



CITY COUNCIL
4 FEBRUARY 2020

WRITTEN
QUESTIONS TO
CABINET MEMBERS
AND CHAIRS

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

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CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

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

“Athletes Village Bus Depot Relocation”

Question:

According to answers from Scrutiny, the original estimate for the new bus depot for the Athletes Village was based on a gross internal area of 20,000 sq ft, the final scheme is 64,111 sq ft, more than tripling in size. What is the gross internal area of the current depot on the Athletes village site that is being replaced?

Answer:

The current depot is 96,713 sq ft.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

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

“ATG Audit Report”

Question:

**On what date were you first informed about the findings of the Home to School
Transport Internal Audit Report?**

Answer:

First week of November 2019.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

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

“Home to School Transport Press Conference”

Question:

What was the reason the press conference called for 20 January 2020 to brief about the Internal Audit report into the Home to School Transport was cancelled until the following day?

Answer:

The dates, times and attendees for council media briefings can vary according to committee cycle and diary commitments of those involved. The council always seeks to ensure that reports are released on time and the media briefed appropriately, under embargo if prior to a report being published. In these circumstances we always ensure that opposition leaders and relevant shadows are informed of media briefings and receive the relevant reports, as happened on this occasion. The media briefing was slightly delayed due to diary commitments, which mirrored the delay to the finalisation of the report.”

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

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

“Bus Depot”

Question:

On what date were you first informed about that the relocation of the National Express depot was likely to be significantly more than the original estimated cost?

Answer:

20th December 2020.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

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

“Centenary Square”

Question:

Why is Centenary Square, by the fountain, still closed (as of at least 28 January) following the Christmas events staged there?

Answer:

- The departure of the successful Ice Skate Birmingham and Christmas Attractions was concluded on Sunday 26th January.
- Pre-planned jet washing of the entire square has taken place.
- The Reflective Pool area will remain cordoned off while planned ‘snagging’ works (replacement of several granite slabs) are undertaken from week commencing 3rd February 2020.
- This ‘snagging’ work is reliant on favourable weather conditions and it is hoped that the works will be concluded by the end of February.
- On conclusion of the works the Reflective Pool will be re-set to flood mode and switched-on.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

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

“ATG Audit Report”

Question:

On what date were you first informed about the findings of the Home to School Transport Internal Audit Report?

Answer:

On or shortly before the 25th of July 2019.

I immediately asked officers for reassurance on the safety of children, that the processes that let us down had been changed, and that appropriate investigations had been commenced into how this happened and that any necessary action would take place.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

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

“Bus Depot”

Question:

On what date were you first informed about that the relocation of the National Express depot was likely to be significantly more than the original estimated cost?

Answer:

A decision was taken by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader as required by the Constitution.

I was briefed by the Leader on my return from the Christmas break.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

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

“Home to School Transport Positive DBS Checks”

Question:

How many people with positive DBS checks were cleared by the Council to work for the Home to School Transport Service?

Answer:

The Home to School Transport service is delivered by 3rd party providers, therefore the contractors undertaking the work are **not** employees of the City Council.

As such the 3rd party providers have the responsibility to undertake DBS checks and retain their employment records for their employees.

Due to this and Data Protection legislation BCC does not hold any employment history for contractors as this is held with each 3rd provider as the employer.

The information provided from the 3rd party HR to BCC HR in this particular case, was incomplete. Therefore, the process for 3rd party providers is being reviewed.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR SIMON MORRALL**

“Home to School Transport Positive DBS Checks time employed”

Question:

For each person with a positive DBS check who was cleared by the Council to work with the Home to School Transport service, how long was each employed?

Answer:

The Home to School Transport service is delivered by 3rd party providers, therefore the contractors undertaking the work are **not** employees of the City Council.

As such the 3rd providers have the responsibility to undertake DBS checks and retain their employee records for their employees.

Due to this and Data Protection legislation BCC does not hold any employment history for contractors as this is held with each 3rd provider as the employer.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER**

“Home to School Transport – Informing Parents”

Question:

From the point you first became aware that at least one person with a positive DBS check had been working on the Home to School Transport Service, how long was it before Parents on affected routes were first informed?

Answer:

Last year we became aware of a breach in our background checking process for a member of staff working for one of the council's contractors on a home to school transport route. The council immediately began a thorough investigation and which quickly established that the member of staff was never left alone with any child. The individual was removed from their duties on the same day the breach of process came to our attention.

