Sept 2019 and Nov 2020	Consultant or Comparable role grade for interim resource (backfilling vacancies or providing additional officer capacity)	A high-level list of activities they've been involved with	A summary of the improvements they've made (bullet points of what has improved since the consultants have been here).	Number in post at end of Dec 2020
SEND Strategic Transformation Interim Educational Psychologist 1 resource	Grade 6	* Tracker of children awaiting a special school place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidated view of children awaiting special school place so placements could be managed 	0
SEND Strategic Transformation Interim Early Years SEND Lead 1 resource	Grade 7	* Review of early years service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendations to improve early years service 	0
Transformation & Project Support Interim Data Officer 2 resources	Grade 4	* EHCP requests tracker and associated reports * EHCP review recovery project database and associated reports * Tracker for new EHCP reviews * Tracker for complaints * Tracker for mediations and appeals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved workflow management Automated monitoring reports for managers 	0
Transformation & Project Support Interim Communication Officer 2 resources	Grade 4	* Communication strategy * Communication plan * Communication material including newsletters for schools and parents, and briefings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved communication and engagement with PCF 	0
Transformation & Project Support	Grade 4	* Review formula funding for specialist provision		0

City Council – 12 January 2021

Area & Number of resources between Sept 2019 and Nov 2020	Consultant or Comparable role grade for interim resource (backfilling vacancies or providing additional officer capacity)	A high-level list of activities they've been involved with	A summary of the improvements they've made (bullet points of what has improved since the consultants have been here).	Number in post at end of Dec 2020
Interim Finance Project Support Officer 1 resource			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established mechanisms for financial reporting for specialist provision New criteria and allocation of top up funding for mainstream 	
Transformation & Project Support Interim Project Lead - Local Offer Website 1 resource	Grade 4	* Local offer website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New local offer website launched in Jan 2021 Online booking system in final stages of development to be launched in the spring 	0

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S WELLBEING
FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT**

C4 Send Home to School Transport'

Question:

Could you please explain when you expect all staff in contact with children through the Home to School Transport service will have completed DRB checks?

Answer:

I understand that you are referring to DBS checks not DRB as mentioned above.

I have been assured all staff who have contact with children within the Home to School Transport service have a completed DBS check.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S WELLBEING
FROM COUNCILLOR BABER BAZ**

C5 Send Home to School Transport

Question:

In the Independent Service Review of SEND Home to School Transport (November 2020), there is a requirement for an immediate fix by the start of the January term 2021, involving a number of comprehensive items such as a new IT system, more effective management of guides and a short-term fix on capability and capacity. Could you explain how you are planning to meet this timetable and when you expect new IT systems will to be in place?

Answer:

Plans are already in place and are in progress to deliver the changes, which are reported to the Home to School Transport Programme Board and to me. These build on the Home to School programme that was established in 2020. They are being delivered by the operational team, supported by additional programme resources.

The service is making good progress. We have put in place IT improvements such as a Cirrus system to help manage and monitor phone calls, and we have started to use 365, a new transport management system, to capture data and to work with some of our transport providers.

In terms of the performance outcomes this and the other improvements we have made, have supported, at week ending 18th December 2020:

- 99.86% of routes that were needed were delivered over the course of the week;
- 99.94% of pupils who needed to be transported to school were transported over the week, delivering an average of 3404 pupils per day;
- 99.1% of calls were answered on average over the week, and 0.9% of calls were aborted on average over the week, which exceed the corporate KPIs, and;
- 0 complaints were overdue.

We will build on this as there is much more to do, including provision of safeguarding and PATs (Passenger Assistant Training scheme) which is a national recognised qualification for guides, commencing on 18th January. This will include continuing to improve the data we have in 365 and rolling this out to other providers, schools and parents in time for the new academic year and using this to drive efficiencies.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCLLOR ADAM HIGGS**

C6 SEND Consultant

Question:

In responding in December to question B16 (which was itself a follow up to C16 from November), you complained about the amount of time it would take to provide this simple information. Given the importance of ensuring value for money and of ensuring promised improvements are actually delivered, if that information is not being actively tracked and monitored by you, can you please explain why?

Answer:

The answer given in C3 provides the outstanding information, this has taken significant time to collate and has detracted officer attention from service delivery.

The significant majority of resources working within the SEND and Inclusion service are backfilling vacant establishment posts or providing additional officer capacity to the service to support recovery activity and transition to a new model, therefore individual performance management is consistent with that provided to substantive post holders. All agency workers report into a named manager who manages their workload outputs and ensures they deliver on the expectations of their role. Unsatisfactory performance is managed and where required contracts are terminated.

Where consultants are used there is agreement about the products they will deliver and agreed delivery expectations that are monitored, with the impact of their work being monitored as part of the service transformation.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES
FROM COUNCILLOR BABER BAZ**

D Lockdown Deficit

Question:

Now we are going into a third national lockdown, what will be the process be for dealing with any additional deficit incurred as a result and how much would this attribute to each Ward?

Answer:

The Council has been monitoring and reporting on the financial impacts of Covid-19 on a weekly basis since the first national lockdown. The financial impact is being managed as a corporate issue.

The month 7 finance report considered by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 10 December showed the Council forecasting a net underspend of £5.4m. This was a £4.5m overspend on Covid offset by non-Covid underspends of £9.9m.

In addition, the 4th tranche of un-ringfenced Covid grant announced in October, which is £44.2m, has not been spent. Cabinet approved at its November meeting when considering the quarter 2 financial report, that this will be held separately in a reserve.

In summary, we are not in deficit, we currently have a small surplus and have £44.2m in reserve to help cope with the uncertainty of the coming months.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT**

E COVID-19'

Question:

Bearing in mind the disturbing increase in COVID cases, could the Cabinet Member explain to the Chamber (a) any provision pledged by the City Council to support the NHS in mass testing and also mass vaccination and (b) when the Nightingale Hospital, based at the NEC, will be used to support the rise in local cases that is pushing local hospitals to breaking point?

Answer:

The council is working with multi-agency partners across the city and region, to continue to offer full support to all programmes in the response to COVID-19. The response to COVID-19 requires the council and all partners to work flexibly together, both in support of the NHS and our own responsibilities to save lives and reduce the spread and impact of COVID-19.

Testing

Testing continues to be a cornerstone of the national response, covering different elements (Asymptomatic and Symptomatic testing), some of which the Council leads on (eg Lateral Flow Device Testing), some it supports (eg Mass Testing Units – MTUs) and some it is just aware of (Regional Testing Site).

The Council fully supports, all elements of the testing programme and has supported this work from the start of the pandemic. This includes a wide range of activities from providing sites and traffic management to DHSC, through to delivering Lateral Flow Testing.

Vaccination

The vaccination programme is led by the NHS, in particular University Hospitals Birmingham and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). Early in the vaccination planning, it was clear that BCC had a range of skills and assets that would support the NHS vaccination programme rollout.

BCC recognised that the quickest way out of COVID was to vaccinate the population, therefore BCC has been working closely with the NHS to provide as much support as possible to the NHS, in line with their requests.

To date, this has been around:

- Officer time and planning expertise,
- Social Care awareness/access/support
- Highways and traffic support
- Access to council assets eg Car Parks and Buildings
- Support with mass vaccination centres
- Staff vaccination

- Communications
- Administration support

This is a fast and evolving areas and we are very much working in support of the NHS.

NHS Nightingale

The nightingale hospital at the NEC site is an NHS (CCG) facility and activity located in the Solihull MBC authority area.

BCC has ensured we can support NHS bodies when requested with activities such as discharge into Adult Social Care. We have previously offered non clinical skills - however the use of nightingale, its resourcing remains with the NHS and we have limited involvement in any element of the nightingale hospitals including if/when they maybe used.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR EWAN MACKEY**

F1 Christmas Day Cemetery Opening

Question:

On what date, and by what method, were the security company responsible for New Hall Cemetery informed that they would be required to open the Cemetery on Christmas Day as advertised by the Council?

Answer:

The Company was given a written instruction via email on 18 December, an extract of which is below:-

“Opening and contact details for Bereavement Services – Cemeteries & Crematoria

Site	Thursday 24 December 2020	Friday 25 December 2020	Saturday 26 & Sunday 27 December 2020	Monday 28 December 2020	Tuesday 29 – Thursday 31 December 2020	Friday 1 January 2021
Sutton New Hall Cemetery	Open to visitors 12:30 – 18:00 Security working as normal	Open to visitors 10:00 – 16:00 Security required to open and close as per weekends	Open to visitors 12:30 – 16:00 Security working as normal but close at 16:00 – work to 16:30	Open to visitors 12:30 – 16:00 Security working as normal but close at 16:00 – work to 16:30	As current website www.birmingham.gov.uk/cemeteries Security working as normal	Open to visitors 12:30 – 16:00 Security working as normal but close at 16:00 – work to 16:30

“

The arrangements were rechecked by City Council staff with the contractor on 23 December to ensure the necessary arrangements were in place.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR MAUREEN CORNISH**

F2 Christmas Day Cemetery Opening failure

Question:

Were any cemeteries other than New Hall affected by the failure of the security company to open on Christmas Day as advertised by the council?

