



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL HELD  
ON TUESDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2018 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE COUNCIL  
CHAMBER, COUNCIL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM**

**PRESENT:-** Lord Mayor (Councillor Anne Underwood) in the Chair

**Councillors**

Muhammed Afzal	Mohammed Fazal	John Lines
Uzma Ahmed	Jayne Francis	Keith Linnecor
Mohammed Aikhlaq	Matthew Gregson	Mary Locke
Deirdre Alden	Carole Griffiths	Ewan Mackey
John Alden	Peter Griffiths	Majid Mahmood
Robert Alden	Paulette Hamilton	Karen McCarthy
Tahir Ali	Andrew Hardie	James McKay
Sue Anderson	Roger Harmer	Gareth Moore
Gurdial Singh Atwal	Kath Hartley	Yvonne Mosquito
Mohammed Azim	Barry Henley	Brett O'Reilly
Susan Barnett	Des Hughes	John O'Shea
David Barrie	Jon Hunt	David Pears
Bob Beauchamp	Mahmood Hussain	Robert Pocock
Matt Bennett	Shabrana Hussain	Victoria Quinn
Kate Booth	Timothy Huxtable	Hendrina Quinnen
Sir Albert Bore	Mohammed Idrees	Carl Rice
Randal Brew	Zafar Iqbal	Fergus Robinson
Marje Bridle	Morriam Jan	Gary Sambrook
Mick Brown	Kerry Jenkins	Mike Sharpe
Alex Buchanan	Meirion Jenkins	Sybil Spence
Andy Cartwright	Simon Jevon	Stewart Stacey
Tristan Chatfield	Julie Johnson	Ron Storer
Zaker Choudhry	Brigid Jones	Martin Straker Welds
Debbie Clancy	Carol Jones	Sharon Thompson
John Clancy	Josh Jones	Paul Tilsley
Liz Clements	Nagina Kauser	Karen Trench
Lynda Clinton	Tony Kennedy	Lisa Trickett
Maureen Cornish	Ansar Ali Khan	Margaret Waddington
John Cotton	Changeese Khan	Ian Ward
Ian Cruise	Mariam Khan	Mike Ward
Diane Donaldson	Narinder Kaur Kooner	Fiona Williams
Peter Douglas Osborn	Chaman Lal	Ken Wood
Barbara Dring	Mike Leddy	Alex Yip
Neil Eustace	Bruce Lines	Waseem Zaffar

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**NOTICE OF RECORDING**

- 18961 The Lord Mayor advised that the meeting would be webcast for live and subsequent broadcasting via the Council's internet site and that members of the Press/Public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

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

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

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**MINUTES**

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and –

- 18962 **RESOLVED:-**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2018 having been printed and copies circulated to each Member of the Council, be taken as read and confirmed and signed.

(N.B. It was subsequently established that there was an error in the minutes so they were resubmitted to the 27 February 2018 meeting.)

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**LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A. Gunter Primary School**

- 18963 The Lord Mayor informed the Chamber that in the public gallery were staff and pupils of Gunter Primary School in Erdington and she asked Members to join her in welcoming them all to the meeting.
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**B. Representation of the People Act 1918**

- 18964 The Lord Mayor made the following announcement in respect of the Representation of the People Act 1918:-

(See document No 1)

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**PETITIONS**

**Petitions Relating to City Council Functions Presented prior to the Meeting**

The following petitions were presented:-

(See document No 2)

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

18965 **RESOLVED:-**

That the petitions be received and referred to the relevant Chief Officers.

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**Petitions Relating to City Council Functions Presented at the Meeting**

The following petitions were presented:-

(See document No 3)

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

18966 **RESOLVED:-**

That the petitions be received and referred to the relevant Chief Officers.

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**Petitions Relating to External Organisations Presented at the Meeting**

The following petitions were presented:-

(See document No 4)

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

18966 **RESOLVED:-**

That the petitions be received and referred to the relevant external organisations.

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**Petitions Update**

The following Petitions Update was submitted:-

(See document No 5)

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and -

18967 **RESOLVED:-**

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

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**QUESTION TIME**

18968 The Council proceeded to consider Oral Questions in accordance with Standing Order 10 C

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

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**APPOINTMENTS BY THE COUNCIL**

Following nominations it was -

18969 **RESOLVED:-**

That the following persons be appointed until the Annual Meeting of the City Council in 2018 as set below:-

<b><u>Body</u></b>	<b><u>Representative</u></b>
<b><u>Corporate Resources and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Committee</u></b>	Councillor Ewan Mackey (Con) to replace Councillor Debbie Clancy (Con) for the remainder of the 2017/2018 Municipal Year.

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**EXEMPTION FROM STANDING ORDERS**

18970 The Lord Mayor advised that there was no exemption from Standing Orders required.

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**AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

The following report of the Council Business Management Committee was submitted:-

(See document No 6)

The Leader Councillor Ian Ward moved the motion which was seconded. In doing so he made reference to a list of Cabinet Advisors which had been circulated around the Chamber:-

(See document No 7)

**EXTENSION OF TIME LIMIT**

It was moved by Councillor Gareth Moore and seconded –

“That the time limit for ‘Amendments to the Constitution’ agenda item be extended by 15 minutes.”

The Motion was put to the vote and, by a show of hands, was declared to be carried.

It was accordingly –

18971 **RESOLVED:-**

That the time limit for ‘Amendments to the Constitution’ agenda item be extended by 15 minutes.

A debate ensued.

The Leader Councillor Ian Ward replied to the debate

The Motion having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be carried.

It was therefore -

18972 **RESOLVED:-**

That the Council adopts the following changes to its constitution:

- To discontinue the District Committees and the Role of Executive Members for Local Services (District Committee Chairs) and enhance the role of Ward Forums;
- To remove the Cabinet Committee Local Leadership from the Council's Executive governance arrangements;
- To enable the appointment of Cabinet advisors;

and authorises the City Solicitor to implement the changes to the Constitution set out in the Appendices with immediate effect.

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**REPORT OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

The following report of the Birmingham Tree Policy Task and Finish Group was submitted:-

(See document No 8)

Councillor Fiona Williams moved the motion which was seconded by Councillor Debbie Clancy.

## **City Council – 6 February 2018**

In accordance with Council Standing Orders, Councillors Ian Ward and Stewart Stacey gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No 9)

The Leader Councillor Ian Ward moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Stewart Stacey.

A debate ensued.

Councillor Fiona Williams replied to the debate.

The amendment having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be carried.

Here upon a poll being demanded the voting, with names listed in seat number order, was as follows:-

(See document No 10)

NB The documents have been amended to show that Councillor Mike Leddy who was deputising for the Deputy Lord Mayor had voted and not the Deputy Lord Mayor as indicated in the document.

The total results referred to in the interleave read:-

Yes – 58 (For the amendment);

No – 33 (Against the amendment);

Abstain – 1 (Abstentions).

The Motion as amended having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be carried.

It was therefore -

18973 **RESOLVED:-**

That the recommendations R01 to R12 are approved, subject to the amendment of Recommendation R06, as follows:

R06 Line 5

Delete “the prior agreement of” and replace with “prior consultation with”

and that the Executive be requested to pursue their implementation.

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and

18974 **RESOLVED:-**

That the Council be adjourned until 1715 hours on this day.

The Council then adjourned at 1645 hours.

At 1715 hours the Council resumed at the point where the meeting had been adjourned.

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The Lord Mayor advised the Chamber that during the break it had been identified that the minutes of the last meeting confirmed and signed earlier in the meeting may have an error in them. If this proved to be correct then they would be resubmitted at the next meeting.

**MOTIONS FOR DEBATE FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**

The Council proceeded to consider the Motions of which notice had been given in accordance with Standing Order 4(1).

**A. Councillors Paulette Hamilton and John Cotton have given notice of the following Motion:-**

(See document No 11)

Before consideration of the Motion, Members declared interests as follows

<b><u>Councillor</u></b>	<b><u>Interest</u></b>
Majid Mahmood	Governor at the Heart of England Foundation Trust.
Barry Henley	Non-executive director of Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust.
Ian Cruise	Wife works at the Heart of England Foundation Trust.
Mary Locke	Works for Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust part time as a ward house keeper.
Karen McCarty	BCC's stakeholder governor for the Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Trust.
Carl Rice	Wife is employed at the QE Hospital Edgbaston.
Paulette Hamilton	Is a lay manager at Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Trust.

Councillor Paulette Hamilton moved the Motion, which was seconded by Councillor John Cotton.

In accordance with Council Standing Orders, Councillors Sue Anderson and Roger Harmer gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No 12)

Councillor Sue Anderson moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Roger Harmer.

## **City Council – 6 February 2018**

In accordance with Council Standing Orders, Councillors Deirdre Alden and Andrew Hardie gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No 13)

Councillor Deirdre Alden moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Andrew Hardie.

A debate ensued.

Councillor Paulette Hamilton replied to the debate during which she indicated that the Liberal Democrat amendment would be acceptable if the third paragraph referring to the last bullet point was removed.

As a point of clarification Councillor Deirdre Alden, referring to the car parking charges at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, confirmed that she had been told by the hospital at the time of building it that the car parking charges would be used to offset the mortgage in order to prevent funding being taken from frontline services.

Councillor Sue Anderson confirmed that that deletion of the third paragraph in the amendment suggested by Councillor Hamilton was acceptable.

The first amendment as amended having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be carried.

The second amendment having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be lost.

The Motion as amended having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be carried.

It was therefore -

### 18975 **RESOLVED:-**

The Council notes that yet again patients and staff in Birmingham are facing an appalling and entirely predictable winter crisis. Eight years of severe underfunding have left our National Health Service teetering on the brink of collapse, leaving thousands of patients languishing in the back of ambulances and being diverted from A&E Departments nationwide this winter. This crisis in our hospitals is further exacerbated by the Government's repeated failure to properly fund adult social care, which will result in the opening up of a shocking £2.5 billion gap in the funding of adult social care by 2019/20, This nationwide failure is damaging standards of care and placing an intolerable strain on Birmingham City Council's services.

Council calls on the Government to urgently provide funding to enable the swift rescheduling of cancelled operations and end this winter of misery. Council condemns the current NHS pay cap for all staff and the scrapping of the university training bursary for health students as significant contributors to the current staffing crisis.



The Council is committed to an NHS which is fully-funded, comprehensive, universal, publicly-provided and publicly accountable, in line with the principles established when Labour introduced it.

We therefore call on the Government to reverse recent funding cuts and invest in our health service, and to take urgent action to save the NHS by:

- providing immediate emergency funding to enable Trusts to reschedule elective operations as soon as possible;
- providing adequate funding for all services, including adult social care and mental health services.
- tackling the causes of ill-health, e.g. austerity, poverty and poor housing, and a properly funded public health programme;
- impose strict criteria on the use of private involvement in NHS management and provisions only when it is cost-effective and gives advantages to the care and outcomes for patients;
- recognition of the continuing vital NHS role of EU nationals;
- Constructive engagement with NHS staff-organisations
- increasing recruitment and training
- scrapping the cap on pay-levels;
- restoration of NHS student bursaries;
- halting the sell-off of NHS sites;

The Council requests that the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care write to the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, demanding that they give the NHS and Social Care the support and resources it urgently needs, and asking what they will do to make sure patients and their families in Birmingham never suffer a winter crisis like this year ever again.

