



**MEETING OF BIRMINGHAM
CITY COUNCIL, TUESDAY,
5 MARCH 2024**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL HELD
ON TUESDAY, 5 MARCH 2024 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, COUNCIL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM**

PRESENT:- Lord Mayor (Councillor Chaman Lal) in the Chair.

Councillors

Akhlaq Ahmed	Alex Aitken	Deirdre Alden
Robert Alden	Gurdial Singh Atwal	Raqeeb Aziz
Shabina Bano	David Barker	David Barrie
Baber Baz	Matt Bennett	Jilly Bermingham
Marcus Bernasconi	Bushra Bi	Sir Albert Bore
Nicky Brennan	Kerry Brewer	Marje Bridle
Mick Brown	Zaker Choudhry	Debbie Clancy
Liz Clements	Maureen Cornish	John Cotton
Phil Davis	Adrian Delaney	Diane Donaldson
Jayne Francis	Ray Goodwin	Rob Grant
Colin Green	Fred Grindrod	Roger Harmer
Deborah Harries	Kath Hartley	Adam Higgs
Des Hughes	Jon Hunt	Mumtaz Hussain
Mahmood Hussain	Timothy Huxtable	Mohammed Idrees
Katherine Iroh	Ziaul Islam	Morriam Jan
Kerry Jenkins	Meirion Jenkins	Amar Khan
Ayoub Khan	Saqib Khan	Izzy Knowles
Narinder Kaur Kooner	Kirsten Kurt-Elli	Bruce Lines
Mary Locke	Ewan Mackey	Basharat Mahmood
Majid Mahmood	Rashad Mahmood	Lee Marsham
Karen McCarthy	Saddak Miah	Shehla Moledina
Gareth Moore	Yvonne Mosquito	Richard Parkin
David Pears	Miranda Perks	Rob Pocock
Julien Pritchard	Hendrina Quinnen	Lauren Rainbow
Darius Sandhu	Kath Scott	Shafique Shah
Rinkal Shergill	Sybil Spence	Ron Storer
Saima Suleman	Jamie Tennant	Sharon Thompson
Paul Tilsley	Lisa Trickett	Penny Wagg
Ian Ward	Ken Wood	Alex Yip
		Waseem Zaffar

NOTICE OF RECORDING

239 The Lord Mayor advised that the meeting would be webcast for live and subsequent broadcasting via the Council’s Public-I website and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

240 The 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 the meeting.

The Lord Mayor further reminded Members that the Chair of the Standards Committee in consultation with the Monitoring Officer had granted dispensations to those Members who had sought such a dispensation in order that they could participate and vote in the budget debate.

The Monitoring Officer had also agreed a general dispensation in respect of being a council taxpayer, member of a trade union or where a family member was employed by the Council.

Members noted that details of these dispensations had been published with the meeting agenda and papers on the Council’s committee management information system (cmis).

The Lord Mayor advised Council that where a dispensation had been granted, Members did not need to declare these interests at the start of the meeting. Members were reminded however that when they were called to speak, they simply stated that they had been granted a dispensation.

Councillor John Cotton declared an interest in respect of agenda item 7 ‘Pay Policy Statement 2023/24’. He would leave the Chamber in advance of the commencement of this agenda item.

MINUTES

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and –

241 **RESOLVED:**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2024 be taken as read and confirmed and signed.

LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord Mayor advised Council that his announcement was a sad one, as he informed the Chamber of the death of former Councillor Suzanna McCorry, who passed away on 9 February 2024.

Suzanna served as a Councillor for Erdington Ward from 1996 to 2006, during which time she served on numerous committees, and was Cabinet Member for Social Services and Health 2002-2004.

Suzanna was survived by her husband, former Councillor Mick Rice; and she left 2 sons and 8 grandchildren.

The Lord Mayor and Council extended to Mick and Suzanna's family their deepest condolences.

The Council placed on record its sorrow at the death of former Councillor Suzanna McCorry and its appreciation of her devoted service to the residents of Birmingham.

The Council extended its deepest sympathy to Suzanna's family in their sad bereavement.

Members and Officers stood for one minutes' silence. Following this, a number of tributes were made by Members.

PETITIONS

Petitions Relating to City Council Functions Presented at the Meeting

The following petitions were presented:-

(See document No. 1, 'Additional Meeting Documents')

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

242 **RESOLVED:-**

That the petitions were received and referred to the relevant Chief Officer(s).

Petitions Update

A Petitions Update had been made available electronically:-

(See document No. 2, 'Additional Meeting Documents')

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and

243 **RESOLVED:-**

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

APPOINTMENTS BY THE COUNCIL

RESOLVED:-

1.) That City Council approved the following appointments:

ROLE	APPOINTEE	TERM OF OFFICE
Lay member – Standards Committee	Sandra Cooper	March 2024 – March 2028
Roman Catholic Diocese Representative – Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Ted Hammond	March 2024 onwards (Church Representative appointments are for an indefinite period).

Councillor Ray Goodwin addressed the Council and it was-

RESOLVED:-

- 1.) That City Council noted that Councillor Katherine Iroh was appointed as Chair of the Economy and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
 - 2.) That City Council noted that Councillor Katherine Iroh be appointed to the Co-Ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee, replacing Councillor Akhlaq Ahmed.
-

PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2023/24

Councilor John Cotton left the Chamber before the commencement of this agenda item.

A report of the Director of People Services was submitted:-

(See document No. 3, agenda item 7)

Councillor Sharon Thompson moved the recommendation which was seconded from the floor.

The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Sharon Thompson to sum up.

It was therefore-

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RESOLVED:-

- 1.) That City Council approved the Pay Policy Statement 2023/24.

2.) That Council agreed to the publication of the Pay Policy Statement in line with the statutory requirements.

2024/25 BUDGET SETTING PROCESS: LEADER AND CABINET'S BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION FOR 2024/25

A report from Cabinet was submitted:-

(See document No. 4, agenda item 8).

The Leader of the Council, Councillor John Cotton moved the recommendations which were seconded by Councillor Sharon Thompson.

In accordance with Council Standing Orders, Councillors Robert Alden and Ewan Mackey gave notice of the following amendments to the recommendations:-

(See document No. 5)

Councillor Robert Alden informed the Council that his wife worked for the Birmingham Museum Trust. Councillor Robert Alden further noted that he was a Council appointed trustee of the BMT and was appointed to various boards at the Local Government Association. Councillor Robert Alden was also a director of the Erdington BID. The City Solicitor had been notified of these interests in advance of the meeting.

He moved the amendments which were seconded by Councillor Ewan Mackey who informed the meeting that he had received a dispensation in relation to a non-pecuniary interest (Councillor Mackey was appointed to the Board of B Music).

In accordance with Council Standing Orders, Councillors Roger Harmer and Morriam Jan gave notice of the following amendments to the Motion:-

(See document No. 6)

Councillor Roger Harmer moved the amendments which were seconded by Councillor Morriam Jan.

The Leader of the Green Group, Councillor Julien Pritchard, addressed the Council.

The Chair of the Co-Ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Sir Albert Bore addressed the Council in relation to the Budget Scrutiny Task and Finish Group.

A debate ensued.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and-

RESOLVED:-

That the Council be adjourned until 1700 hours on this day.

The Council then adjourned at 1630 hours.

At 1700 hours the Council resumed at the point where the meeting had been adjourned.

The debate continued following the completion of the adjournment.

Following the completion of the debate the Lord Mayor invited Councillor John Cotton to respond to the debate and to sum up.

The first amendment to the recommendations in the names of Councillors Robert Alden and Ewan Mackey having been moved and seconded were put to the vote and, by the recorded vote set out below, were declared to be lost.

For the First Amendment (30)

Darius Sandhu	Adrian Delaney	Matt Bennett
Paul Tilsley	Jon Hunt	Robert Alden
Deirdre Alden	Baber Baz	David Pears
Gareth Moore	Timothy Huxtable	Richard Parkin
Mumtaz Hussain	Adam Higgs	Ayoub Khan
Alex Yip	Bruce Lines	Morriam Jan
David Barrie	Penny Wagg	Izzy Knowles
Ken Wood	Ron Storer	Zaker Choudhry
Ewan Mackey	Colin Green	Debbie Clancy
Roger Harmer	Deborah Harries	Kerry Brewer

Against the First Amendment (53)

Ray Goodwin	Mary Locke	Diane Donaldson
Des Hughes	Saddak Miah	Raqib Aziz
Miranda Perks	Rob Pocock	Kath Scott
Alex Aitken	Ziaul Islam	Sir Albert Bore
Karen McCarthy	Kirsten Kurt-Elli	Amar Khan
Jamie Tennant	Jayne Francis	Akhlaq Ahmed
Sharon Thompson	Saima Suleman	Yvonne Mosquito
Nicky Brennan	John Cotton	Katherine Iroh
Saqib Khan	Lisa Trickett	Sybil Spence
Shafique Shah	Basharat Mahmood	David Barker
Marje Bridle	Shehla Moledina	Jilly Bermingham
Hendrina Quinnen	Shabina Bano	Fred Grindrod

Mahmood Hussain	Ian Ward	Lee Marsham
Lauren Rainbow	Majid Mahmood	Mick Brown
Mohammed Idrees	Liz Clements	Marcus Bernasconi
Waseem Zaffar	Rinkal Shergill	Gurdial Singh Atwal
Rashad Mahmood	Kath Hartley	Bushra Bi
Phil Davis	Narinder Kaur Kooner	

Abstentions (2)

Julien Pritchard
Rob Grant

The second amendment to the recommendations in the names of Councillors Roger Harmer and Morriam Jan having been moved and seconded were put to the vote and, by the recorded vote set out below, were declared to be lost.

