

WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

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WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR MEIRION JENKINS

"Paradise Grant Thornton"

Question:

On what date were the Council's external auditors, Grant Thornton, informed of the issues with the Paradise redevelopment that you have stated you were made aware of in February 2018?

Answer:

Regular monthly meetings take place throughout the year between the council's auditors and the Corporate Director, Finance and Governance. At these meetings all material changes and issues pertaining to the council are discussed. The auditors, as part of their final audit for 2017/18 accounts, which commenced in June 2018 discussed treatment of the council's position on the Paradise development and included a note (page 12) in their Audit Findings Report issued to Audit Committee on 30th July 2018.

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

"Local Centres"

Question:

For each local centre, how much has been spent by the Council on regeneration in each of the last 6 years?

Answer:

There has been investment in regeneration of the Local Centres in Birmingham in previous years as part of our growth strategy for the city.

However, spend by the Council on this has significantly changed since austerity measures were introduced by the Tory Government. Six years ago, specific Council budgets for regeneration stopped or were winding down due to reduced funding.

Despite this, regeneration has still been taking place in Local Centres through partnership working arrangements, including projects with the Business Improvement Districts and the Local Enterprise Partnership. Rather than using Council budgets, schemes have been brought forward utilising external funding, including the Local Growth Fund and section 106 planning obligations.

With there being over 70 Local Centres in the city, there is not one source of information on the amount spent by the Council or partners on the regeneration of Local Centres in the past six years.

If Councillor Sambrook has questions on a specific Local Centre, then some information may be able to be pulled together.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR GARETH MOORE

"CMIS Private papers"

Question:

Why is the private NEC cabinet report from October 2014 not on CMIS, like other private reports that can be accessed with a secure login?

Answer:

The private report and appendices 2-4 are all on CMIS – accessible with a secure login.

The decision record published on CMIS states:

It was noted that circulation of report appendices 1 and 5 had been restricted by the Cabinet on the advice of the relevant Chief Officer and Director of Legal and Democratic Services to only those Members attending Cabinet and relevant Chief Officers. Those appendices have not been posted on Democracy in Birmingham and paper copies were circulated only to those Members attending Cabinet and relevant Chief Officers.



WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER

"Leader's Development Fund"

Question:

What is the purpose of the leader's development fund?

Answer:

The Leader's Development Fund is a historical non-staffing budget within the Chief Executive and Assistant Chief Executive's budget, which provides support to external organisations to enhance the civic, cultural and sporting life of the city.

The current City Council financial system was implemented in 2007 and the Leader's Development Fund was included in 2007/8 reporting. Records prior to this are unavailable.

Since my time as Leader I have utilised this budget to support or match fund events and initiatives for the benefit of the city. Details of the current 2018/19 spend are included in Written Question A5.

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

"Leader's Development Fund spend"

Question:

What has the leader's development fund been spent on in each year since 2012, including value of each item and per ward?

Answer:

Spend for 2018/19 is highlighted below.

2018/19 Leader's Development Budget - Actual and Committed Spend - Month 8.

Everyman Remembered	£15,000
Armistice Day	£16,600
West Midlands Lieutenancy	£10,000
Harry Gem Tennis Pioneer	£ 1,000
Council House Dressing	£ 2,070
Weoley Castle Armed Forces Event	£ 350
Accommodation Hire - EMT	£ 400
Transportation Costs	£ 4,401
Building Strong Cities Event	£ 9,364
Birmingham Jazz Festival	£10,000
Foster Carers Event	£ 7,500
Other miscellaneous	£ 3,335
Apprenticeship Levy	£ 401
Tackling Problem Gambling Event	£ 2,000
Tatal	CO2 424

Total £82,421

To extrapolate the data from the finance system into a format to answer this question from 2012 has not been possible in the time allocated from receiving the written question until Council. This information will be distributed once collated in full.

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

"Leader's Development Fund spend in 19/20"

Question:

What is the Leader's Development Fund planned to be spent on in 19/20, including value of each item?

Answer:

There are no confirmed commitments to date.

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

"Community Infrastructure Levy"

Question:

How much of the CIL is planned to be spent on the Commonwealth Games 2022 in future years (including proposed but unconfirmed spend)?

Answer:

A strategy is being developed to determine the priorities for allocating CIL receipts. This will include consideration of appropriate infrastructure to support both the Commonwealth Games and post Commonwealth Games legacy as well as other infrastructure projects in the city.

Officers have proposed a total of £5million of CIL receipts to be spent in Perry Barr which is consistent with the Birmingham Development Plan and associated Infrastructure Delivery Plan, but this is still subject to appropriate Cabinet approvals.

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

"NEC ongoing costs"

Question:

How much have been spent in each year since the sale of the NEC on any residual debt, pension strain or any other costs associated with the NEC Group, including forecast spend for the remainder of the current MTFP?

Answer:

The net expenditure is as follows:

2015/16 actual	£32.4m
2016/17 actual	£47.9m
2017/18 actual	£7.5m
2018/19 estimate	£31.9m
2019/20 estimate	£31.2m
2020/21 estimate	£31.0m
2021/22 estimate	£30.6m
2022/23 estimate	£29.6m

Notes

- Following the sale of the NEC Group, the City Council continues to meet the cost of all
 the outstanding debt raised to fund the NEC Group capital assets. However, following
 the sale, the City Council has retained the freehold of all NEC Group sites and given short
 leases at The ICC Birmingham and Arena Birmingham. The legacy costs have remained
 since the sale proceeds were not used to pay off historic NEC debts.
- 2. The figures exclude the financing charges related to the historic NEC Group capital expenditure prior to the introduction of the prudential borrowing regime in 2004, since the City Council cannot separately identify the cost of individual capital schemes.
- 3. In 2015/16 and 2016/17 the City Council created an accounting provision for a potential contribution to NEC Pension schemes. This sum was released in 2017/18 when an asset backed funding arrangement was introduced. The figures above include the impact of these transactions together with the ongoing cost of the asset backed funding arrangement.
- 4. The figures above include income now included directly within the City Council's group accounts following the sale of NEC Group.
- 5. The ongoing commitment is in line with, but slightly less than figures reported to Cabinet at the time of the NEC sale.

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

"Project Overspends"

Question:

The capital programme, currently requires an overspend of >10% or £200k (whichever is greater) to have a revised business case back to the original approver. Which projects have met this threshold in the last 4 years, including when the revised business case was approved and by whom?

Answer:

Capital Schemes - Project Overspends Analysis (2014/15 to 2017/18)

Scheme	Revised Business Case Approved by	Revised Business Case Approval Date
	Report of the Strategic Director of	
	Economy Under	
Chester Road	Delegated Authority	13-Jan-17
Swimming Pool Facilities	being investigated	
Community Sport	being investigated	
Community Development & Play	being investigated	
	Capital & Treasury	
₹	Management	
38	Monitoring Quarter 2	
	(July to September	
	2016) report to	
New Wholesale Market	Cabinet	15-Nov-16
	Capital & Treasury	
	Management Monitoring Quarter 1	
	(April to June 2017)	
New Wholesale Market	report to Cabinet	13-Sep-17
	Director of Planning	,
	& Regeneration	
Big City Plan Initiative	report to Cabinet	20-Apr-15
	Acting Strategic	
	Director of Place	
Sparkhill Pool	report to Cabinet	17-Nov-15

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR MAUREEN CORNISH

"Channel 4 £52k spend"

Question:

What is the breakdown of how the £52k the council put into the Channel 4 bid was spent?