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**Councillors Debbie Clancy and Des Flood have given notice of the following Motion:-**

(See document No 14)

Councillor Debbie Clancy moved the Motion, which was seconded by Councillor Andrew Hardie in the absence of Councillor Flood.

In accordance with Council Standing Orders, Councillors Lisa Trickett and Kerry Jenkins gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No 15)

Councillor Lisa Trickett moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Kerry Jenkins.

## **City Council – 6 February 2018**

In accordance with Council Standing Orders, Councillors Meirion Jenkins and Deirdre Alden gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No 16)

Councillor Meirion Jenkins moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Deirdre Alden.

A debate ensued.

Councillor Debbie Clancy replied to the debate.

The first amendment having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be carried.

The second amendment having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be lost.

Here upon a poll being demanded the voting, with names listed in seat number order, was as follows:-

(See document No 17)

NB The documents have been amended to show that Councillor Mike Leddy who was deputising for the Deputy Lord Mayor had voted and not the Deputy Lord Mayor as indicated in the document.

The total results referred to in the interleave read:-

Yes – 30 (For the amendment);

No – 56 (Against the amendment);

Abstain – 0 (Abstentions).

The Motion as amended having been moved and seconded was put to the vote and by a show of hands was declared to be carried.

It was therefore –

18976

### **RESOLVED:-**

This Council believes that as the City's parks belong to people of the City and are funded through their taxes that we should keep them free to use and access. We should also encourage ever greater use of our parks to further the health and wellbeing of people across Birmingham, building on the successful Active Parks, Run Birmingham and Birmingham Cycle Revolution initiatives.

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The meeting ended at 1900 hours.

## **APPENDIX**

Questions and replies in accordance with Standing Order 9(B).

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

#### **A1 Budget & Business Plan - 5 Examples fed into planning process?"**

##### **Question:**

**In the autumn wards were asked, at quite short notice, to provide plans to inform the budget and business plan. Can the Leader give five examples of how ward plans have been fed into the budget planning process?**

##### **Answer:**

15 of the 40 Wards completed their ward plans last year and the main priorities identified from this were reported back to Cabinet Committee Local Leadership in November 2017 as

- Ongoing support for the local voluntary and community groups in the ward;
- Highways and parking Issues;
- Environmental including rubbish and litter;
- Policing;
- Young People;
- Health and
- Older People

These local issues were then fed into the budgetary considerations by the Assistant Leaders and are part of the many factors influencing our budget 2018+ that will be going to Cabinet and City Council in February.

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

**A2 School Meals 1**

**Question:**

**Has the Leader abandoned his predecessor's plans to extend the range of free school meals?**

**Answer:**

Government cuts to our budget of almost £650 million since 2010 mean that it is not currently possible to offer universal free school meals.

So for now we will focus on what is possible given the current financial constraints and every effort is being made to maximise the take up of free school meals among those children who are currently eligible.

The introduction of Universal Credit has further complicated matters and the Free School Meals task and finish group continues to seek answers from the Department of Work and Pensions regarding Free Schools Meals.

In the longer term, I would urge the Government to ensure that all our children have access to free school meals. That would go some way towards tackling the rising levels of childhood poverty that saw 400,000 more UK children plunged into poverty last year. It would also have obvious health benefits for many children across the country.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM  
COUNCILLOR NEIL EUSTACE**

**A3 School Meals 2**

**Question:**

**What funding was raised towards the previous Leader's proposed extension of free school meals to all primary school pupils?**

**Answer:**

Given the current financial constraints, work to date has focussed on maximising the take up of free school meals among those children who are currently eligible.

Government cuts to our budget of almost £650 million since 2010 mean that it is not currently possible to offer universal free school meals.

The introduction of Universal Credit has further complicated matters and the Free School Meals task and finish group continues to seek answers from the Department of Work and Pensions regarding Free Schools Meals.

In the longer term, I would urge the Government to ensure that all our children have access to free school meals. That would go some way towards tackling the rising levels of childhood poverty that saw 400,000 more UK children plunged into poverty last year. It would also have obvious health benefits for many children across the country.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM  
COUNCILLOR MORRIAM JAN**

**A4 BMX track closed - why?**

**Question:**

**Could the Leader explain why the international quality BMX track at Perry Park in Perry Barr has suddenly closed?**

**Answer:**

The BMX Track has not closed, however the current operator has withdrawn and therefore the operation is now back with the Council and managed from Alexander Stadium. In the short term the resident club booking is being maintained and extended, and meetings are taking place with other hirers to make sure their requirements can also be met.

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

**A5 Labour NEC Intervention 1**

**Question:**

**Do you think it would be appropriate for the Labour NEC to intervene in a decision made by an elected Labour executive in Birmingham?**

**Answer:**

**No**

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM  
COUNCILLOR RANDAL BREW**

**A6 Relocation of Broadcaster to Birmingham**

**Question:**

**Since April 2017 how many times (and on what dates) have you personally communicated with the Government and/or Channel 4 regarding the relocation of the broadcaster to Birmingham?**

**Answer:**

The Channel 4 campaign is a joint initiative involving partners from across the region and, since becoming Leader of the Council in November 2017, I have continued to play my part in making the case for Birmingham. This predominantly involves working closely with West Midlands Mayor Andy Street, West Midlands Combined Authority and leading cultural figures in the region.

Previously, as Deputy Leader, I attended a House of Commons briefing for MPs in July 2017, to discuss Birmingham's response to the Government consultation on relocation.

In addition to campaigning alongside our partners, on 18 January I wrote to the new Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Matt Hancock MP, making the case for Birmingham to be Channel 4's new home. I made it clear that I am keen to speak to the Secretary of State about Channel 4's relocation.

This is a young, diverse, creative and dynamic city region that would be a perfect fit for Channel 4 and I will continue to make the case for Birmingham.



**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM  
COUNCILLOR MATT BENNETT**

**A7 Independent Review**

**Question:**

**We are now only a few weeks away from the first anniversary of what came to be known as “Hijabgate”, which triggered the resignation from the cabinet of Councillor Waseem Zaffar. For many of us, not least, I am sure, Councillor Zaffar himself, it would be a fine way to commemorate this anniversary if the “independent review” which was instigated upon his resignation could be completed and published. Is the Leader able to give any update as to when this much anticipated and, one would hope, extremely thorough piece of work will see the light of day?**

**Answer:**

The matter has now been resolved.

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

**A8 Trees**

**Question:**

**How many trees are going to be removed from the Athlete Village site before construction work on the village, to also include many replacements there will be?**

**Answer:**

Development will inevitably require some tree removals but it is not currently possible to say how many as the Athletes' Village site design is still being drawn up. The number removed will be minimised as far as possible and a mitigation strategy put in place including lifting of significant trees and replanting nearby and major new tree planting to include a proposed Urban Park 'Perry Orchard' on the adjacent Gailey Island site. There will be a net overall gain in the number of trees. I will update you when the design has been firmed up and numbers of trees affected is known.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM  
COUNCILLOR KEN WOOD**

**A9 Consultation**

**Question:**

**In the Cabinet report of 15 August 2017 (Temporary Accommodation - Refurbishment of Council Owned Properties for Use as Temporary Accommodation) regarding Barry Jackson Tower , it states in Appendix 1E that the Ward Councillors for Aston have been consulted about the decision to utilise the tower to provide accommodation for homeless people. It also states that Councillors Islam and Afzal both expressed their support in writing, whilst Cllr Kauser telephoned to confirm her support. Can you provide a copy of the written statements from Cllrs Afzal and Islam and any note made of Cllr Kauser's verbal support?**

**Answer:**

The officers involved have confirmed that:

The Service offered a number of meetings with local Councillors. In response to the proposals it can be confirmed as follows.....:

**Cllr Islam** confirmed his written support to the proposals on Friday, July 28, 2017 at 10:29 AM as follows:

*"Good morning Andy,  
Sorry, I could not meet as planned on Wednesday due to my mobile diary was out of order. However, I agree with the proposal. Thanks  
Kind regards,*

**Councillor Ziaul Islam MBE**  
*Chair of Ladywood District"*

Further to a telephone conversation with Cllr Afzal about the proposals, we confirmed in writing the Councillor's support voiced in the discussion between Andy Perry and the Councillor in an email dated Monday, July 31, 2017 8:59 PM as follows:

*"Good evening Councillor Afzal  
Firstly, can I confirm our telephone confirmation and your support for the proposals to refurbish Barry Jackson Tower for use as temporary accommodation, your support for the proposal is very much appreciated*

*In relation to the questions you raised:*

***Safeguarding***

*I confirmed that once refurbished and as soon as families have moved in to the property Barry Jackson will be staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. As a Service we take safeguarding very seriously and we will ensure that all steps are taken to safeguard all families we work with and resident in Barry Jackson Tower.*

***Impact on local schools***

*I confirmed that we work with the Education Transport and Education Welfare services and will ensure, where practicable and safe to do so, we will support children of families resident at Barry Jackson Tower to remain in their local school rather than impact on the schools in the vicinity of Barry Jackson. A representative of this Service will be meeting the head-teachers of the local schools to discuss their concerns should Cabinet agree this proposal on 15 August.*

***Anti-Social Behaviour***

*I confirmed that we currently manage four homeless centres and ensure that these do not detrimentally impact on the local community in any way whatsoever. We will be providing communal floors for residents as well as enhancing the communal grounds to ensure that households have somewhere to go rather than “hang around” on the nearby streets, which I understand from our conversation is a concern of yours*

*I did confirm that we undertake risk assessments on all households prior to placement in to temporary accommodation and where we identify any risks we will accommodate that family or person in the appropriate type of property.*

*Once again, many thanks for your support for this proposal. Should you have any more questions please do not hesitate to contact me*

*Regards*

*Andy*

*Andrew Perry*

*Senior Service Manager*

*Housing Options Service”*

In addition to the above, the Cabinet report approved in August 2017 confirmed that local Elected Members have been consulted on the proposals and supportive going forward.

