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

"Positive DBS Checks"

Question:

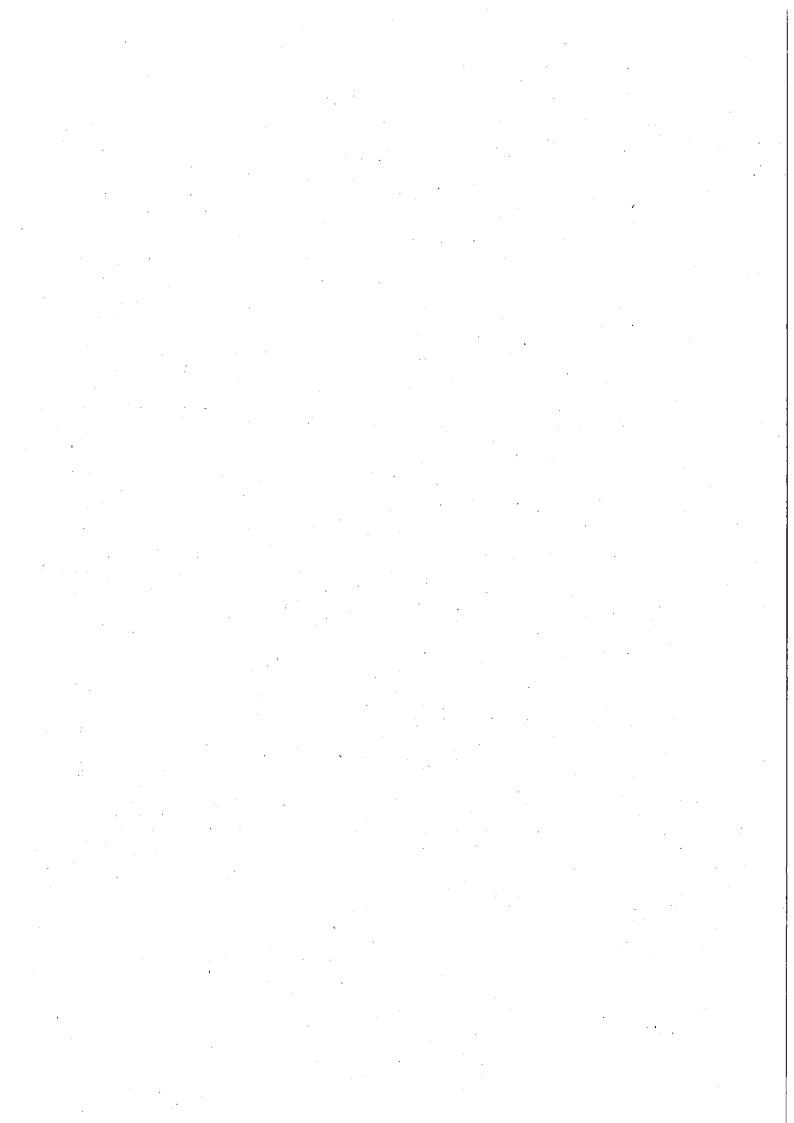
Since the Internal Audit report into the Home to School Transport service first revealed serious problems with the Corporate HR approach to DBS checks, how many other services have been checked to see if they are also affected?

Answer:

Any 3rd 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 3rd 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 3rd parties has therefore been reviewed, as has the process for all services across the Council.



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

"DBS Policy"

Question:

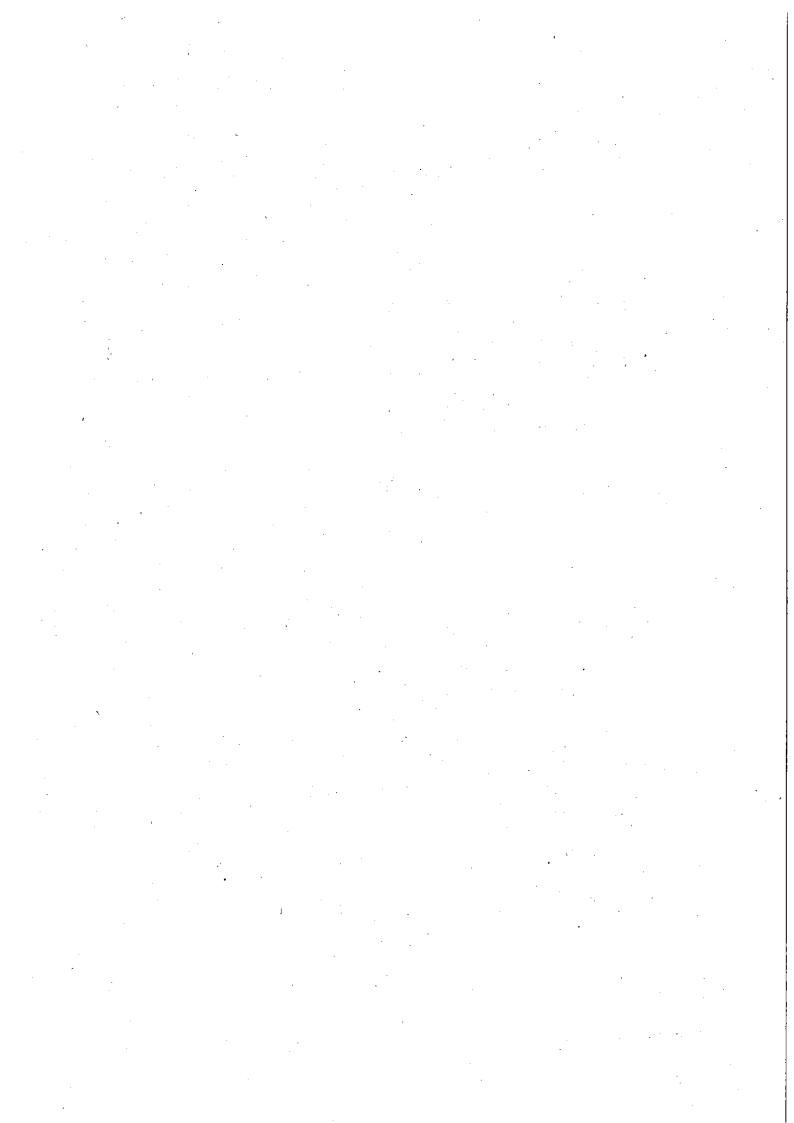
Following the recommendations of the Internal Audit report into Home to School Transport, on what date was the revised policy on DBS checks and accompanying guidance notes fully rolled out and implemented?

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 3rd 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 1st 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

"ATG Audit Report"

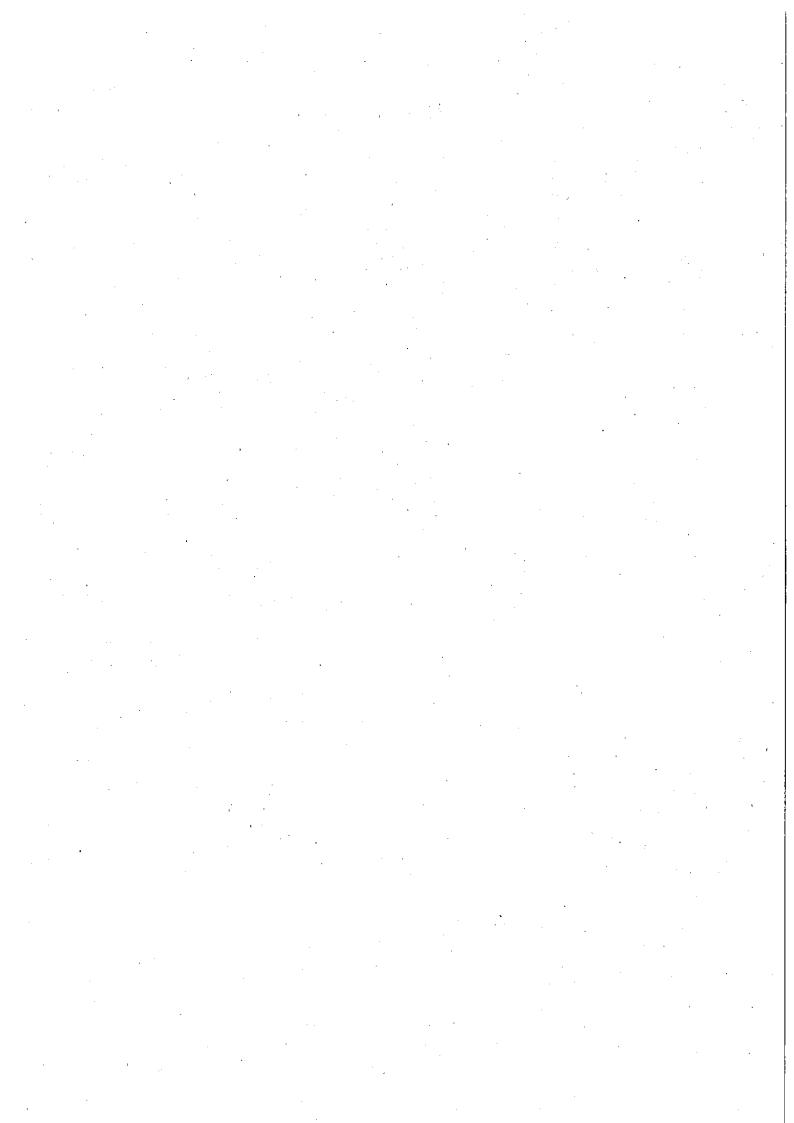
Question:

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

Answer:

I 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

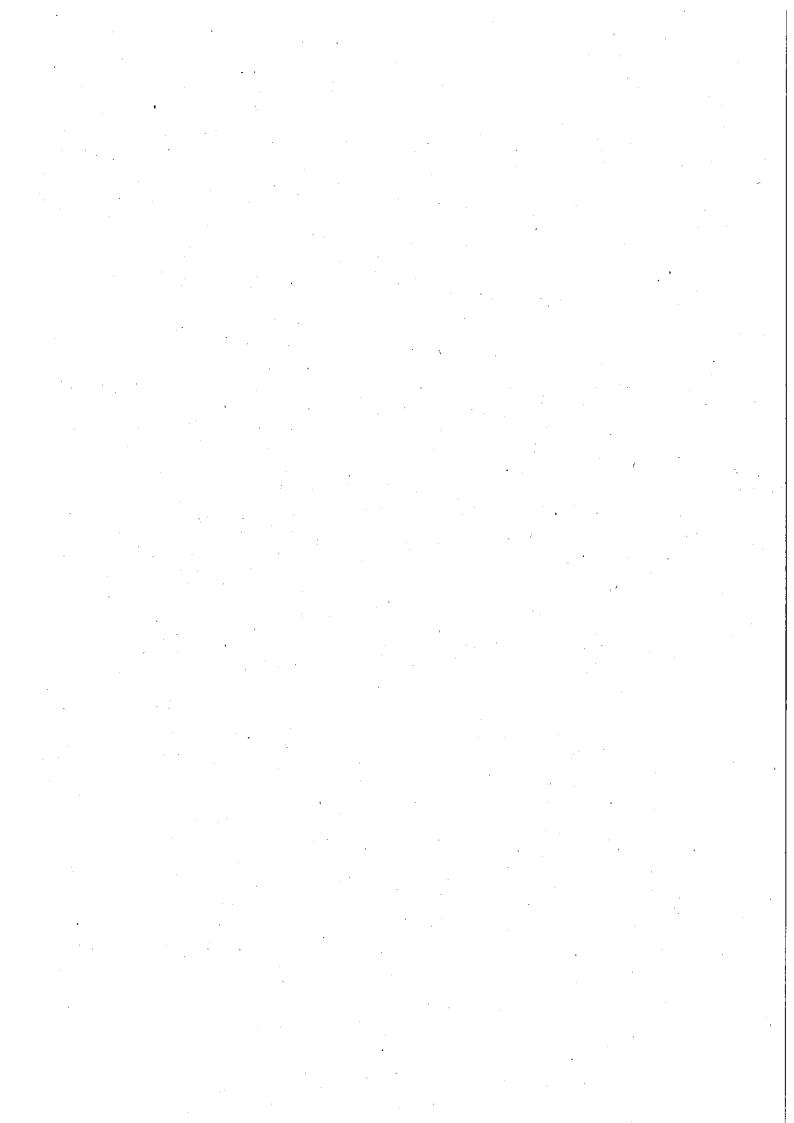
"Bus Depot"