Answer:

The funding towards the Channel 4 Bid was provided in two stages. For the first round of the bid process, costs were split equally between Birmingham City Council, GBSLEP, Coventry City Council, Coventry and Warwickshire LEP, and WM Growth Company with each providing a £12.5K contribution.

The bid process was coordinated by the West Midlands Growth Company, with KPMG appointed to project manage and provide necessary specialist input to the bidding process, alongside BOP which provided specialist media and broadcasting industry input, contacts and guidance. This stage also included the production of dedicated marketing, social media campaigns and document production.

Following the shortlisting to just 3 city locations, a significant amount of work was then required to develop Birmingham's detailed proposition for the final stage of the HQ bid. The additional cost totalling £120k was shared equally between Birmingham City Council, GBSLEP and the West Midlands Combined Authority, and the West Midlands Growth Company continued to coordinate.

The second stage costs included the development of new skills, talent development and educational accelerator propositions for local colleges, schools and universities that would support the growth of the creative industries sector that would have been in partnership with Channel 4. In addition, project management, programme development, bid drafting, legal and property advice (including a draft Heads of Terms) were also included.

Throughout the bid process, there was a significant amount of time and work provided in good-will by many leading organisations and individuals in support of the development of the detailed proposals behind the bid. Private sector resources also contributed in terms of developing proposals for the physical location of the Channel 4 offices and studio, both in terms of initial and permanent property propositions.

A11

CITY COUNCIL - 4 DECEMBER 2018

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

"Channel 4 £52k Officer time"

Question:

What is the total number of hours spent by Council Officers on the Channel 4 bid, including the associated salary costs?

Answer:

A range of Council officers, across several salary grades spent varying amounts of time on the Channel 4 bid to ensure that Birmingham and the City Council were fully engaged and represented in the different stages of the bid process. No precise records of hours spent were formally recorded and in the time allocated from receiving the written question until Council it has not been possible to collate this information. It will be distributed once collated.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR SUZANNE WEBB

"Paradise Development repayment"

Question:

For the requested additional £50m for the paradise redevelopment what are the forecast repayment terms from future business rates income (l.e. how much per year and for how many years)?

Answer:

Under the Paradise development model, the City Council would borrow the additional requested sum under prudential borrowing to be repaid by the Enterprise Zone Investment Plan (EZIP) end date of 2045/46. The current assumption in the model is a weighted average interest rate based on PWLB borrowing rates over a term of up to 24 years.

Additional business rate income (NNDR) being generated by the new developments from 2022/23 would increase incrementally in line with occupancy estimates and indexation each year and will cover all financing charges over the same period resulting in a net zero impact on the City Council's General Fund.

Any shortfall in additional business rate income is underwritten by a Developer's guarantee.

A13

CITY COUNCIL - 4 DECEMBER 2018

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR JULIEN PRITCHARD

"Climate Change"

Question:

"How far along we are to meeting our climate change target of 60% cuts in CO2 by 2027? What percentage cuts in CO2 emissions have already been achieved?"

Answer:

The Council's target of 60% reduction in carbon emissions by 2027 represents a reduction from 6.874mn tonnes from the baseline set in 1990 to 2.7496mn tonnes by 2027.

The Carbon reduction figures are measured every 2 years, whereby the current data for Birmingham's total emissions for 2016 were 4,467,000 tonnes. The percentage cut in CO₂ is therefore 33.7% against the 1990 baseline.

Of the remaining 4,467,000 tonnes, 33.4% of emissions are from industry and commercial, 33.9% from domestic and 32.7% from transport.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE DEPUTY LEADER FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER

"In-house lawyers"

Question:

How many in-house lawyers are currently employed by the council?

Answer:

There are 74.9 full time equivalent (FTE) Lawyers.

This is made up of 67.2 FTE practising Solicitors and 7.7 FTE Legal Executives.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S WELLBEING FROM COUNCILLOR MORRIAM JAN

"Impact - reduction of £1 million - Children's Trust"

Question:

Could the cabinet member set out the impact on children's services on the proposed reduction of £1 million in the contract with the Children's Trust in next year's budget proposals?

Answer:

The Children's Trust has developed plans that enable it to deliver this contract change saving without impacting adversely on children, young people and families.

The Trust has identified a number of areas where increased efficiency in the way services are provided will lead to real savings. The Trust was established, in part, to be able to move quickly to change the design and delivery of its services to citizens and its internal support services.

More active management of care placements and costs, increasingly efficient 'back office' support and continuing to reduce the cost of staffing by recruiting more social workers, leading to less reliance on more expensive agency social workers, will all contribute to achieving the saving without any change to the service offer the Trust makes to children, young people and families

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR ADAM HIGGS

"Rats"

Question:

How many reports of rats has the council received in each of the last 10 years?

Answer:

Please find the numbers of rat complaints received by the council's Pest Control Team and Environmental Health Team.

No of Rat jobs received by EH	F - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1					YEAR		(S)A			
Job type	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Rat Domestic	34037	32614	31343	26754	21072	15647	16476	13176	10733	11027	12644
Rat - Commercial	319	252	246	193	195	200	263	225	163	148	144
Rats or Mice All Contracts	249	310	384	407	426	411	462	369	334	260	413
EH Pest Complaint	696	635	613	428	339	241	303	186	138	177	195
Grand Total	35301	33811	32586	27782	22032	16499	17504	13956	11368	11612	13396

Key

Rat Domestic	Rat in residential properties or gardens
Rat Commercial	Any site which is not domestic. May include business property, open land or land with no ownership.
Rats and Mice All contracts	Rat commercial jobs held by the pest control team
EH Pest Complaints	Rat complaints to Environmental Health where Environmental Health Officers have investigated.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR EDDIE FREEMAN

"Recycling"

Question:

Both with and without including bottom ash, what was the performance by quarter of recycling in 15/16 and 16/17?

Answer:

Waste Management have only been reporting monthly levels of Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) as part of its recycling performance since April 2018, as it is considered as a legitimate recyclate.

As a result the recycling figures for 2015/16 and 2016/17 are below, but do not include monthly IBA percentages, however historically the annual recycling levels for the City would have increased by approximately 11.5% with the inclusion of IBA. This level has remained static over the last three years.

% of Household waste which is reused, recycled and composted.

%	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
15/16	28.27	27.75	26.19	29.54	29.23	30.53	30.36	30.36	29.73	29.35	29.3	28.6
16/17	27.31	27	26.8	28.23	29.29	29.41	29	28.57	29.05	29	27.98	27.98

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

"Invoices for waste collections services"

Question:

What is total value of any unpaid and\or disputed invoices for waste collection contractors?