Further to telephone dialogue the Service wrote to **Cllr Kauser** to confirm the telephone conversation with Cllr Kauser and agreement to the proposals on Monday, July 31, 2017 1:21 PM as follows:

***“To: Councillor Nagina Kauser***

***Subject: FW: Barry Jackson Tower***

***Importance: High***

*Dear Councillor Kauser,*

*Apologies for chasing you. I called and spoke to you on Friday whilst you were on a break during your Jury duty.*

*You advised that you were happy with the proposals that we had put forward and advised that you would later respond via email to confirm this in writing.*

*We appreciate this, if you could please.*

*Many thanks*

*Pauline Thomas  
Professional Support Officer to  
Jim Crawshaw  
Head of Housing Options”*

Please note that the written confirmation requested was not received.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL  
FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN ALDEN**

**B1 Labour NEC Intervention 2**

**Question:**

**Do you think it would be appropriate for the Labour NEC to intervene in a decision made by an elected Labour executive in Birmingham?**

**Answer:**

**No.**

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL  
FROM COUNCILLOR GARY SAMBROOK**

**B2 Pay Scale**

**Question:**

**For the past three full years and the year to date please provide, by directorate, the number of agency workers and workers on interim contracts who have become permanent employees and, of those, how many have started their permanent employment above the lowest point on the pay scale for their grade?**

**Answer:**

Prior to November 2016, data was not collected in a way that enabled an accurate response to this query. This is now undertaken and therefore the information provided relates to the period November 2016 to December 2017.

- No interims commenced permanent employment
- 98 agency workers commenced permanent employment as follows

Directorate	Number
Adults Social Care and Health	3
Children and Young People	2
Children's Services	38
Finance	5
Place	40
Strategic Services	10

- 38 agency workers were appointed above the bottom scale point of the grade, however from the data collected it cannot be determined if it was for the same role as undertaken when an agency worker.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN,  
FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL TILSLEY**

**C1 Free School Meals for Infants**

**Question:**

**What has been the impact on the welfare and education of children in Birmingham of the policy of free school meals for infants introduced in the latter part of the 2010-2015 government?**

**Answer:**

Whilst there has been no specific research on this issue for the city, we can report that in 2017 the average overall Progress 8 score for Birmingham is once again above national average. This means that children, whatever their starting point make more progress while at secondary school on average than those nationally.

Where Birmingham really shines however is in the progress of its disadvantaged pupils. In 2017 not only did we outperform that national average for this group but our young people collectively outperform those in all other major cities outside London.

The gap between the progress that disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged children make is also the smallest in Birmingham against core cities and the West Midlands, suggesting that Birmingham is beginning to buck the trend of endless cycles of poverty.

There are many non-selective mixed schools in Birmingham where disadvantaged pupils have consistently made more relative progress than their non-disadvantaged counterparts.

The national policy was implemented on the back of a pilot, with a full evaluation published in 2010. This showed that, following the pilot, there had been a significant positive impact on attainment for primary school pupils at Key Stages 1 and 2 (ages 7 and 11). Pupils in the pilot areas made between four and eight weeks' more progress than similar pupils in comparison areas.

According to data from the Office for National Statistics there has been a big increase in school meal take-up nationally, rising from 38 per cent of those eligible in 2013-14 to 80 per cent in 2015/16.



**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN,  
FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN ALDEN**

**C2 Labour NEC Intervention 3**

**Question:**

**Do you think it would be appropriate for the Labour NEC to intervene in a decision made by an elected Labour executive in Birmingham?**

**Answer:**

**No.**

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN,  
FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS FROM COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY**

**C3 SEN**

**Question:**

**As of 31<sup>st</sup> March this year, Statements of Special Educational Need will cease to have legal force and will be replaced by Education Health and Care Plans. Local authorities have, since September 2014, been required to transfer existing statements into EHCPs in order to meet this deadline. As of today, how many Statements of Special Educational Needs are still to be transferred?**

**Answer:**

Of the original **7,603** Statements of SEN to be transferred there are now **873** that remain to be transferred (figure accurate at 31 January 2018). SENAR is implementing a variety of strategies in order to ensure that the statutory deadline is achieved in all outstanding cases.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN,  
FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS FROM COUNCILLOR EWAN MACKEY**

**C4 Compliance**

**Question:**

**In October 2017, following a legal battle between the Council, the School and Ofsted, the Court of Appeal ruled that the gender segregation in Al-Hijrah school was unlawful. Please advise what steps have been taken to ensure that the law is now being fully complied with in this school and confirm that it is?**

**Answer:**

Birmingham City Council has been working with Al Hijrah School and the IEB, to ensure that the Court of Appeal judgement is implemented, in a way that is reasonable and does not have an adverse effect on the outcomes for pupils at Al Hijrah.

In the short term, the IEB, in January 2018, fully integrated the primary aged pupils, up to Year 5. When the current Year 6 pupils leave, at the end of the academic year, the whole of the primary school will then become a fully integrated provision.

Within the senior school, the IEB have ensured pupil integration during social times, including assemblies, lesson breaks and academic trips.

The longer term solution lies in a proposal to re-model the all-through Islamic education provision, into a three school solution. A seminar, took place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018, which involved a wider stakeholder group, to discuss and test out, the viability of the proposals.

The IEB have scheduled for next week, an informal discussion between BCC officers and a group of parents, outline the suggested proposal to remodel the Al Hijrah education provision.

Following this meeting, the next steps are for BCC to form a project group to develop a management programme and time line for the formal consultation and implementation of the agreed proposal. It is possible for parts of the proposal to be completed by September 2018, with full implementation the following year.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN,  
FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS FROM COUNCILLOR ALEX YIP**

**C5 Home to School Transport**

**Question:**

**Schools and parents have been reporting many problems with home to school transport relating to one particular provider - ATG. The situation has been ongoing for some time but things do not seem to be improving. Please advise what steps are being taken to resolve this so that parents can be sure that their children are going to get to school on time and ready to be educated?**

**Answer:**

We are acutely conscious of the impact that the service failure of our main provider of transport for children with SEND is having on families and schools. ATG currently have 48% of the transport contract. Our internal Travel Assist team have been working extremely hard to mitigate the impact of this failure on a daily basis – finding alternative deliverers wherever possible. Problems arose in this current financial year at one of the ATG depots which has experienced a high level of driver sickness and cancellation of routes. ATG have also 'double routed' resulting in children arriving into, and leaving, school at inappropriate times.

Officers have met with the Chief Executive of ATG and his senior team. At this meeting ATG voluntarily surrendered all routes to one school and talked through their plans to address the service failure. The Council's travel assist team are procuring new providers for routes, and will continue to request that ATG surrender routes where issues are ongoing. ATG can also be penalised under the terms of the contract, though this is not as stringent as we would like. The Assistant Director with responsibility for Travel Assist has asked that Special School Headteachers accompany her to a meeting with the Trustees of ATG. Discussions are also underway about how transport may be procured in the future, with different models currently in discussion. This will reduce the reliance of the Council on any one provider.

It is worth being aware, that as ATG surrender routes, the Council has to re-procure this transport at greater cost, and sometimes with great difficulty depending on where in the city the route is, and what kind of vehicle is required. As ATG surrender routes, they have also asked that Drivers are TUPE'd to the new deliverer. This has added to the existing pressures upon the Travel Assist service, which supports the transport of over 4,246 children every day.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN,  
FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS FROM COUNCILLOR MATT BENNETT**

**C6 Near to Schools**

**Question:**

**When children of school age are placed in temporary accommodation some distance from their school the Council often, quite rightly, has to pay for their transport to and from school each day. If the distance is great and/or the children very young, a bus pass would not be possible. What part does this undesirable (and costly) situation play in the decision making process for prioritising families to be moved out of temporary accommodation, or at least to somewhere nearer their children's school?**

**Answer:**

Placing of families into temporary accommodation and hotels will require at times placement outside the West Midlands boundary where there is an immediate need. Households will be moved back to Birmingham as soon as accommodation is available according to the length of time that they have been accommodated outside Birmingham and based on housing need.

The Service does work with colleagues from the Education Transport Service who will assess applications from families to support their children to attend school.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM  
COUNCILLOR SUE ANDERSON**

**C7 School Crossing Patrols**

**Question:**

**School crossing patrols: Please list the number of working school crossing patrols for January 2018, January 2017, January 2016 and January 2015?**

**Answer:**

The number of School Crossing Wardens employed on the respective dates is as follows:

January 2015 – 226

January 2016 – 199

January 2017 – 187

January 2018 – 176

The City Council's policy is that it will fund Wardens on the highest priority sites (referred to as P1) that are not equipped with pedestrian controlled lights. The Council will only recruit to other sites as they become vacant if a school or another third party wishes to pay for the service.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR MIKE  
WARD**

**D1 Household Bulky Collection - take-up**

**Question:**

**Please indicate the take-up of the household bulky collection for each of the last five years.**

**Answer:**

Records for bulky collections only go as far back as 1 April 2013 where two free bulky collections were available to residents before the third was chargeable. This system changed on 1 April 2014 when all collections became chargeable.

Please see below the number of bulky collections requested by month and by year between 1 April 2013 and 31 January 2018. Please note collections are only undertaken for part of December each year.

Month	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Grand Total
Jan		4247	1009	1221	1361	1592	9430
Feb		3920	1082	1510	1483		7995
Mar		4244	1291	1370	1811		8716
Apr	7316	1079	1462	1499	1516		12872
May	6974	1031	1255	1625	1719		12604
Jun	6432	1067	1339	1489	1565		11892
Jul	6425	1230	1466	1587	990		11698
Aug	4808	1121	1332	1658	607		9526
Sep	4702	1100	1329	1570	842		9543
Oct	4613	1112	1328	1457	1495		10005
Nov	3976	1118	1264	1603	1227		9188
Dec	3295	641	682	1015	671		6304
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>48541</b>	<b>21910</b>	<b>14839</b>	<b>17604</b>	<b>15287</b>	<b>1592</b>	<b>119773</b>

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR  
CAROL JONES**

**D2 Recycling - where does it go?**

**Question:**

**Could the Cabinet Member state what's the final destination of the recycling collected in Birmingham?**

**Answer:**

Please see below the final destination for recycling collected from the kerbside in Birmingham. The destinations can and are subject to change as the market depicts, however all BCC recycling is managed by process facilities within the UK.

Kerbside Co-Mingled waste is sent to the Veolia Materials Recycling Facility, where the waste is separated and sorted into categories:

Glass	Veolia UK, Alexander Warehouse , Raven Head Road St Helens WA10 3LR
	Glass Recycling (UK) Ltd 418 Carlton Road, Carlton, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S71 3HX
Mixed Plastics	Veolia Dagenham Plastics Facility, Choats Road, Dagenham Dock, Dagenham Essex RM9 6LF
Aluminium Cans	Novelis UK Ltd, Latchford Locks Works, Thelwall Lane, Warrington, Cheshire WA4 1NN
Tin Cans	Morris & Co Handlers Ltd, Bankwood Lane, Rossington, Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN11 OPS

Kerbside Paper Recycling Collections - Smurfit Kappa Ltd, Mount Street Nechells Birmingham B7 5RE

Kerbside Green Recycling Collections - Jack Moody Ltd, Berkswell Quarry, Cornets End Lane, Meriden, West Midlands CV7 7LH



**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR JON  
HUNT**

**D3 Staff deployed on street cleaning**

**Question:**

**Please give the number of staff deployed on street cleaning in January 2018, January 2017, January 2016 and January 2015?**

**Answer:**

Please find below information detailing the number of Street Cleansing staff employed by the City Council and also the hours for agency staff.