The legal implications of this breach of process were carefully considered and parents were informed earlier this term and were offered the opportunity to meet with a senior officer to discuss the breach of process.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR RON STORER**

“Home to School Transport – Criminal Records”

Question:

In a 2018 response to a Freedom of Information Request to the Times newspaper, the Council revealed details of 114 licensed taxi drivers who had criminal records, including providing a list of the offences that had been committed (which included drug dealing, child neglect, assault and drink driving.) Please can you provide the same level of detail for any criminal records held by drivers or escorts working within the Home to School Transport service over the last 8 years.

Answer:

The Home to School Transport service is delivered by 3rd party providers, therefore the contractors undertaking the work are **not** employees of the City Council.

As such the 3rd party providers have the responsibility to undertake DBS checks and retain their employment records for their own employees.

Due to this, and GDPR legislation BCC does not have access to any employment history for contractors as this is held with each 3rd provider as the employer.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR MAUREEN CORNISH**

"Home to School Transport – Audit Report"

Question:

The Home to School Transport Audit has a series of 'updates' dated as July 2019, but none dated since that point. Between July 2020 and the publication of the report last week, what substantive changes were made to the report to account of the delay in its publication?

Answer:

In October 2019 the report was issued with two additional recommendations relating to and requiring a response from Human Resources. That report together with a cover report showing the latest position was included in the papers presented to the Audit Committee of 28th January 2020.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID BARRIE**

“Home to School Transport – Independent Investigation”

Question:

Who carried out the ‘independent’ investigation into ‘serious incident’ recommended by the Internal Audit Home to School Transport report and when was this report finalised?

Answer:

An internal investigation was undertaken independent of Education and Skills and HR in November 2019 by the Acting Director Neighbourhoods, Robert James.

Separately the Chair of the Birmingham Safeguarding Partnership is undertaking an independent investigation that will be concluded shortly. Robert James has been liaising with the Chair to assist with this investigation.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PEARS**

"Home to School Transport – Independent Investigation Report "

Question:

Please can you share a copy of the 'independent' investigation report into the 'serious incident' referenced in the Internal Audit Home to School Transport report that was due to be published by 4 November 2019 (recommendation 13 of Audit report)

Answer:

The internal independent report was marked confidential and cannot be shared publicly. Its circulation within the council was extremely limited. Legal advice has confirmed that wider circulation of the report's contents could potentially breach the Police Act.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR BRUCE LINES**“Home to School Transport – cancelled journeys ”****Question:**

In each month since September 2017, how many children had home to school transport journeys cancelled by the service?

Answer:

Data on routes cancelled by home to school transport due to guide absence is below. A number of routes were also cancelled by the transport provider but data on this is incomplete. Based on the data available, on average 25 routes were cancelled by providers each month.

	Cancelled due to Guide absence
Nov-17	0
Dec-17	0
Jan-18	10
Feb-18	24
Mar-18	6
Apr-18	15
May-18	39
Jun-18	59
Jul-18	12
Sep-18	10
Oct-18	15
Nov-18	10
Dec-18	15
Jan-19	1
Feb-19	4
Mar-19	3
Apr-19	0
May-19	1
Jun-19	4
Jul-19	5
Sep-19	5
Oct-19	4
Nov-19	9
Dec-19	8
Jan-20	19

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE HODIVALA**

"Home to School Transport – Complaints"

Question:

In each month since September 2017, how many complaints have been received regarding the Home to School Transport Service?

Answer:

Formal complaints received by Home to School Transport have been logged on the Council's iCasework system since June 2018. Data before this is not available.

2018	
Jun	5
Sep	8
Oct	8
Nov	6
Dec	8
Total	35
2019	
Jan	7
Feb	10
Mar	4
May	5
Jun	10
Aug	3
Sep	14
Oct	5
Nov	4

Dec	4
Total	66

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP**

“ATG Audit Report”

Question:

**On what date were you first informed about the findings of the Home to School
Transport Internal Audit Report?**

Answer:

I was informed on 28th June and was assured that all our children were safe and a thorough investigation was underway.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

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

"Bus Depot"

Question:

On what date were you first informed about that the relocation of the National Express depot was likely to be significantly more than the original estimated cost?

Answer:

A decision was taken by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader as required by the Constitution.