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

"ATG Audit Report"

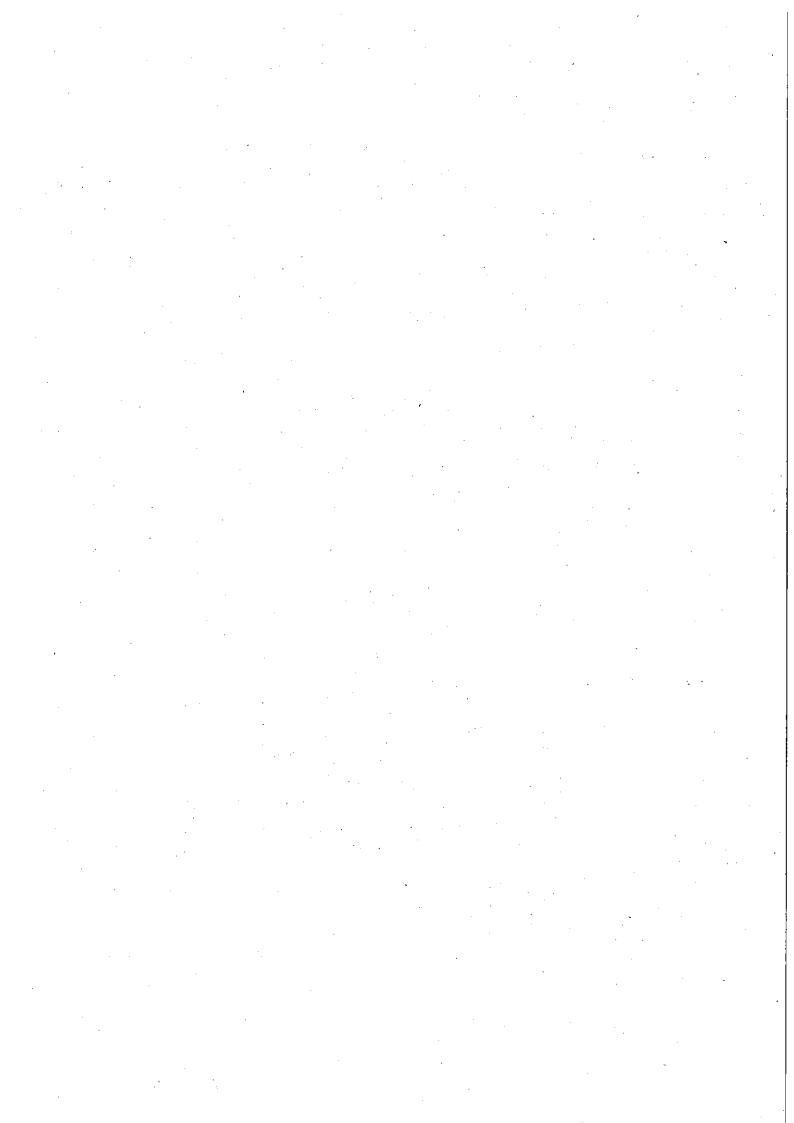
Question:

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

Answer:

7th 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

"Bus Depot"