For the Second Amendment (30)

Darius Sandhu	Adrian Delaney	Matt Bennett
Paul Tilsley	Jon Hunt	Robert Alden
Deirdre Alden	Baber Baz	David Pears
Gareth Moore	Timothy Huxtable	Richard Parkin
Mumtaz Hussain	Adam Higgs	Ayoub Khan
Alex Yip	Bruce Lines	Morriam Jan
David Barrie	Penny Wagg	Izzy Knowles
Ken Wood	Ron Storer	Zaker Choudhry
Ewan Mackey	Colin Green	Debbie Clancy
Roger Harmer	Deborah Harries	Kerry Brewer

Against the Second Amendment (53)

Ray Goodwin	Mary Locke	Diane Donaldson
Des Hughes	Saddak Miah	Raqib Aziz
Miranda Perks	Rob Pocock	Kath Scott
Alex Aitken	Ziaul Islam	Sir Albert Bore
Karen McCarthy	Kirsten Kurt-Elli	Amar Khan
Jamie Tennant	Jayne Francis	Akhlaq Ahmed
Sharon Thompson	Saima Suleman	Yvonne Mosquito
Nicky Brennan	John Cotton	Katherine Iroh
Saqib Khan	Lisa Trickett	Sybil Spence
Shafique Shah	Basharat Mahmood	David Barker
Marje Bridle	Shehla Moledina	Jilly Bermingham
Hendrina Quinnen	Shabina Bano	Fred Grindrod
Mahmood Hussain	Ian Ward	Lee Marsham
Lauren Rainbow	Majid Mahmood	Mick Brown
Mohammed Idrees	Liz Clements	Marcus Bernasconi
Waseem Zaffar	Rinkal Shergill	Gurdial Singh Atwal
Rashad Mahmood	Kath Hartley	Bushra Bi
Phil Davis	Narinder Kaur Kooner	

Abstentions (2)

Julien Pritchard
Rob Grant

Council then voted on the substantive recommendations.

The recorded vote in relation to recommendations c.) and d.) was as follows:

For the Substantive Recommendations (53)

Ray Goodwin	Mary Locke	Diane Donaldson
Des Hughes	Saddak Miah	Raqib Aziz
Miranda Perks	Rob Pocock	Kath Scott
Alex Aitken	Ziaul Islam	Sir Albert Bore
Karen McCarthy	Kirsten Kurt-Elli	Amar Khan
Jamie Tennant	Jayne Francis	Akhlaq Ahmed
Sharon Thompson	Saima Suleman	Yvonne Mosquito
Nicky Brennan	John Cotton	Katherine Iroh
Saqib Khan	Lisa Trickett	Sybil Spence
Shafique Shah	Basharat Mahmood	David Barker
Marje Bridle	Shehla Moledina	Jilly Birmingham
Hendrina Quinnen	Shabina Bano	Fred Grindrod
Mahmood Hussain	Ian Ward	Lee Marsham
Lauren Rainbow	Majid Mahmood	Mick Brown
Mohammed Idrees	Liz Clements	Marcus Bernasconi
Waseem Zaffar	Rinkal Shergill	Gurdial Singh Atwal
Rashad Mahmood	Kath Hartley	Bushra Bi
Phil Davis	Narinder Kaur Kooner	

Against the Substantive Recommendations (32)

Darius Sandhu	Adrian Delaney	Matt Bennett
Paul Tilsley	Jon Hunt	Robert Alden
Deirdre Alden	Baber Baz	David Pears
Gareth Moore	Timothy Huxtable	Richard Parkin
Mumtaz Hussain	Adam Higgs	Ayoub Khan
Alex Yip	Bruce Lines	Morriam Jan
David Barrie	Penny Wagg	Izzy Knowles
Ken Wood	Ron Storer	Zaker Choudhry
Ewan Mackey	Colin Green	Debbie Clancy
Roger Harmer	Deborah Harries	Kerry Brewer
Julien Pritchard	Rob Grant	

Abstentions (0)

It was therefore-

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RESOLVED:-

- 1.) That City Council agreed to note the Report under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 (as presented to Cabinet on 27 February 2024).
- 2.) That City Council agreed to note the Response to the Budget Scrutiny Task & Finish Group (as presented to Cabinet on 27 February 2024).
- 3.) That City Council approved the 2024/25 Budget Setting for General Fund Revenue Account, 2024/25 to 2027/28 Capital Programme and 2024/25 Treasury Management Strategy and Policy (as presented to Cabinet on 27 February 2024) in its totality.
- 4.) That City Council approved the formal 2024/25 Council Tax Resolution for Birmingham City Council, that supported the 2024/25 Budget Setting.

The meeting ended at 1919 hours.



CITY COUNCIL 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

A To the Leader of the Council

1. Deduction of Union Subscriptions

From Councillor Darius Sandhu.

2. Perry Barr Village

From Councillor Rick Payne

3. Job Evaluation

From Councillor Adam Higgs

4. Job Evaluation trade union costs

From Councillor Ron Storer

5. Perry Barr HIF bid

From Councillor Debbie Clancy

6. Home working from abroad

From Councillor David Barrie

7. 6 February 2023 Equal Pay meeting

From Councillor David Pears

8. All relevant considerations

From Councillor Adrian Delaney

9. Budget Delivery

From Councillor Kerry Brewer

10. Bank Holiday Working

From Councillor Bruce Lines

11. Inquiry

From Councillor Robert Alden

12. Equal Pay Claims

From Councillor Roger Harmer

13. Council boundaries

From Councillor Izzy Knowles

B To the Deputy Leader of the Council

1. All relevant considerations

From Councillor Adrian Delaney

2. Budget Delivery

From Councillor Kerry Brewer

C To the Cabinet Member for Children Young People and Families

1. School Budgets

From Councillor Adam Higgs

2. 365

From Councillor Alex Yip

3. All relevant considerations

From Councillor Adrian Delaney

4. Budget Delivery

From Councillor Kerry Brewer

D To the Cabinet Member for Digital, Culture, Heritage & Tourism

1. All relevant considerations

From Councillor Ron Storer

2. Budget Delivery

From Councillor Kerry Brewer

E To the Cabinet Member for Environment

1. Rookery Park

From Councillor Robert Alden

2. **Park Keepers**
From Councillor Gareth Moore
3. **All relevant considerations**
From Councillor Adrian Delaney
4. **Budget Delivery**
From Councillor Kerry Brewer
5. **Tyseley tip**
From Councillor Penny Wagg
6. **Tyseley tip**
From Councillor Roger Harmer
7. **Love your streets**
From Councillor Morriam Jan
8. **MHRC without recycling**
From Councillor Deborah Harries
9. **Recycling and the MHRC's**
From Councillor Izzy Knowles
10. **Moved to I3**
11. **Absence management**
From Councillor Paul Tilsley
12. **Tree removals and planting**
From Councillor Baber Baz

F To the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources

1. **Perry Barr Village borrowing costs**
From Councillor Darius Sandhu
2. **Social Care costs**
From Councillor Parkin

3. **NEC debt**
From Councillor Robert Alden
4. **All relevant considerations**
From Councillor Arian Delaney
5. **Budget Delivery**
From Councillor Kerry Brewer
6. **Oracle £45m additional spend**
From Councillor Bruce Lines
7. **Loans to other places**
From Councillor Morriam Jan

G To the Interim Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care

1. **All relevant considerations**
From Councillor Arian Delaney
2. **Budget Delivery**
From Councillor

H To the Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness

1. **Section 21 evictions**
From Councillor Debbie Clancy
2. **Housing for asylum seekers**
From Councillor Robert Alden
3. **All relevant considerations**
From Councillor Adrian Delaney
4. **Budget Delivery**
From Councillor Kerry Brewer

I To the Cabinet Member for Social Justice, Community Safety and Equalities

1. All relevant considerations

From Councillor Adrian Delaney

2. Budget Delivery

From Councillor Kerry Brewer

3. Cemeteries

From Councillor Jon Hunt

J To the Cabinet Member for Transport

1. Parking Bays

From Councillor Ken Wood

2. Parking Bays suspended

From Councillor David Barrie

3. All relevant considerations

From Councillor Adrian Delaney

4. Budget Delivery

From Councillor Kerry Brewer

5. School Crossing Patrols

From Councillor Debbie Clancy

6. Road works management

From Councillor Jon Hunt

7. CAZ spending by ward

From Councillor Morriam Jan

8. Parking enforcement tickets

From Councillor Roger Harmer

9. FPN's

From Councillor Izzy Knowles

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR DARIUS SANDHU

“Deduction of Union Subscriptions”

Question:

What steps has the Council taken to implement the Trade Union (Deduction of Union Subscriptions from Wages in the Public Sector) Regulations, specifically ensuring that check-off arrangements are cost-neutral and that all affiliated trade unions offer reasonable payment options other than check-off (e.g. Direct Debit)?

Answer:

The council can now only make the deductions for union subscriptions on a full cost recovery basis. In anticipation of this, HR colleagues have been working with Payroll to ensure compliance.