Answer:

No other cemeteries were affected.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR RON STORER**

F3 Christmas Day Cemetery Opening cost

Question:

What was the cost to the council of the security company opening up cemeteries on Christmas Day as advertised, and how much of this was refunded after the failure to do so?

Answer:

The contract with the security company is arranged through Acivico. To date there has been no recharge made by Acivico for this work, so this question cannot be answered at this time.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER**

F4 Selective Licensing

Question:

Please provide a copy of all advice provided by the government department in preparing the new policy approved for consultation at the December Cabinet meeting?

Answer:

We have relied on the Selective Licensing 'Guide for Local Authorities' which is attached. There have also been telephone conversations with Ministry Officials to ensure we have followed the procedures appropriately as set out in the guide that follows:-



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

Selective licensing in the private rented sector

A Guide for local authorities

March 2015
Department for Communities and Local Government



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Introduction

The Government values the private rented sector and wants to see a strong, healthy and vibrant market. Its aim is a bigger and better private rented sector that offers security, stability and decency. We are increasing the supply of private rented sector housing through the £1 billion Build to Rent fund and a £3.5 billion Private Rented Sector Guarantee scheme to underpin investment in the private rented sector. We are also educating tenants so that they understand their rights, and their responsibilities. We want landlords to treat their tenants as valued customers, not just someone who they can extract rent from without providing any kind of service.

The Government is keen to ensure that the sector is encouraged to meet, in a professional way and with decent quality accommodation, the demands placed upon it by the housing needs of the wide range of tenants it services. It strongly supports voluntary arrangements such as accreditation and landlords' forums.

Currently local authorities have powers to introduce selective licensing of privately rented homes in order to tackle problems in their areas, or any part or parts of them, caused by low housing demand and/or significant anti-social behaviour. Local residents, landlords and tenants (and any other person likely to be affected by the selective licensing designation) must be consulted prior to the introduction of a licensing scheme. Landlords who rent out properties in an area that is subject to selective licensing are required to obtain a licence from the local authority for each of their properties.

With effect from 1 April, a new General Approval will come into force. Local authorities will be required to obtain confirmation from the Secretary of State for any selective licensing scheme which would cover more than 20% of their geographical area or would affect more than 20% of privately rented homes in the local authority area. Additional criteria for making a scheme are also now in force. A designation may be made to combat problems in an area experiencing poor property conditions, an influx of migration, a high level of deprivation or high levels of crime.

Together these new rules will enable local authorities to make effective licensing schemes to address specific problems arising in particular areas.

This (non-statutory) guidance explains the criteria for making a selective licensing scheme and discusses the type of evidence needed to support a designation. It sets out what a local authority would expect a scheme to deliver in terms of the economic and social conditions of the designated area and how during the period of the designation this will be evaluated. It also explains the processes that need to be complied with before a designation can be brought into force. This Guidance applies to both designations made under the General Approval 2015 and those which require confirmation by the Secretary of State.

Overview

1. Part 3 of the Housing Act 2004 (the Act) sets out the scheme for licensing private rented properties¹ in a local housing authority area. Under section 80 of the Act a local housing authority can designate the whole or any part or parts of its area as subject to selective licensing. Where a selective licensing designation is made it applies to privately rented property in the area. Subject to certain exemptions specified in the Selective Licensing of Houses (Specified Exemptions)(England) Order 2006², all properties in the private rented sector which are let or occupied under a licence, are required to be licensed by the local housing authority, unless the property is a House In Multiple Occupation and is required to be licensed under Part 2 of the Act³. With effect from 1 April 2015 a local housing authority will now need to apply to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government (Secretary of State) for confirmation of any scheme which would cover more than 20% of their geographical area or that would affect more than 20% of privately rented homes in the local authority area.
2. Under the new arrangements if a local housing authority makes a designation that covers 20% or less of its geographical area or privately rented properties, the scheme will not need to be submitted to the Secretary of State, provided the authority has consulted for at least 10 weeks on the proposed designation. However, if the local housing authority makes one or more designations that are in force partly concurrent to an existing scheme, and cumulatively all the designations cover more than 20% of the area or the private rented stock, those new designations will need to be submitted to the Secretary of State for approval. Likewise if the local housing authority makes two or more designations at the same time, each of which account for less than 20% of the area or private rented stock, but cumulatively account for more than 20% of either, all of the schemes will need to be submitted to the Secretary of State for confirmation.
3. In deciding the number of privately rented properties a scheme would apply to the local housing authority may want to consider data it holds on sector, including housing benefit and council tax records.

¹ Private rented properties do not include accommodation where the tenancy is granted by a non-profit registered provider of social housing or a profit-making registered provider of social housing, within the meaning of Part 2 of the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008.

² SI 2006/370

³ Housing Act 2004 Section 85 (1)(a).

Conditions applying to Selective licensing

4. A selective licensing designation may be made if the area to which it relates satisfies one or more of the following conditions. The area is one experiencing:
 - low housing demand (or is likely to become such an area)⁴;
 - a significant and persistent problem caused by anti-social behavior⁵;
 - poor property conditions⁶;
 - high levels of migration⁷;
 - high level of deprivation⁸;
 - high levels of crime⁹.
5. In considering whether to designate an area for selective licensing on the grounds above on property conditions, migration, deprivation and crime the local housing authority may only make a designation if the area has a high proportion of property in the private rented sector¹⁰. Nationally the private rented sector currently makes up 19% of the total housing stock in England¹¹. The actual number of privately rented properties in a given area may be more or less than this, and if it is more than 19%, the area can be considered as having a high proportion of privately rented properties. 19% is the figure as of March 2014. This figure will vary from time to time, so local authorities are strongly advised to consult the latest available English Housing Survey when considering whether an area has a high proportion of privately rented properties.
6. When considering whether to make a selective licensing designation a local housing authority must first identify the objective or objectives that a designation will help it achieve. In other words it must identify whether the area is suffering problems that are caused by or attributable to any of the criteria for making the designation and what it expects the designation to achieve - for example, an improvement in property conditions in the designated area.
7. Secondly, it must also consider whether there are any other courses of action available to it that would achieve the same objective or objectives as the proposed scheme without the need for the designation to be made. For example, if the area is suffering from poor property conditions, is a programme of renewal a viable alternative to making the designation? In areas with Anti-Social Behaviour,

⁴ Housing Act 2004 Section 80(3)

⁵ Housing Act 2004, Section 80(6)

⁶ The Selective Licensing of Houses (Additional Conditions)(England) Order 2015 – Article 4

⁷ The Selective Licensing of Houses (Additional Conditions)(England) Order 2015 – Article 5

⁸ The Selective Licensing of Houses (Additional Conditions)(England) Order 2015 – Article 6

⁹ The Selective Licensing of Houses (Additional Conditions)(England) Order 2015 – Article 7

¹⁰ The Selective Licensing of Houses (Additional Conditions)(England) Order 2015 - Article 3 (1) (a)

¹¹ English Housing Survey 2013/2014

where landlords are not taking appropriate action, could an education programme or a voluntary accreditation scheme achieve the same objective as a selective licensing designation?

8. If the problems of anti-social behavior are only associated with a small number of properties a local housing authority should consider making a Special Interim Management Order, rather than a selective licensing designation covering properties with regard to anti-social behaviour (see Annex below).
9. Only where there is no practical and beneficial alternative to a designation should a scheme be made.
10. If the local housing authority decides there is no practical and beneficial alternative to the scheme, it must only make the designation if it is satisfied that the scheme will significantly assist it in achieving its objective or objectives, with other actions the local housing authority may be taking.
11. Any designation made must:
 - ensure that the exercise of the power is consistent with their overall housing strategy¹²; and
 - seek to adopt a co-ordinated approach in connection with dealing with homelessness, empty properties and anti-social behaviour affecting the private rented sector as regards combining licensing with other action taken by them or others.¹³

¹² Housing Act 2004, Sections 81(2)

¹³ Housing Act 2004, Sections 81(3)

Making a scheme – identifying the factors affecting an area, assessing impacts of schemes and measuring their outcomes

Introduction:

12. Before proposing a designation and embarking on a consultation the local housing authority must identify the problems affecting the area to which the designation will apply and provide evidence to support the existence of the problems. It must also decide what other measures it, or other persons together with the local housing authority, will take together with the selective licensing scheme to eliminate or mitigate those problems and how they will work together. The local housing authority must also assess what outcomes will be delivered through the making of a scheme and taking the other measures¹⁴.

Low Housing Demand

13. When deciding if an area is suffering from, or likely to become, an area of low housing demand, it is recommended that local housing authorities consider the following factors:
- The value of residential premises in the area, in comparison to the value of similar premises in other areas which the authority considers to be comparable (whether in terms of type of housing, local amenities, availability of transport).
 - The turnover of occupiers of residential premises (in both rented and owner occupied properties).
 - The number of residential premises which are available to buy or rent, and the length of time for which they remain unoccupied.
 - The general appearance of the locality and the number of boarded up shops and properties.
14. The scheme should state how it will help address the problems associated with low demand in the designated area, for example, through imposing conditions relating to the management of properties. It must identify how the scheme will work in combination with other specified measures that the local housing authority is taking to combat those problems.
15. The outcome of the scheme should be a reduction in or elimination of the blight of low demand which has led to improvements of the social and economic conditions of the sector, which are identifiable.

