

MEETING OF BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL, TUESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2020

#### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2020 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM

PRESENT:- Lord Mayor (Councillor Mohammed Azim) in the Chair until the break. Lord Mayor's Deputy (Councillor Carl Rice) in the Chair from the

break.

#### Muhammad Afzal Akhlag Ahmed Mohammed Aikhlag Alex Aitken Deirdre Alden Robert Alden Tahir Ali Olly Armstrong Gurdial Singh Atwal David Barrie **Baber Baz** Bob Beauchamp Matt Bennett Kate Booth Sir Albert Bore Nicky Brennan Marie Bridle Tristan Chatfield Zaker Choudhry **Debbie Clancy** Liz Clements Maureen Cornish John Cotton Phil Davis Adrian Delanev Diane Donaldson Barbara Dring Neil Eustace Mohammed Fazal Peter Fowler

### Councillors

Jayne Francis Eddie Freeman Peter Griffiths Fred Grindrod Paulette Hamilton Roger Harmer Kath Hartley Adam Higgs Penny Holbrook Jon Hunt Mahmood Hussain Shabrana Hussain Timothy Huxtable Mohammed Idrees Zafar Iqbal Ziaul Islam Morriam Jan Meirion Jenkins Julie Johnson **Brigid Jones** Nagina Kauser Zaheer Khan Narinder Kaur Kooner Chaman Lal Mike Leddy Bruce Lines John Lines Mary Locke Ewan Mackey Majid Mahmood

Zhor Malik Karen McCarthv Saddak Miah Gareth Moore Simon Morrall Brett O'Reilly John O'Shea **David Pears** Robert Pocock Julien Pritchard Hendrina Quinnen Carl Rice Lou Robson Gary Sambrook Kath Scott Lucy Seymour-Smith Shafique Shah Mike Sharpe Sybil Spence Ron Storer Martin Straker Welds Sharon Thompson Paul Tilsley Lisa Trickett Ian Ward Mike Ward Ken Wood Alex Yip Waseem Zaffar

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#### NOTICE OF RECORDING

19304 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.

#### **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

19305 The Lord Mayor reminded members that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests arising from any business to be discussed at this meeting.

#### MINUTES

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and -

#### 19306 **RESOLVED**:-

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2020 having been circulated to each Member of the Council, be taken as read and confirmed and signed.

#### LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Yvonne Mosquito

19307 The Lord Mayor indicated that Members would have noticed that the Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Yvonne Mosquito, was not present at the meeting. This was because she was having surgery on her knee today. The Lord Mayor asked all present in the Chamber to join him in extending best wishes to Councillor Mosquito for a successful operation and a speedy recovery.

#### **PETITIONS**

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

The following petitions were presented:-

(See document No. 1)

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

#### 19308 **RESOLVED**:-

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

#### Petitions Update

The following Petitions Update had been made available electronically:-

(See document No. 2)

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and -

#### 19309 **RESOLVED**:-

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

#### **QUESTION TIME**

19310 The Council proceeded to consider Oral Questions in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure (B4.4 F of the Constitution).

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

Following a question from Councillor Meirion Jenkins to the Cabinet Member for Children's Wellbeing, Councillor Kate Booth, Councillor Robert Alden rose on a point of order to indicate that Councillor Booth had received legal advice which would allow her to answer the question. He therefore proposed and it was seconded that the Meeting be adjourned to allow the Cabinet Member to received further legal advice on whether she could legally answer the question.

The proposal 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. 3)

N.B. The documents have been amended to show that Councillors Olly Armstrong and Mahmood Hussain abstained from voting and Councillor Penny Holbrook had voted against but had used Councillor Josh Jones' button by mistake.

### <u> City Council – 4 February 2020</u>

The total results referred to in the interleave read:-

Yes – 29 (For the proposal) No – 43 (Against the proposal) Abstain – 7 (Abstentions)

Councillor Gareth Moore proposed and it was seconded that the time for the section C of question time be extended by 20 minutes and the time for section D remains the 20 minutes allocated.

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

It was therefore-

#### 19311 **RESOLVED**:-

That the time for the section C of question time be extended by 20 minutes and the time for section D remains the 20 minutes allocated.

Question Time continued.