Answer:

We are not aware of any disputed invoices but are aware of one unpaid invoice for Waste Collection Contractors. The value of this outstanding invoice is considered to be commercially sensitive, however it is in the process of being paid and this has been accounted for in the budget.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR SIMON MORRALL

"Wastecollection.com"

Question:

What is the total amount of outstanding invoices for the firm 'wastecollection.com', including any invoices that are disputed?

Answer:

We are not aware of any disputed invoices but are aware of one unpaid invoice for the firm 'wastecollection.com'. The value of this outstanding invoice is considered to be commercially sensitive, however it is in the process of being paid and this has been accounted for in the budget.

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

"Street Cleansing"

Question:

From January 17 until the end of May 18 – how much was spent per week on street cleansing in each ward?

Answer:

This information is not available as the financial information does not record the relevant data in the detail requested.

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

"HRA spend on waste"

Question:

How much money from the Housing Revenue Account was spent on clearing waste during last summer's industrial dispute?

Answer:

The overall figure for waste removal equated to £817,980. This spend and allocated budget is currently under review.

The HRA is responsible for keeping housing land clear of litter and refuse and this is part of the on-going cleaning arrangements.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR SUZANNE WEBB

"HRA spend on waste"

Question:

How much money was spent per tower block during last summer's industrial dispute to clear waste over and above the usual waste collection spend, including which budget line this money came from?

Answer:

It is not possible to breakdown the cost of removing waste from the City's Tower Blocks by each individual block however, the overall figure for waste removal equated to £817,980. This spend and allocated budget is currently under review.

D8

CITY COUNCIL - 4 DECEMBER 2018

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

"Fly-tipping pilot"

Question:

Can you please publish the findings of the £200k pilot in 2018/19 for the reduction in the level of non-highway fly-posting and fly-tipping across the city, to include how, why and where the money was spent and the outcomes seen?

Answer:

The budget for the placarding and flyposting team was £155,000 and was given to the Waste Enforcement Unit to support three officers to undertake investigations in to the illegal advertising across the City and assistance with fly tipping issues.

The officers were recruited and began operating in April 2018 and have been delivering the service to date.

In respect of fly posting the officers have removed 2410 unauthorised advertisements to secure evidence. 302 businesses were identified and investigated and issued with Community Protection Warnings. As part of these warnings the businesses are ordered to remove any other advertising they may have or the notices will be escalated to community protection notices.

Demands for information regarding trade waste contracts are also requested to ensure compliance with the Environmental Protection Act.

65 Community Protection Notices (CPN) have been issued for further non-compliance. Of which 38 resulted in £100 Fixed Penalty Notices being issued for further breaches of the CPN and a further 12 prosecution reports being submitted to Legal Services for consideration.

Since April we have seen a dramatic decrease in the numbers of illegal advertising, in May 2018 we removed 683 and in November we removed 216 adverts. We are also seeing businesses that have previously failed to comply with requests to remove advertising, now comply. In fact, most businesses we have been in contact are now complaint and no further signs have been found. The majority of the signs we find presently are from new businesses.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR MAUREEN CORNISH

"WRCO interventions"

Question:

Since the last Council meeting, how many interventions have been made by WRCOs with residents to improve recycling (broken down by type of intervention)?

Answer:

Among the other functions of the WRCOs such as round optimisation, container work etc, there are two main data collection forms which are used by the WRCOs relating to recycling, F01 - Recycling Participation and F02 - Resident Engagement.

Between the 6 November (last Council Meeting) and the 28 November 2018:

- **F01:** 418 of the Recycling Participation forms have been completed. Of these 13 have identified specific streets as only presenting between 0-25% of their recycling bins for collection. All 13 have prompted the Waste Prevention Unit to visit these streets and offer advice and education to residents.
- F02: 22 Resident Engagement forms have been completed. These forms document advice and information issued to individual residents by the WRCO.

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

"Waste Collection Peer Review

Question:

In response to question D22 at the last full council meeting (6 November) you undertook to take under consideration the suggestion of a peer review into the waste collection service. Having had time to consider that suggestion, will you now be requesting such a review?

Answer:

Yes, I will look at all options that will contribute to improving the service.

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

"Waste Collection Council Debate

Question:

Will you commit to a full council debate on the bin service in Nov 2019, including a comparison with all other waste collection authorities?

Answer:

If scrutiny wishes to conduct a review I would be more than happy to contribute.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR KEN WOOD

"Slabs in Cabs"

Question:

Do you think the slabs in cabs were a worthwhile investment?

Answer:

Performance data is key to running a major service such as waste collection. Technological advances should assist with intelligence gathering and evidence to continually improve the service.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PEARS

"Broken bins"

Question:

For every month since the roll out of wheelie bins (including current year to date) how many residents have been charged for the replacement of a lost or broken bin (if data breaks this down, please provide the split between those lost and broken)?

Answer:

	2014		2015		20	16	20	17	2018	
	Damaged	Missing								
Jan			2	59	29	102	38	152	82	197
Feb			8	46	24	98	28	135	50	177
Mar			5	53	25	78	37	162	66	178
Apr			5	46	30	86	29	100	63	174
May			4	36	27	94	45	115	72	161
Jun	3	20	7	75	35	126	44	137	66	159
Jul	1	19	6	59	32	97	55	160	79	189
Aug	3	22	11	77	25	112	51	99	61	158
Sep	1	26	12	74	33	143	43	151	60	220
Oct	2	31	12	61	29	144	54	171	59	217
Nov	1	10	21	80	23	149	61	149	42	181
Dec	4	38	16	108	19	109	37	119		
Total	15	166	109	774	331	1338	522	1650	700	2011

If a resident has had their wheelie bin for less than 10 working days when it is reported as missing, stolen or damaged, it will be replaced free of charge.

If on the other hand a resident has their wheelie bin for more than 10 working days when it was reported as missing, stolen or damaged, there is a £20 charge to replace it.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID BARRIE

"Sweetheart payments to GMB refuse collectors 1"

Question:

Press reports allege that payments of up to £4000 were made to refuse workers in the GMB Union who did not support the bin strike last summer. What were these payments for?

Answer:

The GMB union were not consulted on an MOU that was reached with Unite and Unison in November 2017 in relation to changes to the Waste Management Service.

This failure to consult the GMB union was wrong. As a result, GMB submitted a 'failure to consult' claim at the beginning of this year against the Council which, following legal advice and talks with ACAS, led to a settlement payment to GMB members.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR MATT BENNETT

"Sweetheart payments to GMB refuse collectors 2"

Question:

Press reports allege that payments of up to £4000 were made to refuse workers in the GMB Union who did not support the bin strike last summer. Who authorised these payments?

Answer:

The GMB union were not consulted on an MOU that was reached with Unite and Unison in November 2017 in relation to changes to the Waste Management Service.