¹⁴ It should be noted that in making a selective licensing designation, the local housing authority must also take other measures to help address the problems. A scheme cannot be made unless those other measures are to be introduced (or continued in force).

Anti-Social Behaviour

16. In deciding whether an area suffers from anti-social behavior, it is recommended that local housing authorities consider whether private sector landlords in the designated area are not effectively managing their properties so as to combat incidences of anti-social behaviour caused by their tenants or people visiting their properties and in particular the area suffers from anti-social behaviour as a result of this failure or because that failure significantly contributes to that problem.
17. In considering whether the area is suffering from anti-social behaviour which a landlord should address regard must be had as to whether the behaviour is being conducted within the curtilage of the rented property or in its immediate vicinity and includes acts of (but not limited to):
 - intimidation and harassment of tenants or neighbours;
 - noise, rowdy and nuisance behaviour affecting persons living in or visiting the vicinity;
 - animal related problems;
 - vehicle related nuisance;
 - anti-social drinking or prostitution;
 - illegal drug taking or dealing;
 - graffiti and fly posting;
 - and litter and waste within the curtilage of the property.
18. The scheme should state what measures will be taken to address the problems associated with anti-social behaviour, for example by including conditions in licences requiring landlords to take action to deal with such behaviour, to ensure that properties are not let to persons with a known record of anti-social behaviour and relating to the use of the property. It should also make clear how the measures taken in the scheme when combined with other specified measures will work together to combat the problems caused by anti-social behaviour.
19. The outcome of the scheme should be a reduction in, or elimination, of anti-social behaviour (caused by tenants in the private sector) in the designated area.

Poor property conditions

20. Local housing authorities can address poor property conditions through their powers in Part 1 of the Act, which are extensive. As mentioned below a local housing authority should not use its Part 3 powers (selective licensing) where it is appropriate to tackle small numbers of properties which are in disrepair directly and immediately under Part 1. There may, however, be circumstances in which a significant number of properties in the private rented sector are in poor condition and are adversely affecting the character of the area and/ or the health and safety of their occupants. In that case, as part of wider strategy to tackle housing conditions, the local housing authority may consider it appropriate to make a selective licensing scheme so that it can prioritise enforcement action under Part 1 of the Act, whilst ensuring through licence conditions under Part 3 that the properties are properly managed to prevent further deterioration.

21. It is recommended that local housing authorities consider the following factors to help determine whether there are poor property conditions in their area:

- The age and visual appearance of properties in the area and that a high proportion of those properties are in the private rented sector¹⁵;
- Whether following a review of housing conditions under section 3(1) of the Act¹⁶, the authority considers a significant number of properties in the private rented sector need to be inspected in order to determine whether any of those properties contain category 1 or 2 hazards. In this context "significant" means more than a small number, although it does not have to be a majority of the private rented stock in the sector. It would not be appropriate to make a scheme if only a few individual properties needed attention.

22. The scheme should state what action the authority intends to take under Part 1 of the Act if it identifies there are serious deficiencies with properties, including the timescale for taking the appropriate action and its enforcement plan for non-compliance with improvement notices or prohibition orders it serves.

23. The outcome of the designation would be a general improvement of property conditions in the designated area within the lifetime of the designation.

High levels of migration

24. Migration refers to the movement of people from one area to another. It includes migration within a country and is not restricted to migration from overseas. A selective licensing designation can be made, as part of wider strategy, to preserve or improve the economic conditions of the area to which migrants have moved and ensure people (including migrants) occupying private rented

¹⁵ The proportion of properties is a statutory requirement- see The Selective Licensing of Houses (Additional Conditions)(England) Order 2015- Article 3 (1) (a)

¹⁶ It is a prerequisite to making a scheme that such a review has been carried out. The Selective Licensing of Houses (Additional Conditions)(England) Order 2015 – Article 4 (a)

properties do not live in poorly managed housing or unacceptable conditions.

25. In considering whether an area is experiencing, or has experienced, high levels of migration: the local housing authority will want to consider whether the area has experienced a relatively large increase in the size of the population over a relatively short period of time. In assessing this, the local housing authority should consider whether net migration into the designated area has increased the population of the area. We suggest a population increase of around 15% or more over a 12 month period would be indicative that the area has or is experiencing a high level of migration into it.
26. The designated area must contain a high proportion of privately rented properties with a significant number of migrants to the area occupying them. In assessing whether the area is experiencing or has experienced significant migration the local housing authority will want to have regard to such information it holds on households in the area; any significant increase in the call for, or in the provision of, local authority services in the area; any increase in local authority or police intervention in the area and any changes to the socio-economic character of the area.
27. The scheme should state what actions the local housing authority intends to take to ensure the preservation or improvements to the social or economic conditions of the area. It should also state what it would put in place through licensing, to ensure proper standards of management of privately rented properties in the area are maintained, and to prevent properties becoming overcrowded.
28. The outcome of the designation should be to preserve or improve the economic or social conditions of the area during the lifetime of the designation and ensure that a proper standard of management of privately rented property is maintained and that properties do not become overcrowded.

High levels of deprivation

29. A local housing authority may make a designation if the area is experiencing a high level of deprivation. It must, however, be clear that by making the scheme it will, together with other measures as part of a wider strategy, improve housing conditions in the private rented sector in that area.
30. In deciding whether to make a designation because the local authority considers the area suffers from a high level of deprivation we recommend that the local housing authority considers the following factors when compared to other similar neighbourhoods in the local authority area or within the region:
 - the employment status of adults;
 - the average income of households;
 - the health of households;
 - the availability and ease of access to education, training and other services

for households;

- housing conditions;
- the physical environment;
- levels of crime.

31. Although it is a matter for the local housing authority to determine, whether having regard to the above factors, the area is one that is suffering from a high level of deprivation, the local housing authority may only make a designation if a high proportion of housing in the area is in the private rented sector.

32. The scheme should state what actions the local housing authority intends to take to combat housing problems associated with the deprivation; including, for example, through licence conditions to ensure properties are managed properly, and can contribute to an improvement in the well-being of the occupants and wider community.

33. The outcome of the designation should be (together with other measures) a reduction of the problems with housing in the private rented sector contributing to the high level of deprivation.

High levels of crime

34. In considering whether an area suffers from a high level of crime the local housing authority may wish to have regard to whether the area has displayed a noticeable increase in crime over a relatively short period, such as in the previous 12 months; whether the crime rate in the area is significantly higher than in other parts of the local authority area or that the crime rate is higher than the national average. In particular the local housing authority may want to consider whether the impact of crime in the area affects the local community and the extent to which a selective licensing scheme can address the problems.

35. The licensing scheme must be part of a wider strategy to address crime in the designated area and can only be made if a high proportion of properties in that area are in the private rented sector. In particular the local housing authority should consider:

- whether the criminal activities impact on some people living in privately rented accommodation as well as others living in the areas and businesses therein;
- the nature of the criminal activity, e.g. theft, burglary, arson, criminal damage, graffiti;
- whether some of the criminal activity is the responsibility of some people living in privately rented accommodation.

36. The scheme should show what measures the local housing authority will be able to take through licensing (and such other measures as are being taken), to reduce criminal activity in the area, such as by imposing conditions in licences to ensure properties are safe from intruders.
37. The outcome of the designation (together with the other measures) should lead to a reduction in crime in the area.

Selective licensing as part of the overall housing strategy

38. Selective licensing is not a tool that can be used in isolation. The local housing authority will have to show how such a designation will be part of the overall strategic borough wide approach¹⁷, and how it fits with existing policies on:

- Homelessness
- Empty Homes
- Regeneration
- Anti-social behaviour associated with privately renting tenants

39. Local housing authorities must also ensure that selective licensing complements other measures. It should only be used where existing measures alone are not sufficient to tackle the underlying housing problems of a specific area. Local authorities should also carefully consider any potential negative economic impact that licensing may have on their area – particularly the risk of increased costs to landlords who are already fully compliant with their obligations. These additional costs can reduce further investment and are frequently passed on to tenants through higher rents.

40. The selective licensing scheme must be consistent with the overall housing strategy and co-ordinated with procedures for homelessness, empty properties, anti-social behaviour in the private rented sector, and housing market renewal activity.

41. Local housing authorities will also have to demonstrate the role of other partners (if any), such as the Police or Social Services, in ensuring the designation reaches its goal.

42. The local housing authority must show:

- It has considered whether there are any other courses of action available to them that might provide an effective method of achieving the objectives that the designation is intended to achieve, and;
- how the making of the designation will significantly assist the local housing authority in achieving its' objectives (whether or not in conjunction with those other measures).

43. It is important for local housing authorities to demonstrate how licensing will work in conjunction with existing initiatives (such as landlord accreditation) and partnerships. Licensing in itself is not a stand-alone tool, and local housing authorities should take account of this. For example, landlords will need adequate

support to help them deal with problem tenants. Local housing authorities should ensure that their schemes are adequately resourced and include services such as active outreach support programmes to engage with landlords and tenants who need their assistance.