Councillor Phil Davis, in asking a question to the Cabinet Member for Homes and Neighbourhoods relating to cladding on private apartment blocks, indicated that, in light of his ownership of such a premises, he had had legal confirmation that he could ask the question.

During a question to the Leader from Councillor Brett O'Reilly Councillor Robert Alden rose on a point of order to confirm that Councillor Alex Yip had sought legal advice as to whether several questions relating to Home School Transport could be asked and the answer was affirmative.

### APPOINTMENTS BY THE COUNCIL

Councillor Martin Straker Welds proposed a further nomination and it was-

#### 19312 **RESOLVED:-**

That the appointments be made to serve on the Committees and other bodies set out below:-

### **Economy and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Councillor Nicky Brennan (Lab) to replace Councillor Tahir Ali (Lab) for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of City Council in May 2020.

#### **Co-ordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Councillor Lou Robson (Lab) to replace Councillor Tahir Ali (Lab) for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of City Council in May 2020.

### SCRUTINY BUSINESS REPORT

The following report from the Chairs of Overview and Scrutiny Committees was submitted:-

(See document No. 4)

The Lord Mayor advised that as Councillor Carl Rice was carrying out the duties of the Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Liz Clements would present the report

Councillor Liz Clements presented the report and the recommendation was seconded by Councillor Rob Pocock.

A debate ensued.

Councillor Liz Clements replied to the debate.

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

It was therefore-

#### 19313 **RESOLVED**:-

That the report be noted.

#### LEAD MEMBER REPORT: WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

The following report from the Lead Member for the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted:-

(See document No. 5)

Councillor Zafar Iqbal presented the report and the recommendation was seconded by Councillor David Barrie.

A debate ensued.

Councillor Zafar Iqbal replied to the debate.

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

It was therefore-

#### 19314 **<u>RESOLVED</u>**:-

That the report be noted.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Lord Mayor noted he had a prior engagement that he must attend and when the meeting reconvened, the Lord Mayor's Deputy, Councillor Carl Rice would take the Chair.

It was moved by the Lord Mayor, seconded and

#### 19315 **<u>RESOLVED</u>**:-

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

The Council then adjourned at 1640 hours.

At 1703 hours the Council resumed at the point where the meeting had been adjourned.

Lord Mayor's Deputy, Councillor Carl Rice in the Chair.

### CLIMATE EMERGENCY INTERIM REPORT

The following report of the Cabinet Member for Transport and the Environment was submitted:-

(See document No. 6)

Councillor Waseem Zaffar presented the report and the recommendation was seconded.

A debate ensued.

Councillor Waseem Zaffar replied to the debate.

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

It was therefore-

#### 19316 **<u>RESOLVED</u>**:-

That Council notes the progress made so far against the commitments in the June 2019 Full Council motion and notes that a full report on the R20 recommendations will be considered at Full Council in June 2020.

#### MOTIONS FOR DEBATE FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

The Council proceeded to consider the Motions of which notice had been given in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure (B4.4 G of the Constitution).

A. Councillor Meirion Jenkins and Alex Yiphave given notice of the following motion 'calling on Birmingham City Council to agree to adopt this motion to respond to the Audit report on Home to School Transport and to review the approach to emergency decisions'.

(See document No. 7)

Councillor Meirion Jenkins moved the Motion which was seconded by Councillor Alex Yip.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Kate Booth and Kath Scott gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 8)

Councillor Kate Booth moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Kath Scott.

A debate ensued.

Councillor Meirion Jenkins 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.

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-

#### 19317 **<u>RESOLVED</u>**:-

That this Council notes with and pledges to act on the findings of the Audit report on Home to School Transport.

To that end, the Council will build on the ongoing work of the Directorate and Scrutiny to produce and comprehensively monitor KPIs which cover waiting times for referrals and appeals; route cancellations by the supplier/lateness/length of journey; route cancellations because of the guide and quality assurance checks.

The Council believes that the failures identified in the Audit report stem from deeply rooted organisational and cultural shortcomings. These issues are being addressed and the political leadership continues to be fully committed to the task of urgently addressing them.

The Council further believes that, looking forward, the findings from the Home to School Transport Audit mark a turning point in the management of supplier relationships. The Council remains committed to transparency with members, monitoring and reporting shortcomings on a regular basis. Good governance and transparency are the guiding principles.