This failure to consult the GMB union was wrong. As a result, GMB submitted a 'failure to consult' claim at the beginning of this year against the Council which, following legal advice and talks with ACAS, led to a settlement payment to GMB members.

The approval process came within the delegated powers of the relevant Corporate Director, the Corporate Director of Place by way of a Chief Officer report to the Chief Executive and the Chief Finance Officer dated 27th February 2018. This was amended on 23 May 2018 with regard to the level of payment.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY

"Sweetheart payments to GMB refuse collectors 3"

Question:

Press reports allege that payments of up to £4000 were made to refuse workers in the GMB Union who did not support the bin strike last summer. Which Cabinet Members were made aware of these payments?

Answer:

The GMB union were not consulted on an MOU that was reached with Unite and Unison in November 2017 in relation to changes to the Waste Management Service.

The approval process came within the delegated powers of the relevant Corporate Director, the Corporate Director of Place by way of a Chief Officer report to the Chief Executive and the Chief Finance Officer dated 27th February 2018. Two reports were signed 22nd and 23rd May with regard to the level of payment.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE HODIVALA

"Sweetheart payments to GMB refuse collectors 4"

Question:

Press reports allege that payments of up to £4000 were made to refuse workers in the GMB Union who did not support the bin strike last summer. What was the approval process for these payments?

Answer:

The GMB union were not consulted on an MOU that was reached with Unite and Unison in November 2017 in relation to changes to the Waste Management Service.

This failure to consult the GMB union was wrong. As a result, GMB submitted a 'failure to consult' claim at the beginning of this year against the Council which, following legal advice and talks with ACAS, led to a settlement payment to GMB members.

The approval process came within the delegated powers of the relevant Corporate Director, the Corporate Director of Place by way of a Chief Officer report to the Chief Executive and the Chief Finance Officer dated 27th February 2018. Two reports were signed 22nd and 23rd May with regard to the level of payment.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER

"Sweetheart payments to GMB refuse collectors 5"

Question:

Press reports allege that payments of up to £4000 were made to refuse workers in the GMB Union who did not support the bin strike last summer. What legal advice was sought before making these payments?

Answer:

I have been made aware in the last two weeks that advice was sought from the Council's internal legal services team who sought external legal advice before reaching an agreement with GMB (via ACAS). Unfortunately I have not seen the legal advice both internal and external advice but the city solicitor tells me that the advice was to settle the claim brought by GMB.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR TIM HUXTABLE

"Sweetheart payments to GMB refuse collectors 6"

Question:

Press reports allege that payments of up to £4000 were made to refuse workers in the GMB Union who did not support the bin strike last summer. Were similar payments made to any other staff groups in the council?

Answer:

I understand that only GMB Members received payments for a failure to consult claim.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR BRUCE LINES

"Sweetheart payments to GMB refuse collectors 7"

Question:

Press reports allege that payments of up to £4000 were made to refuse workers in the GMB Union who did not support the bin strike last summer. Were any other payments made to any bin staff, in any union, over and above usual contractual pay?

Answer:

No. Only members of GMB received additional payments but this was as a result of GMB submitting a 'failure to consult' claim against the Council which, following legal advice and talks with ACAS, led to a settlement payment to GMB members.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR BABER BAZ

"Assisted Collections Missed"

Question:

How many assisted collections have been reported as missed, by month, in the course of this year?

Answer:

Below is a table showing the number of assisted collections reported as missed by month between 1 January and 26 November 2018.

Month	Assisted
Jan	849
Feb	538
Mar	727
Apr	756
May	764
Jun	698
Jul	724
Aug	616
Sep	814
Oct	1807
Nov (part)	1248

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

"Assisted Collections Missed 2"

Question:

Have the crews been advised they can skip assisted collections when they are struggling to finish their rounds on time?

Answer:

Crews have not been advised to 'skip' assisted collections. We recognise the importance of the additional assistance given to the most vulnerable residents of Birmingham and are committed to ensure that missed collections do not occur.

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

"Assisted Collections Missed 3"

Question:

Does the substantial number of complaints about missed assisted collections (including residents reporting not getting collections for a number of months) reflect a deliberate policy to force the elderly and disabled to make their own arrangements for disposal of their rubbish?

Answer:

No, your assertion is incorrect. There is no 'deliberate policy' to force the elderly and disabled to make their own waste disposal arrangements. We recognise the importance of the additional assistance given to the most vulnerable residents of Birmingham and are committed to ensure that missed collections do not occur.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR PAUL TILSLEY

"Late Refuse Collections"

Question:

How many properties have received late collections by ward (by month this year) from crews doing overtime or agency work?

Answer:

Late collections does not mean that overtime is paid, hence this information is not available.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN STREETS, WASTE AND RECYCLING FROM COUNCILLOR ZAKER CHOUDHRY

"Grade 3 Waste Collection Operatives - training in liaising?"

Question:

Given that the grade 3 waste collection operatives now have a brief to engage with the public, what training have they received in liaising with residents in receipt of assisted collections to ensure their rubbish is collected?

Answer:

The Grade 3 Waste Recycling and Collection Officers have all received training on their role using the mobile technology to help them solve issues they have within their workplace. They are trained to help citizens who may need assisted collections, larger or smaller bins or changing addresses from red carded (not suitable for wheelie bins) to green carded (Suitable for wheelie bins). Staff will have also received customer service training previously.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR EWAN MACKEY

"Culture Commissioning"

Question:

In response to written question E1 at Full Council on 6 November, you provided a table detailing the split of culture spend between Revenue Commissioning and Project Commissions. Can you please break this spend down to show which organisations and projects received what funding in each of those years?

Answer:

Please see the following breakdown as requested. Some of the tables also include an element of match funding.

<u>2015-16</u>

Arts Project Commissions and Associated Programmes: £473,457 + £23,990 match

Next Generation	BCMG	£9,700.00
Projects (Children and	BE Festival CIC	£10,000.00
young people)	Big Brum TIE	£9,795.00
	Birmingham Hippodrome	£10,000.00
	Blue Orange Theatre	£9,935.00
1000000	Friction Arts	£9,155.00
	LouDeemY Productions	£3,300.00
	Secret City Arts	£7,975.00
	Superact	£7,005.00
	The Cube	£3,550.00
27 000	Women & Theatre	£9,750.00
Culture on our	Art Works Hall Green	£3,000.00
Doorstep Project	Edgbaston Arts Contact Group	£6,960.00
(Adults and	General Public	£2,856.00
Communities)	Jungo Arts	£3,000.00
	Junk	£1,845.00
	Little Bird Community Arts CIC	£9,750.00
	Mercurial Arts	£10,000.00
	Northfield Arts Forum	£9,810.00
	Ort Gallery	£9,081.00
	Purbanat	£10,000.00
	Reel Access Ltd	£9,530.00
	Some Cities	£10,000.00
	Soul City Arts	£10,000.00
Great International City	BE Festival CIC	£7,000.00
Projects (Festivals)	Birmingham Hippodrome	£3,000.00
	Birmingham Jazz & Blues Festival Limited	£9,000.00
	Birmingham LGBT Community Trust	£5,000.00
	Birmingham Repertory Theatre	£50,000.00
	City of Colours	£5,000.00