44. It is also important for local housing authorities to consider some of the possible effects of making a designation, and to include any risk assessment they may have carried out. For example, has there been an assessment of the likelihood of possible displacement of unprofessional landlords to other areas within the local authority's jurisdiction, or to neighbouring local authorities.

Consultation requirements

45. Section 80 (9) of the Act states that when considering designating an area the local housing authority must:

- take reasonable steps to consult persons who are likely to be affected by the designation, and,
- consider any representations made in accordance with the consultation.

46. Local housing authorities will be required to conduct a full consultation. This should include consultation of local residents, including tenants, landlords and where appropriate their managing agents and other members of the community who live or operate businesses or provide services within the proposed designation. It should also include local residents and those who operate businesses or provide services in the surrounding area outside of the proposed designation that will be affected. Local housing authorities should ensure that the consultation is widely publicised using various channels of communication.

47. If the designation does not require the confirmation of the Secretary of State because of its extent the local housing authority must consult on the proposed scheme for at least 10 weeks. We recommend that if the scheme requires confirmation the local housing authority should aim to consult for at least 10 weeks unless there are special reasons for not doing so.

48. The consultation should be informative, clear and to the point, so the proposal is readily understood. It should inform local residents, landlords, letting agents and businesses about the proposed designation, giving the reasons for proposing it, why alternative remedies are insufficient, demonstrating how it will tackle specific problems together with other specified measures, and describing the proposed outcome of the designation. It should also set out the proposed fee structure and level of fees the authority is minded to charge (if any). Consultees should be invited to give their views, and these should all be considered and responded to.

49. Once the consultation has been completed the results should then be published and made available to the local community. This should be in the form of a summary of the responses received and should demonstrate how these have either been acted on or not, giving reasons.

Application to the Secretary of State for Confirmation

50. Applications for confirmation of Selective Licensing designations should be submitted to the Department for Communities and Local Government and should use the following structure.

- **Introduction.** This should cover the strategic significance of the proposed area and provide a detailed description of the proposed area (including the number and types of properties affected, and a map of the area).
- **An explanation of whether the designation is for more than 20% of the local authority's geographical area; or affects more than 20% of privately rented homes in the area and how this was calculated or where the scheme is for less than 20% of the area or homes, how it together with other schemes affects more than 20% cumulatively.**
- **Where the designation would cover over 20% of the area or 20% of properties the application should set out what the rationale for adopting a large scale scheme is.**
- **Current position with regards to tackling:**
 - low housing demand;
 - anti-social behaviour;
 - poor property conditions;
 - an influx of migration;
 - a high level of deprivation;
 - high levels of crime;

demonstrating how the area would benefit from the combination of existing policies and selective licensing.

- **Conclusion, addressing the relevant issues that were raised in the stakeholder consultation and details as to what the long term impact of the scheme will be on the proposed area.**

51. In addition the local housing authority must include with the application:

- **A copy of the consultation document and the published summary of the responses;**
- **Details of the fees that will be charged;**

- A copy of the Designation and minutes of the Council meeting resolving to make the designation;
- A copy of the local housing authority's strategy to ensure compliance with the scheme and enforcement against those who do not comply. It must also supply the level of compliance with other licensing schemes it operates, including mandatory House of Multiple Occupation licensing.

52. Applications should be e-mailed to: selectivelicensing@communities.gsi.gov.uk

Hard copies should be sent to:

The Department for Communities and Local Government

Private Sector Property

Fry Building

2 Marsham Street

London SW1P 4DF

Department's role in the confirmation process

53. The Secretary of State's role in confirmation will be exercised by officials in the Private Sector Property Division and the final decision whether to confirm or refuse to confirm the designation will be made by a senior official of the division.
54. The decision will be in writing and where appropriate, will give reasons where the Secretary of State declines to give consent. There is no appeal against the Secretary of State's decision, although it can be subject to judicial review.
55. We aim to make a decision in relation to an application within 8 weeks from receipt, but processing applications may take longer if we have not been given all the information required, or we require further information or research, or if the case is complex.
56. We may request further information relating to the application and supporting documentation, including clarification of matters which are unclear and we may seek further evidence of certain matters. If we do not have sufficient information to make a decision we will let you know.
57. The role of the Secretary of State is not about second-guessing the local housing authority's reasons for making the decision. As this guidance makes clear local housing authorities will know their local housing market conditions better than the Department. The approval system is concerned with ensuring that the local housing authority has carried out the requirements imposed on it through the legislation before making the designation and can sufficiently demonstrate,

where a scheme will impact on a large geographical area or number of privately rented properties, that there is robust evidence to support the reasons for making the designation.

58. There is no presumption towards refusal or acceptance. All applications will be considered impartially on a case by case basis balancing the views and interest of all parties and we will consider representations in support of the application from Government Departments and agencies, such as the Home Office.
59. However, the Secretary of State will take into account in deciding whether to confirm a scheme, the robustness of the proposed measures to ensure compliance¹⁸. In particular, the Secretary of State will expect to be assured there are systems in place to monitor compliance, and enforcement measures are in place where there is non-compliance. He will also take account when considering confirmation of a new scheme whether there has been sufficient compliance with other licensing schemes operating in the local housing authority area.
60. It is important that licensing schemes that exist are robustly enforced and if a local housing authority is unable to show compliance this will cast doubt on its ability to ensure compliance with the application scheme.

Duration and Notification of a Selective licensing Scheme

61. Where a designation does not require confirmation, it cannot come into force until three months after it is made. Where it requires confirmation, it cannot come into force until three months after it has been confirmed by the Secretary of State¹⁹.

62. A designation may be made for up to 5 years²⁰.

63. Section 83 of the Act requires local housing authorities to publish a notice of the designation once it has been confirmed. A local housing authority must:

- publish a notice within the designated area within seven days of the designation being confirmed.
- notify all those consulted on the proposed designation within two weeks of the designation being confirmed.

64. Further information on the publication requirements relating to additional and selective licensing designations can be found in Statutory Instrument No. 373 "The Licensing and Management of Houses in Multiple Occupation and Other Houses (Miscellaneous Provisions) (England) Regulations 2006" which can be found on the Office of Public Sector Information website www.opsi.gov.uk.

¹⁹ Housing Act 2004, section 82 (3) and (7)

²⁰ Housing Act 2004, section 84 (2)

Local Authority Review of a Selective licensing Scheme

65. Sections 84 of the Act require local housing authorities to:

- Review the operation of a designation made by them from time to time, and;
- If following a review they consider it appropriate to do so, they may revoke the designation.

66. Selective licensing is not intended to be an end in itself. It is a means to an end. It is about improving management standards in the private sector in areas where those standards are sorely needed to be improved, for the benefit of occupiers and the wider community. Therefore after making a designation local housing authorities must continue to monitor designations to show that they are achieving the desired effect. For example, if a selective licensing designation is deemed to have worked, and the problems of low demand and/or anti-social behaviour have been resolved in an area, the local housing authority may consider that the designation is no longer needed and should be revised or revoked. Alternatively, if a designation is failing to tackle the issues it is meant to address, the local housing authority may consider that the designation should be revised or revoked and alternative measures considered addressing the issues. The Government recognises that licensing may have to be a long term strategy and that it will not provide instant solutions. It also appreciates that, if in the initial phase there has been little improvement in an area, this does not necessarily mean that a designation is a failure.

Renewal of a Selective licensing Scheme which requires confirmation

67. When considering whether a local housing authority should renew a selective licensing scheme which requires confirmation by the Secretary of State, consideration will be given as to whether the existing schemes have met or not met their objectives, and whether they were properly made. The Secretary of State will only confirm a renewal if he is satisfied there is a continuing need for a scheme in the area and the consultation and other processes have been gone through.

68. Any existing scheme that covers more than 20% of the geographical area of the authority or 20% of private rented homes in the area will require confirmation on any proposed renewal as will any scheme which covers less than 20% but cumulatively with other schemes would include more than 20% of the area of stock.

Annex

Special Interim Management Order

It will not be appropriate to make a selective licensing designation to address isolated individual problems of anti-social behaviour which nevertheless seriously impact upon the local community. In such cases local housing authorities should consider making a Special Interim Management Order (SIMO) under part 4 of the Act²¹.

A Special Interim Management Order transfers the management of a residential property to the local housing authority for a period of up to twelve months and can only be made if approved by the First Tier Tribunal (Residential Property). The tribunal may not authorise a Special Interim Management Order in respect of a property unless, in the case of non-Houses of Multiple Occupation, there is anti-social behaviour emanating from the property, the landlord is failing to take appropriate action to deal with the problem, and, that it is necessary to make the order to protect the health, safety or welfare of persons occupying, visiting or engaged in lawful activities in the locality of the house.

²¹ The criteria for making such an order is set out in SI 2006/360- The Housing (Interim Management Orders) (Prescribed Circumstances) (England) Order 2006

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PEARS**

F5 Cemetery Opening

Question:

What was the reason the security company did not open the gates to New Hall Cemetery on Christmas Day at the time advertised?