Payroll are recovering the costs of deduction of the monthly subscriptions from the respective unions.

We will continue to monitor the situation.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR RICK PAYNE

“Perry Barr Village”

Question:

How much in total has been spent so far on the Perry Barr Village and what is the current forecast total cost of the scheme?

Answer:

At the end of March 2023 the total spend was £351.697m. A further £5.5m had been spent up to the end of December 2023 giving a current expenditure of £357.197m.

The remaining budget for 23/24 and 24/25 was £57.354m which gives a forecast total cost of £409.051m for the village although future spending is currently under review and this forecast may be revised.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

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

“Job Evaluation”

Question:

On what dates were all job analysts for job evaluation

- a) In post, and**
- b) Fully trained**

Or by what date will this happen?

Answer:

As of today we have 13 Job Evaluators in place.

- 1 already in post as Job Analyst & Research Officer since July 2021
- 7 in post from 6th November 23
- 4 in post from 5th February 24
- 1 starting on 4th March 24 (appointed today)

Since joining the Job Evaluators (Nov 23 & Feb 24 intake) have been training on the project side of the programme, e.g. induction, data cleansing, identifying duplicates on RoleMapper, running JDQ workshops, shadowing etc.

The 12 week formal West Midlands Employer (WME) element commences on 4 March to be completed by 17 May 2024 during which time they will undertake the benchmarking evaluations as part of their training supported by WME.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR RON STORER**

“Job Evaluation trade union costs”

Question:

How much of the £20m budget for delivering job evaluation will be paid to Trade Unions, either directly, or via facility time?

Answer:

The joint trade unions (GMB, UNISON and UNITE) have been supporting the programme with representatives on pre-existing release arrangements (e.g. Branch Secretaries etc). Approval was given to release four representatives per union to support the programme and release is still be arranged for some. Initially, the requirement is for 2 days a week for training plus time to support employees in Job information workshops. If all of these roles are backfilled, including on-costs it is estimated that this would amount to approximately £640k per annum, although it is anticipated that their role will only be required during the first 6 to 8 months of Job information and we will review the requirement thereafter.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

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

“Perry Barr HIF bid”

Question:

Within the grant application for the Housing Infrastructure Fund for the Athletes Village, what was

- a) The agreed delivery date**
- b) The agreed number of homes**
- c) The agreed number of affordable homes?**

Answer:

The Council was granted a total contribution of £148.3m from MHCLG (as the Department was then called) towards the cost of the Perry Barr Regeneration Scheme, including the associated road improvements, in March 2019, with the grant to be drawn down in tranches between 2018/19 and 2021/22. The grant has been drawn down and utilised in its entirety.

The Grant Agreement included some overarching requirements for housing growth in and around Perry Barr as set out below but was silent on tenure. It should be noted that the housing growth requirements include both direct delivery by the Council and activity from other developers.

Phase 1 Athletes’ Village

18/	19/	20/	21/	22/	23/	24/	25/	26/	27/	28/2	Tot
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	9+	al
0	0	0	0	0	700	475	0	0	0	0	117
											5

Other Sites: Phase 2 Athletes’ Village, Birchfield Gateway, and wider Perry Barr sites

18/	19/	20/	21/	22/	23/	24/	25/	26/	27/	28/2	Tot
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	9+	al
1	0	7	150	200	55	149	509	473	915	1498	395
											7

Total

18/	19/	20/	21/	22/	23/	24/	25/	26/	27/	28/2	Tot
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	9+	al
1	0	7	150	200	755	624	509	473	915	1498	513
											2

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

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

“Home working from abroad”

Question:

Does the council’s remote\home working policies allow staff to work from other countries, and if so how many staff have done so?

Answer:

Our policies are currently silent on working from other countries. We are not aware of any requests having been made via HR to work from abroad.

A7

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

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

“6 February 2023 Equal Pay meeting”

Question:

Which of the three Cabinet Members who received the 3 February 2023 email on equal pay, were in attendance at the meeting on 6 February, and were any other Councillors present?

Answer:

The former Leader, Cabinet Member for Finance (in her then role as Deputy Leader), together with the current Leader accepted invitations to the meeting on 6 February 2023.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

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

“All relevant considerations”

Question:

Last year you were presented with information about a potential £800m equal pay liability 3 weeks before the budget was set, but did not share that information with other Councillors to allow them to take it into consideration when voting on the budget.

Given this, can you confirm that you have not been made aware, from any source, of anything that has the potential to have a material impact on this year’s budget that has not been included in the papers for consideration by Council?

Answer:

This year’s budget has been set against a backdrop of a very challenging financial landscape. Information relating to the financial challenges facing the city council has been outlined and published publicly.

The budget has also been subject to detailed oversight from the Commissioners.

A9

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR KERRY BREWER

“Budget Delivery”

Question:

Can you confirm that you believe that all the savings in the proposed budget within your portfolio are deliverable and that you take responsibility as Leader for the delivery of them, as well as the budget overall?

Answer:

Comprehensive due diligence work has taken place in relation to the deliverability of the proposed savings in all council portfolios. The Commissioners have also provided detailed scrutiny and have stated that the budget is deliverable.

I am accountable for these savings, and I will hold the senior officers to account for their delivery.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR BRUCE LINES

“Bank Holiday Working”

Question:

Is there any equal pay risk from bank holiday working in any council department?

Answer:

All NJC (Grades 1-7) employees are employed on the same variation of the Birmingham Workforce Contract; therefore, all employees have the same contractual terms to bank holiday working.

Bank holiday working is service dependent and providing there is a justifiable reason for work to be undertaken on bank holiday, there is very little equal pay risk. This is also providing that the employee is being paid in line with the Birmingham Workforce Contract.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

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

“Inquiry”

Question:

Given your comments at Cabinet and in your letter to residents about wanting the inquiry into Birmingham’s financial collapse to start as soon as possible, will you write to the Secretary of State before the end of March, asking for it to start by September this year and conclude before the end of 2025, as set out in our motion to Council on 6 February?

Answer:

I made abundantly clear my desire for the inquiry to be launched as soon as possible when I met the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities Simon Hoare MP on Monday 15 January.

The Local Government Minister suggested that we should meet again to discuss the Government’s intentions and timetable for this work.

I subsequently wrote to the Minister on 15 February, requesting a meeting at his earliest convenience.

A12

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR ROGER HARMER

“Equal Pay Claims”

Question:

“Please provide the number of live Equal pay claims known to date broken down by current job grade?”

Answer:

All 'technically live' equal pay claims currently in the Employment Tribunal system are being assessed for validity.

It is important to stress that a number are stayed pending settlement negotiations, some of which have now been settled in full or in part, while others are duplicate claims.

This is the focus of intense work by the council's legal team and we will provide a further update once we have a verified figure.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR IZZY KNOWLES

“Council boundaries”

Question:

“Please could you confirm a map showing the boundary of the Council owned land at Wake Green Playing Fields, Moseley including the area leased to Pickwick Cricket Club. There is believed to be a covenant on this land, from when it was originally gifted to the Council. Can you please confirm if the Council holds a copy of the covenant and if so provide a copy?”

Answer:

Please find attached the title deed plan that illustrates the land we understand to now be within the freehold ownership of the Council. Records indicate that an element of the site is now leased (presumably to the Cricket Club referenced) and officers have requested a copy of this lease from the Council’s records to further review this document.

The Council does hold the original deed of conveyance and upon detailed inspection of this document dated 2nd November 1928 by the Council’s legal team, there is no reference of any covenants over the land other than an obligation that the landowner would maintain the fences between the points marked “A and “B” and “B” and “C” on the plan at the boundary with the adjoining land.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

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

“All relevant considerations”

Question:

Last year 3 of your colleagues were presented with information about a potential £800m equal pay liability 3 weeks before the budget was set, but did not share that information with other Councillors to allow them to take it into consideration when voting on the budget.

Given this, can you confirm that you have not been made aware, from any source, of anything that has the potential to have a material impact on this year’s budget that has not been included in the papers for consideration by Council?

Answer:

This year’s budget has been set against a backdrop of a very challenging financial landscape. Information relating to the financial challenges facing the city council has been outlined and published publicly.

The budget has also been subject to detailed oversight from the Commissioners.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM
COUNCILLOR KERRY BREWER

“Budget Delivery”

Question:

Can you confirm that you believe that all the savings in the proposed budget within your portfolio are deliverable and that you take responsibility as Cabinet Member for the delivery of them?

Answer:

Comprehensive due diligence work has taken place in relation to the deliverability of the proposed savings in all council portfolios. The Commissioners have also provided detailed scrutiny and have stated that the budget is deliverable.

I am accountable for these savings, and I will hold the senior officers to account for their delivery.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES FROM COUNCILLOR ADAM HIGGS

“School Budgets”

Question:

For the schools for which the Council provides financial services, where Heads were asked to sign to say they agreed with the 2022/23 accounts, how many:

**Have signed to say the balance is accurate?
Have had queries settled and subsequently signed?
Have queries outstanding and have not yet signed?
Have not responded?**

Answer:

We can report the following:

Have signed to say the balance is accurate?	82
Have had queries settled and subsequently signed?	1
Have queries outstanding and have not yet signed?	72
Have not responded?'	67

The Schools and Fair Funding team are working with individual schools to address the outstanding issues with agreeing 2022-23 account sign off. The team is aware that these all need to be resolved before work starts on the closedown of school accounts for 2023-24 and have contacted schools who have not responded.