	Flatpack Festival	£9,000.00
	Flatpack Projects CIO	£900.00
	Music for Youth	£4,500.00
	Open Theatre	£3,000.00
	Polish Expats Association	£5,000.00
	Professional Incredibles	£5,000.00
	Punch Records	£9,000.00
	RoguePlay Theatre Ltd	£3,000.00
	Simmer Down CIC	£9,000.00
	Uprize CIC	£7,000.00
	WERK Culture Ltd	£7,500.00
	Writing West Midlands	£9,000.00
	Simmer Down CIC	£900.00
Arts Champions	Birmingham Opera Company	£2,000.00
Scheme Projects	Birmingham Repertory Theatre	£4,000.00
concine i rojects	Birmingham Royal Ballet	£4,000.00
	CBSO	£4,000.00
	DanceXchange	£4,000.00
	Ex Cathedra	£2,000.00
	Ikon Gallery	£4,000.00
		£4,000.00
	mac Birmingham	£4,000.00
	Performances Birmingham	
	Sampad South Asian Arts	£4,000.00
	The Drum (Newtown Cultural Project Ltd)	£4,000.00
Year of Arts and	Beatfreeks	£20,000.0
Young People Projects	Birmingham Museums Trust	£20,000.0
one plant in the second	Stans Café	£9,650.00
Birmingham Festivals	Flatpack Projects	£10,000.0
Group development	The second contraction of the second	•
Organisational	No.11 Arts Ltd	£10,000
development		
Heritage Week Project	Birmingham Museums Trust	£10,000.0
Local Arts Forum Co-	Active Arts Castle Vale	£4,000.00
ordination	Argy Bhaji	£4,000.00
	Art Works - Hall Green	£4,000.00
	Edgbaston Arts Contact Group	£4,000.00
	Grosvenor Road Studios	£4,000.00
	Highbury Theatre	£4,000.00
	Inspiring a new generation	£4,000.00
	NAF	£4,000.00
	Reel Access	£4,000.00
	Superact CIC	£4,000.00
Strategic Arts	Arts Board and Leadership Training	£1,303.32
oli alegio Aits	costs	21,000.02
	Heritage Week medical cover,	£1,522.90
	promotion and marketing, volunteer t-	
	shirts costs	
	Arts on the Move costs	£2,310.00
	Creative Futures Strategy costs	£5,960.62

Arts Revenue Commissioning: £5,952,000.00

Performances Birmingham Ltd	£1,985,000
CBSO	£1,195,000
Birmingham Royal Ballet	£730,000
Birmingham Repertory Theatre	£730,000
Midlands Arts Centre	£540,000
The Drum (Newtown Cultural Project Ltd)	£380,000
Birmingham Opera Company	£140,000
Ikon Gallery	£84,500
DanceXchange	£80,000
Ex Cathedra	£47,500
Sampad	£40,000

2016-17

Arts Project Commissions and Associated Programmes: £205,000 + £515,000 The Drum (Newtown Cultural Project Ltd) allocation towards Aston and Newtown projects and Black History Month from Birmingham City Council and Arts Council England + £91,662 match

Next Generation	Blue Orange Theatre	£8,408.00
Projects (Children and	Gap Arts Project	£13,563.00
young people)	Northfield Arts Forum	£13,660.00
	On The Edge	£13,860.00
	BE Festival CIC	£5,611.00
	Birmingham Hippodrome	£12,720.00
19	LouDeemY Productions	£7,840.00
Culture on our Doorstep	DanceXchange	£10,000
Project (Adults and	Creative Cohesion West Midlands	£6,000.00
Communities)	General Public	£2,120.00
,	Women & Theatre	£10,000.00
	LouDeemY Productions	£5,660.00
	Purbanat	£10,000.00
9 9 1 5 2 1 7 1 1 1 1	Sampad South Asian Arts	£8,000.00
5 25 67 .	Sonia Sabri	£10,000.00
To so the	Soul City Arts	£7,000.00
105 PM 1 1 1 1	Kalaboration CIC	£7,220.00
Aston and Newtown	Wassifa CIC	£35,529.00
Projects	7E Youth Academy	£33,550.00
1 250 1-900 1111	ACE Dance & Music	£71,197.00
V 5m + 12 +	Birmingham Playcare Network	£40,000.00
	Craftspace	£27,886.00
	Handsworth Creative	£35,000.00
50 0131011	mac Birmingham	£49,040.00
The second secon	Aston Performing Arts Academy	£46,065.00
1 60 200	Birmingham Hippodrome	£125,000.00
	Grosvenor Road Studios	£25,000.00
4 - Charles - Ch	Eloquent Praise & Empowerment Dance Co	£4,000.00
10.000	Strawberry Afro Theatre CIC	£3,733.00
	Midlands Community Group	£4,000.00
Local Arts Forum Co- ordination	No.11 Arts Ltd (Local arts forum network support/co-ordination)	£5,000.00
	Art Works Hall Green	£2,000.00
5.1.51	Edgbaston Arts Contact Group/Artscoop Central	£2,000.00
	Northfield Arts Forum	£2,000.00

	No.11 Arts Ltd (co-ordination of local arts forums x 7)	£14,000.00
Cultural Co-design	No.11 Arts Ltd (Cultural Co-design case	£10,000.00
project	studies	
and the second s	The Edgbaston Arts Contact Group	£9,000.00
	Active Arts Castle Vale	£9,000.00
	Art Works Hall Green	£9,000.00
	Reel Access Ltd	£9,000.00
	Inspiring A New Generation	£9,000.00
	NAF	£9,000.00
	Grosvenor Road Studios Ltd	£9,000.00
	Argy Bhaji	£9,000.00
	Mubu Music Ltd	£9,000.00
	Superact CIC	£9,000.00
	Women and theatre (bham) Itd	£10,000.00
	Project evaluation and other costs	£10,000
Black History Month	Strawberry words ltd	£15,000.00

Arts Revenue Commissioning: £4,335,000.00

Performances Birmingham Ltd	£1,700,000	
CBSO	£900,000	
Birmingham Royal Ballet	£525,000	
Birmingham Repertory Theatre	£525,000	
Midlands Arts Centre	£400,000	
Birmingham Opera Company	£100,000	
Ikon Gallery	£60,000	
DanceXchange	£60,000	
Ex Cathedra	£35,000	
Sampad	£30,000	