Answer:

The Security Company has indicated it was an oversight on their behalf i.e. human error.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR NEIL EUSTACE**

F6 Homelessness

Question:

Recent figures released by the Office for National Statistics has shown the number of deaths of homeless people in England and Wales has seen an increase of 7.2 per cent in 2019, representing the highest number of estimated deaths since statistics began. The City's efforts to get people sleeping rough off the streets and stop people from becoming homeless during the COVID-19 pandemic have shown it is possible to make a significant difference to the numbers of people forced to sleep on the streets. Could the Cabinet Member provide details of how work will continue helping the homeless now we are moving from Tier 4 to National Lockdown, including a breakdown of costs and how this is likely to continue into the new financial year?

Answer:

It is with sadness that we note the figures representing the deaths of homeless people. It must be noted that these statistics record homelessness to include hostels, night-shelters, and temporary accommodation, as well as people rough sleeping. We are not aware of anyone dying on the streets of Birmingham as a rough sleeper, in 2019.

There has been notable success this year in reducing the number of people found sleeping rough on the streets. The groundwork for the approach taken is through existing, ongoing funding, in particular Adult Social Care commissioning of Street Outreach, emergency accommodation, long-term supported accommodation and complex needs services; as well as prevention Hubs for young people, domestic abuse, offenders and over 25's. These contracts were newly in place December 2019 and are for a minimum of 3 years.

In addition, Birmingham is in its third year receiving MHCLG Rough Sleepers Initiative funding £788,000. Programmes funded for rough sleepers include coordination of services, social work, substance misuse treatment, navigators, and Housing Options Officers, as well as additional emergency accommodation. Government has announced an additional £105m for RSI 4. Birmingham would hope to see at least as much funding available next year as this and has been encouraged to consider what has worked this year, and therefore should attract additional RSI for 2021-22. Further the WMCA has received RSI funding this year and is financing further outreach capacity, dedicated women's support, and help to people with 'no recourse to public funds'. This income again is hoped to continue into 2021-22.

Funding made nationally available in response to Covid-19, and received by Birmingham City Council, has had a significant impact; some of this funding ends March 2021, some is for a longer period.

The Next Steps Accommodation Programme (NSAP) has provided £595,000 revenue, primarily meeting the costs of emergency accommodation. The need for this provision is expected to have ceased by March 2021 as it largely is focused on accommodating people in

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response to protection from Covid-19. NSAP capital funded £37,680 capital for the refurbishment of an existing care home. This will re-open in March 2021 as the Adult Transition Centre, for 11 most vulnerable rough sleepers, It is further supported by £508,000 revenue from NSAP 2020-24. The WMCA secured further NSAP which will enable the purchase of 10, 1-bedroom flats in Birmingham for rough sleepers. Birmingham is receiving £93,000 to support those individuals 2020-24.

Birmingham received £90,000 of Cold Weather Funding. This enables Severe Weather Emergency Protocol provision for rough sleepers and should enable provision through this winter. Such funding is likely to be repeated in winter 2021.

Birmingham received £430,000 from MHCLG for the Protect Programme November 2020 – March 2021. This programme provides for additional accommodation and a targeted, personalised approach to remaining, core, entrenched rough sleepers. Successes from this programme will look to be incorporated into RSI 4.

It has been announced that Birmingham will receive an additional £792,075 for substance misuse treatment for rough sleepers and homeless people, from PHE and for 2020-22. This will significantly increase the capacity for treatment and support to people who are most at risk of death due to the combination of risks their lives present.

Birmingham has also bid for Out of Hospital Care (Shared Outcomes) funding; £40,000 2020-21 and £600,000 2021-22. The outcome of this bid is awaited. If secured the pathways out of hospital for homeless people will be further strengthened. An opportunity to bid for a similar fund relating to prison release is also anticipated shortly. A bid is also being prepared for the Shared Outcomes Fund for young people's (16-25 Transition Centre) service development.

There is now a strong accommodation and support offer to people sleeping rough. This offer has remained in place from the first lockdown and will continue through the current lockdown, while also enhanced by the range of additional offers described above.

There is not anticipated to be additional cost to Birmingham City Council (unless funded by other routes), going into 2021-22.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR ROGER HARMER**

F7 Council House Modernisation Programme'

Question:

How many kitchen and bathroom modernizations have taken place/are planned to take place in council housing during the current financial year, the previous 5 financial years and how many more are planned for the coming financial year? Could this information be split by Ward?

Answer:

The previous 5 financial years are as follows:

	Bathroom	Kitchen
ACOCKS-GRN	121	128
ALLENSCRSS	86	60
ALUM-ROCK	4	3
ASTON-WARD	7	7
BALSALLHTW	3	3
BARTLEYGRN	25	24
BILLESLEY	53	48
BIRCHFLD	2	3
BORDESLEY	5	5
BORD-HIGH	3	4
BOURN-COTT	6	7
BOURNSELLY	9	5
BRANDKINGS	40	44
BROMFHODGE	2	2
DRUIDSMONY	5	7
EDGBASTON	2	1
EDGBNORTH	7	10

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	Bathroom	Kitchen
ERDINGTON	15	20
FRANK-GPRK	5	7
GARRETTS	37	45
GLEBE-TILE	103	120
GRAVELLY	42	48
HALLGREENN	35	36
HANDSWORTH	5	8
HARBRNE	31	31
HEARTLANDS	6	7
HIGHTERSH	39	36
HOLYHEAD	3	3
KINGSNORTN	13	14
KINGSNORTS	1	1
KINGSTANDG	315	392
LADY-WOOD	5	4
LONG-WESTH	9	9
LOZELLSWRD	8	9
MOSELEYWRD	7	9
NECHELLS	2	1
NEWTOWN	10	14
NORTHFLD	1	1
OSCOTT	79	88
OUTOFCITY	2	2
PERRY-BARR	3	3
PERRY-COMM	50	57
PYPE-HAYES	75	88
QUINTON	18	20
RUBERY-RED	14	16

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	Bathroom	Kitchen
SHARD-END	7	10
SHELDN-WRD	3	5
SMALLHEATH	4	5
SOHO-JEWEL	10	16
SPARK-BHE	1	1
SPARKHILL	3	3
STH-YARDLY	8	11
STIRCHLEY	25	22
STOCKLANDG	71	82
SUTT-FOURO	1	2
SUTT-MERE	6	8
SUTT-REDDI	23	24
SUTT-ROUGH	5	5
SUTT-TRIN	20	23
SUTT-VESEY	9	11
SUTT-WARM	8	9
SUTT-WYLDE	1	1
TYSELEYHAY	68	69
WARD-END	11	15
WEOLEYSELL	82	79
YARDLEY-E	4	9
YARDW-STET	27	31
Total	1710	1891

For the year 2020/21 our intention was to provide 360 kitchen / bathrooms

For the year 2021/22 our intention is to provide 1200 kitchen / bathrooms

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT**

F8 Starter Homes'

Question:

The failure to deliver discounted starter homes has left some 85,000 young people nationally waiting for an affordable place to live, according to the Commons Public Accounts Committee. There is a desperate need to reverse the decline in council housing over the past few decades with Council's generally supporting the aspiration of people wanting to buy their own home and helping those that want to buy to be able to. However, it is important a full mix of homes and tenures are available especially in our local area. Could the Cabinet Member detail what steps are being taken to address this shortfall, giving details of the current and planned pipeline of council development for HRA and affordable market sale properties to include numbers of properties to be developed by tenure and anticipated build dates, also indicating which wards this additional development will affect?

Answer:

The City Council recognises its role to ensure that we are building and planning to respond to the housing needs of all members of our community, including our constituents who want to buy their own homes.

The Council's developer arm, BMHT which has already seen over 3,400 new homes built since 2009 continues to make an important contribution to housing delivery in the city and has a programme that seeks to plan and deliver homes for rent and homes for sale. The sales programmes are targeted at our residents who want to own their own homes who may be key workers, for example and on lower incomes.

The table attached gives details of the homes for sale and rent that BMHT is currently planning for this financial year and the next 10 years.

It is to be noted that we are looking at ways of accelerating and increasing the delivery of affordable homes including sales and other equity share products. This will include the following:

- Key worker schemes
- Build to Rent products
- Shared ownership and other equity products working with registered providers to deliver

We will also explore ways in which our InReach our wholly owned subsidiary can contribute to the delivery of sale products in response to various funding initiatives available via WMCA, LEB and Homes England.

Neighbourhoods, Inclusive Growth and Planning have commissioned a strategic housing market analysis to secure update information on the needs of our community which will directly

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feed into the growth and delivery targets for all affordable housing tenures. The attached programme is therefore expected to grow subject to the availability of funds and capacity across all sectors including private and Registered Providers.