Resolving the imbalances remains our priority and this work will continue for 2023-24.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES FROM COUNCILLOR ALEX YIP

“365”

Question:

Between the procurement of 365 software for Home to School Transport in 2020, and the termination of the contract in January 2024, how much in total (including any exit costs) was spent on the system, and how many routes did it manage?

Answer:

The contract with 365 Response was terminated in November 2023.

The actual costs of the solution are set out in the table below:

Contract Year	Price	Paid?
Year 1 (17th August 2020 – 16th August 2021)	£140,800 (includes platform fees and non-recurrent mobilisation fees)	Yes
Year 2 (17th August 2021 – 16th August 2022)	£126,000	Yes
Year 3 (17th August 2022 – 16th August 2023)	£145,900	No
Year 4 (17th August 2023 – 16th August 2024)	£106,900	No

The council notified the provider that it would not be paying the Year 3 and 4 invoices as the associated milestones had not been completed. There are no additional exit costs.

365 Response held the route data during academic year 2022-23 of approximately 1,000 routes. In place of 365 Response's system, the service is continuing its in-house development of custom-built applications and solutions utilising existing council technologies and software.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY

“All relevant considerations”

Question:

Last year 3 of your colleagues were presented with information about a potential £800m equal pay liability 3 weeks before the budget was set, but did not share that information with other Councillors to allow them to take it into consideration when voting on the budget.

Given this, can you confirm that you have not been made aware, from any source, of anything that has the potential to have a material impact on this year’s budget that has not been included in the papers for consideration by Council?

Answer:

This year’s budget has been set against a backdrop of a very challenging financial landscape. Information relating to the financial challenges facing the city council has been outlined and published publicly.

The budget has also been subject to detailed oversight from the Commissioners.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES FROM COUNCILLOR KERRY BREWER

“Budget Delivery”

Question:

Can you confirm that you believe that all the savings in the proposed budget within your portfolio are deliverable and that you take responsibility as Cabinet Member for the delivery of them?

Answer:

Comprehensive due diligence work has taken place in relation to the deliverability of the proposed savings in all council portfolios. The Commissioners have also provided detailed scrutiny and have stated that the budget is deliverable.

I am accountable for these savings, and I will hold the senior officers to account for their delivery.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR DIGITAL, CULTURE,
HERITAGE AND TOURISM FROM COUNCILLOR RON STORER**

“All relevant considerations”

Question:

Last year at least 3 of your colleagues were presented with information about a potential £800m equal pay liability 3 weeks before the budget was set, but did not share that information with other Councillors to allow them to take it into consideration when voting on the budget.

Given this, can you confirm that you have not been made aware, from any source, of anything that has the potential to have a material impact on this year’s budget that has not been included in the papers for consideration by Council?

Answer:

This year’s budget has been set against a backdrop of a very challenging financial landscape. Information relating to the financial challenges facing the city council has been outlined and published publicly.

The budget has also been subject to detailed oversight from the Commissioners.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR DIGITAL, CULTURE,
HERITAGE AND TOURISM FROM COUNCILLOR KERRY BREWER**

“Budget Delivery”

Question:

Can you confirm that you believe that all the savings in the proposed budget within your portfolio are deliverable and that you take responsibility as Cabinet Member for the delivery of them?

Answer:

Comprehensive due diligence work has taken place in relation to the deliverability of the proposed savings in all council portfolios. The Commissioners have also provided detailed scrutiny and have stated that the budget is deliverable.

I am accountable for these savings, and I will hold the senior officers to account for their delivery.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT
FROM COUNCILLOR ROBERT ALDEN**

“Rookery Park”

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of the budget for play improvements in Rookery Park, including the use of any contingency and what sum was left over, including any unspent contingency?

Answer:

Budget: £62,393 S106
 £10,000 Friends Contribution
 £72,393 Total

Costs: Works: £64,977.54 – Final account
 Professional fees: £7,393
 Total: £72,370.54

Balance of contingency: £22.46

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT
FROM COUNCILLOR GARETH MOORE**

“Park Keepers”

Question:

For the current year, and budgeted for 24/25, please list the number of park keepers by park, split between directly employed, and contracted.

Answer:

All park keepers are directly employed by Birmingham Parks and Nurseries. Park keepers are currently assigned to the following parks (or paired parks):

Small Heath Park – A two person dedicated mobile team manage site.

Norman Chamberlain/Ward End Park – An allocated park keeper is on site.

Aston Park – An allocated park keeper is on site.

Summerfield Park – A two person dedicated mobile team manage site.

Senneleys Park/ Ley Hill – A two person dedicated mobile team manage site.

Victoria Park – An allocated park keeper is on site.

Witton Lakes – An allocated park keeper is on site.

Centre Park (Castle Vale Dowry) – An allocated park keeper is on site.

Perry Hall Park – An allocated park keeper is on site.

Brookvale Park – An allocated park keeper is on site.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT
FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY**

“All relevant considerations”

Question:

Last year 3 of your colleagues were presented with information about a potential £800m equal pay liability 3 weeks before the budget was set, but did not share that information with other Councillors to allow them to take it into consideration when voting on the budget.

Given this, can you confirm that you have not been made aware, from any source, of anything that has the potential to have a material impact on this year’s budget that has not been included in the papers for consideration by Council?

Answer:

This year’s budget has been set against a backdrop of a very challenging financial landscape. Information relating to the financial challenges facing the city council has been outlined and published publicly.

The budget has also been subject to detailed oversight from the Commissioners.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT
FROM COUNCILLOR KERRY BREWER**

“Budget Delivery”

Question:

Can you confirm that you believe that all the savings in the proposed budget within your portfolio are deliverable and that you take responsibility as Cabinet Member for the delivery of them?

Answer:

Comprehensive due diligence work has taken place in relation to the deliverability of the proposed savings in all council portfolios. The Commissioners have also provided detailed scrutiny and have stated that the budget is deliverable.

I am accountable for these savings, and I will hold the senior officers to account for their delivery.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM
COUNCILLOR PENNY WAGG**

“Tyseley tip”

Question:

“Can the online booking system at Tyseley tip be reviewed to permit non-bookers to visit during the week when it is quieter? The current online only booking system disadvantages people without internet access and easy access to cars; predominantly elderly people, vulnerable people and people living alone?”

Answer:

The booking system at the HRC sites has created several positive impacts for Birmingham City Council:

- Since the introduction of the booking system, the HRC site recycling percentages have risen by 16 per cent. This is in part due to the fact that the booking system gives people the chance to manage their visits in advance and consider what and how they will be presenting their materials;
- Health and Safety on site has improved, as people are not frustrated by having to wait in queues before being able to access the facility and as such are calmer and more focused on site;
- Customer satisfaction has improved, as we provide an agreed access time to our facilities, so they can better plan their day with the knowledge that they will be in and out of site quickly rather than the hours it took before the booking system. We receive lots of complements from our users;
- The respect to the workforce has improved with acts of aggression falling, again due to ease of use of the facilities;
- The carbon footprint has been improved. This is due to two things. One, we no longer have queues of traffic waiting to get into the site for over an hour (longer at peak times) with engines running. Two, the users of the site make less journeys as they make fuller use of their appointments by bringing in more waste per visit, so less journeys overall.

We would not recommend creating a two-tier access to the facility. Creating two lots of messaging for site users will create confusion frustration and possible confrontation. It should also be noted that a number of our HRC sites have a planning condition in place which requires the booking system to remain in place, so this would prohibit us from making changes at those sites.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM
COUNCILLOR ROGER HARMER**

“Tyseley tip”

Question:

“Can a system be set up to allow those using active travel to use Tyseley tip?”

Answer:

As the booking system is in place and enables us to manage traffic flows into the site, it may be possible for us to explore the opportunities of the site being used by those using bicycles.

Knowing when these site users are arriving, opens up opportunities of how we could manage the facility for bicycles.

In the past without the booking system, it would have been very difficult to manage safety.

But as part of our wider emerging transformation plan, we can explore the possibility of offering specific time slots – however, this will be dependent on demand and impact of available slots for the wider community as well as any investment that may be necessary.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

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

“Love your streets”

Question:

“Please provide details of all clean ups on unregistered land within the last 12 months by location/ ward/ month and cost?”

Answer:

Love Your Streets (LYS) is an initiative which aims to seek improvements to streets (and other localities) by listening to the community voice and working co productively with key stakeholders to deliver action days.

Part of the community offer was to support community clean up days on unregistered land where there is engagement from residents and local stakeholders who would directly be impacted.

Since last April we have delivered the following:

LYS Activity	Location	Ward	Date	Cost for LYS crew (approx.)
Alleyway Clearance	Alleyway clearance with residents Crantock Rd	Perry Barr	01/06/2023	£1,244 plus associated tipping costs
Alleyway Clearance	Alleyway with residents - Park Grove	Small Heath	16/06/2023	£1,244 plus associated tipping costs
Alleyway Clearance	Alleyway with residents - Windsor Passage	Sutton Vesey	23/06/2023	£1,244 plus associated tipping costs

Alleyway Clearance	Alleyway clearance with residents - Cliffe Dr	Glebe Farm and Tile Cross	10/08/2023	£2,488 plus associated tipping costs
Alleyway Clearance	Taunton Alleyway	Sparkbrook and Balsall Heath East	21/06/2023	£1,244 plus associated tipping costs

In respect to the costs, we don't normally separate the costs for these events and normally are delivered with the LYS resources allocated to deliver, which is mainly staff time (inc. oncosts), and vehicle related expenses.