The numbers detailed below for FTEs also include any staff who were not in work due to leave, sickness etc.

The hours detailed below for agency staff are from a four week period in January covering the tax week numbers from week 41 to week 44. This will cover a 28 day period so won't be exact for the 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> January.

	<b>January 2015</b>	<b>January 2016</b>	<b>January 2017</b>	<b>January 2018</b>
<b>BCC FTE</b>	218.59	209.60	202.60	200.60
<b>Agency (Hours)</b>	16,820.71	16,144.33	18,492.01	18,127.64

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR  
ROGER HARMER**

**D4 Ward Cleaning Plans - results?**

**Question:**

**In 2016 Councillors were encouraged to develop Cleaner Streets Plans for their wards. Which wards produced them and what results have they had?**

**Answer:**

The wards that produced cleaner streets plans were:-

Acocks Green  
Billesley  
Bordesley Green  
Bournville  
Brandwood  
Edgbaston  
Erdington  
Four Oaks  
Hall Green  
Handsworth Wood  
Hodge Hill  
Kingstanding  
Longbridge  
Lozells  
Moseley & Kings Heath  
New Hall  
Northfield  
Oscott  
Perry Barr  
Quinton  
Selly Oak  
Shard End  
South Yardley  
Sparkbrook  
Stechford & North Yardley  
Stockland Green  
Trinity  
Vesey  
Washwood Heath  
Weoley.

These plans have been used to pilot and test new approaches and also to develop the new Street Cleansing schedules. These schedules have been matched against the existing Street Cleansing budget and are currently going through Trade Union consultation.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR  
MORRIAM JAN**

**D5 Ward Street Cleaning Plans**

**Question:**

**The Cabinet Member hailed ward street cleaning plans two years ago as a headline policy. How many wards have received feedback on the implementation of their plans?**

**Answer:**

All Cleaner Street Plans that have been received have fed into the new Street Cleansing schedules. These schedules have been matched against the existing Street Cleansing budget. They are currently going through Union consultation. The anticipated implementation date for these schedules is the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018.

Further Councillor engagement will take place to review the proposals once consultation with Trade Unions has been completed.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR NEIL  
EUSTACE**

**D6 Who is being consulted - new street cleaning model**

**Question:**

**I hear that a new street cleaning model of an unspecified nature is under consultation. Who is being consulted?**

**Answer:**

The Cleaner Street plans developed for each Ward have been used to create the new street cleansing model. Therefore, everyone involved in the development and production of the local Cleaner Street plans have been part of the consultation process.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR SUE  
ANDERSON**

**D7 Bins not collected - inappropriate use**

**Question:**

**Can the Cabinet Member please give figures for the number of general refuse and recycling bins that are not collected weekly because of allegedly inappropriate use?**

**Answer:**

RESIDUAL

Year	Week	Bin Damaged prior to Arrival	Bin lid Open	Bin too tightly packed	Bin/Sack too heavy	Bin/Sack unsuitable items	Grand Total
17	1	7	5	8	6	37	63
	2	13	41	47	4	87	192
	3	12	62	11	22	25	132
	4	4	52	18	11	52	137
	5	3	57	7	9	33	109
	6	7	38	17	68	63	193
	7	16	112	35	49	70	282
	8	10	89		24	32	155
	9	10	22	32	30	32	126
	10	26	400	6	48	94	574
	11	29	245	7	8	58	347
	12	63	344	12	23	72	514
	13	11	34	4	11	74	134
	14	33	418	2	6	124	583
	15	7	284	2	9	90	392
	16	85	353	3	40	68	549
	17	29	403	2	11	102	547
	18	17	331	8	22	111	489
	19	8	283	38	17	148	494
	20	9	200	5	9	110	333
	21	36	251	3	6	123	419
	22	50	311		9	229	599
	23	33	59	8	20	105	225
	24	17	43	3	32	107	202
	25	25	224	20	14	111	394
	26	22	357	15	15	56	465
	27	6	1213	1	10	49	1279
	28	3	324		1	13	341
	29	2	52	1		5	60
	41	8				7	15
	42	5				7	12
	43	1				12	13
	44	5	2		15	27	49

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	45	8	103	3	11	19	144
	46	19	94	2	8	71	194
	47	18	38	4	7	46	113
	48	9	198	4	2	27	240
	49	10	44	4	9	32	99
	50	4			2	9	15
	51	9	2	2	3	12	28
	52	2		1	1	2	6
Grand Total		691	7088	335	592	2551	11257

#### RECYCLING

Year	Week	Bin Damaged prior to Arrival	Bin lid Open	Bin too tightly packed	Bin/Sack too heavy	Bin/Sack unsuitable items	Grand Total
17	1	7				598	605
	2	6			1	398	405
	3	3			2	513	518
	4	3			8	482	493
	5	5	2			486	493
	6	4	1		1	416	422
	7	4			2	604	610
	8	2				436	438
	9				1	600	601
	10	3				523	526
	11	4				691	695
	12	1		1	3	432	437
	13	3				531	534
	14	3				476	479
	15	2		1		738	741
	16	5				611	616
	17	60		5	1	886	952
	18	2			1	659	662
	19	7		2		686	695
	20					464	464
	21	5	2		1	538	546
	22	2				468	470
	23	6				369	375
	24	2				405	407
	25	1				460	461
	26	5		1	7	453	466
	27	3				264	267
	28	1			1	93	95
	29					44	44
	30		32			36	68
	41					137	137
	42	3				74	77
	43					40	40
	44	2				130	132
	45	1				405	406
	46	2		5	1	410	418
	47	3				598	601
	48					579	579
	49	5				461	466
	50	1				177	178

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	51					583	583
	52	4				148	152
Grand Total		170	37	15	30	18102	18354

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR  
JOHN ALDEN**

**D8 Labour NEC Intervention 4**

**Question:**

**Do you think it would be appropriate for the Labour NEC to intervene in a decision made by an elected Labour executive in Birmingham?**

**Answer:**

**No.**



**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR  
GARETH MOORE**

**D9 Environmental Quality Survey**

**Question:**

**Data from the Environmental Quality Survey, which provides a ward level breakdown of litter, detritus, flyposting, graffiti and weed growth has not been updated on the Birmingham Open Data webpage since the end of 2015/16, despite the survey being carried out every 4 months. What are the most up to date results of this survey?**

Answer: The Environmental Quality Surveys EQS were suspended during the recent industrial action. Further, Waste Management are currently developing a new street cleaning model that will incorporate a new EQS system, using intelligence and IT support that should map the frequency and type of street cleaning required across Wards.

Waste Management are in consultation with Trade Unions regarding the new systems and will be consulting wider as this develops.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR  
DEIRDRE ALDEN**

**D10 “Missed Collections”**

**Question:**

**Question:**

**Listed by month and by type of collection (residual, recycling, green, trade),  
how many missed collections were there for each month in the 2017 calendar  
year?**

**Answer:**

Residents / Customers are able to raise individual property missed collections for garden, recycling, residual or trade services. For those services which cover a whole road such as recycling and residual collection services, where a whole road is affected a resident is also able to report the whole road as being missed.

**Individual Collection Missed Collection Reports**

<b>Received Month</b>	<b>Garden*</b>	<b>Recycling</b>	<b>Residual</b>	<b>Trade</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
Jan	-	851	1079	210	2140
Feb	-	589	804	142	1535
Mar	1646	971	1529	316	4462
Apr	1681	909	1242	165	3997
May	1142	778	934	244	3098
Jun	2676	953	1464	433	5526
Jul	8185	1847	3536	966	14534
Aug	8181	1632	3587	730	14130
Sep	5188	878	2284	734	9084
Oct	3235	938	1921	405	6499
Nov	1765	977	1433	449	4624
Dec	310	1145	1744	369	3568
<b>Annual Total Reported as Missed</b>	<b>34 009</b>	<b>12 468</b>	<b>21 557</b>	<b>5163</b>	<b>73 197</b>
<b>Approx. Annual Scheduled Number of Collections</b>	<b>1 270 714</b>	<b>9 425 338</b>	<b>18 704 400</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Approx. Annual % Missed of Scheduled Collections</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>0.13%</b>	<b>0.12%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

\*Garden collections do not occur during January and February.

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### Whole Road Missed Collection Reports

The table below shows the number of whole road reports made by residents for recycling and residual collection services. In addition, because multiple residents on the same road can report the same road as being missed, a column has been added which removes these duplicate reports and shows how many actual individual roads have received a missed collection report.

Reported Month	Recycling Reports	Recycling: Number of Individual Roads Affected	Residual Reports	Residual: Number of Individual Roads Affected	Grand Total of Reports	Grand Total of Individual Road Affected
Jan	1210	688	1224	520	2434	1208
Feb	407	255	280	173	687	428
Mar	2533	1271	4783	1721	7316	2992
Apr	2823	1357	5041	1891	7864	3248
May	900	587	638	348	1538	935
Jun	3509	1717	5050	1975	8559	3692
Jul	20808	10734	30288	13557	50894	24291
Aug	13839	8128	25288	12317	39125	20443
Sep	3658	2808	8224	5570	11882	8378
Oct	2515	1800	4698	2756	7213	4556
Nov	1834	987	1598	910	3232	1897
Dec	5068	2852	6814	3040	11680	5692
Grand Total	58702	32982	93722	44778	152424	77760

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR  
DEBBIE CLANCY**

**D11 Council's Waste Strategy**

**Question:**

**Including officer time and external advice how much has been spent so far on putting together the Council's waste strategy?**

**Answer:**

The Cabinet (at the meeting in November 2015) approved an investment of £1.2m funded from reserves to ensure the successful completion of the Waste Strategy and procurement of the new disposal service.

The expenditure that has been incurred to date (over 2015/16 to 2017/18) is £1m – this includes an extensive range of technical advice (e.g. condition of the Tyseley Plant) legal (e.g. current/future contracts and procurement matters), financial advice (e.g. funding options and taxation matters) and strategic project management.

There have been no additional internal officer time costs (these are part of the existing responsibilities for the staff and covered within existing budgets).

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR  
GARY SAMBROOK**

**D12 Procurement Strategy for Waste Services**

**Question:**

**Can you publish a copy of the procurement strategy for waste services that we understand was shared with Veolia and others before Christmas?**

**Answer:**

A procurement strategy has not been shared with Veolia or any other waste management company.