Copy of BMHT Future
Programme overview

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F8 - Excel sheet attachment

Ward	2021 / 2022		2022 / 2023		2023 / 2024		2024 /
	Rent	Sales	Rent	Sales	Rent	Sales	Rent
Allens Cross			11				
Alum Rock	14		14				
Barkley Green		24	24	20	23	22	
Billey	5		6				
Bordesley Green	4						
Brandwood			10		45		10
Druids Heath & Moryhull				10	20	20	25
Edlington	2	13		6			
Frankley Great Park			25	14	18	14	
Garnett Green					10		
Harborne			5				
Heartlands							
Hodge Hill	21		50		27		25
Kings Norton	13	59	54	17	77	10	45
Kingsland			15	5	41	40	45
Longbridge	9						
Longbridge & West Heath					7		
Lozells and East Handsworth		10		6			
Nechells	32		10				
North Edgbaston					25	30	25
Perry Barr			34		23		
Quinton	9						
Shard End	3		71	30	36	30	30
Sheldon							
South Yardley	7		17				
Sparkbrook			30		55		10
Stockland Green			5		25		29
Sutton New Hall	5						
Sutton Reddick			4				
Sutton Walmsley & Minworth							
Tyburn	20	51	20	33	10		
	144	157	405	143	442	165	249

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL TILSLEY**

F9 Homelessness

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member advise the Council how many homeless people are in accommodation outside the city, providing the Council with the number of people that are in temporary accommodation in the City in (a) hostels and (b) hotels?

Answer:

The City Council is currently accommodating (as at 6.1.2021), 3542 households in temporary accommodation. The breakdown is as follows:

- 554 Households are in Bed and Breakfast (91 of which are outside of the City)
- 190 Households are in Hostels
- 2798 Households are in other forms of temporary accommodation (233 of which are outside of the City)

The Housing Options Service is working extremely hard to prevent homelessness, where possible, and to look at alternative move on options for those who are accommodated in temporary accommodation.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR ZAKER CHOUDHRY**

F10 Council House Modernisation Programme

Question:

Splitting by ward, could you detail how many kitchen and bathroom modernizations have successfully taken place in council houses during the last 10 years and also confirm the costs associated with these modernization programmes?

Answer:

Listed below is the number of kitchen and bathroom modernizations that have successfully taken place in council houses during the last 10 years under the capital steam (from January 2011 to year to date), and does not include any properties where the kitchen or bathroom has been upgraded whilst the property has been void.

	Bathroom	Kitchen
ACOCKS-GRN	196	208
ALLENSCRSS	125	104
ALUM-ROCK	14	13
ASTON-WARD	15	15
BALSALLHTW	5	6
BARTLEYGRN	38	41
BILLESLEY	84	86
BIRCHFLD	4	5
BORDESLEY	9	10
BORD-HIGH	8	10
BOURN-COTT	12	12
BOURNSELY	29	25
BRANDKINGS	49	55
BROMFHODGE	22	23
DRUIDSMONY	11	17
EDGBASTON	5	7
EDGBNORTH	12	50

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ERDINGTON	32	37
FRANK-GPRK	14	16
GARRETTS	43	51
GLEBE-TILE	140	157
GRAVELLY	65	73
HALLGREENN	81	88
HALLGREENS	4	3
HANDS-WOOD	8	9
HANDSWORTH	6	10
HARBRNE	45	47
HEARTLANDS	46	44
HIGHTERSH	56	52
HOLYHEAD	18	19
KINGSNORTN	21	23
KINGSNORTS	4	6
KINGSTANDG	408	485
LADY-WOOD	5	5
LONG-WESTH	34	39
LOZELLSWRD	11	13
MOSELEYWRD	12	15
NECHELLS	5	4
NEWTOWN	12	17
NORTHFLD	2	3
OSCOTT	119	127
OUTOFCITY	2	3
PERRY-BARR	5	5
PERRY-COMM	92	100
PYPE-HAYES	111	123
QUINTON	30	32

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RUBERY-RED	28	30
SHARD-END	49	51
SHELDN-WRD	6	8
SMALLHEATH	11	12
SOHO-JEWEL	22	30
SPARK-BHE	14	13
SPARKHILL	14	14
STH-YARDLY	12	18
STIRCHLEY	48	47
STOCKLANDG	107	117
SUTT-FOURO	2	3
SUTT-MERE	17	18
SUTT-REDDI	28	29
SUTT-ROUGH	7	7
SUTT-TRIN	28	31
SUTT-VESEY	12	15
SUTT-WARM	11	12
SUTT-WYLDE	1	1
TYSELEYHAY	97	98
WARD-END	29	33
WEOLEYSELL	105	103
YARDLEY-E	6	11
YARDW-STET	42	46
Total	2765	3040

Costs associated with the kitchen and bathroom modernizations:

	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
	nd £m	Spend £m	Spend £m	Spend £m	Spend £m	Spend £m	Spend £m	Spend £m	Spend £m	Spend £m
Kitchens and Bathrooms	4.1	4.0	6.3	9.9	8.9	8.6	7.8	9.2	9.6	6.8

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR MORRIAM JAN**

F11 Sprinkler Systems

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member detail how much money has been spent on retro fitting full sprinkler systems to council tower blocks and maisonettes, by ward, confirming which systems have been used and if these have a yearly maintenance cost?

Answer:

Please see the costs for retro fitting full sprinkler systems each year below:

In financial year 2018/19 the spend came to £2.80m

In financial year 2019/20 we spent £11.871m

To date in financial year 2020/21 we have spent £8.60m

The system that has been installed is fully compliant to BS9251

There is no additional maintenance cost of the sprinkler system to the council, as this is a fixed asset and is covered under Price Per Property in accordance with the contracts.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF LICENSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
COMMITTEE FROM COUNCILLOR NEIL EUSTACE**

G COVID-19

Question:

It has been reported scammers are using the COVID vaccine roll out to target constituents with fraudulent messages, could the Cabinet Member explain the actions that are being taken in the City to clamp down on such behaviours?

Answer:

The Trading Standards Service has been undertaking investigations into scam texts, websites and emails that are being used to target constituents during the coronavirus pandemic. As many of these scams originate abroad, the Service is liaising with other Trading Standards enforcing authorities nationally and using the press and social media to warn residents about the scams. There has been a success removing a scam website and investigations are ongoing with colleagues from Audit about scam grant applications. Where a UK based scammer the Service will act. There have been no recorded allegations specifically about vaccine scams but the Service is aware of texts circulating.

As an example of the intelligence the Service has about current scams, the latest scam is an alleged NHS text asking for credit card or debit card details. The Service has circulated the message to notify colleagues across the region and issued warnings to residents to delete the message should they receive it.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR GARETH MOORE**

H1 Parks Survey 2020

Question:

Please provide a copy of the Birmingham Parks Survey 2020?

Answer:

Participation in the 2020 survey closed on 8 November 2020 and the results will be made available on the Council's website once they have been verified:

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20089/parks/1099/parks_performance

The survey was published on BeHeard and is not available as hard copy.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR ZAKER CHOUDHRY**

H2 Fleet and Waste Recycling Recruitment

Question:

Diversity in terms of gender, ethnicity and other protected characteristics is a key issue for council employment policy. Why are there no fleet and waste recycling jobs advertising on the council's website?

Answer:

The Street Scene service is not currently recruiting to these roles but once all internal recruitment processes have been completed the vacancies will be posted on relevant websites.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR NEIL EUSTACE**

H3 Refuse Collections

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member state how many times waste crews are having to return to an area to collect litter during the financial year to date and indicate the cost of this to the Council split by depot?

Answer:

Street Cleansing is carried out to a scheduled programme. This programme has been developed from the Ward Plans based on need and current budget. We do try and keep to the schedule to enable an efficient cleansing programme. Additional cleansing is sometimes carried out based on reports, complaints and proactive observations by crews and managers.

There are a number of fly tipping hot spots across the City that are regularly cleansed, and wherever possible these sites are monitored by Waste Enforcement Officers.

The costs of these operations are contained within the overall Street Cleansing Expenditure and are not identified separately.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR ROGER HARMER

H4 Fly Tipping

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member provide a report on the number of complaints, by ward, concerning fly tipping, including the number of incidents logged by month for the year to date and breakdown of associated costs of removal?

Answer:

The below table gives information for 2020. The 'unknown ward' is where the incident has been recorded on non-corporate properties and we don't have a ward associated with the property.

The costs of clearing up fly tipping are not recorded specifically as these duties are carried out as part of the Street Cleansing function.