The figure does not take into account staff time used in developing the day and any follow up work.

The costs associated with the days are mainly linked to salary costs and would be incurred for that day regardless of location.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM
COUNCILLOR DEBORAH HARRIES

“MHRC without recycling”

Question:

“Having been made aware of a number of MHRC sessions taking place without a recycling vehicle, could you please confirm how many and what percentage of sessions took place in the last 3 years without a recycling facility please?”

Answer:

We do not keep a record of when a MHRC was deployed without a recycling vehicle. However, when this situation has occurred, it will only have been a last resort as a consequence of staffing issues, mechanical breakdown or annual maintenance.

As of the start of March, the MHRC service is no longer being operated with a recycling truck present. This operational decision has been based on service data (including high availability of booking slots at our static HRCs) and a need to provide the best possible value for citizens.

A briefing note was sent to all city councillors and MPs on 1 March 2024 to explain in detail the reasons behind this.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM
COUNCILLOR IZZY KNOWLES

“Recycling and the MHRC’s”

Question:

“Please provide the amount of recyclable and re-usable materials accepted and recycled or re-used by the MHRC in the last year itemised as follows:

Card/paper

Plastic/metal/glass

Textiles /Clothes

Tetra-pacs

Toys

Small furniture

Household items

Electrical items

What was the total MHRC visits completed by ward in 2023?. Please separate those into visits of 1. General waste truck only, 2. General waste truck and MHRC lorry. 3. Waste truck and garden waste truck.

When the MHRC lorry is unavailable is there any reason that a normal recycling truck could not be deployed in its place?”

Answer:

Itemised Total Weights (t) of each recycle recorded in 2023:

Card/Paper	45.92	
Plastic/metal/glass	5.71	
Textiles	4.56	
Misc.	0.06	(Tetra-Pak/Toys/Small Electrical & Household Items)
Green	6.64	(Introduced on one MHRC in late November 2023)

The four MHRCs were deployed a total of 984 (246 each) times in total in 2023. The visits per ward are detailed below. We do not keep a record of when a MHRC is deployed without a recycling vehicle.

The configuration of the recycling vehicles normally used for household recycling collections means that it is not possible to manually load them (as per the open-backed vehicle used for the residual waste) due to health and safety reasons, so it would not be possible to deploy these in place of the normal recycling vehicle.

Ward	No. of MHRC Visits in 2023
Acocks Green	21
Allens Cross	9
Alum Rock	22
Aston	25
Balsall Heath West	12
Bartley Green	22
Billesley	21
Birchfield	11
Bordesley & Highgate	12
Bordesley Green	10
Bournbrook & Selly Park	19
Bournville & Cotteridge	15
Brandwood & Kings Heath	20
Bromford & Hodge Hill	24
Castle Vale	10
Druids Heath & Monyhull	10
Edgbaston	15
Erdington	22
Frankley Great Park	12
Garretts Green	7
Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	23
Gravelly Hill	9
Hall Green North	15
Hall Green South	10

Handsworth	12
Handsworth Wood	23
Harborne	22
Heartlands	9
Highters Heath	8
Holyhead	12
Kings Norton North	7
Kings Norton South	10
Kingstanding	21
Ladywood	21
Longbridge & West Heath	15
Lozells	11
Moseley	15
Nechells	12
Newtown	9
North Edgbaston	17
Northfield	7
Oscott	15
Perry Barr	18
Perry Common	7
Pype Hayes	10
Quinton	18
Rubery & Rednal	9
Shard End	8
Sheldon	18
Small Heath	21

Soho & Jewellery Quarter	25
South Yardley	9
Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East	21
Sparkhill	24
Stirchley	11
Stockland Green	23
Sutton Four Oaks	7
Sutton Mere Green	7
Sutton Reddicap	8
Sutton Roughley	8
Sutton Trinity	7
Sutton Vesey	18
Sutton Walmley & Minworth	15
Sutton Wylde Green	6
Tyseley & Hay Mills	12
Ward End	10
Weoley & Selly Oak	25
Yardley East	8
Yardley West & Stechford	9

E10 has been redirected to I3

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM
COUNCILLOR PAUL TILSLEY

“Absence management”

Question:

“Please provide absenteeism figures from the waste management division for January. Please provide the number of employees at each site, and the total amount of sickness days taken that month?”

Answer:

The changes in buildings have not been reflected in the staffing structures so it is not currently possible to provide an accurate report based on location. The overall figures for the service have been provided below:

Sum of Work Days Sickness Absence Duration In Period	Total Occupied Headcount	Absenteeism Rate (Headcount) %
2363	851	12.62%

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT FROM
COUNCILLOR BABER BAZ

“Tree removals and planting”

Question:

“Further to your written answer in January about tree removals and replanting in Yardley East Ward. My current tally – as per notifications from Kier – are for 42 tree removals between August 2023 and February 2024, which is more than double your claim of 20 trees removed, further confused by your 2022/23 timeline.

Seen as you could only confirm five of those being replanted and 15 remaining, could you please give me more confidence that you are replacing one tree for every one you remove. Could I ask you to introduce, as a matter of course, sending Councillors notifications of when and where those replacement trees have been planted, as you notify us of those details for tree removals.

Finally, it would be useful to know that substantial saplings, rather than small whips, are being used for the replacement trees to mitigate vandalism and natural failure?”

Answer:

Thank you for the question, we have reviewed previous responses and can issue the following clarification.

Some confusion arises as we have a number of differing timescales over which works will be undertaken.

Firstly, most operations are aligned to fiscal years rather than calendar years and as such reporting is generally on an April to March basis.

This is the time frame we use when undertaking our cyclical tree inspection regime. When undertaking that inspection, we survey each tree individually so it can often take several months to complete a ward area.

Following this essential tree works are prioritised according to urgency.

High priority works may be scheduled for within 6 weeks while lower priority works may be scheduled for within 6 months.

This means that tree works may be carried out in a different year to when they were identified.

Secondly, when it comes to replacement tree planting this can only be undertaken during a trees dormant period, which is typically November to March

This offers a relatively small window of opportunity for planting and as such some replanting for removals carried out late in the fiscal year will be carried forward to the next available planting season.

For example, a tree removed in March 2023 would not be replaced until the planting season November 23 - March 24.

With regard to the table of trees planted (E11 response 9th January 2024), it was stated that 5 of 20 trees had been replanted with the 15 remaining to be completed prior to the end of April 2024.

Those plantings relate directly to trees that were removed in the fiscal year 2022/23 and not to any trees removed (or notified to be removed) following 2023/24 inspection period.

In relation to the 2023-24 survey year, 45 trees were noted for removal of which 15 have been replanted with 30 carried forward into the next planting season (November 24 – March 25), this is summarised in the table below.

It is worth noting that the number of notifications received from Kier may exceed the number of trees removed, this is down to how the notification system works.

Kier will notify of an intended date/ time for a tree to be removed, however, should that not occur on that specific date to, for example, an obstruction, then the job is rescheduled, and a new notification sent out – therefore if relying on notifications alone, it would seem more trees have been removed than actually will have.

The trees that are replanted have to be suited to the harsh environment of the highway network, these have always been what are termed heavy standards or extra heavy standards

These are trees that are between 10 and 15 years old with a height of between 3.5 and 4 metres These trees are also supplied containerised, so they have a healthy and active root system.

When these trees are planted, we now use a metal mesh cage and watering bag to increase the protection of these new plants and improve their establishment rates.

Whips are seedling trees of no more than 3 years of age and are only suited to woodland creation projects or similar where higher number of trees are required.

In terms of notifying of tree replacement planting, we can issue an end of season summary for wards where replanting activity has been undertaken.

All tree works and annual replanting programme do however have to be approved by the council prior to commencement

This review and approvals are undertaken by the strategic lead for Urban Forestry and Nature, who, for impartiality, is independent from the Highways teams.