<u>2017-18</u>

Arts Project Commissions and Associated Programmes: £405,000 + £10,355 match

rate i reject commission	ile and 7.0000 latea i logialililosi 2 loc,000	
Next Generation	Secret City Arts	£14,020.00
Projects (Children and	LouDeemY Productions	£6,450.00
young people)	Gap Arts Project	£13,795.00
200 200 200	Mooville Theatre Company	£10,146.00
	Reel Access Ltd	£12,753.00
	Some Cities CIC	£11,595.50
	Women & Theatre	£11,595.50
Culture on our Doorstep	Arts in the Yard	£10,000.00
Project (Adults and	Friction Arts	£10,000.00
Communities)	On the Edge	£10,000.00
*	General Public	£2,800.00
	Women & Theatre	£10,000.00
	Creative Cohesion West Midlands	£8,600.00
	Northfield Arts Forum	£8,600.00
	Artscoop Central	£10,000.00
Cultural Regeneration	Sampad South Asian Arts	£29,950.00
Projects (Aston and	Simmer Down CIC	£28,814.00
Newtown geographically	Friction Arts	£27,275.00
extended to	Ifa Yoruba Contemporary Arts	£20,000.00
	Reel Access Ltd	£28,010.00
	Birmingham City University	£30,000.00
	Craftspace	£18,451.00

	Blackstory Partnership (Black History Month)	£17,500.00
Local Arts Forum Co- ordination	No.11 Arts ltd (Local arts forum network support/co-ordination)	£5,000.00
	No.11 Arts ltd (Local Arts Forum co- ordination x 10)	£20,000.00

Arts Revenue Commissioning: £2,772,000.00

Alta Neveride Commissioning. 22,7	2,000.00
Performances Birmingham Ltd	£1,450,000
CBSO	£672,000
Birmingham Royal Ballet	£200,000
Birmingham Repertory Theatre	£200,000
Midlands Arts Centre	£120,000
Birmingham Opera Company	£40,000
Ikon Gallery	£25,000
DanceXchange	£25,000
Ex Cathedra	£15,000
Sampad	£25,000

2018-19 Arts Proiect Commissions and Associated Programmes - £405,000.00

Arts Project Commissions and Associated Programmes - £405,000.00			
Next Generation	Professional Incredibles	£3,000.00	
Projects (Children and	Secret City Arts	£10,000.00	
young people)	Women & Theatre	£10,000.00	
	Polish Expats Association	£10,000.00	
	LouDeemY Productions	£5,725.00	
	Gap Arts Project	£9,910.00	
	Mooville Theatre Company	£5,952.30	
	Place Prospectors	£3,000.00	
	RoguePlay Theatre Ltd	£10,000.00	
	Budget Frozen to cover costs incurred by	£2,412.70	
	the service relating to the vacant Drum		
	building		
Culture on our Doorstep	Creative Health CIC	£8,500.00	
Project (Adults and	Birmingham Big Art Foundation	£10,000.00	
Communities)	General Public	£6,000.00	
	Women & Theatre	£10,000.00	
	LouDeemY Productions	£6,390.00	
	Place Prospectors	£3,000.00	
	Secret City Arts	£10,000.00	
	Uprize CIC	£9,200.00	
	Purbanat	£6,910.00	
Black & Minority Ethnic	Budget Frozen to cover costs incurred by	£182,500.00	
Arts Projects (Aston and	the service relating to the vacant Drum		
Newtown geographically	building		
extended to	Recognize Black Heritage & Culture CIC	£17,500.00	
	(Black History Month)	0.40.000.00	
Local Arts Forum Co-	No.11 Arts Ltd (un-constituted local arts	£12,000.00	
ordination	forums x 6)	00.000.00	
	Active Arts Castle Vale	£2,000.00	
	Art Works Hall Green	£2,000.00	
	NAF	£2,000.00	
	Arts in the Yard	£2,000.00	
	Budget Frozen to cover costs incurred by	£45,000.00	

 the service relating to the vacant Drum	
building	

Arts Revenue Commissioning: £2,772,000.00

Performances Birmingham Ltd	£1,450,000	
CBSO	£672,000	
Birmingham Royal Ballet	£200,000	
Birmingham Repertory Theatre	£200,000	
Midlands Arts Centre	£120,000	
Birmingham Opera Company	£40,000	
Ikon Gallery	£25,000	
DanceXchange	£25,000	
Ex Cathedra	£15,000	
Sampad	£25,000	

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR ALEX YIP

"Young Active Travel Trust"

Question:

Since its creation how much money has been raised by the Young Active Travel Charitable Trust?

Answer:

The Young Active Travel Trust was established with £25,000 sponsorship from Churchill Insurance and £75,000 from the City Council. No further donations have been received.



WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR KEN WOOD

"Young Active Travel Trust schools"

Question:

Since its creation which schools have received grants (and of how much) by the Young Active Travel Charitable Trust?

Answer:

I refer the Councillor to the decision of the Trusts and Charities Committee on 18 July 2018 which approved grants to the following schools:

Applicant	Project Name	Amount Granted
Alston School	Walk to School	£1,000
Gracelands Nursery	Healthy Safe Way to School	£1,000
Abbey Catholic School	Scoot & Ride	£1,000
Greenholm School	Keep Clear Parking Campaign	£500
Kings Heath Primary	Scootability	£1,000
Washwood Heath Academy	Cycle to School	£1,000



WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE HODIVALA

"Young Active Travel Trust"

Question:

Since its creation how many meetings have been held by cabinet members with potential sponsors\donors?

Answer:

Cabinet Members have no specific responsibility to arrange meetings with potential sponsors/donors. It is open to all Councillors to secure funding for this and any other charity for which the Council is Trustee.



WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR PETER FOWLER

"Arts Grants"

Question:

The 19/20 budget consultation document lists the net spend for Arts Grants as £8.473m, but only just over £3m of this is paid out in grants to arts organisations. It is this c£3m that is being cut by a third to give the proposed saving of £1.080m. What is the remaining £5.2m currently spent on?

Answer:

The remaining £5.2m budget is mainly allocated for the contractual arrangements with the Birmingham Museums Trust.

The exact figures on the Voyager ledger are:

Birmingham Museum Trust £4.672m

Arts grants £3.187m

Major Events £0.333m

Cultural Development Service running costs Staffing etc. £0.281m (includes Film Birmingham Office)



WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, SKILLS AND CULTURE FROM COUNCILLOR TIM HUXTABLE

"Meetings Young Active Travel Trust"

Question:

On how many occasions has the Young Active Travel Trust met, including dates?

Answer:

The Council is the sole trustee of the Young Active Travel Trust (YATT) and has delegated the day to day management of the YATT to the Council's Trusts and Charities Committee.

A schedule showing all meetings of the Trusts and Charities Committee is publicly available and can be found on the Council's website. During the current municipal year, it met on 18th July 2018 and is scheduled to meet again on 17th January 2019.



WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR ADAM HIGGS

"Trade Union Reps"

Question:

How many FTE TU reps are currently funded by council as of the end of November 2018?

Answer:

As at end of November 2018, 26.1 FTE.



WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR SIMON MORRALL

"Trade Union Accommodation"

Question:

How many payments for accommodation are currently made to unions (broken down by union, and total amount per annum)?

Answer:

The 18/19 contribution for accommodation is £12,500 towards premises for Unison only. The GMB/Unite/UCATT are located in Council premises.