Ward / Month received	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Unknwn Ward	14	7	18	21	18	28	28	27	36	26	19	15	257
Acocks Green	36	49	26	26	52	71	85	81	53	73	61	50	663
Allens Cross	10	7	10	10	11	12	17	28	16	14	13	20	168
Alum Rock	99	107	100	78	66	129	180	125	157	126	72	104	1343
Aston	72	61	46	53	52	78	95	176	180	105	48	60	1026
Balsall Heath West	63	107	42	39	69	109	99	91	92	60	48	41	860
Bartley Green	42	38	25	38	48	53	56	58	48	37	50	31	524
Billesley	31	23	23	33	44	37	37	25	45	34	49	37	418
Birchfield	37	41	40	61	58	76	94	82	53	60	73	58	733
Bordesley & Highgate	62	61	37	49	56	83	101	86	109	90	77	66	877
Bordesley Green	110	104	75	106	99	158	205	133	206	139	140	119	1594
Bournbrook & Selly Park	34	40	26	19	30	39	71	34	48	72	49	25	487
Bournville & Cotteridge	17	4	7	5	14	13	21	26	15	14	13	17	166
Brandwood & Kings Heath	38	29	20	28	54	58	59	46	51	64	44	40	531
Bromford & Hodge Hill	23	35	25	33	40	49	56	58	84	89	56	40	588
Castle Vale	17	13	13	9	7	23	19	16	19	9	14	15	174
Druids Heath & Monyhull	9	11	14	15	17	23	38	18	22	25	32	9	233
Edgbaston	13	21	8	16	12	11	13	16	21	18	16	7	172
Erdington	54	48	37	38	40	50	65	68	43	49	30	40	562

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Frankley Great Park	12	6	5	10	25	24	21	25	24	19	13	23	207
Garretts Green	14	14	12	16	25	28	20	16	22	17	22	27	233
Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	36	32	31	54	54	62	88	58	65	63	49	51	643
Gravelly Hill	14	12	14	15	15	23	27	18	25	29	14	18	224
Hall Green North	36	35	22	30	32	45	49	47	77	44	37	26	480
Hall Green South	15	4	5	4	24	12	15	11	11	13	23	13	150
Handsworth	56	59	38	33	47	71	66	101	99	99	61	59	789
Handsworth Wood	35	42	24	52	42	53	85	82	70	58	52	50	645
Harborne	24	19	25	55	47	45	76	50	70	61	94	53	619
Heartlands	58	46	43	51	48	103	76	81	92	60	76	48	782
Highters Heath	15	7	2	12	23	22	33	20	13	23	9	11	190
Holyhead	85	69	62	89	70	94	62	130	139	96	68	61	1025
Kings Norton North	13	13	6	10	12	24	16	28	4	12	2	10	150
Kings Norton South	21	10	7	26	22	59	37	38	37	33	23	13	326
Kingstanding	20	22	19	40	32	38	51	46	71	55	39	43	476
Ladywood	19	16	15	33	23	46	57	45	26	36	39	29	384
Longbridge & West Heath	21	38	15	23	27	23	25	18	27	25	22	23	287
Lozells	42	37	23	30	30	44	46	63	58	41	40	63	517
Moseley	39	31	38	25	37	47	63	59	74	47	83	54	597
Nechells	26	39	29	20	44	45	52	49	67	33	25	42	471
Newtown	41	26	23	9	19	35	52	45	41	24	25	27	367
North Edgbaston	56	50	27	71	44	77	90	96	121	86	75	72	865
Northfield	11	5	3	15	13	18	6	15	20	20	35	13	174
Oscott	15	13	9	12	17	27	23	17	24	17	17	13	204
Perry Barr	18	26	26	25	19	28	32	30	31	31	27	16	309
Perry Common	17	12	12	12	15	13	21	25	22	38	65	34	286
Pype Hayes	9	13	7	12	26	9	21	19	18	12	9	11	166
Quinton	30	31	20	32	38	41	31	55	54	37	58	36	463
Rubery & Rednal	8	12	5	7	10	10	21	13	4	9	15	4	118
Shard End	17	15	17	27	20	31	40	30	38	16	14	29	294
Sheldon	21	20	10	17	17	34	24	27	35	23	32	22	282
Small Heath	71	63	54	96	109	125	131	120	180	134	147	108	1338
Soho & Jewellery Quarter	104	79	71	59	98	189	172	199	145	121	86	110	1433
South Yardley	5	4	7	11	9	13	29	16	11	21	13	6	145
Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East	179	112	95	133	117	218	229	194	273	153	161	144	2008
Sparkhill	58	52	30	71	70	106	90	107	138	88	75	69	954
Stirchley	12	23	8	13	16	13	19	31	9	14	13	14	185
Stockland Green	37	21	23	42	35	55	109	58	54	62	80	61	637

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Sutton Four Oaks	2		2	4	2	3		1	1	4	9		28
Sutton Mere Green	2		1	3	1	4	4	2	4	3		1	25
Sutton Reddicap	12	5	4	5	13	8	11	13	7	4	11	8	101
Sutton Roughley	4	4	6	12	9	13	7	5	8	3	6	6	83
Sutton Trinity	2	1	3	8	4	5	10	4	4	13	2	2	58
Sutton Vesey	3	5	5	6	8	11	15	11	17	9	6	7	103
Sutton Walmley & Minworth	21	12	6	19	24	22	17	13	18	13	27	14	206
Sutton Wylde Green	3	12	2	7	6	8	3	3	6	4	1	3	58
Tyseley & Hay Mills	29	22	19	38	41	78	88	49	59	76	74	85	658
Ward End	39	42	35	39	47	67	84	70	88	93	69	63	736
Weoley & Selly Oak	48	27	16	23	35	50	58	60	41	47	35	31	471
Yardley East	11	8	15	12	14	15	20	31	27	18	31	6	208
Yardley West & Stechford	10	19	18	28	18	35	38	36	39	28	28	22	319
Grand Total	2277	2091	1606	2173	2380	3369	3799	3574	3906	3189	2941	2548	33853

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND
PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT**

H5 Maintenance Programme

Question:

Now that monies have been approved for this financial year to enable the additional clearing of leaves, could the Cabinet Member explain how this budget has been allocated, setting out how many extra rounds of cleaning has been accounted for and delivered in the City, by ward, and indicating how priority has been given to the clearance of blocked drains and gully's?

Answer:

The budget was allocated for short term hire as follows:

Employees	£294,232.00
Vehicles and Equipment	£105,768.00

The has enabled an additional 3 vehicles and supplementary staff at Lifford Lane, Perry Barr and Redfern Road and 3 additional Glutton vehicles and supplementary staff at Montague Street.

The additional crews were not deployed on a ward basis at depot level. The crews were directed to manage known flooding areas. This included clearing drain gullies, as well as areas with high tree densities. Other roads were scheduled for cleansing on a rota to ensure all roads were cleared. They also responded to request for cleansing from Members, council colleagues and the general public.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND PARKS
FROM COUNCILLOR MORRIAM JAN**

H6 Refuse Collections

Question:

Could the cabinet member provide details of the number of reports of missed collections, by month and ward?

Answer:

Information for 2020 is detailed below. This includes both residual and recycling. It excludes containers at flats for residual waste and also garden waste. Residents cannot report the same missed collection more than once, hence the data does not contain any duplicates.

During the course of January to December 2020, approximately 27,799,200 of collections were scheduled to be made. A total of 45,241 were reported as missed collections, which represents 0.16%.

	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total	45241	5703	2763	5528	2831	2707	3601	3964	3595	3787	3605	3312	3845
Acocks Green	1215	154	42	113	56	70	141	131	114	95	102	79	118
Allens Cross	453	53	34	21	14	30	37	49	50	29	45	36	55
Alum Rock	886	68	38	87	70	50	132	106	62	52	82	62	77
Aston	761	69	91	65	52	31	46	55	109	78	58	32	75
Balsall Heath	379	35	9	28	12	23	51	61	30	43	35	27	25
West													
Bartley Green	1138	118	94	93	80	64	88	73	79	108	112	97	132
Billesley	872	122	62	60	49	54	84	91	74	62	84	70	60
Birchfield	310	50	18	40	30	25	14	20	20	22	30	20	21
Bordesley & Highgate	528	56	30	23	16	27	16	62	66	82	67	49	34
Bordesley Green	655	65	32	30	31	39	21	58	104	82	42	53	98
Bournbrook & Selly Park	838	118	76	39	29	35	43	71	59	60	133	96	79
Bournville & Cotteridge	896	100	58	71	64	70	77	106	54	88	75	61	72
Brandwood & Kings Heath	920	167	45	52	43	63	73	96	68	57	75	83	98
Bromford & Hodge Hill	658	32	41	45	33	41	83	67	70	57	43	57	89
Castle Vale	444	97	23	109	18	17	15	28	27	20	32	26	32
Druids Heath & Monyhull	493	58	45	24	46	42	33	45	31	42	55	35	37
Edgbaston	660	37	49	77	31	46	82	43	61	60	68	49	57
Erdington	1183	320	57	235	71	64	56	72	42	58	73	63	72
Frankley Great Park	808	91	52	55	72	59	80	68	59	83	68	43	78
Garretts Green	412	28	24	28	35	26	43	53	40	48	23	27	37
Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	1390	157	64	101	97	82	176	142	154	105	103	97	112