Ward	Notification date	Road	Location	Reason	Felled Date	Replacement Date	Replacement Location
Yardley East	11/08/2023	Church road	337/339	Dead	06/11/2023	22/02/2024	337/339
Yardley East	17/08/2023	Barrows Lane	Opp 41	Senescent	01/11/2023	21/02/2024	Opp 31
Yardley East	25/09/2023	Farnol Road	60	Structural Integrity	Felled to Stump	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	25/09/2023	Vibart Road	8	Disease Decay	24/10/2023	21/02/2024	8
Yardley East	25/09/2023	Vibart Road	24	Disease Decay	24/10/2023	21/02/2024	24
Yardley East	25/09/2023	Vera Road	66	Structural Integrity	08/02/2024	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	25/09/2023	Vera Road	50	Disease Decay	18/12/2023	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	25/09/2023	St Edburghs Road	Adj 7	Disease Decay	18/12/2023	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	25/09/2023	Shaw Drive	Side 48 Vicarage Rd	Structural Integrity	05/01/2024	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	26/09/2023	Abbeys Grove	3	Dead	06/11/2023	22/02/2024	3
Yardley East	26/09/2023	Barrows Lane	183/185	New Planting Failure	01/11/2023	21/02/2024	185
Yardley East	26/09/2023	Barrows Lane	182	Disease Decay	01/11/2023	21/02/2024	184
Yardley East	26/09/2023	Barrows Lane	151/153	New Planting Failure	20/12/2023	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	26/09/2023	Barrows Lane	81	Disease Decay	Felled to Stump	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	26/09/2023	Barrows Lane	136	Disease Decay	20/12/2023	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	26/09/2023	Bilton Grange Road	82	Structural Integrity	Felled to Stump	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	26/09/2023	Charlbury Crescent	103/105	Dead	Not Felled	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	26/09/2023	Duncroft Road	107	Structural Integrity	01/11/2023	2023/24 Planting Programme	Planned at 107/109
Yardley East	26/09/2023	Stoney Lane	107/109	Disease Decay	06/11/2023	22/02/2024	Opp 107
Yardley East	26/09/2023	Stoney lane	288	Disease Decay	26/10/2023	22/02/2024	290
Yardley East	27/09/2023	Charlbury Crescent	139	Disease Decay	Felled to Stump	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	27/09/2023	Charlbury Crescent	117	Disease Decay	Not Felled	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	27/09/2023	Church road	397	Disease Decay	Felled to Stump	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	27/09/2023	Church road	584	Disease Decay	15/12/2023	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	27/09/2023	Church road	578	Disease Decay	15/12/2023	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	27/09/2023	Gleneagles Road	6/8	Disease Decay	30/10/2023	2023/24 Planting Programme	Planned 8/10
Yardley East	27/09/2023	Gleneagles Road	21	Structural Integrity	Felled to Stump	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	27/09/2023	Gleneagles Road	69	Structural Integrity	23/11/2023	2023/24 Planting Programme	Planned 67/69
Yardley East	27/09/2023	Gleneagles Road	66	Structural Integrity	23/11/2023	2023/24 Planting Programme	Planned 66/68
Yardley East	28/09/2023	Barrows lane	Opp 113	Disease Decay	21/12/2023	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	28/09/2023	Blakesley Road	22	Structural Integrity	26/10/2023	22/02/2024	36
Yardley East	28/09/2023	Blakesley Road	18	Structural Integrity	Not Felled	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	28/09/2023	Croft Road	76	Disease Decay	Felled to Stump	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	28/09/2023	Charlbury Crescent	126	Disease Decay	Not Felled	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	28/09/2023	Ingfield Road	56	Disease Decay	08/11/2023	21/02/2024	52/54
Yardley East	28/09/2023	Partridge Road	15	Disease Decay	08/12/2023	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	28/09/2023	Blakemere Avenue	20	Structural Integrity	12/12/2023	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	02/10/2023	Yardley Fields Road	22	Disease Decay	Felled to Stump	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	02/10/2023	Yardley Fields Road	46/50	Disease Decay	Felled to Stump	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	02/10/2023	Duncroft Road	22	Structural Integrity	21/12/2023	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	27/10/2023	Patrick Road	34	Damage to Structures	15/12/2023	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	01/11/2023	Patrick Road	34/36	Damage to Structures	15/12/2023	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	21/11/2023	Barrows Lane	143	Senescent	20/12/2023	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	27/11/2023	Yardley Fields Road	82	Dead	25/01/2024	2024/25 Planting Programme	
Yardley East	06/02/2024	Barrows Lane	204	Disease Decay	Not Felled	2024/25 Planting Programme	

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR DARIUS SANDHU

“Perry Barr Village borrowing costs”

Question:

What are the forecast borrowing costs for the Perry Barr Village in each year since first loan taken until repaid in full?

Answer:

The Interest costs charged to the Perry Barr Regeneration Scheme to date can be broken down as follows:

2018/19 - £0.140m

2019/20 - £0.156m

2020/21 - £0.665m

2021/22 - £1.725m

2022/23 - £8.508m

2023/24 - £12.500m (estimate)

At this stage it is not possible to state the future interest costs, or the period over which they will be incurred, as this is heavily dependent on future interest rates, as well as the value and timing of disposals of the land and dwellings that form the overall scheme.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR RICHARD PARKIN

“Social Care costs”

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of social care costs by constituency for a) adult social care and b) children’s social care, including a separate line for any central overheads.

Answer:

The financial commitment for 2023/24 Adult Social Care expenditure is below. Constituency team commitments have been separated out from other team commitments, which have been included as a separate table for completeness.

This commitment is from the Adult Social Care Case Management System, Eclipse, and excludes any overhead adjustments as these are apportioned by the Final Accounts Team as part of the year end closure of accounts.

Adult Social Care - Care Packages Financial commitment for 23/24		Adult Social Care - Care Packages Financial commitment for 23/24	
Constituencies	£m	Other	£m
Edgbaston	23.55	Complex Care	0.77
Erdington	30.42	Forensics	0.19
Hall Green	26.29	Hospital Teams	15.66
Hodge Hill	23.50	Other	4.54
Ladywood	31.65	Shared Lives	0.24
Northfield	30.68	Transitions	27.28
Perry Barr	23.77		
Selly Oak	23.36		
Sutton	22.64		
Yardley	24.79		
Sub Total	260.65	Sub Total	48.68
		TOTAL	309.33

Information is not available by constituency for Children's Social Care due to the carer's home and the location of the child sometimes differing or changing and so spend information is not recorded on this basis.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR ROBERT ALDEN

“NEC debt”

Question:

Please provide a breakdown, with monthly cost, interest rate, and outstanding balance, of any loans for which the council is liable, connected with the NEC?

Answer:

1. Birmingham City Council Loan Notes

- Outstanding balance of £214.971m is due for repayment on maturity in 2030
- Interest rate 9.675%, set when loan notes issued in 2005.
- Annual interest payment of £19.629m paid in April.

2. The National Exhibition Centre (Developments) Plc loan stock

- Outstanding balance of £73.0m is due for repayment on maturity in 2027
- Interest rate 7.5625%, set when loan stock issued in 1997
- Annual interest charge £5.521m paid half yearly at the end of March and September.

3. From early 1970, the City Council raised some debt directly to fund the original NEC Group site, as part of the Council’s overall borrowing for capital works. This debt was not separately identified. Some of this debt may have been repaid but it is not possible to quantify the current value of this historical debt or capital expenditure funded through prudential borrowing.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY

“All relevant considerations”

Question:

Last year you were presented with information about a potential £800m equal pay liability 3 weeks before the budget was set, but did not share that information with other Councillors to allow them to take it into consideration when voting on the budget.

Given this, can you confirm that you have not been made aware, from any source, of anything that has the potential to have a material impact on this year’s budget that has not been included in the papers for consideration by Council?

Answer:

This year’s budget has been set against a backdrop of a very challenging financial landscape. Information relating to the financial challenges facing the city council has been outlined and published publicly.

The budget has also been subject to detailed oversight from the Commissioners.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND
RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR KERRY BREWER**

“Budget Delivery”

Question:

Can you confirm that you believe that all the savings in the proposed budget within your portfolio are deliverable and that you take responsibility as Cabinet Member for the delivery of them?

Answer:

Comprehensive due diligence work has taken place in relation to the deliverability of the proposed savings in all council portfolios. The Commissioners have also provided detailed scrutiny and have stated that the budget is deliverable.

I am accountable for these savings, and I will hold the senior officers to account for their delivery.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR BRUCE LINES

“Oracle £45m additional spend”

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of what the additional £45m spend (on top of the £86m already spent) for the Oracle programme will be used for?

Answer:

There will be a report Cabinet in April 2024 setting out the options available including re-implementation.

This will include a further cost breakdown to be approved by Cabinet as part of this report.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES
FROM COUNCILLOR MORRIAM JAN**

“Loans to other places”

Question:

“Please provide a list of the entities that BCC has lent money to and the amount outstanding from each one?”

Answer:

Entity	Forecast loan value outstanding at 31/3/2024 (£)	Reasons for loan	Additional information
Acivico Ltd	532,177	Property costs	Acivico Ltd is 100% City Council owned company providing mainly building related services.
Warwickshire County Cricket Club	17,738,211	Property development	Loan to develop stands at Edgbaston Cricket Ground
Millennium Point Property Ltd	11,582,246	Property/operations	MPPL leases property at Millenium Point in Birmingham.
Performances Birmingham LTD	619,659	Property development	PBL operate the ICC and Symphony Hall and BCC is the sole guarantor for the company.
Green Transport Birmingham	181,117	Business support	Business support loan
City Propco Ltd	19,789,278	Property purchase	Birmingham City Propco Ltd is 100% City Council owned company holding two NEC based hotels
InReach Birmingham Ltd	12,930,991	Property development	InReach Birmingham Ltd is 100% City Council private rented landlord company holding The Embankment, St Vincent Street
Birmingham Wholesale	351,963	Property fit-out	Loan to Birmingham Wholesale Market Company Ltd for tenant unit

Market Company Ltd Arden Cross Ltd	727,490	Partnership operation costs	fit out. The City Council is 50% shareholder of BWMC. City Council's land interest is held with ACL as a 31% shareholder with Packington Estate and Coleshill Estate.
InReach Birmingham Ltd	1,505,982	WOC operation	InReach Birmingham Ltd is 100% City Council private rented landlord company holding The
Birmingham Museums Trust	414,270	Operational	Embankment, St Vincent Street BMT is responsible for governing and managing the museum sites and collections owned by Birmingham City Council
Northfield T2 BID	9,000	Operational	Not for profit limited company to improve business trading environment
Erdington T3 BID	9,000	Operational	Not for profit limited company to improve business trading environment
Sutton T2 BID	9,000	Operational	Not for profit limited company to improve business trading environment
Birmingham Childrens Trust Ltd	4,000,000	Operational	Birmingham Childrens Trust Ltd is 100% City Council owned company providing statutory children's services.
BLLP (Building Schools for the Future - BSF)	374,860	Operational	Building Schools for the Future (BSF) - Phase 1A
BLLP (Building Schools for the Future - BSF)	199,980	Operational	Building Schools for the Future (BSF) - Phase 1B

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY

“All relevant considerations”

Question:

Last year 3 of your colleagues were presented with information about a potential £800m equal pay liability 3 weeks before the budget was set, but did not share that information with other Councillors to allow them to take it into consideration when voting on the budget.