I was briefed by the Leader on my return from the Christmas break.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

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

“Breakdown”

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of the SEND Tribunal cases lodged against the Council and mediation sessions undertaken month by month from January 2019 showing:

- a) Category (e.g. Refusal to assess, Refusal to Issue, Section B, Section F, Section I)
- b) School Phase (Early Years, Primary, Secondary, Post-16 etc)
- c) Reason for claim
- d) Outcome

Answer:

We do not currently record mediation sessions undertaken by either category or outcome in a reportable format and have not, therefore, been able to provide this element of the data requested.

The data for appeals lodged has been further analysed and updated since the previous response and is contained in the tables below.

The Section rows relate to sections within an EHCP:

- SECTION B: Pupils Strengths and Special Educational Needs
- SECTION C: Pupils Strengths and Health Needs
- SECTION D: Pupils Strengths and Social Care Needs
- SECTION F: Special Educational Provision
- SECTION G: Health provision reasonably required by the child or young person as a result of their Special Educational Needs
- SECTION H1: Any Social Care provision that must be made for a child under 18 under Section 2 of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Person's Act 1970
- SECTION H2: Social Care provision reasonably required as a result of the child or young person having Special Educational Needs
- SECTION I: Education Placement

APPEAL GROUNDS by Phase	EY	Primary	Secondary	Post 16	Post 19	Grand Total
Cease to Maintain	0	0	0	1	5	6
Refusal to Assess	0	32	40	8	2	82

Refusal to Issue Plan	0	25	21	6	2	54
Section B,C,D,F,G & H	0	0	0	1	0	1
Section B, D,F,H & I	0	1	0	0	0	1
Section B, F & I	1	14	5	5	3	28
Section C,F,G,I	0	1	0	0	0	1
Section B & F	1	0	0	1	0	2
Section F & I	0	2	0	1	1	4
Section I	2	47	53	16	14	132
Grand Total	4	122	119	39	27	311

APPEAL GROUNDS by Month Received	Jan- 19	Feb- 19	Mar- 19	Apr- 19	May- 19	Jun- 19	Jul- 19	Aug- 19	Sep- 19	Oct- 19	Nov- 19	Dec- 19	Jan- 20	Grand Total
Cease to Maintain	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Refusal to Assess	8	8	4	7	8	8	11	8	5	6	4	2	3	82
Refusal to Issue Plan	3	3	6	7	3	6	3	4	4	3	3	3	6	54
Section B,C,D,F,G & H	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Section B, D,F,H & I	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Section B, F & I	2	1	0	2	1	3	5	3	2	4	2	3	0	28
Section C,F,G,I	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Section B,F	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Section F & I	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
Section I	1	14	20	14	28	13	7	5	11	9	3	1	6	132
Grand Total	16	26	30	31	41	36	29	21	22	22	12	9	16	311

APPEAL GROUNDS by Outcome	Appeal heading pending	Consent Order	Dismissed	Withdrawn	Not Opposed	Upheld	Grand Total
Cease to Maintain	2	0	0	0	4	0	6
Refusal to Assess	28	0	1	2	46	5	82
Refusal to Issue Plan	27	2	3	4	16	2	54
Section B, D,F,H & I	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Section B, F & I	24	1	0	1	1	1	28
Section B,F	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Section C,F,G,I	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Section F & I	2	0	0	1	0	1	4
Section I	66	3	2	41	14	6	132
Section B,C,D,F,G & H	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Grand Total	154	6	6	49	81	15	311

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE ALDEN**

"Budget"

Question:

**Please provide the budget allocated to each Locality under the SEND Locality
arrangements**

Answer:

No specific budget has been assigned to the localities.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR SUZANNE WEBB**

“SEND Locality”

Question:

Which SEND Locality is piloting the new funding arrangements and what has been achieved so far?

Answer:

No changes to funding arrangements are being piloted.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY**

"Breakdown"

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of the number of children and young people currently being educated via the organisation Flexible Learning because they do not have a suitable school place and/or are not able to attend the mainstream school where they are on the roll? Please break the figure down by:

- a. School Phase (Early Years, Primary, Secondary, Post-16 etc)**
- b. Area of SEND need**
- c. Cost of placements**
- d. Equivalent cost of special school placements**

Answer:

A number of children and young people are educated for a temporary period through Flexible Learning. These are pupils who have been permanently excluded from their mainstream school, including academies. The local authority has a statutory duty to make educational provision for these pupils from the sixth day following their exclusion. Pupils who are permanently excluded are subsequently put on roll at the City of Birmingham School (COBS - the city's pupil referral unit). In instances where pupils cannot access a place at COBS, the local authority ensures pupils' educational provision for a temporary period through the Flexible Learning organisation in order to meet the statutory duty. Pupils remain on roll with Flexible Learning until a place at COBS becomes available. COBS works to support permanently excluded pupils to return to mainstream education, when appropriate.