Officers did conduct a series of market engagement meetings with companies that expressed an interest in taking part in late November. The results from the market engagement have been used to inform the final waste procurement strategy report that will be discussed at the Cabinet meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> February.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR  
BOB BEAUCHAMP**

**D13 Birmingham Energy Company**

**Question:**

**How much in total has been spent to date on work to establish a Birmingham Energy Company?**

**Answer:**

To date £278,039 has been spent on the necessary work to establish a Birmingham Energy Company.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR  
RON STORER**

**D14 Energy Company Launch Date**

**Question:**

**What is the anticipated launch date of the proposed Energy Company?**

**Answer:**

A launch date would be announced following Cabinet approval.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND THE ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR  
FERGUS ROBINSON**

**D15 Cannon Hill Car Parking Charges**

**Question:**

**Since the introduction of car parking charges at Cannon Hill Car Park, how much has been paid to the Mac for their share of the revenue raised?**

**Answer:**

The MAC will receive 50% of the net income of the car park revenue in return for their agreement, to monitor CCTV, deal with customer issues and provide a management presence on site. A management contract outlining the responsibilities of the MAC and the Council is with the MAC for their consideration.

Once this contract has been agreed by both parties, the MAC's income share will be released to them on a quarterly basis, with operational charges being reconciled in the final quarter of each year.



**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN  
STREETS, RECYCLING AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR  
ROBERT ALDEN**

**D16 Parkland Sites**

**Question:**

**On the 18 January, Planning Committee were informed that a number of sites had been identified by a project board of officers for potential inclusion within the budget proposal for the disposal of 8 acres of parkland a year. Which sites are on this list?**

**Answer:**

There was a measure within the Council Business Plan 2016+ (SN45) which proposed disposal of unwanted/underutilised, low quality green space (8 acres per year i.e. 0.1%) to support the council's priorities of building new homes through the BMHT. It should also be noted that new parks are being created in the city such Eastside Park and the Smithfield Park as part of a future city centre development.

Following the review, in 2016 extensive consultation was carried with local ward members on the proposed areas for disposal, and where agreement was reached, those areas of land were passed to housing colleagues for consideration for appropriation. Prior to appropriation a Report was presented to Planning Committee on 18 January 2018 on the principals of any developments, which was noted.

However to date, sites are still under consideration and it is anticipated that an Appropriations Report will come to Cabinet in early March of this year.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR  
COMMERCIALISM, COMMISSIONING AND CONTRACT MANAGEMENT  
FROM COUNCILLOR RANDAL BREW**

**E1 Utilities Strategy**

**Question:**

**On the list of staff savings ideas previously submitted but not taken forward in 2016, the response to a suggestion on saving money from energy bills was that a “Utilities strategy produced but superseded by the aspiration to create an BCC owned Energy Company” Can you please provide a copy of this strategy?**

**Answer:**

The utilities strategy referenced was taken to Cabinet in September 2013 and is provided as requested.

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**PUBLIC REPORT**

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>CABINET</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>HEAD OF CATEGORY – TRANSPORT AND UTILITIES PROCUREMENT</b>
<b>Date of Decision:</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> September 2013</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>PROJECT U70 : UTILITIES PROCUREMENT STRATEGY 2014 – 2018</b>
<b>Key Decision: Yes</b>	<b>Relevant Forward Plan Ref: 426504</b>
<b>If not in the Forward Plan: (please "X" box)</b>	Chief Executive approved <input type="checkbox"/> O&S Chairman approved <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member(s):</b>	Cllr Ian Ward – Deputy Leader  Cllr James McKay - Green, Safe and Smart City  Cllr Stewart Stacey - Commissioning, Contracting and Improvement
<b>Relevant O&amp;S Chairman:</b>	<b>Councillor Victoria Quinn - Transport, Connectivity and Sustainability Committee.</b>
<b>Wards affected:</b>	<b>All</b>

<b>1. Purpose of report:</b>
1.1 This report provides details of the strategy for the procurement of utilities and the governance of purchasing electricity and gas for the period April 2014 to March 2018. The Private agenda report contains confidential information on the process to select a framework provider.

<b>2. Decision(s) recommended:</b>
That Cabinet:
2.1 Notes the contents of this report.

<b>Lead Contact Officer:</b>	Haydn Brown Head of Category – Transport and Utilities Procurement Corporate Resources : Corporate Procurement Services
<b>Telephone No:</b>	0121 303 0016
<b>E-mail address:</b>	<a href="mailto:Haydn.Brown@birmingham.gov.uk">Haydn.Brown@birmingham.gov.uk</a>
<b>Additional Contact Officer:</b>	Stuart Wakeman Assistant Category Manager -Transport and Utilities Procurement Corporate Resources : Corporate Procurement Services
<b>Telephone No:</b>	0121 303 0035
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<b>3. Consultation</b>
Consultation includes those that have an interest in the decisions recommended.
<b>3.1 Internal</b>
<p>The Strategic Director of Development and Culture, the Head of Climate Change and Environment have been consulted and have agreed with the contents of the report.</p> <p>Officers from City Finance, Corporate Procurement, Legal &amp; Democratic Services, the Carbon Management Board and the Carbon Management Board – Technical Group have been involved in the preparation of this report.</p>
<b>3.2 External</b>
<p>The Government Procurement Service (GPS), LASER (a wholly owned subsidiary of Kent County Council), Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation (Y.P.O.), were all part of the procurement evaluation process. The energy broker to the Council (*E.I.C. Ltd) and an independent expert on behalf of Improvement and Efficiency West Midlands were also consulted in formulating this energy strategy.</p> <p>*E.I.C. Ltd provided a broker service to the Council and managed bill validation, payment processes and the day-to-day site queries on behalf of the Council until this contract ended on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013 and the new broker STC was appointed on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013.</p>
<b>4. Compliance Issues:</b>
<b>4.1 <u>Are the recommended decisions consistent with the Council's policies, plans and strategies?</u></b>
<b>4.1.1 This strategy will support the following objectives of the Council's Business Plan and Budget 2013+</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tackling inequality &amp; promoting social cohesion.</li><li>• To succeed economically by seeking to reduce cost and contributing to the Councils budget reduction agenda.</li><li>• To stay safe by reducing energy and water consumption and carbon emissions to achieve cleaner neighbourhoods. The Flexible basket is 100% of green energy and the fixed basket is 20%. This will be quantified and reported through the Carbon Management Board.</li></ul>
<b>4.1.2 This contract will support the City Council's contribution to Birmingham's Green Commission target to achieve a 60% cut in carbon emissions by 2027, from the 1990 levels. This contract will also support the Council's Carbon Management Board in implementation of the Corporate Energy Sustainability Program.</b>
<b>4.1.3 This strategy supports the Council's stated aims in the public consultation green paper "Birmingham City Council Service Reviews - Green Paper: The Future City Council"; namely:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Making the city greener and reducing energy bills</li><li>• Efficiency. "... using less resources such as ... energy".</li></ul>

4.1.4 The council is working towards incorporating the Birmingham Business Charter for Social Responsibility (BBCSR) as a special condition of contract to supplement the framework agreement terms and conditions. Discussions will be held with the energy suppliers on how the six BBCSR principles will be implemented and monitored during the contract period.

4.1.5 The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 does not apply to the main supplies contracts for electricity and gas.

#### 4.2 Financial Implications

4.2.1 Spend during the 2012/13 financial year through the corporate energy contract was approximately £30.8 million (excluding water) of which approximately 40% of the annual spend is by schools who directly manage their own budgets. The impacts of price fluctuations on directorates' budgets are considered in each year's financial planning process. This strategy includes opportunities to plan better, manage finances and resources to minimise the effects of the volatile energy market by the adoption of a risk management approach to purchasing on a fixed or flexible basis.

4.2.2 Where the implementation plans identify any work requirements that need to be funded, works will not proceed until funding has been identified and appropriate approval has been obtained from the relevant decision makers.

4.2.3 If the contract is not signed off during September 2013, then there is a risk that the Council will not be included in the next purchasing window from October 2013 until March 2014 and the Council will either:

- have a reduced purchasing window to buy the required energy volume or
- the current contract expires and the Council move onto "deemed" energy rates for the whole of the property portfolio, which are substantially higher than those currently paid and will have an impact on budgets for the whole of the Council.

4.2.4 The management fee for the current framework agreement with GPS is fixed and is funded by being added to each kWh or Therm used. It is paid by the end users through each invoice. For the new framework agreement this fee will remain fixed for the contract duration.

4.2.5 The framework agreement duration is for four years, each a twelve month rolling contract and the contract notice period to exit is six months at no cost to the Council.

4.2.6 With the trend of prices increasing annually, savings are reliant upon a reduction in consumption. However prices paid will continue to be compared to market prices to show the benefits of implementing the proposed purchasing strategy.

#### 4.3 Legal Implications

This strategy supports a wide range of services provided by the Council such as power and water to all Council buildings and also the electricity to street lighting.

#### 4.4 Public Sector Equality Duty

An initial screening was conducted on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2013 to decide whether the planned procurement for the supply of gas and electricity had any relevance to the equality duty contained in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 of eliminating unfair/unlawful

discrimination and to promoting equality and human rights.

The screening identified there was no requirement to assess it further and completion of an Equality Assessment form was not required.

**5. Relevant background / chronology of key events:**

- 5.1 This report provides details of the strategy for the procurement of utilities and the governance of purchasing electricity and gas for the period April 2014 to March 2018. The Private agenda report contains confidential information on the process to select a framework provider.
- 5.2 The Council is the single largest Local Authority (LA) that procures gas and electricity in the United Kingdom. Even so, its demands are much less than some other public sector clients such as the Ministry of Defence, Transport For London, the N.H.S. and some of the public sector consortia.
- 5.3 The Council currently purchase energy via GPS who manage a substantial portfolio and purchase around £1.8bn of energy annually. This enables a high degree of leverage, greater opportunities for risk management and lower price variances between peak demand and overall base load for the Council and many other public sector organisations who use the GPS framework.
- 5.4 The current contract started on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 and expires on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 with the energy supplied by:
- British Gas** – Electricity Non Half Hourly Metered\* (where peak demand does not exceed 100kw) and this contract expires on 31/08/13. A new contract has been retendered by GPS and British Gas has been successful and will shortly be awarded the new contract.
- EDF Energy** – Electricity Half Hourly (where peak demand exceeds 100kw and is recorded by a half hourly meter) and this contract expires with GPS on 31/08/15.
- EDF Energy** – Electricity for Highways Unmetered (including Non Half Hourly Unmetered) are estimated bills which are based on average night time hours. This includes street lighting and this contract expires with GPS on 31/08/15.
- Corona Energy** – Gas supply and this contract expires with GPS on 31/03/16.
- 5.5 \*Under the current contract for the Non Half Hourly Metered supply there is no Flexible option available. For all of the other contracts variable baskets are offered.
- 5.6 To determine the recommended route to market from April 2014, a benchmarking exercise was undertaken and five framework providers were contacted. However only three providers expressed an interest - GPS, Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation (YPO) and LASER (a wholly owned subsidiary of Kent County Council). The other two framework providers, Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation and West Mercia Energy, stated that the Council was unable to join due to the large volume of energy required.
- 5.7 The three framework providers were then sent an assessment questionnaire and invited to present the merits of their framework offering. The analysis included

purchasing options/basket structures, fees, organisational structure and capacity, previous performance, portfolio transfer process, customer support arrangements, stakeholder groups and problem resolution.