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

"Non-essential spend and trade unions"

Question:

Does the current freeze on non-essential spend include any spend by council employed trade union reps?

Answer:

No. Trade Unions are not provided with any disposable budget by the Council.



WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID PEARS

"Agency Staff"

Broken down by Directorate, how many council staff are also hired in as agency staff?

Answer:

In accordance with the Data Protection Act, the Council does not have access to agency worker personal information (a unique identifier is required e.g. National Insurance number) to be able to correlate whether the individual is both:-

- a) working as an employee of the Council and
- b) an employee of the agency provider on assignment at the Council.



WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES FROM COUNCILLOR EWAN MACKEY

"Savings Delivery Plans"

Are you personally content, having reviewed copies that all savings delivery plans, for both the current year and next year are now complete and fully achievable?

Answer:

Savings of the scale and nature that we are being forced to make are extremely challenging and they are currently being consulted on with Birmingham's citizens. It's the responsibility of the assigned officer to produce a detailed implementation plan which I will be monitoring.



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

"Bescot Court - Proposals for this site?"

Question:

Bescot Court in Perry Barr ward is now largely vacant due its unsuitability as sheltered housing. I have had a number of discussions with housing officers in recent years about the future of the building and the site, and have proposed, along with the local neighbourhood planners, a redevelopment to secure the future of the adjoining library and to provide high quality apartments for social housing. Could the cabinet member update on what is proposed for this site and the response to proposals emerging from the neighbourhood plan?

Answer:

I accept that Bescot Court's current use is unsustainable as a sheltered housing block of bedsits. We have been looking at a range of options for its future use taking account of the need to retain and maximise social housing provision whilst ensuring that financially we achieve the best solution.

To this end we are looking to work with a 3rd party provider to develop the Housing site for much needed housing use, currently this would involve entering into a lease arrangement. It is possible that this could also then lead to us working with that provider in regard to the library facility.

A decision report is expected in due course.



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

"Housing Repairs"

Question:

For each of the last 3 years, how many housing repairs were completed within the given timescales, as a proportion of the total number reported?

Answer:

The table below shows the breakdown of information on repairs completed in time over the last 3 years, this has also been split between normal repairs and Gas repairs to provide you with additional detail.

The below numbers of complaints should be taken in context of the overall number of repairs completed. For example for the year 2017/18 our contractors completed 260,000 repairs.

In summary the percentage of overall jobs completed within timescale has increased slightly from 88.6% in 16/17 to 91.7% in 17/18 with it remaining consistent at 91.7% for this year to date.

18-19	Year to date
KPI002 - Work completed within timescale	91.7%
Contractor total works orders completed	138156
Work completed within timescale - Repairs	90.2%
Total work orders completed - Repairs	97633
Work completed within timescale - Gas	95.7%
Total work orders completed - Gas	23833

17-18	Year to date
KPI002 - Work completed within timescale	91.7%
Contractor total works orders completed	266075
Work completed within timescale - Repairs	91.0%
Total work orders completed - Repairs	187820
Work completed within timescale - Gas	96.2%
Total work orders completed - Gas	56874

16-17	Year to date
KPI002 - Work completed within timescale	88.6%
City total works orders completed	217306

Work completed within timescale - Repairs	86.8%
Total work orders completed - Repairs	158092
Work completed within timescale - Gas	93.7%
Total work orders completed - Gas	53578

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR ADRIAN DELANEY

"Housing Repairs Complaints"

Question:

For each of the last 3 years, how many complaints have been received relating to housing repairs not having been completed satisfactorily or not completed at all after the job have been closed down on the system as 'complete'?

Answer:

Whilst the repairs service holds data concerning the number of complaints received for the specified period, the data held does not confirm whether the complaint was made / received whilst the job was open or closed.

Also unfortunately the complaint recording data, although captures a number of sub categories, does not cover the specific category requested. However we can confirm the following in regard to the overall number of repair complaints received over these 3 years:

The below numbers of complaints should be taken in context of the overall number of repairs completed. For example for the year 2017/18 our contractors completed over 260,000 repairs. Complaints for that year represent just over 1% of overall repairs.

For the financial year 2016/2017, a total of 3,593 complaints were received in respect of the provision of housing repair services by Birmingham City Council and its repairs partners.

For the financial year 2017/2018, a total of 2,752 complaints were received in respect of the provision of housing repair services by Birmingham City Council and its repairs partners.

For the financial year 2018/2019 (April 2018 to 28 November 2018), a total of 1,898 complaints have been received in respect of the provision of housing repair services by Birmingham City Council and its repairs partners.

In addition Contractors collect general satisfaction data and I can advise the following for the previous 3 years:

2016/17 - 99.8%

2017/18 - 99.8%

2018/19 to date - 99.9%

We are currently reviewing how this information is collected with our contractors

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

"Scott Arms Junction - Relieve Congestion - 2022 Games"

Question:

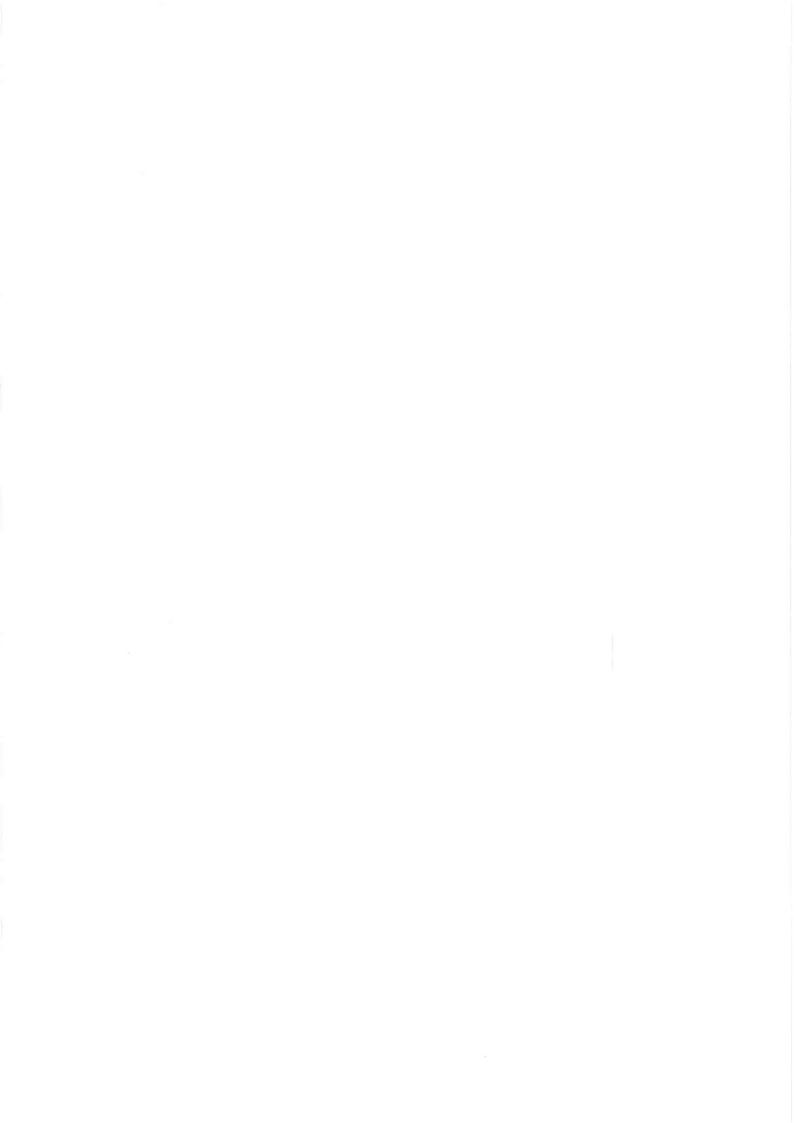
Given that the Scott Arms junction on the A34 is a major bottleneck in the route into the city, what work is being undertaken to find ways to relieve congestion at this junction for the 2022 Commonwealth Games and the proposed introduction of new bus services on this route?