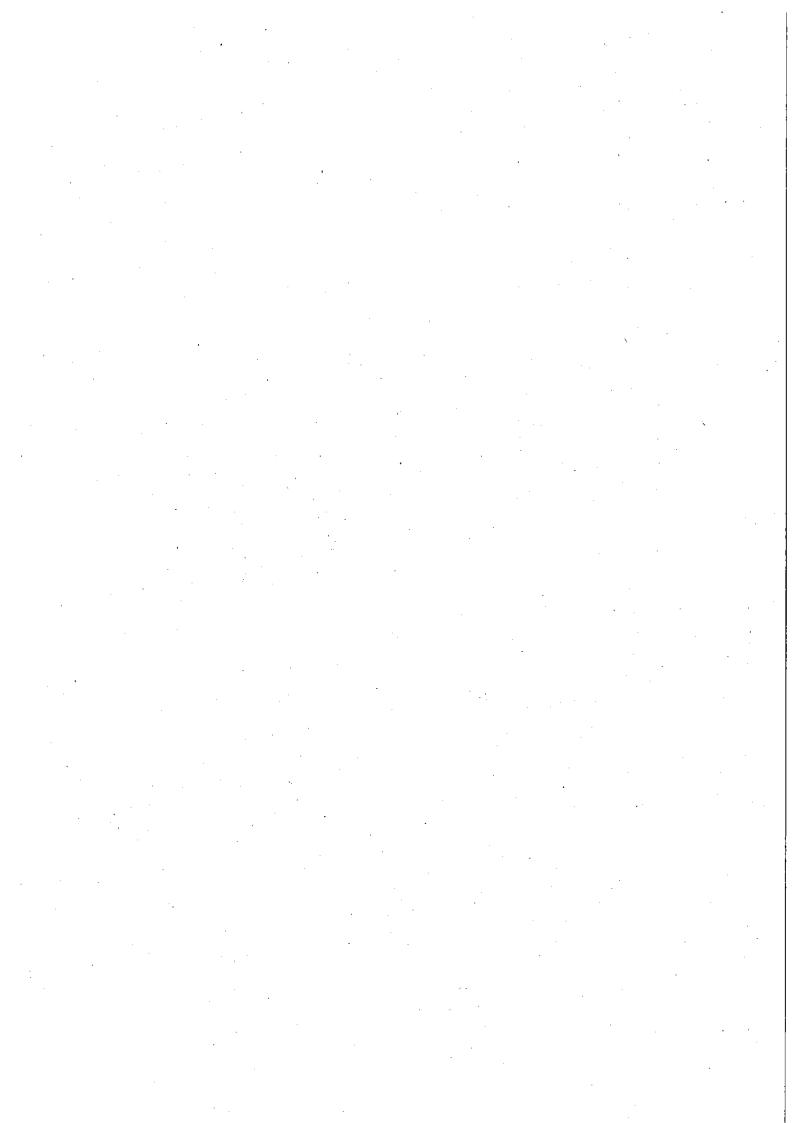
Question:

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.

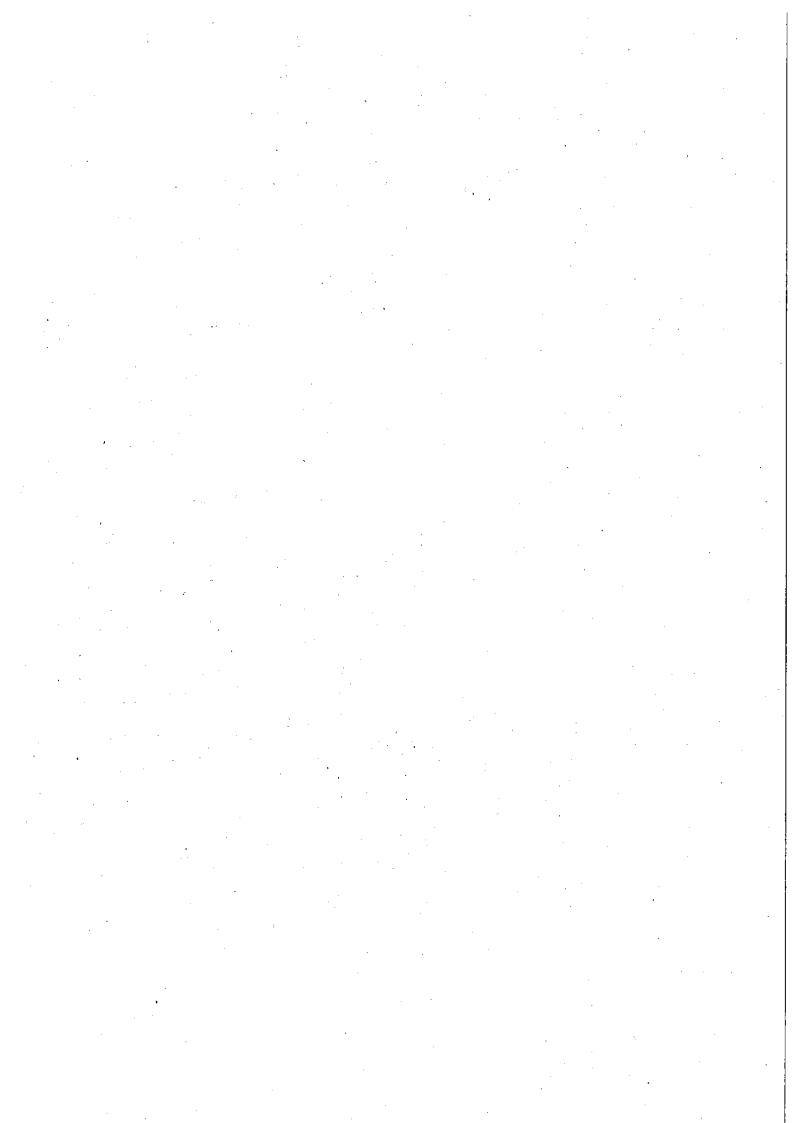
'Home adaptions waiting time'