The Council notes:

- That the council apologises unreservedly to the children, young people and their families of the Home to School Transport Service for the failings identified in the Audit report.
- That, in partnership with Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership, the Non-Executive Advisor for Outcomes for vulnerable adults and children will undertake a review of safeguarding.
- That the recommendations of the audit report be actioned by the Directorate, with progress to be tracked by Audit Committee.
- That, where lawful and not commercially sensitive to not enter into any contract clauses which limit the ability of the council to properly hold the supplier to account and/or share shortcomings with members. In the case of Home to School Transport, this his will build on the current work to make this process more robust with the introduction of a points system, whereby the Council will, without notice, inspect the quality of services that the Provider is supplying. This will include but is not limited to:
  - Route checks;
  - School/Centre visits;
  - Analysis of non-compliance issues/complaints;
  - Sampling of invoices;
  - and auditing of documentation.
  - If the Council has evidence that the Provider has failed to meet the required standards below the onus will be on the Provider to prove that the alleged irregularities did not occur.
- The Executive remains committed to its relationship with Scrutiny and Audit Committees by being open and proactive in sharing issues in advance, however challenging, and genuinely reflecting and acting upon their contributions and recommendations.
- The Executive remains committed to the timely production of information in a way that focuses on due process and transparency.

The Council reiterates that emergency powers must only be used where the interests of the Council are jeopardised unless an executive decision is implemented immediately.

B. Councillor Roger Harmer and Morriam Jan have given notice of the following motion 'Calling on Birmingham City Council to agree to adopt this motion to lobby Central Government to reform the local electoral voting system'.

(See document No. 9)

Councillor Roger Harmer moved the Motion which was seconded by Councillor Morriam Jan.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Fred Grindrod and Ian Ward gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 10)

Councillor Fred Grindrod moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Ian Ward.

In accordance with Council Rules of Procedure, Councillors Deirdre Alden and Matt Bennett gave notice of the following amendment to the Motion:-

(See document No. 11)

Councillor Deirdre Alden moved the amendment which was seconded by Councillor Matt Bennett.

A debate ensued.

Councillor Roger Harmer 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 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. 12)

The total results referred to in the interleave read:-

Yes – 21 (For the amendment) No – 54 (Against the amendment) Abstain – 0 (Abstentions)

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-

### 19303 **RESOLVED**:-

This Council believes it is vital that the results of elections to Birmingham City Council represent the views of the communities we serve as closely as possible.

This Council resolves to:

 write to the Cabinet Office to ask Government to take part in a national debate in respect of electoral reform and commits to contributing to that debate, which could include an option for considering STV in multiple member wards in Birmingham.

The meeting ended at 1918 hours.

### <u>City Council – 4 February 2020</u>

# APPENDIX

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

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

### A1 <u>Athletes Village Bus Depot Relocation</u>

Question:

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

Answer:

The current depot is 96,713 sq ft.

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

# A2 <u>ATG Audit Report</u>

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

First week of November 2019.

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

### A3 Home to School Transport Press Conference

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

### A4 Bus Depot

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

20th December 2020.

### <u>City Council – 4 February 2020</u>

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

### A5 <u>Centenary Square</u>

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

### B1 <u>ATG Audit Report</u>

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

On or shortly before the 25<sup>th</sup> of July 2019.

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

# <u> City Council – 4 February 2020</u>

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

### B2 Bus Depot

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

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

### C1 Home to School Transport Positive DBS Checks

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

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

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

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

### C2 Home to School Transport Positive DBS Checks time employed

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

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

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

### C3 Home to School Transport – Informing Parents

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

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

### C4 Home to School Transport – Criminal Records

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

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

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

### C5 Home to School Transport – Audit Report

### **Question:**

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

#### Answer:

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

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

### <u>C6</u><u>Home to School Transport – Independent Investigation</u>

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

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

### C7 <u>Home to School Transport – Independent Investigation Report</u>

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

### C8 <u>Home to School Transport – cancelled journeys</u>

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

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

### <u>C9 Home to School Transport – Complaints</u>

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

2018		
Jun	5	
Sep	8	
Oct	8	
Nov	6	
Dec	8	
Total	35	
2019		
Jan	7	
Feb	10	
Mar	4	
May	5	
Jun	10	
Aug	3	
Sep	14	
Oct	5	
Nov	4	
Dec	4	
Total	66	

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

# C10 <u>ATG Audit Report</u>

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

# C11 Bus Depot

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

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

### C12 <u>Breakdown</u>

#### Question:

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

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

#### Answer:

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

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

The Section rows relate to sections within an EHCP:

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

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

# C13 Budget

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

No specific budget has been assigned to the localities.