Given this, can you confirm that you have not been made aware, from any source, of anything that has the potential to have a material impact on this year’s budget that has not been included in the papers for consideration by Council?

Answer:

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The budget has also been subject to detailed oversight from the Commissioners.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND
SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR KERRY BREWER**

“Budget Delivery”

Question:

Can you confirm that you believe that all the savings in the proposed budget within your portfolio are deliverable and that you take responsibility as Cabinet Member for the delivery of them?

Answer:

Comprehensive due diligence work has taken place in relation to the deliverability of the proposed savings in all council portfolios. The Commissioners have also provided detailed scrutiny and have stated that the budget is deliverable.

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CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY

“Section 21 evictions”

Question:

On how many occasions in the last 6 years has the Council used section 21 evictions against any of its tenants (including those in non-social housing such as through Inreach)?

Answer:

It has been identified that on 5 occasions in the last 6 years the Council has used Section 21 eviction notices. These 5 were via InReach for the apartment in use, Embankment, but did not result in any actions, as the tenants either left or paid. There are no other occasions identified.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR ROBERT ALDEN

“Housing for asylum seekers”

Question:

Since 2012, how many houses has the Council acquired in order to house asylum seekers? Split between inside and outside the Birmingham local authority area, and broken down by

- a) Open market purchase**
- b) Auction**
- c) Rent**
- d) CPO**

Answer:

The council does not acquire accommodation to house asylum seekers. SERCO, on behalf of the Home Office, procure accommodation for asylum seekers in Birmingham against a regional plan.

Once a decision is made on an asylum seeker’s application the individual either has a positive outcome and becomes a refugee living as a citizen in Birmingham with rights to accommodation, or if their application is refused they have no recourse to public funds nor rights to accommodation unless they are assessed to have care and support needs.

Birmingham has participated in the Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) through which grant from the Department of Levelling Up Housing & Communities (DULHC) has been secured. Through this grant contribution Birmingham City Council has made open market purchases of 43 homes, all in Birmingham. These homes now form part of BCC’s Temporary Accommodation portfolio. Of these, 16 are initially let to Afghan households who come to the UK via one of the Government’s resettlement schemes (ACRS or ARAP)-and 27 to households who are already in the UK via the Homes 4 Ukraine scheme and are at risk of homelessness. There remain a further 13 properties in the pipeline for purchasing for households from Ukraine.

H3

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY

“All relevant considerations”

Question:

Last year 3 of your colleagues were presented with information about a potential £800m equal pay liability 3 weeks before the budget was set, but did not share that information with other Councillors to allow them to take it into consideration when voting on the budget.

Given this, can you confirm that you have not been made aware, from any source, of anything that has the potential to have a material impact on this year’s budget that has not been included in the papers for consideration by Council?

Answer:

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The budget has also been subject to detailed oversight from the Commissioners.

H4

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FROM COUNCILLOR KERRY BREWER

“Budget Delivery”

Question:

Can you confirm that you believe that all the savings in the proposed budget within your portfolio are deliverable and that you take responsibility as Cabinet Member for the delivery of them?

Answer:

Comprehensive due diligence work has taken place in relation to the deliverability of the proposed savings in all council portfolios. The Commissioners have also provided detailed scrutiny and have stated that the budget is deliverable.

I am accountable for these savings, and I will hold the senior officers to account for their delivery.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE,
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND EQUALITIES FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN
DELANEY**

“All relevant considerations”

Question:

Last year 3 of your colleagues were presented with information about a potential £800m equal pay liability 3 weeks before the budget was set, but did not share that information with other Councillors to allow them to take it into consideration when voting on the budget.

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The budget has also been subject to detailed oversight from the Commissioners.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE,
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND EQUALITIES FROM COUNCILLOR KERRY
BREWER**

“Budget Delivery”

Question:

Can you confirm that you believe that all the savings in the proposed budget within your portfolio are deliverable and that you take responsibility as Cabinet Member for the delivery of them?

Answer:

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CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE,
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND EQUALITIES FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT

“Cemeteries”

Question:

“What is being done to repair flood damage from recent inclement weather and flooded drains in all Birmingham cemeteries? Please advise on each individual cemetery’s damage and actions for repair?”

Answer:

In general, mechanical road sweepers are called in where there is significant debris on the roads because of heavy rain/winds. Regular site inspections take place to check the condition of the drains and the gulley cleaning machines are brought in if drain gulleys are blocked. Where additional drainage works are required then the service calls upon Acivico or the Flood and Drainage team to investigate and advise.

Any tree damage is addressed by the tree officer and contractors.

The response regarding each cemetery is as follows:

Kings Norton cemetery - Temporary barriers erected to flooded area around section 1. Flood waters dissipate once heavy rains have ceased.

Brandwood End Cemetery - Flood defence works were completed in 2022/23 to prevent flooding of neighbouring properties. A broken drain towards the centre of the cemetery is currently being investigated to assess the works required to repair.

Lodge Hill Cemetery - Severn Trent completed major flood defence works to prevent flooding of neighbouring properties, which appears to have worked well and previous flooding is not an issue. There are some sections where the ground water is high and becomes very wet during periods of heavy rain, but the water naturally drains into the soil when the rain ceases.

Quinton Cemetery – There are a small number of sections where the ground water is high and become very wet during periods of heavy rain. The water will naturally drain into the soil once the rains cease.

Sutton Coldfield Crematorium - Drainage works that were carried out in 2022/23 have proven effective in preventing heavy pooling on the exit drive and surrounding

areas of the crematorium. The gulleys are regularly cleared to ensure that the drains are working effectively.

Handsworth Cemetery - Following flooding due to heavy rains in the Autumn of 2020, flood defence works and additional drainage and road resurfacing was completed to prevent a recurrence, which is generally successful. The drains sometimes back up and drain slower during periods of very heavy and persistent rain but quickly clear once the rain has stopped.

Additional drainage works were completed on an area towards Park Lane in 2022, with new drainage installed.

Further works are under investigation close to the cemetery chapel where it is believed that the drains have either collapsed or are clogged by tree roots. The service is working with contractors to resolve.

Witton Cemetery - Some standing water collects in some lower areas during periods of heavy rain but quickly dissipates once the rain has ceased.

Sutton Coldfield Cemetery - No issues, just general clearance of brash required following storms

Sutton New Hall Cemetery - An extensive drainage system was designed and installed as part of the development of the cemetery. The drainage from the cemetery is effective and the ground water runs into large swales at the bottom of the fields before entering the natural water course below. There are no issues with flooding during storms.

Jewellery Quarter Cemeteries – Key Hill and Warstone Lane - The restoration works that were completed in 2022 included additional drainage works in both cemeteries, but mainly Key Hill Cemetery, to address the flooding on the low levels following heavy rainfall. This has been effective in preventing the rainwater from pooling in those areas.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR KEN WOOD**

“Parking Bays”

Question:

Since 2018, please list the location and number of fee-paying parking bays removed from the City Centre.

Answer:

	Removed	Date
Graham St	8	2020 - 2021
Warstone Lane	5	2020 - 2021
Waterloo St	2	
Aston Road	1	Jan-22
Colmore Row	13	2019 - 2022
Waterloo St	20	2020 - 2023
Weaman St	2	2022
Weaman St	3	2022
Woodcock St	3	2022
Staniforth St	1	2022
Edward St	2	Oct-22
Margaret St	3	Oct-23
Cornwall St	19	Oct-23
Edmund St	15	Oct-23

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR DAVID BARRIE**

“Parking Bays suspended”

Question:

When chargeable on-street parking is suspended or closed off for use of private company, for example during filming or construction, what is the Council’s charging policy and fee per space per day?

Answer:

£15.75 per day for each of the first 3 bays then £15.75 for each subsequent ‘block’ of up to 3 bays:

Eg: 2 bays = £31.50
4 bays = £63.00
6 bays = £63.00
9 bays = £78.75

An admin fee of £15.75 is then applied for each suspension and a charge of £73.50 for up to 15 bays by the contractor who attend to suspend the bays by setting out suspension cones, erecting signage and checking the suspension each day whilst in place.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY**

“All relevant considerations”

Question:

Last year 3 of your colleagues were presented with information about a potential £800m equal pay liability 3 weeks before the budget was set, but did not share that information with other Councillors to allow them to take it into consideration when voting on the budget.