- a) Number of pupils currently educated through Flexible Learning by phase:**

Early Years: None
Primary: 25
Secondary: 45
Post 16: None

- b) The pupils educated through Flexible Learning with SEN identified in their Education Health and Care Plans:**

Of the 25 primary pupils: Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD): 1
 Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH): 1
 Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD): 2

Of the 45 secondary pupils: Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD): 2
 Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH): 6
 Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD): 3
 Autistic Spectrum Conditions (ASC): 2

- c) The cost of the placements ranges from £10 per hour to up to a maximum of £75.00 for a full day.
- d) Pupils are educated through Flexible Learning due to permanent exclusion, not instead of a special school. As set out in the answer to b) above, the majority of pupils being educated through Flexible Learning do not have an EHCP identifying special educational needs so a special school would not be appropriate.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR EDDIE FREEMAN

“Home Tuition”

Question:

Please provide a breakdown of the number of children and young people currently being educated via home tuition because they do not have a suitable school place and/or are not able to attend the mainstream school where they are on the roll.? Please break the figure down by:

- School Phase (Early Years, Primary, Secondary, Post-16 etc)
- Area of SEND need
- Cost of placements
- Equivalent cost of special school placements

Answer:

Total number of children currently being educated via home tuition agencies is 44

Number of children being tutored by the Communication and Autism children out of school team is 23. All of these children have autism or significant social communication difficulties/emotional needs

Total home tutored = 67

a. Breakdown by school phase

Early Years	Primary	Secondary	Post 16
3	20	33	11

b. Breakdown by main area of need

Communication and Interaction (includes SLCN, ASC)	Cognition and learning	Social, emotional and mental health difficulties	Physical and Sensory Difficulties
36	8	19	1

c. Total cost of current tuition agencies funding for these pupils till agreed end date which in most cases is end of financial year:

£466,318

Tuition via an agency is between £25 and £33 per hour

d Equivalent cost of the number of placements in specialist settings per annum instead of those being tutored by agencies (based on an average costs of core place funding, banding and school specific factors = £19,890 per pupil for a full academic year)

For 44 pupils this would be £875,160 for a year.

Teaching in a specialist setting can be broken down to an approximate average cost of £20 per hour

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR TIMOTHY HUXTABLE

"Tribunal Cases"

Question:

Following on from the answer to Written question B9 at the last Full Council meeting, how many tribunal cases were lodged over the same period where the parents wanted specialist provision?

Answer:

There were 59 Appeals lodged in the period between January 2019 and January 2020 where the LA named mainstream educational settings in the EHC Plan and parents sought specialist provision:

	Grand Total
Feb-19	7
Mar-19	4
Apr-19	6
May-19	11
Jun-19	6
Jul-19	3
Aug-19	2
Sep-19	5
Oct-19	8
Nov-19	3
Dec-19	1
Jan-20	3
Grand Total	59

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR MEIRION JENKINS**

"EHCP Annual Reviews"

Question:

**Please provide a month by month breakdown of the number of EHCP Annual
Reviews completed from January – December 2019**

Answer:

Month	Annual Review Decisions Made
January 2019	2
February 2019	8
March 2019	17
April 2019	12
May 2019	26
June 2019	19
July 2019	21
August 2019	46
September 2019	22
October 2019	37
November 2019	16
December 2019	21
January 2020	20
Grand Total	267

Actions to date:

- Project plan now developed with overarching actions to ensure statutory compliance.
- Additional lead capacity recruited and commenced last week.
- Interviews started 3.2.20 to establish additional team capacity.
- Two new interim SEN Case Managers already identified (one to start wb 10.2.20 and another for start of March)

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN LINES

"Breakdown of 168"

Question:

Following on from the answer to Written Question b10 at the last Full council meeting please provide a breakdown of the 168 currently finalised by type to show:

- a. Area of need
- b. School phase

Answer:

Count of YearGroup	Ye	-1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	15	Grand Total
Type Of Need																		
Autistic Spectrum Condition	1	27	26	14	11	8	3	3	1	2	2	1						99
Cognition & Learning	1	4	2	4	3	4	2			2	3	4	2					31
Medical	1		1															2
Physical Difficulties				1							1							2
Social, Emotional and Mental Health				1		1	3		4	1	5	3	3	2	3	1	1	28
Specific Learning Disability				1	1													2
Speech, Language and Communication Needs			1		2			1										4
Grand Total		3	32	31	22	15	15	6	7	4	11	9	6	2	3	1	1	168

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

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

“Legal Rights”

Question:

Following on from the answer to Written Question B11 at the last Full Council meeting, how will parents' legal rights be upheld in relation to school placements and provision if decisions are being made by locality panels?

Answer:

The aim of the locality panels is to strengthen our links with parents and carers within their local communities while ensuring that the local authority carries out its duties as set out in the Children and Families Act 2014 and the Code of Practice on Special Educational Needs (SEND Code) 2015. This includes upholding parents' legal rights in relation to school placements and provision.

Panels must still comply with section 39 of the Children and Families Act 2014 which says that when a parent asks for the EHCP to name a particular school then (providing it is one of the types of school listed in section 38 of the Act) following consultation with the school's governing body, proprietor or principal that school **must** be named in the EHCP unless:

- (a) the school requested is unsuitable for the age, ability, aptitude or special educational needs of the child or young person concerned, or
- (b) the attendance of the child or young person at the requested school would be incompatible with—
 - (i) the provision of efficient education for others, or
 - (ii) the efficient use of resources.

If it is decided that the preferred school should not be named for one of these reasons, then the Council, through the Panel, should ensure that the EHCP names another appropriate school or type of school. Parents who do not agree with this decision are entitled to appeal it.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR GARETH MOORE**

"KPI's"

Question:

What KPIs have been put in place for Parent Link workers and what are their achievements so far?

Answer:

KPIs for the Parent Link workers are in the process of being set and are likely to include building relationships with families, improving partnership working as well as reducing parental complaints and tribunals and the associated stress on families.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR GARY SAMBROOK**

"Home to School Service"

Question:

At the Education and Children's Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting regarding the Home to School Transport Enquiry, representatives of the Parent Carer Forum expressed alarm and disgust at the appalling service being provided to some of the most vulnerable children in our city. Given the level of engagement with the Forum you have previously alluded to (e.g. in the answer to Written Question B14 at the last Full council meeting) how can there be such a lack of confidence in the Council at this point?

Answer:

There is a good level of engagement with Parent Carer Forum, as evidenced by the scheduled monthly meetings between the chair of Parent Carer Forum and the Assistant Director SEND and Inclusion. Parent Carer Forum are also represented at a number of key meetings – for example on the recent Preparation for Adulthood focus day and at the Locality Consultation meetings last term.

We welcome all feedback from Parent Carer Forum and acknowledge that some of the feedback has been critical. We are working constructively with Parent Carer Forum to address the concerns that they have raised.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S
WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR KEN WOOD**

"Parent Link Workers"

Question:

Please provide the following information regarding Parent Link workers:

- a. Number of posts**
- b. Grade**
- c. Number in post already**
- d. Number still to be confirmed,**
- e. Date of JQ approval**
- f. Outline of approved duties**
- g. Date of approval of duties**

Answer:

- a. 9 posts.**
- b. The outcome of pending Job Evaluations will determine the grades of the posts.**
- c. 2.4 posts have been temporarily appointed to on a secondment basis.**
- d. 6.6 FTE.**
- e. Job evaluation is pending.**
- f. The duties for each of the posts will be set out in the finalised job descriptions,**
- g. Job evaluation is pending.**

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS
AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP**

“ATG Audit Report”

Question:

**On what date were you first informed about the findings of the Home to School
Transport Internal Audit Report?**

Answer:

I was informed on 4 July 2019 and was assured that all our children were safe and a thorough investigation was underway.

CITY COUNCIL – 4 FEBRUARY 2020

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS
AND CULTURE COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY**

"Bus Depot"

Question:

On what date were you first informed about that the relocation of the National Express depot was likely to be significantly more than the original estimated cost?

Answer:

A decision was taken by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader as required by the Constitution.

I was briefed by the Leader on my return from the Christmas break.