Answer:

The Council and Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) are working with partners to produce a comprehensive Transport Plan for the Commonwealth Games (CWG) 2022. The initial version of this plan will be subject to public consultation in 2019. Birmingham 2022 will be public transport games, with spectators and workforce having enhanced public transport to access venues, and the majority of venues having no private car parking available other than disabled parking. There will also be a significant travel demand campaign to encourage both games and 'business as usual' trip makers to use sustainable modes, and those that need to drive to use appropriate routes.

The A34 corridor is key to the Transport Plan as it gives access to the Alexander Stadium, Athletes Village and Villa Park. The Scott Arms junction is on the route to the Stadium from the Strategic Road Network at M6 J7, therefore the games Transport Plan will be for spectators and workforce to use alternative modes to make this journey. Measures planned include longer distance trips being intercepted at strategic park and rides sites, with additional bus services provided, a potential new Sprint Rapid Transit service in operation, a rebuilt Perry Barr station, new cycle facilities along the corridor, and controlled parking zones around venues.

The Sprint route is proposed to pass through Scott Arms and designs were subject to recent public consultation. The consultation designs propose increased bus priority at the junction. TfWM are currently working with Birmingham, Sandwell and Walsall to review consultation responses and agree any revisions required prior to moving forward to detailed design.



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

"Perry Barr Flyover - disruption"

Question:

The recent Perry Barr ward forum was told that demolition of the flyover at Perry Barr – if it proceeds – will cause two years of disruption. What assessments are being undertaken of the cost of that disruption to the economy of the city, the health and welfare of the Perry Barr area and household budgets of those using the route?

Answer:

No decision on the future of the flyover has yet been made, an Options Appraisal report is expected to be presented to Cabinet early in the New Year.

The highway changes being considered at Perry Barr, specifically the A34/A453 junction and the A34/A4040 junction are significant (whether the flyover is retained or removed). The construction works programme is expected to be around 2 years in duration; the programme will be developed once a contractor has been appointed and every effort will be made to deliver the highway changes in the shortest time possible.

The Council has a duty under the Traffic Management Act 2004 to manage the highway network, with a view to achieving, so far as may be reasonably practicable, the expeditious movement of traffic on the road network and the more efficient use of the road network having regard to its other obligations, policies and objectives. To deliver physical changes to the highway it is necessary to put in place temporary traffic management arrangements that may involve lane closures or lane narrowing and/or road closures. Where possible these restrictions are limited to the off peak periods. Not only are these restrictions necessary for the efficient delivery of the works, they are also required to ensure the safety of construction workers and highway users.

There is no specific cost benefit analysis carried out to measure the disruption impact. An air quality assessment of the impact of the construction together with the final scheme will be undertaken.

The Council working with the appointed Contractor and Transport for West Midlands will produce a comprehensive construction management plan and also implement travel demand management to help mitigate any adverse impacts during the construction period.

The proposed Perry Barr regeneration scheme is an extremely important and long-awaited opportunity for the city, which will deliver much-needed homes and better public transport for the citizens of Birmingham.

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR ZAKER CHOUDHRY

"Cost benefit analysis of disruption caused by works"

Question:

Given that works to major roads in the city are often continuous, with one project following another, what is the council procedure for undertaking cost-benefit analysis of the disruption caused by such works?

Answer:

The Council has a duty under the Traffic Management Act 2004 to manage the highway network with a view to achieving, so far as may be reasonably practicable, the expeditious movement of traffic on the road network and the more efficient use of the road network having regard to its' other obligations, policies and objectives.

To deliver physical changes to the highway it is necessary to put in place temporary traffic management arrangements that may involve lane closures or lane narrowing and/or road closures. Where possible these restrictions are limited to the off peak periods. Not only are these restrictions necessary for the efficient delivery of the works they are required to ensure the safety of construction workers and highway users.

Every effort is made to minimise the disruption of roadworks to the travelling public. The Council's Traffic Management Protocol sets out the steps that all works promotors must follow to ensure disruption is kept to a minimum. The temporary traffic management proposals of the promoter must be approved by the Council before works start.

Works are programmed taking into consideration all other planned works. The level of investment in infrastructure is unprecedented and it is a major challenge to manage the delivery of highway projects to the required programmes without some inconvenience to the travelling public. Through various communication channels the public are given advance notice of proposed works and may be advised to use other forms of transport where possible.

The cost benefit analysis of the disruption caused by highway works forms part of the overall Business Case submission for major projects that are funded by the Department for Transport. For small to medium projects there is no specific cost benefit analysis carried out to measure the disruption impact, however as previously explained there is a robust process to ensure disruption is kept to a minimum. Clearly there is a balance between the temporary disruption and the longer term benefits that the project aims to achieve including the creation of jobs, maximising investment, building new homes and delivering new transport infrastructure.



WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNCILLOR DEIRDRE ALDEN

"Road Fatalities"

Question:

For each fatality on Birmingham roads in the last 3 years, what was the recorded estimated speed of the vehicle involved along with the speed limit for that road?

Answer:

Using STATS 19 (a database collection of all road traffic collisions that resulted in personal injury and were reported to the police within thirty days of the incident), the council regularly reviews and monitors collision data as part of efforts to make Birmingham's roads as safe as possible, especially for vulnerable road users.

This database does not provide the recorded estimated speed of vehicles involved in collisions.

The police are the lead agency for collision investigation and have the primary duty to investigate and establish the circumstances that have led to road deaths and life changing injuries. The roads policing lead investigator is responsible for carrying out a scene examination. Material which can be gathered after the scene has been cleared includes vehicle damage intrusion measurements, which may assist in vehicle speed estimations.

After reviewing the last three years of collision data for the calendar years 2015 to 2017, it has been identified that there were eighty fatal collisions on Birmingham's roads, resulting in a total of 87 fatalities.

The speed limits on the roads where these collisions occurred were as follows:

Number of collisions
1
60
15
1
3