- 5.8 The results of the analysis are within the Private Report. The proposed utility strategy is shown in appendix 1.

**6. Evaluation of alternative option(s):**

- 6.1 The Council could continue to procure its gas and electricity using fixed price contracts, but this would be unlikely to provide better rates than the recommended option.
- 6.2 The option of procuring outside of a consortium arrangement was rejected as the Council would be exposed to the volatile market conditions and suppliers being able to charge higher rates.
- 6.3 The Council could use a third party broker service to procure the energy. A second benchmarking exercise was conducted and details are included in the private report. This option was discounted.
- 6.4 Procure direct from the wholesale market: this option has been discounted for the period of this strategy due to feedback that the Council's demand is not large enough and extensive set up costs, processes and internal resource requirements.

**7. Reasons for Decisions (s):**

- 7.1 To endorse the proposed Utilities Procurement Strategy and to enable the continued purchasing of gas and electricity.

**Signature**

**Date**

Cabinet Member:.....  
Cllr Ian Ward: Deputy Leader

Cabinet Member: .....  
James McKay: Green, Safe and Smart City

Cabinet Member:.....  
Cllr Stewart Stacey – Commissioning, Contracting and Improvement

Haydn Brown: .....  
Head of Category – Transport & Utilities Procurement

## **City Council – 6 February 2018**

<b>List of Background Documents used to compile this Report:</b>
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Framework Guides
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<b>List of Appendices accompanying this Report (if any):</b>
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1. Utilities Procurement Strategy 2014 to 2018
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Appendix 1



**CORPORATE PROCUREMENT SERVICES  
UTILITIES PROCUREMENT STRATEGY  
2014 to 2018**

Appendix 1

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Appendix 1

**1. Background Information**

A strategy for the procurement of utilities and the governance of purchasing electricity and gas is required because the current contract expires on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014. The procurement strategy will be for the supply of utilities from April 2014 to March 2018.

**1.1 Gas and Electricity:** In 2012/13 the Council spent approximately £30.8 million for on-contract supplies for the gas and electricity consumed within the Council's facilities.

The Council currently uses the framework agreement from the Government Procurement Service (GPS) and is committed to the current contract until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014. GPS manage a substantial portfolio and purchase around £1.8bn of energy annually. This enables a high degree of leverage, greater opportunities for risk management and lower price variances between peak demand and overall base load for the Council and many other public sector organisations who use the GPS framework.

The Council are currently in the fixed basket option (L6) which is reviewed annually. There is a six month purchasing window between 1<sup>st</sup> October and 31<sup>st</sup> March each year and prices are then averaged out and applied as a fixed rate over the 12 month period from 1<sup>st</sup> April.

The current suppliers are;

**British Gas** – Electricity Non Half Hourly Metered

**EDF Energy** – Electricity Half Hourly Metered

**EDF Energy** – Electricity for Highways Unmetered (including Non Half Hourly Unmetered)

**Corona Energy** – Gas supply

**1.2 Water:** Is not subject to the same competitive market as energy. A number of regulated companies provide water and sewerage services and the Council is required to use Severn Trent Water and South Staffordshire Water Company (area based suppliers). The total spend in 2012/13 was £4.2million.

An exercise was conducted by two water consultants on 17 sites, and savings totalling £101,000 were achieved. With the introduction of water services within the new Utility broker contract (commencing 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013), tariff checking and surface water drainage charge reviews should realise further savings.

**1.3 Heating Oils:** The current strategy for this runs until 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2015; the annual spend is approximately £2million. Currently the contract is with EMO Oils.

**1.4 Legal Status:** Procurement of all utility commodities except water is subject to EU directives and Standing Orders relating to Contracts

**2. Strategic Requirements**

The objectives of the strategy are to;

1. Minimise the cost of energy supply.
2. Minimise energy consumption.
3. Minimise CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

Appendix 1

**2.1: Minimising the cost of energy supply**

The Council has around 2500 supplies which are included on the energy supply contracts. The consumption is split between corporate sites at 60% and schools at 40%. Corporate sites include: office buildings, Highways (including street lighting), care homes, neighbourhood offices and leisure centres. There is a wide range of building age, condition and energy efficiency rating.

**2.1.1: Fixed energy contracts**

The Council is currently in the fixed basket option (L6). This means that there is a six month purchasing window between 1<sup>st</sup> October and 31<sup>st</sup> March, where 100% of the energy volume is purchased and the contract starts on 1<sup>st</sup> April. The current contract is 2 for a rolling 12 month period and the energy prices are then averaged out and applied as a fixed rate during this 12 month period.

The fixed basket works best for low risk strategies as the price doesn't change throughout the year, though budget certainty is offset against not knowing the actual energy price until all of the volume has been procured (i.e. the contract start date). The fixed basket also attracts a risk premium which is added to the final costs by energy suppliers and is usually between 2.5% and 5% of the costs. The risk premium acts like an insurance for the energy providers to ensure that if the market prices fall that they do not lose out financially.

**2.1.2 Flexible energy contracts**

This works in a similar way as the fixed basket except instead of 100% of the energy purchased prior to the contract start date, up to 50% is purchased. As an example, GPS have two flexible contracts one year and three years this means that the balance is then purchased "within period" which is either six or thirty months. The six month purchasing window allows for up to 50% of the energy volume to be purchased within the six month window and the balance purchased "within period" and the thirty month option allows for again for up to 50% of the energy volume to be purchased within the first six months and the balance purchased "within period".

The real benefit of the flexible arrangement is that the purchasing timeframe is over a longer period which spread the risks of the market conditions. However, market prices may increase as well as decrease.

Service providers such as GPS, employ experts who are best placed to see the market trends, price variances and are in a position to trade on the open market on a daily basis. This ultimately means that instead of paying the average price, you pay the actual market price of when the energy volume was purchased from the wholesale market. Monthly invoices would contain an adjustment reflecting the volume of energy GPS have purchased within the period.

**2.1.3 Fixed versus flexible pricing**

Through market reports and discussions throughout this process with framework providers and energy brokers, it has been noted that the flexible basket for electricity has continually outperformed the fixed basket. One such provider advised that this has been the case in ten of the last eleven years.

Appendix 1

**2.1.4 Pros and Cons**

The pros and cons for each of the two options are below:

	Pros	Cons
Fixed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Budget certainty</li><li>• Less variability</li><li>• Less time to manage and less costly in time and resources.</li><li>• Previous support for the fixed basket has been high, providing more volume leverage</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No opportunity for savings if prices fall.</li><li>• Volume of energy has already been purchased, giving little scope to change.</li><li>• Short window to purchase the energy</li><li>• Risk premium added to costs.</li><li>• Actual costs are not known until all the energy has been purchased.</li></ul>
Flexible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Opportunity to react to market conditions</li><li>• Multiple purchasing points over a longer period</li><li>• Access to short term markets removing the risk premiums.</li><li>• Potential to provide lower prices than if purchased for a whole year in advance.</li><li>• Longer timeframe to purchase over (either 6 or 30 months).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reduced budget certainty.</li><li>• Needs a robust risk management strategy.</li><li>• Reference price provided – monthly and or end of year reconciliation required.</li></ul>

**2.1.5 Hybrid option**

This is an amalgamation of the fixed and the flexible baskets, where both basket options are used to deliver the required energy volume. The “hybrid” option will potentially allow the Council to minimise the risk of market price fluctuations, by buying the volumes of energy when the market prices are low.

**2.1.6 Risk Management**

The aim of procuring the energy using the flexible contracts is that it will enable the Council to take advantage of fluctuations within the energy market. However, the Council must have a robust risk management strategy in place to manage this. It is therefore important to quantify the risks and fully understand and appreciate how a change in the market price will impact on the energy costs. Risk will be managed by procuring the Council's future energy volume using the hybrid option as detailed within the procurement recommendations.

The Carbon Management Board-Technical Group (CMB-TG) owns the overall risk register for this strategy and these will be managed through the Risk Management Board and CPS who will report back to the CMB-TG. Key risks identified are;

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<b>Risk</b>	<b>Containment plan</b>
Cost volatility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purchasing through a collaborative framework agreement which aggregates the City Council's volume with other contracting authorities will enable economies of scale and cost reductions.</li> <li>• Reviewing the approach to flexible purchasing to capitalise on favourable market conditions.</li> </ul>
Market position with major suppliers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being involved with a national Framework increases the City Council's attractiveness as a customer to the major suppliers, providing additional leverage and direct support from GPS.</li> </ul>
Need for improved consumption data and demand forecasting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The roll-out programme of AMRs will enable more accurate billing and consumption data reports, which are to be analysed by Acivico.</li> <li>• These reports will identify high consuming properties or site anomalies where energy efficiency measures can be applied to reduce the overall consumption and subsequent costs.</li> </ul>
Carbon reduction management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consumption reporting managed through the CMB-TG to determine interventions required for high consuming sites.</li> <li>• Potential for further market sounding to determine additional opportunities to reduce consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.</li> <li>• CRC report production drives data cleansing and emissions checking across the portfolio.</li> </ul>
Billing accuracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment of energy broker to manage bill checking in conjunction with client departments.</li> </ul>
Contract compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spend analysis reports and working with client departments &amp; schools in the CPS brokerage scheme to maximise on-contract spend.</li> </ul>
Additional risks associated with the flexible procurement approach including setting price, points for purchasing decisions, demand tolerance setting (for changes to portfolio size).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A utilities purchasing process will be developed and submitted for sign off by CMB-TG and CMB.</li> </ul>



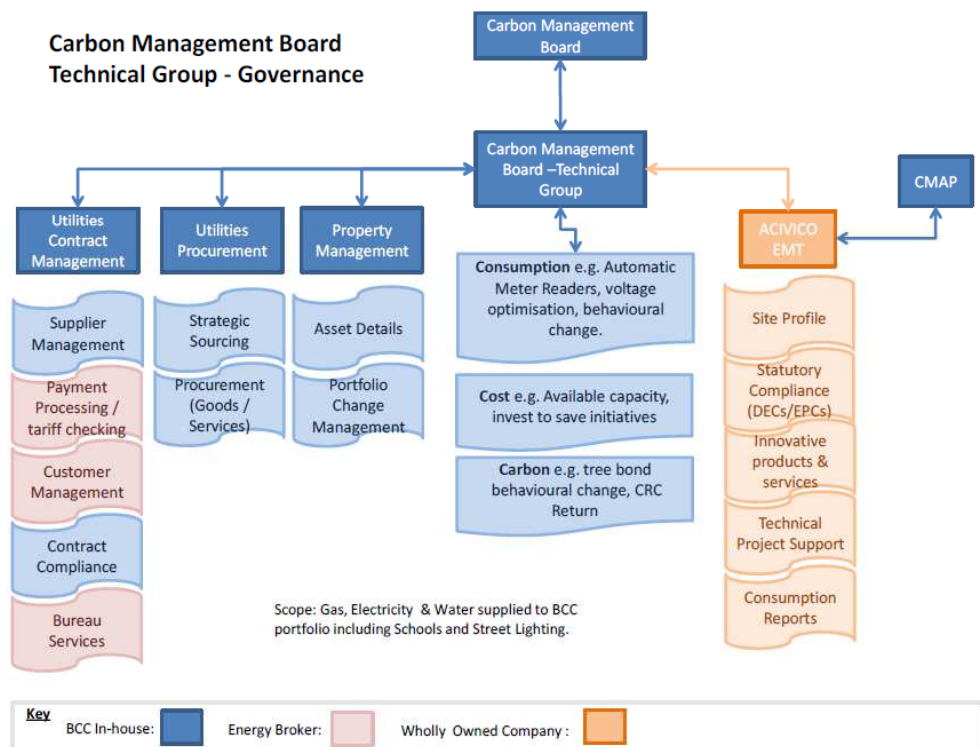
Appendix 1

**2.1.7 Alternative options to frameworks**

A benchmarking exercise was carried out between the Council and another large local authority with a similar annual spend on energy and is detailed in the Private Report.