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

### C14 SEND Locality

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

No changes to funding arrangements are being piloted.

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

### C15 <u>Breakdown</u>

### Question:

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

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

#### Answer:

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

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

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

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

Of the 25 primary pupils:	Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD): 1 Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH): 1 Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD): 2
Of the 45 secondary pupils:	Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD): 2 Social Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH): 6 Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD): 3

Autistic Spectrum Conditions (ASC): 2

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

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

### C16 <u>Home Tuition</u>

Question:

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

e. School Phase (Early Years, Primary, Secondary, Post-16 etc)

- f. Area of SEND need
- g. Cost of placements

### h. Equivalent cost of special school placements

Answer:

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

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

Total home tutored = 67

#### a. Breakdown by school phase

Early Years	Primary	Secondary	Post 16
3	20	33	11

#### b. Breakdown by main area of need

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

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

£466,318

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

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

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

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

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

### C17 <u>Tribunal Cases</u>

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

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

### C18 EHCP Annual Reviews

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

#### Actions to date:

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

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

### C19 Breakdown of 168

#### **Question:**

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

#### a Area of need

#### b School phase

Answer:

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

### City Council – 4 February 2020

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

### C20 Legal Rights

### Question:

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

#### Answer:

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

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

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

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

### City Council – 4 February 2020

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

### C21 <u>KPI's</u>"

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

### C22 Home to School Service

### Question:

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

Answer:

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

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

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

### D1 <u>ATG Audit Report</u>

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

### D2 Bus Depot

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER

### E1 Positive DBS Checks

### Question:

# Since the Internal Audit report into the Home to School Transport service first revealed serious problems with the Corporate HR approach to DBS checks, how many other services have been checked to see if they are also affected?

Answer:

Any 3<sup>rd</sup> party providers used by the Home to School Transport service have the responsibility to undertake DBS checks for their employees. BCC does not hold the information for each 3<sup>rd</sup> party provider as they retain the employment records for their own employees.

The contract for Home to School Transport required that the provider supply BCC with information relating to the DBS checks that it had carried out and in this particular case, that information was subsequently found to be incomplete.

The Council's process for reviewing information provided by 3<sup>rd</sup> parties has therefore been reviewed, as has the process for all services across the Council.

### City Council – 4 February 2020

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR EDDIE FREEMAN

### E2 DBS Policy

#### **Question:**

#### Following the recommendations of the Internal Audit report into Home to School Transport, on what date was the revised policy on DBS checks and accompanying guidance notes fully rolled out and implemented?

Answer:

The review of and for employees of BCC was completed 31.10.19, with a further deeper investigation then initiated by the Chief Executive to be completed by end of January 2020.

A set of recommendations were produced from the initial review and these have already been actioned and implemented since that point, including:

- The BCC process for reviewing 3<sup>rd</sup> party DBS information was immediately strengthened.
- The DBS policy and process for BCC employees has been reviewed.
- Guidance notes have been updated and made available on the Intranet.
- Training for the HR services team was completed in December 2019.
- The next training phase is for directorate based staff commencing on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020.
- The Council's DBS panel has been strengthened, and the AD Human Resources now chairs the panel meetings.

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP

### E3 <u>ATG Audit Report</u>

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

I received a copy of the draft report on 28 June 2019.

I was reassured that an investigations was underway and that appropriate action would be taken.

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY

### E4 Bus Depot

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

I was informed via email on 20 December 2019.

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP

### F1 <u>ATG Audit Report</u>

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

7<sup>th</sup> November 2019

I was reassured that an investigation was underway and that appropriate action would be taken.

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY

### F2 Bus Depot

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR ROGR HARMER.

### F3 Home adaptions waiting time

### Question:

### What is the waiting time for each category of adaptation?

Answer:

We aim to release priority 3 work ( higher priority ) to the contractor within 6 months of receipt from Adults' Services, and priority 2 ( lower priority) work within 12 months of receipt from Adults' Services.

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR NEIL EUSTACE.