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Gravelly Hill	383	41	15	127	14	24	38	28	18	19	24	16	19
Hall Green North	812	111	50	73	64	34	67	76	80	62	73	58	64
Hall Green South	579	99	19	60	50	36	32	25	40	51	94	35	38
Handsworth	327	37	25	36	20	14	29	32	28	17	32	27	30
Handsworth Wood	468	70	22	29	20	24	27	35	39	62	42	64	34
Harborne	1352	154	105	143	101	82	110	102	114	97	116	129	99
Heartlands	378	23	17	91	23	14	31	24	30	44	24	28	29
Highters Heath	432	78	48	21	19	27	30	43	35	35	32	23	41
Holyhead	294	41	14	17	11	18	22	30	34	23	26	30	28
Kings Norton North	532	94	37	32	44	39	48	52	34	50	40	30	32
Kings Norton South	743	99	38	48	40	77	80	64	62	35	80	74	46
Kingstanding	918	86	33	204	62	44	72	98	51	94	55	57	62
Ladywood	461	33	55	22	18	11	33	58	71	61	33	35	31
Longbridge & West Heath	959	182	90	75	55	66	56	83	56	75	74	58	89
Lozells	269	36	23	42	11	11	16	17	18	23	27	11	34
Moseley	731	105	46	99	35	48	61	103	44	49	50	39	52
Nechells	348	47	29	25	38	29	31	20	55	19	14	11	30
Newtown	248	27	19	28	15	20	14	27	18	19	29	17	15
North Edgbaston	1361	110	115	128	51	57	102	130	182	135	99	163	89
Northfield	552	82	46	27	31	32	32	56	28	49	89	45	35
Oscott	936	54	49	348	45	44	63	35	41	94	42	49	72
Perry Barr	695	82	40	103	68	43	41	70	39	55	65	49	40
Perry Common	499	55	13	142	14	25	37	40	24	36	36	28	49
Pype Hayes	604	151	46	86	20	33	24	41	22	38	48	50	45
Quinton	874	54	50	89	51	47	100	76	59	64	60	81	143
Rubery & Rednal	337	26	15	24	26	31	36	43	15	17	50	26	28
Shard End	545	38	41	96	41	30	58	67	43	35	28	22	46
Sheldon	885	134	37	114	74	53	88	53	52	80	49	49	102
Small Heath	493	60	18	31	29	29	62	73	30	37	33	44	47
Soho & Jewellery Quarter	846	91	68	76	43	39	40	73	143	82	68	62	61
South Yardley	461	95	18	46	37	16	27	47	21	31	28	46	49
Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East	647	60	31	49	49	66	76	35	44	70	63	59	45
Sparkhill	576	52	38	103	37	44	37	72	35	52	21	45	40
Stirchley	404	72	14	12	31	25	31	45	40	23	43	24	44
Stockland Green	871	155	47	202	44	73	71	60	33	59	48	35	44
Sutton Four Oaks	641	104	21	128	73	34	48	32	36	69	34	29	33
Sutton Mere Green	432	72	30	123	51	18	19	17	13	37	18	20	14
Sutton Reddicap	502	70	26	37	30	49	21	50	55	41	33	49	41
Sutton Roughley	372	34	31	37	32	20	24	36	28	64	18	26	22
Sutton Trinity	542	42	23	182	29	29	30	20	46	30	30	59	22
Sutton Vesey	749	50	34	325	35	24	32	36	34	42	37	33	67
Sutton Walmley & Minworth	677	187	26	126	39	41	39	44	36	55	35	16	33
Sutton Wylde Green	435	102	28	70	18	12	19	13	36	66	16	20	35
Tyseley & Hay Mills	574	84	32	31	49	36	55	85	31	43	19	47	62
Ward End	408	32	19	63	44	31	31	27	27	19	27	43	45

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Weoley & Selly Oak	1259	99	83	92	84	83	123	114	102	114	121	97	147
Yardley East	510	49	17	37	34	30	22	36	75	28	44	60	78
Yardley West & Stechford	421	49	38	33	33	37	25	24	25	56	33	32	36

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR MIKE WARD

H7 Recycling

Question:

Could the Cabinet Member update the Council on progress in improving recycling rates, setting out changes by quarter, and indicating the impact of the recycling promotion specialists attached to crews and the number of interventions undertaken?

Answer:

As you can imagine the impact of Covid 19 has had a significant impact on the face to face interactions staff have been able to make this year.

The WRCO role has continued to record contamination and tag bins and provide information on what residents can and cannot recycle.

From 30/03/2020 recycling collections brought in 23,424 tonnes of co-mingled recycling. This is a significant increase to the same period in 2019 where the tonnage was 18,918.

Whilst this is an improvement there is still a way to go to improve the whole City's recycling figure as the residual waste has also increased.

We are planning further information and recycling programmes to roll out over the next 12 months.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR ADAM HIGGS

I1 CAZ advertising

Question:

How much has been spent, and how much committed to be spent, on advertising for the Clean Air Zone, broken down by type of advert (radio, press, social media, billboards etc)

Answer:

The Council bid for and has received £1.23m of funding to support engagement and marketing activity around the launch of the Clean Air Zone. This funding was provided to the Council from the government's Clean Air Fund (£0.40m) and the Clean Air Zone Implementation Fund (£0.83m). Since 2019 the delivery programme has spent £0.438m. This spend has been split across the following categories:

Category	Spend £m
Advertising <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Print• Digital (inc social media)• Out of home (billboards etc)	£0.003m £0.065m £0.080m
Direct Mail	£0.041m
Research	£0.022m
Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Events• Content	£0.141m £0.085m

The remainder of this budget is forecast to be spent as part of preparations for the launch of the Clean Air Zone and in the period shortly after launch. This spend is forecast as follows. These figures do not include a small amount of contingency which is held in reserve.

Category	Spend £m
Advertising <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Radio• Print• Digital (inc social media)• Out of home (billboards etc)	£0.100m £0.070m £0.200m £0.100m

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Direct Mail	£0.090m
Research	£0.050m
Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partnerships (inc events)• Content	£0.100m £0.060m

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT

I2 Speed Cameras

Question:

Following his written answer to Cllr Harmer at last council, could the cabinet member set out what, if any, steps he is taking, by date, to get a programme of average speed camera installation going in the city, explaining whether he is committed to this happening or not and, if he is, to what timetable?

Answer:

Yes, I remain committed to the further roll-out of average speed enforcement (ASE) in the city. The City Council has a statutory obligation on road safety to fulfil but ultimately the responsibility for speed enforcement rests with the Police and it is they who operate the system but with local authorities generally funding both the initial capital outlay and ongoing revenue costs.

Moving forward we need a position where the operating regime with the Police is financially sustainable and all parties able to recover the significant operating costs associated with running the system – the current arrangement does not do this. This may need to include hypothecation of revenues from fines which currently go direct to Treasury and/or the reinstatement of the Road Safety Grant which was previously abolished by the Coalition Government.

The Police are also clear that they wish to move towards a single agreement with local authorities when the current individual agreements will expire. Officers are working with the police and the Combined Authority to progress this, in the first instance, to secure the ongoing operation of existing sites when current arrangements end later this year.

Notwithstanding the need to identify funding for installation of the equipment, the timetable for further roll-out of ASE is dependent on resolution of these issues and not something that the City Council can directly control.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR MORRIAM JAN

I3 Speed Cameras

Question:

Early on last year, the cabinet member gave my ward colleague Jon Hunt a written commitment to investigate the installation of average speed cameras as part of the installation of Sprint bus lanes on the A34 in my Ward. Last month in answers to residents and other Councillors, he indicated that the Council has no plans to fund the installation of speed camera. He also indicated he was talking to the combined authority – sponsors of the Sprint project – about this.

Could the Cabinet Member indicate who is responsible for making a decision about installing average speed cameras, linked to Sprint development, setting out how any such decision will be made in a transparent way?

Answer:

The Police are responsible for enforcement of speed limits. Local authorities also have a statutory duty regarding promotion of road safety and delivery of a road programme aligned to analysis of collision data. The Combined Authority has a coordinating role on road safety with a particular focus on the Key Route Network where they have concurrent powers. We all have a role to play in this and will continue to work together.

Whilst we remain committed to further roll-out of average speed enforcement (ASE), the current financial model is not sustainable as we are not able to recoup the significant cost of maintaining the system. So rather than not having any plans to fund further ASE, it is more a case of not being in a position to do so at this time. Since the abolition of the Road Safety Grant under the Coalition Government, we have limited resources to fulfil our road safety obligations.

Officers have been working with the Sprint team to review road safety audits for the scheme and identify if further action is required or opportunities to make improvements are presented. A review of collision data for the last three years highlights that sections of the A34 Walsall Road would have met the historic criteria for further consideration for camera based speed enforcement and so it will be included in the prioritisation process as and when we are in a position to move forward.

Assuming that BCC is the scheme promoter for further ASE roll-out which is the most likely scenario, then an executive decision would be required either by Cabinet or under officer delegations in consultation with the Cabinet Member depending on value.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO COUNCILLOR KATH HARTLEY, LEAD MEMBER OF
WMCA TRANSPORT DELIVERY COMMITTEE FROM COUNCILLOR MIKE WARD**

J Concessionary Passes

Question:

With so many senior citizens not using their concessionary passes on buses, trams and trains in the area, the WMCA must be saving lots of money in payments to bus companies.

What will these savings be used for?

Answer:

The WMCA is required by the Department for Transport and Central Government to maintain concessionary travel payments to operators at a level assuming Covid-19 had not happened. Therefore, TfWM has continued to pay operators at the same rate to support their operations during this difficult time to ensure that they can provide services for key workers and other essential public transport users, and to aid the financial recovery of the region.

Operators also continue to be supported by central government through payment of the Bus Services Operators Grant (BSOG) at pre-Covid levels and the additional Covid-19 Bus Services Support Grant (CBSSG).