Given this, can you confirm that you have not been made aware, from any source, of anything that has the potential to have a material impact on this year’s budget that has not been included in the papers for consideration by Council?

Answer:

This year’s budget has been set against a backdrop of a very challenging financial landscape. Information relating to the financial challenges facing the city council has been outlined and published publicly.

The budget has also been subject to detailed oversight from the Commissioners.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR KERRY BREWER**

“Budget Delivery”

Question:

Can you confirm that you believe that all the savings in the proposed budget within your portfolio are deliverable and that you take responsibility as Cabinet Member for the delivery of them?

Answer:

Comprehensive due diligence work has taken place in relation to the deliverability of the proposed savings in all council portfolios. The Commissioners have also provided detailed scrutiny and have stated that the budget is deliverable.

I am accountable for these savings, and I will hold the senior officers to account for their delivery.

J5

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY**

“School Crossing Patrols”

Question:

What are the conditions and changes being demanded of school crossing patrols for them to be funded through the CAZ grant?

Answer:

Funding from Clean Air Zone revenues has been provided to the Highways service for a period of up to three financial years to support the development of an alternative delivery model for the service.

The Clean Air Zone team and other colleagues from the Transport and Connectivity service will support this work – especially where there may be linkages to other initiatives with schools that support or encourage more active modes of travel and/or contribute to the goal of improved air quality.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

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

“Road works management”

Question:

“What is going to be done about the new system of people who dig up the roads using contractors to supply temporary traffic lights, which are then left in place for days after work is completed, causing network congestion? How is this licensed and monitored?”

Answer:

Birmingham City Council’s Permit Scheme was introduced in March 2023. This scheme provides the Council with the ability to robustly manage the network and monitor works promoter performance in line with our Network Management Duty, as per the Traffic Management Act 2004.

We currently have 8 network inspectors working across the city and part of their role is to identify, or attend when notified, live works sites that are causing issues on the network. The inspectors have the ability to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for non-compliant works, i.e. use of temporary traffic lights when this hasn’t been agreed as part of the Traffic Management proposal. In the most extreme circumstances, our inspectors are also able to instruct the works promoter to remove all Traffic Management and leave site, i.e. working without a permit/illegal occupation of the highway.

We also have the ability to issue overrun charges against works promoters where works or Traffic Management equipment continues to occupy the highway post the agreed end date of the works. We notify the works promoter of the issue, and in the event they fail to clear the highway, the overrun charges increase daily.

We use public facing IT programmes such as One.Network to manage and monitor planned and emergency works. We also work closely with our partners at Transport for West Midlands and the West Midlands Combined Authority to share network intelligence across the region and react as best as possible to instances causing congestion and disruption to highway users.

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

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

“CAZ spending by ward”

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of all CAZ spending by ward giving the total amount spent and the projects that were paid for?

Answer:

The use of the revenues generated from the operation of the Clean Air Zone is determined by the legislation used to create the scheme (i.e. for the purpose of directly or indirectly facilitating the achievement of local transport policies of the authority) and the Clean Air Zone Charging Order, which sets out the high level spending priorities for any net surplus revenues generated from the scheme.

The table below includes all schemes that will be supported, as approved by Cabinet, up to the end of March 2023.

CAZ Ref	Projects with approved allocations of CAZ net surplus revenues	Birmingham Transport Plan (BTP) Theme	Amount funded (£m)
CAZ001	Hydrogen Buses	Reallocate Road Space	3,289
CAZ002	City Centre Pedestrianisation / City Centre Public Realm Phase 1	Transform City Centre	7,395
CAZ003	City Centre Pedestrianisation / City Centre Public Realm Phase 2	Transform City Centre	8,082
CAZ004	Electric / Plug-in Hybrid Vehicles Running Costs (M2c)	Clean Air Strat	1,000
CAZ005	University Station	Reallocate Road Space	3,400
CAZ006	Camp Hill Line Rail Stations	Reallocate Road Space	5,218
CAZ007	Cross-City Bus Scheme	Reallocate Road Space	4,225
CAZ008	Pinch Points City Council Match Funding from CAZ	Transform City Centre	1,500
CAZ009	Clean Air City Fund (£20k per Ward)	Clean Air Strat	1,480
CAZ010	Clean Air City Fund (£40k for 2 Member Wards)	Clean Air Strat	2,560
CAZ011	Transport & Environment CAZ Programme	Active Travel	5,250
CAZ012	Transformational Transport Plans upto 2050	Transform City Centre	500
CAZ013	City Centre Traffic Cells implementation	Transform City Centre	3,000
CAZ014	Places for People Delivery (Kings Heath & Bournville)	Active Travel	3,000
CAZ015	Active Travel Fund Enhancement (Tranche 2) Schemes	Active Travel	1,250
CAZ016	Measures that support the Management of Travel Demand	Active Travel	1,000
CAZ017	Support the increased use of Active Modes of Travel & Public Transport	Active Travel	3,000
CAZ018	Council's Route to Zero Team - CAZ Funding Support	Clean Air Strat	2,000
		TOTAL	57,149

The nature of these schemes means that their benefit is likely to be felt in more than one ward and, in a number of instances, the benefit arising from any one scheme could be felt across the whole of the city.

More specifically the table includes an allocation of just over £4m towards the Brum Breathes Fund (i.e. Clean Air City Fund CAZ009 and CAZ010). This scheme provides an allocation of £20,000 p.a. for a single member ward and £40,000 p.a. for a two-member ward. In both instances the allocation is per annum for a total period of two years (i.e. 2023/24 and 2024/25). The funds from the scheme are subject to an application process.

The table below summarises the applications to the Fund that have been approved. More information about the Brum Breathes Fund can be found at:

www.brumbreathes.co.uk/BrumBreathesFund

Ward	Number of Councillors	DISTRICT	Total Funding Available 2023-25	Amount Allocated	Budget Remaining	Type of Application	Project details
Stirchley	1	SOUTH	£ 40,000.00	£ 19,980.00	£ 20,020.00	Community	Encouraging the adoption of e-bikes through trial and education.
Sutton Reddicap	1	NORTH	£ 40,000.00	£ 37,091.00	£ 2,909.00	Councillor	Newdigate Fields wild meadow / Redicapp 20mph zone
Sutton Roughley	1	NORTH	£ 40,000.00	£ 35,265.76	£ 4,734.24	Councillor	Reducing vehicle use through use of verge protection measures (Slade Road)
Sutton Wylde Green	1	NORTH	£ 40,000.00	£ 40,000.00	£ -	Councillor	Contribution towards creation of Wylde Green Public Transport Interchange Hub

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR ROGER HARMER

“Parking enforcement tickets”

Question:

“How many parking enforcement tickets have been issued by ward/ month throughout 2023?”

Answer:

We do not hold data of Parking Penalty Charge Notices issued by ward. Please see below the total number of PCNs issued by month during 2023:-

**PARKING PENALTY
CHARGE NOTICE
ISSUE 2023**

Month	PCN Issue
Jan-23	13,964
Feb-23	13,947
Mar-23	14,382
Apr-23	15,718
May-23	16,659
Jun-23	14,864
Jul-23	13,030
Aug-23	12,001
Sep-23	13,701
Oct-23	15,910
Nov-23	16,631
Dec-23	14,956
TOTAL	175,763

CITY COUNCIL – 5 MARCH 2024

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT FROM
COUNCILLOR IZZY KNOWLES**

“FPN’s”

Question:

“How many patrols have taken place and how many FPNs have been issued between 1st October 2022 and 31st January 2024 (broken down monthly) for parking on the grass verge in both Yardley Wood Road and Swanshurst Lane, Moseley?”

Answer:

Number of Patrols

Location	Month	Total Patrols
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Oct-22	15
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Nov-22	5
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Dec-22	5
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Jan-23	8
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Feb-23	3
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Mar-23	7
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Apr-23	15
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	May-23	21
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Jun-23	10
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Jul-23	18
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Aug-23	16
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Sep-23	2
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Oct-23	4
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Nov-23	4

Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Dec-23	1
Yardley Wood Road Moseley	Jan-24	0
	Total	134

Location	Month	Total Patrols
Swanshurst Lane	Oct-22	18
Swanshurst Lane	Nov-22	3
Swanshurst Lane	Dec-22	5
Swanshurst Lane	Jan-23	4
Swanshurst Lane	Feb-23	14
Swanshurst Lane	Mar-23	11
Swanshurst Lane	Apr-23	21
Swanshurst Lane	May-23	42
Swanshurst Lane	Jun-23	20
Swanshurst Lane	Jul-23	51
Swanshurst Lane	Aug-23	35
Swanshurst Lane	Sep-23	3
Swanshurst Lane	Oct-23	5
Swanshurst Lane	Nov-23	8
Swanshurst Lane	Dec-23	5
Swanshurst Lane	Jan-24	2
	Total	247

PENALTY CHARGE NOTICES ISSUED FOR PARKING ON A GRASS VERGE

Month	Yardley Wood Road	Swanshurst Lane
Oct-22	0	3
Nov-22	0	0
Dec-22	0	0
Jan-23	0	0

Feb-23	0	5
Mar-23	1	0
Apr-23	0	4
May-23	0	15
Jun-23	0	5
Jul-23	0	3
Aug-23	1	5
Sep-23	0	0
Oct-23	0	0
Nov-23	0	2
Dec-23	1	0
Jan-24	0	0
TOTAL	3	42