### F4 Home adaptions average cost

### Question:

### What is the average cost of adaptations for all categories?

Answer:

For the financial year 2018/19, from April to December, please note that costs will differ depending on a number of factors including property type and specific requirements.

#### For council tenants

The average cost per job across all works was £8323.00.

#### For owner occupiers:

The average cost of adaptation is approximately £3,739.

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE FROM COUNCILLOR ZAKER CHOUDHRY

### F5 Current number of pending home adaptions

#### Question:

How many adults are waiting for adaptations to enable them to live comfortably and safely at home in all categories?

Answer:

#### For council tenants:

As at 20 December 2019, there were 123 adults waiting for adaptations where applications have not yet been released to contractors.

#### For owner occupiers:

Currently we have 300 referrals waiting allocation to contractors.

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP

### G1 <u>ATG Audit Report</u>

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

On 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY

### G2 Bus Depot

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

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

### G3 Declaration of a Public Register for Declared HMO'S

### Question:

## Will there be a public register of the HMOs that have been declared prior to the introduction of the new Article 4 in June?

Answer:

There already exists a public register of approved mandatory licensed HMOs which can be found on the BCC website.

This recorded by the Private Rented Sector team and updated accordingly. Other HMOs which are not licensable are not publicly recorded by this team.

Planning Services will be recording properties that are declared as HMOs in advance of the city-wide Article 4 Direction coming in to force on 8 June 2020. It is intended that this will be for internal use only and will not be a public register.

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

### G4 <u>Bescot Court, Perry Barr – Current Status</u>

#### Question:

### What use is now being made of the former sheltered housing Bescot Court in Perry Barr?

Answer:

Bescot Court is currently being used to provide much needed temporary accommodation for homeless families.

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR BABER BAZ

### G5 Digital Autospy option current up-date with case numbers

#### Question:

# Digital Autospy option - Following the launch of the pilot scheme that started in August 2019, could the Cabinet Member please provide an update as to how many cases have been dealt with up to present?

Answer:

The year long CTPM trial with Igene commenced on 1st July 2019, which provided for a minimum of 250 cases to be provided.

Birmingham and Solihull Coroners service have sent 151 cases for CT scans in the period 1 July to end of December 2019. 89 scans have identified cause of death and 62 cases have required an invasive post mortem following the CT scan.

The results so far are not achieving expected levels of diagnosis from CT scans and the Senior Coroner together with the City Council officers are looking into any technical and operational issues that may improve the levels of diagnoses.

Details will continue to be monitored for the duration of the trial with a view to formally reviewing the outcomes in due course.

### City Council – 4 February 2020

#### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION, COMMUNITY SAFETY AND EQUALITIES FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP

### H1 <u>TG Audit Report</u>

**Question:** 

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

Answer:

On 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019

### City Council – 4 February 2020

#### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION, COMMUNITY SAFETY AND EQUALITIES COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY

### H2 Bus Depot

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

### <u>City Council – 4 February 2020</u>

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY

#### I1 <u>Beat sweepers</u>

#### **Question:**

### In each year since 2012, how many beat sweepers per ward have been employed by the council?

Answer:

The table below lists the number of Beat Sweepers employed as at April of each year. As some of these staff will have pitches which cross over Ward boundaries an average number is given based on the number of Wards.

Year	No. Beat Sweepers	Average
04/2012	0	0
04/2013	3	0.075
04/2014	18	0.45
04/2015	13	0.325
04/2016	12	0.3
04/2017	13	0.325
04/2018	39	0.975
04/2019	32	0.8
01/2020	31	0.449 (Number of Wards increased in May 2019 to 69)

In addition to the current Beat Sweepers there are a further 223 positions within Street Cleansing who have a specific role in keeping Birmingham's streets clean.

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR ADAM HIGGS

### I2 Garden Waste Subscriptions

#### Question:

How many Garden Waste subscriptions for 2020/21 have been purchased so far compared to the same point in each of the previous years for which a charge has been applied?

Answer:

At the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> sales week:

Season	Subscriptions
2015	20,380
2016	28,266
2017	37,768
2018	47,904
2019	36,599
2020	40,279

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP

### I3 <u>ATG Audit Report</u>

#### **Question:**

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

Answer:

I was first informed at a meeting of informal Cabinet on 2 December 2019

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND PARKS COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY

### I4 Bus Depot

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

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

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

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENES AND PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT

#### I5 <u>2019-2020 Garden Waste Collection subscription comparison</u>

#### Question:

### What is the current number of subscriptions for garden waste collection services compared with the same time last year?