Several energy providers and trading organisations have stated that the Council's current requirements are considered too small to be able to trade directly within the energy markets. Further discussions with other sources including GPS have shown that initial set up costs to trade directly are likely to be in excess of £500,000 in the first year. These costs would include the various trading licences and specialist computer systems and market analysis reports, as well as the expertise of internal resources required to manage and implement this initiative. Further annual costs would be approximately £350,000 thereafter. This option was discounted as it was considered unlikely that potential savings would be realised over the costs of the service.

**2.2: Purchasing in the context of Carbon Management Governance**



**2.2.1 Automatic Meter Readers**

The development and roll out of automatic meter readers (AMRs) is something which has been well publicised by central Government, which instructed the energy providers to replace all the existing meters with AMRs. These AMRs monitor electricity and gas consumption, as

Appendix 1

well as giving more accurate billing and this will enable better consumption monitoring and usage forecasting.

For Birmingham City Council the roll out of AMRs commenced in 2011/12 and is on-going. For the whole of the Birmingham property portfolio there are currently 21% of the Gas AMRs and 44% of the Electric AMRs installed. But not all of the portfolio will be fitted with AMRs. Whilst these are installed free of charge, the consumption data from them is chargeable. This data from the AMRs once purchased, can be used to reduce energy consumption.

**2.2.2 Future Demand**

The demand profile for energy is likely to change over the coming years with sites being added or removed and with a number of sites subject to energy efficiency improvements.

There is a level of flexibility within the strategy which acknowledges that the property portfolio will change over the course of the energy contract. At present single sites can be added or removed without too much difficulty, with consumption changes possible by +/- 10%. Changes above this tolerance may incur a charge back to the Council.

The aim is to reduce the volume of energy consumed by the Council's portfolio, and to increase third parties using the contract (schools, academies and Universities). However the Council must advise both the framework provider and the energy suppliers of changes to the portfolio sufficiently in advance so that no surplus energy is purchased and no subsequent costs are incurred. Failure to do this may result in:

- Additional charges being incurred for the surplus energy.
- Continuing to pay for energy costs of sites previously disposed of.
- Extra Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) charges or fines from central Government.

To protect the Council against this risk, several directorates and the CMB-TG are working together to cleanse and update the property portfolio data in the Technology Forge system and making further consistency checks with the Stark energy management system.

To assist with this a full buildings audit is being carried out by Excellence and Facilities Management with the information being inputted into the Technology Forge system. The consumption data reports are managed by Acivico and will be further enhanced by the AMR data.

**2.3: Minimise CO2 emissions**

The amount of green energy being purchased within the GPS fixed basket is currently 20%, whereas the flexible basket qualifies for 100% on the NHH electricity supply.

Demand management will have a corresponding reduction in CO2 emissions. These demand management initiatives are being managed by the Carbon Management Board and supported by Acivico. They are not detailed within this strategy and are the subject of separate reports to EMCB.

**3. Business Impacts**

The business impacts to be derived from this strategy are;



### Appendix 1

1. Management of the portfolio and timely notification to the energy suppliers of changes in volume is essential to avoiding over payments. Carbon Management Board and the Technical Group will be responsible for co-ordinating and updating this information.
2. Being in the fixed basket does not allow changes to the energy demand profile of any significance and raises the risk that extra charges will be passed on from the energy supplier. Being in the flexible basket will provide greater scope and control in changing the profile in line with requirements. The hybrid approach is a more balanced risk approach compared to the fixed basket option.
3. AMR roll out will see fewer estimated bills and more accurate billing and payment processing.
4. Although the installation of AMRs is free, the data is chargeable after the second year of installation. Such data shows detailed charting of consumption by site and enables interventions to reduce costs being incurred. The Carbon Management Board will determine the extent to which funding for AMR data is required.

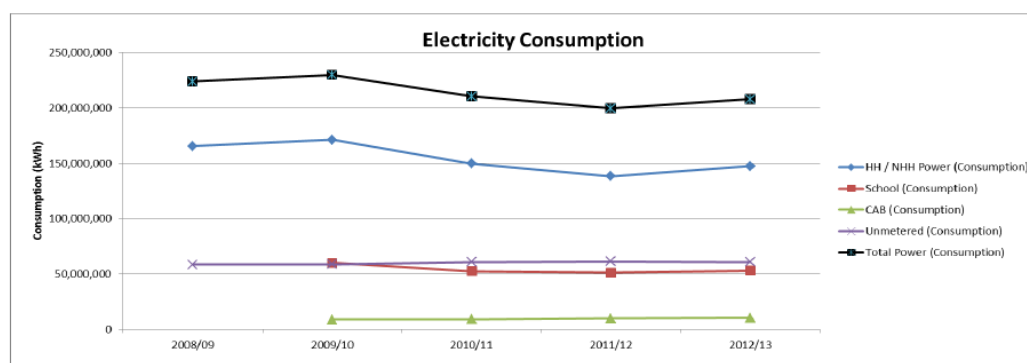
#### 4. Historic Demand Profile

The tables below show the total consumption figures for the electricity and gas supplies since joining the GPS framework; these have also been split by building type.

As more accurate data is captured by the AMRs it has started to show the consumption from the sites. This gives the Council more visibility and details how the sites are using their energy. There have been increases to both Gas and Electricity use for 2012/2013 and especially for the gas and after speaking to the energy providers; this has been put down to the longer than average winter period and the excessive cold temperatures. This pattern has been seen throughout the industry.

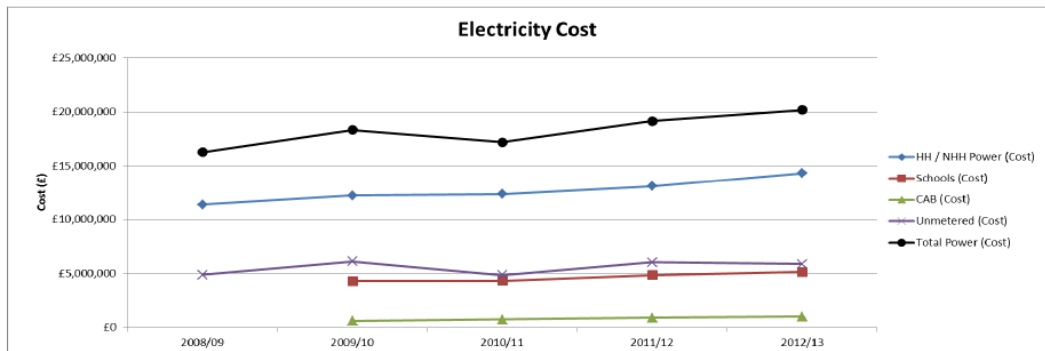
##### 4.1 Electricity:

Spend is based on historical invoice files and annualised assumptions (related to pass-through and transportation charges). The percentage apportioned is based on kWh data provided by supplier and manually extracted over one year.



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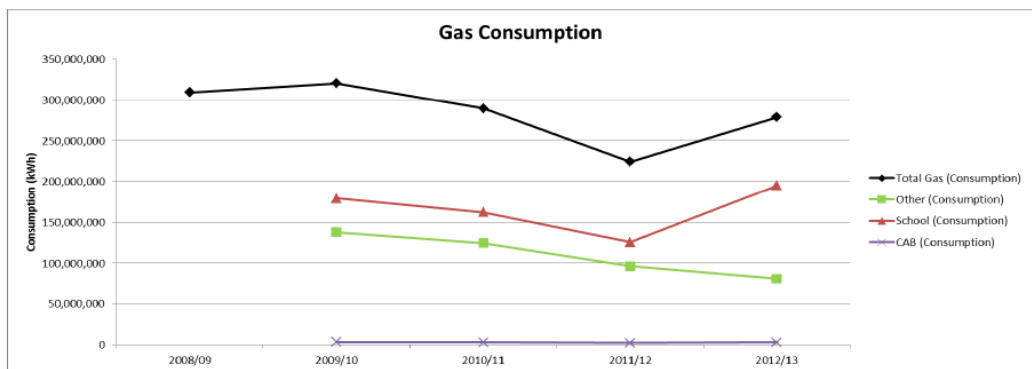
	Period				
Total Electricity Consumption (kwh)	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
CAB Buildings	0	8,546,411	8,980,633	9,683,905	10,310,795
Schools	0	59,824,877	52,387,028	51,186,355	53,026,945
Total Unmetered	58,292,095	58,598,606	60,679,719	61,273,314	60,513,093
Total NHH / HH Meters	165,461,747	170,928,220	149,677,222	138,341,501	147,297,070
Total Power Demand (kwh)	223,753,842	229,526,826	210,356,941	199,614,815	207,810,163



	Period				
Annual Electricity Cost (£)	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
CAB Buildings	£0	£611,834	£741,022	£917,689	£1,001,273
Schools	£0	£4,282,838	£4,322,626	£4,850,644	£5,149,404
Total Unmetered	£4,879,489	£6,104,580	£4,838,523	£6,048,587	£5,870,488
Total NHH / HH Meters	£11,392,231	£12,236,680	£12,350,361	£13,109,849	£14,303,900
Total Power Cost (£)	£16,271,720	£18,341,260	£17,188,884	£19,158,436	£20,174,388

**4.2 Gas:**

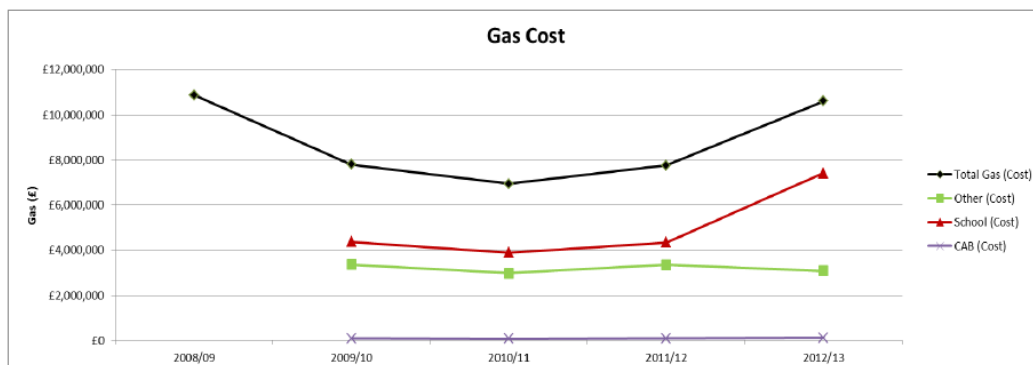
Spend is based on historical invoice files and annualised assumptions (related to pass-through and transportation charges). The percentage apportioned is based on kWh data provided by supplier and manually extracted over one year.