Answer:

The number of subscriptions sold by the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> sales week are as follows:

2019 Season = 36,599 Subscriptions 2020 Season = 40,279 Subscriptions

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR STREET SCENE AND PARKS FROM COUNCILLOR NEIL EUSTACE.

### I6 Pressure placed on staff during Garden Waste Renewal for 2020

#### Question:

#### What submissions has the cabinet member received from the Library Service about the pressure placed on their staff by the decision to make garden waste renewal web-only?

Answer:

I haven't received any queries or comments from Library staff about pressure placed upon them as a consequence of web-only garden waste renewal.

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

### J1 <u>Tree Coverage Per Ward</u>

#### **Question:**

# Answers to written questions in January (F2) revealed that the difference in tree coverage by Ward ranged from 9% to 30%. Can you provide a Ward by Ward breakdown of the tree coverage in each ward?

Answer:

The following data has been derived through the use of a system called "I- Tree Canopy". It is calculated by taking approximately 500 random sample plots per ward and an operator determining if there is a tree present at that location or not. This data is accurate to within +/- 1.5%. This data also produced the 18.6% city average cover

A comparison was also undertaken at a city level using data derived from satellite imagery using a computer run algorithm which returned a result that was within 0.2% of the above city average indicating that this data is reliable.

Two sets of tables have been set out below:

Table 1 shows Wards arranged alphabetically by Constituency. Table 2 shows Wards arranged by least cover to greatest.

Constituency	Wards	Canopy %
Edgbaston	Bartley Green	26.1
Edgbaston	Harborne	30.5
Edgbaston	Quinton	30.9
Edgbaston	Edgbaston	33.6
Erdington	Castle Vale	13
Erdington	Kingstanding	16
Erdington	Gravelly Hill	17
Erdington	Stockland Green	17.4
Erdington	Pype Hayes	17.4
Erdington	Perry Common	19.8
Erdington	Erdington	20.4
Hall Green	Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East	10.15
Hall Green	Balsall Heath West	13.14
Hall Green	Sparkhill	15.4

### Table 1- Wards arranged alphabetically by Constituency

### City Council – 4 February 2020

Hall GreenMoseley33.6Hall GreenHall Green South34.1Hodge HillAlum Rock12.6Hodge HillSmall Heath15.1Hodge HillWard End15.8Hodge HillShard End16.4Hodge HillHeartlands20Hodge HillGlebe Farm & Tile Cross20.6Hodge HillBromford & Hodge Hill22.2LadywoodBordesley & Highgate9.66LadywoodAston11LadywoodAston11LadywoodNechells13.2LadywoodLadywood14.6LadywoodBordesley Green15.2LadywoodSoho & Jewellery Quarter18.8NorthfieldRubery & Rednal18.8NorthfieldRubery & Selly Oak19.29NorthfieldAllens Cross20.8NorthfieldKing's Norton South26.1NorthfieldKing's Norton South26.1NorthfieldRubery & Rednal18.8NorthfieldKing's Norton South26.1NorthfieldKing's Norton North30.3Perry BarrLozells11.4Perry BarrDoscott18.6Perry BarrPerry Barr20Perry BarrPerry Barr20.6Selly OakBirchfield18.4Perry BarrPerry Barr20.6Selly OakBournbrook & Selly Park21.94Selly OakBrandsworth Wood23.8Selly OakBrandsw	Hall Green	Hall Green North	25.3
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Sutton Coldfield Sutton Wylde Green 28.1			
	Sutton Coldfield	Sutton Vesey	36.5

Sutton Coldfield	Sutton Four Oaks	46.7
Sutton Coldfield	Sutton Trinity	46.8
Yardley	Garretts Green	11.4
Yardley	Tyseley & Hay Mills	16
Yardley	South Yardley	20.4
Yardley	Yardley East	22
Yardley	Yardley West & Stechford	22.6
Yardley	Sheldon	23.2
Yardley	Acocks Green	25.5