## Appendix 1

The rise in the gas consumption has been shown to be normal throughout the industry and has been explained as to being the exceptionally long and cold winter period between October 2013 and March 2013.

Total Gas Consumption (kwh)	Period				
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
CAB Buildings	0	3,205,194	2,895,001	2,242,803	2,788,442
Schools	0	179,490,882	162,120,071	125,596,978	195,190,915
Others	0	137,823,356	124,485,054	96,440,536	80,864,807
Total Gas Demand (kwh)	309,341,212	320,519,433	289,500,126	224,280,317	278,844,164



Annual Gas Cost (£)	Period				
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
CAB Buildings	£0	£77,919	£69,348	£77,562	£107,800
Schools	£0	£4,363,450	£3,883,500	£4,343,469	£7,420,251
Others	£0	£3,350,506	£2,981,973	£3,335,164	£3,074,200
Total Gas Cost (£)	£10,868,326	£7,791,875	£6,934,821	£7,756,195	£10,602,251

### 4.3 Conclusion:

The recommendation of this strategy and the evaluation panel is for the Council to remain within a framework agreement, adopting a mixture between the fixed and flexible basket options for its energy requirements.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR  
COMMERCIALISM, COMMISSIONING AND CONTRACT MANAGEMENT  
FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN ALDEN**

**E2    NEC – Commercial Decision**

**Question:**

**As Cabinet Member for the Commercialism, Commissioning and Contract Management Portfolio (CCCP) do you believe it would be appropriate for the Labour National Executive Committee to intervene in a commercial decision that you made alongside your fellow Executive Members as locally elected representatives?**

**Answer:**

**No.**

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY  
SAFETY AND EQUALITIES FROM COUNCILLOR ROB SEALEY**

**F1 Trade Union Facility Time**

**Question:**

The transparency code requires details of trade union facility time to be published annually but the last copy currently published on the council website relates to 2015/16 and was only published after a previous written question 12 months after the end of that financial year. Can you please publish Trade Union Facility Time for 16/17 and 17/18 (YTD) including Total number of staff who are TU reps (headcount & FTE) TU reps who spend 50% and above on TU duties and a basic estimate of spending on unions (calculated as the number of full time equivalent days spent on union duties multiplied by the average salary)

**Answer:**

The Data Transparency Code data, relating to Trade Union release, for the period 2016 to 2017 is now available on the Birmingham Datafactory website, at

<https://data.birmingham.gov.uk/dataset/trade-union-tu-facility-time-data-for-the-period-2016-17>

**Trade Union (TU) facility time data for the period 2017 to 2018 (YTD)**

This data reflects an overview of the estimated data, available up to 31.12.17. It includes representatives for the core Council and BCC schools.

Total number of staff who are TU reps, headcount & FTE		TU reps who spend 50% and above on TU duties	A basic estimate of spending on unions (calculated as the number of full time equivalent days spent on union duties multiplied by the average salary)*
H/C	FTE	Headcount	£742,786
68	43.71	43	

**Median salary used\***

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY  
SAFETY AND EQUALITIES FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN ALDEN**

**F2   Labour NEC Intervention 5**

**Question:**

**Do you think it would be appropriate for the Labour NEC to intervene in a decision made by an elected Labour executive in Birmingham?**

**Answer:**

**No.**

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND  
SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN ALDEN**

**G    Labour NEC Intervention 6**

**Question:**

**Do you think it would be appropriate for the Labour NEC to intervene in a decision made by an elected Labour executive in Birmingham?**

**Answer:**

**No**

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

**H1 Ward Boundaries 1**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Erdington Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

There was a measure within the Council Business Plan 2016+ (SN45) which proposed disposal of unwanted/underutilised, low quality green space (8 acres per year i.e. 0.1%) to support the council's priorities of building new homes through the BMHT. It should also be noted that new parks are being created in the city such Eastside Park and the Smithfield Park as part of a future city centre development.

**Progress to Date**

Following the review, in 2016 extensive consultation was carried with local ward members on the proposed areas for disposal, and where agreement was reached, those areas of land were passed to housing colleagues for consideration for appropriation. Prior to appropriation a Report was presented to Planning Committee on 18 January 2018 on the principals of any developments, which was noted.

However to date, sites are still under consideration and it is anticipated that an Appropriations Report will come to Cabinet in early March of this year.



**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR GARY SAMBROOK**

**H2 Ward Boundaries 2**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Kingstanding Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

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

**H3 Ward Boundaries 3**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Oscott Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP**

**H4 Ward Boundaries 4**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Tyburn Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR GARETH MOORE**

**H5 Ward Boundaries 5**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Stockland Green Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR LYN COLLIN**

**H6 Ward Boundaries 6**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Sutton Vesey Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR ANDREW HARDIE**

**H7 Ward Boundaries 7**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Weoley Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR MEIRION JENKINS**

**H8 Ward Boundaries 8**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Sutton Four Oaks Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID BARRIE**

**H9 Ward Boundaries 9**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Sutton New Hall Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1



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

**H10 Ward Boundaries 10**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Sutton Trinity Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN ALDEN**

**H11 Ward Boundaries 11**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Shard End Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR MATT BENNETT**

**H12 Ward Boundaries 12**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Edgbaston Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE ALDEN**

**H13 Ward Boundaries 13**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Harborne Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN LINES**

**H14 Ward Boundaries 14**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Bartley Green Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR DES FLOOD**

**H15 Ward Boundaries 15**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Selly Oak Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR RANDAL BREW**

**H16 Ward Boundaries 16**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Northfield Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

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

**H17 Ward Boundaries 17**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Longbridge Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1



**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR SIMON JEVON**

**H18 Ward Boundaries 18**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Kings Norton Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR DOUGLAS OSBORN**

**H19 Ward Boundaries 19**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Longbridge Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR ROB SEALEY**

**H20 Ward Boundaries 20**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Brandwood Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR ALEX YIP**

**H21 Ward Boundaries 21**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Billesley Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR TIMOTHY HUXTABLE**

**H22 Ward Boundaries 22**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Hall Green Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR FERGUS ROBINSON**

**H23 Ward Boundaries 23**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Soho Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR MARGARET WADDINGTON**

**H24 Ward Boundaries 24**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Ladywood Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR KEN WOOD**

**H25 Ward Boundaries 25**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Moseley Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1



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

**H26 Ward Boundaries 26**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Aston Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND  
HOMES FROM COUNCILLOR BRUCE LINES**

**H27 Ward Boundaries 27**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Quinton Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

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

**H28 Ward Boundaries 28**

**Question:**

**On the current ward boundaries is any area in the Springfield Ward included within the list of potential parkland sites to be transferred to the housing department for development in order to meet the budget saving of 8 acres of parkland per year. For clarity, this is the list that according to a report to Planning Committee on 18 January has been produced by a Project board including the Housing Service?**

**Answer:**

See response to H1

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR JOBS AND  
SKILLS FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN ALDEN**

**I     Labour NEC Intervention 7**

**Question:**

**Do you think it would be appropriate for the Labour NEC to intervene in a decision made by an elected Labour executive in Birmingham?**

**Answer:**

**No.**

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT  
AND ROADS FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN ALDEN**

**J     Labour NEC Intervention 8**

**Question:**

Do you think it would be appropriate for the Labour NEC to intervene in a decision made by an elected Labour executive in Birmingham?

Answer:

No.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF PLANNING COMMITTEE FROM  
COUNCILLOR JON HUNT**

**K    Affordable Dwellings (Aldi at the Maypole)**

**Question:**

**In 2008 Aldi gained permission for a store and flats at the Maypole on condition that it provided eight affordable dwellings. It has now announced its intention to complete the development without the affordable dwellings and this has, it seems, been agreed by his Committee. What is the point of the Committee requiring developers to provide affordable dwellings if it will not enforce the conditions?**

**Answer:**

The affordable housing element (22 apartments) was secured via a S106 Agreement associated with the 2007 Planning Permission, rather than a condition, as per normal practice. As the planning permission was implemented through construction of the foodstore in 2008 unfortunately there is nothing that can be enforced against to ensure that the flats are commenced or completed, affordable or not.

Aldi have provided a Financial Viability Report which demonstrates that it would not be viable to deliver affordable housing on this site, given the market conditions are different to those of 2007 i.e. the recession occurred, and the development location is very secondary and low value. This Report was independently reviewed by Lambert Smith Hampton on behalf of the Council and was found to be sound.

Therefore the challenge for Planning Committee, when Aldi recently applied to vary the S106 Agreement in November 2017 to allow for the affordable housing obligation to be deleted, was whether to allow a major retailer operator not to deliver on a key component of their approved scheme which would have had public benefit in the form of both private market and affordable housing provision or accept that without deletion of the affordable housing obligation the apartments may remain 'mothballed' in perpetuity - when they could be fitted out and sold on the open market now, helping to meet the City's housing needs and providing relatively low cost housing opportunities. Committee unanimously chose the latter option, following the recommendation of Officer advice.

This is an unusual one-off case (a retail operator will not normally want flats to be developed above their store), framed in the context of an economic downturn, and does not set a precedent for developers to renege on their affordable housing obligations on other schemes across the City.

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF AUDIT COMMITTEE FROM  
COUNCILLOR JOHN ALDEN**

**L     Labour NEC Intervention 9**

**Question:**

**Do you think it would be good governance and support an effective internal control environment for the Labour NEC to intervene in a decision made by an elected Labour executive in Birmingham?**

**Answer:**

**No.**

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEAD MEMBER FOR THE WEST  
MIDLANDS FIRE AUTHORITY FROM COUNCILLOR JOHN ALDEN**

**M    Intervention**

**Question:**

**Do you think it would be appropriate for the Labour NEC to intervene in a decision made by locally appointed representatives on the West Midlands Fire Authority on the strategic direction of that service?**

**Answer:**

**No.**