### <u> City Council – 4 February 2020</u>

### Table 2 - Wards arranged by least cover to greatest

Constituency	Wards	Canopy %
Ladywood	Bordesley & Highgate	9.66
Hall Green	Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East	10.15
Ladywood	Holyhead	10.8
Ladywood	Aston	11
Perry Barr	Lozells	11.4
Yardley	Garretts Green	11.4
Ladywood	Newtown	12
Hodge Hill	Alum Rock	12.6
Erdington	Castle Vale	13
Hall Green	Balsall Heath West	13.14
Ladywood	Nechells	13.2
Ladywood	Ladywood	14.6
Hodge Hill	Small Heath	15.1
Ladywood	Bordesley Green	15.2
Hall Green	Sparkhill	15.4
Hodge Hill	Ward End	15.8
Erdington	Kingstanding	16
Yardley	Tyseley & Hay Mills	16
Hodge Hill	Shard End	16.4
Perry Barr	Handsworth	16.4
Erdington	Gravelly Hill	17
Erdington	Stockland Green	17.4
Sutton Coldfield	Sutton Reddicap	17.4
Erdington	Pype Hayes	17.4
Selly Oak	Highter's Heath	18.2
Perry Barr	Birchfield	18.4
Perry Barr	Oscott	18.6
Ladywood	Soho & Jewellery Quarter	18.8

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Northfield	Rubery & Rednal	18.8
Selly Oak	Stirchley	19
Sutton Coldfield	Sutton Walmley & Minworth	19.2
Northfield	Weoley & Selly Oak	19.29
Sutton Coldfield	Sutton Roughley	19.8
Erdington	Perry Common	19.8
Perry Barr	Perry Barr	20
Hodge Hill	Heartlands	20
Erdington	Erdington	20.4
Yardley	South Yardley	20.4
Hodge Hill	Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	20.6
Selly Oak	Druids Heath & Monyhull	20.6
Northfield	Allens Cross	20.8
Selly Oak	Bournbrook & Selly Park	21.94
Yardley	Yardley East	22
Hodge Hill	Bromford & Hodge Hill	22.2
Sutton Coldfield	Sutton Mere Green	22.6
Yardley	Yardley West & Stechford	22.6
Yardley	Sheldon	23.2
Northfield	Longbridge & West Heath	23.2
Northfield	Northfield	23.4
Perry Barr	Handsworth Wood	23.8
Northfield	Frankley Great Park	24.8
Hall Green	Hall Green North	25.3
Yardley	Acocks Green	25.5
Selly Oak	Brandwood & King's Heath	25.5
Edgbaston	Bartley Green	26.1
Northfield	King's Norton South	26.1
Ladywood	North Edgbaston	26.7
Sutton Coldfield	Sutton Wylde Green	28.1
Selly Oak	Bournville & Cotteridge	28.2
Northfield	King's Norton North	30.3
Edgbaston	Harborne	30.5
Edgbaston	Quinton	30.9
Selly Oak	Billesley	31.5
Edgbaston	Edgbaston	33.6
Hall Green	Moseley	33.6
Hall Green	Hall Green South	34.1
Sutton Coldfield	Sutton Vesey	36.5
Sutton Coldfield	Sutton Four Oaks	46.7
Sutton Coldfield	Sutton Trinity	46.8

### City Council – 4 February 2020

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR BOB BEAUCHAMP

### J2 <u>ATG Audit Report</u>

### **Question:**

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

Answer:

2 December 2019.

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT COUNCILLOR DEBBIE CLANCY

### J3 Bus Depot

#### Question:

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

Answer:

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

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

### WRITTEN QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL TILSLEY.

### J4 <u>Cost breakdown of Vehicle Actual Speed Signs for Yardley and Hodge</u> <u>Hill</u>'

### Question:

Will the Cabinet Member provide a breakdown of VASS (Vehicle Actual Speed Signs) installations in Yardley and Hodge Hill Constituencies, the cost of equipment and cost of installation and who provided the funding including City Council and Community Groups?

Answer:

In total over the last 3 years (the extent of available records) a total of 9 Vehicle Activated Speed Signs have been provided in the Hodge Hill and Yardley Constituencies. The total cost of equipment and installation was £60,887.

Of the required funding, £40,000 was provided by a local Community Group, the Sheldon Traffic Action Group. The funding provided by the group was a result of a successful bid made by them to BCC's Local Innovation Fund, formerly the Local Investment Fund. All other funding was sourced directly from BCC.