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.

'Home adaptions average cost'

Question:

What is the average cost of adaptations for all categories?

Answer:

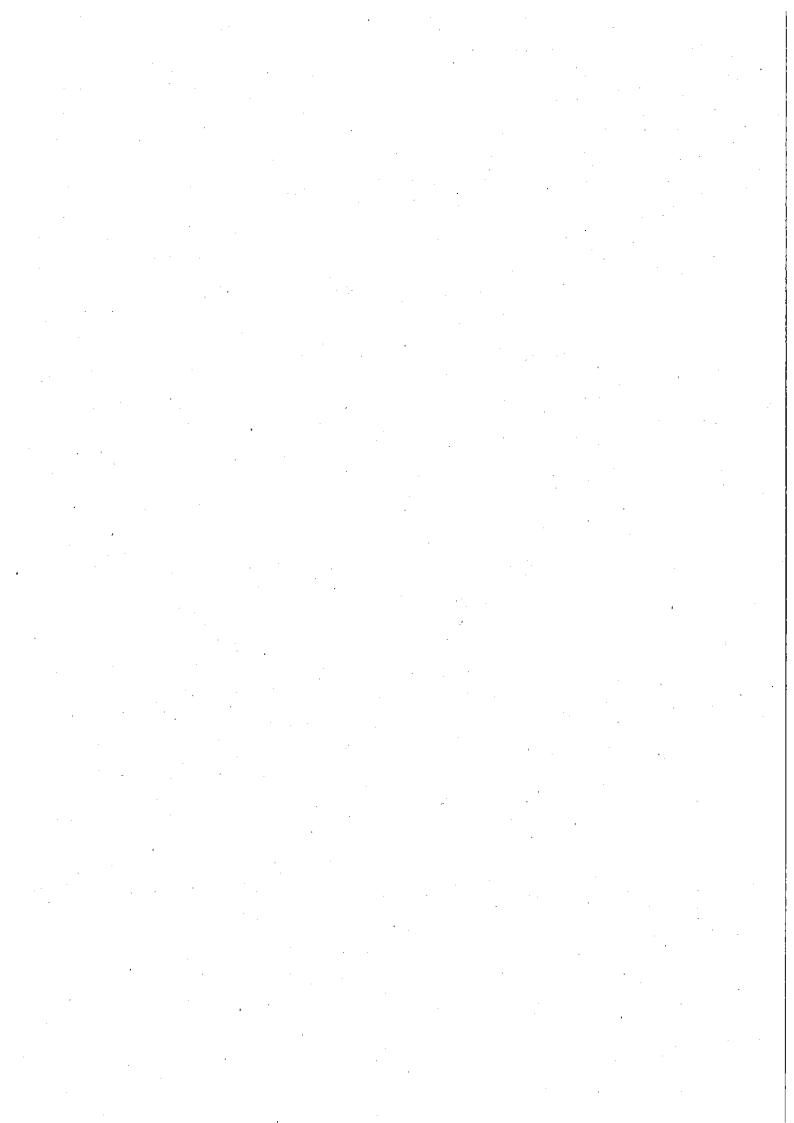
For the financial year 2018/19, from April to December, please note that costs will differ depending on a number of factors including property type and specific requirements.

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

'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?

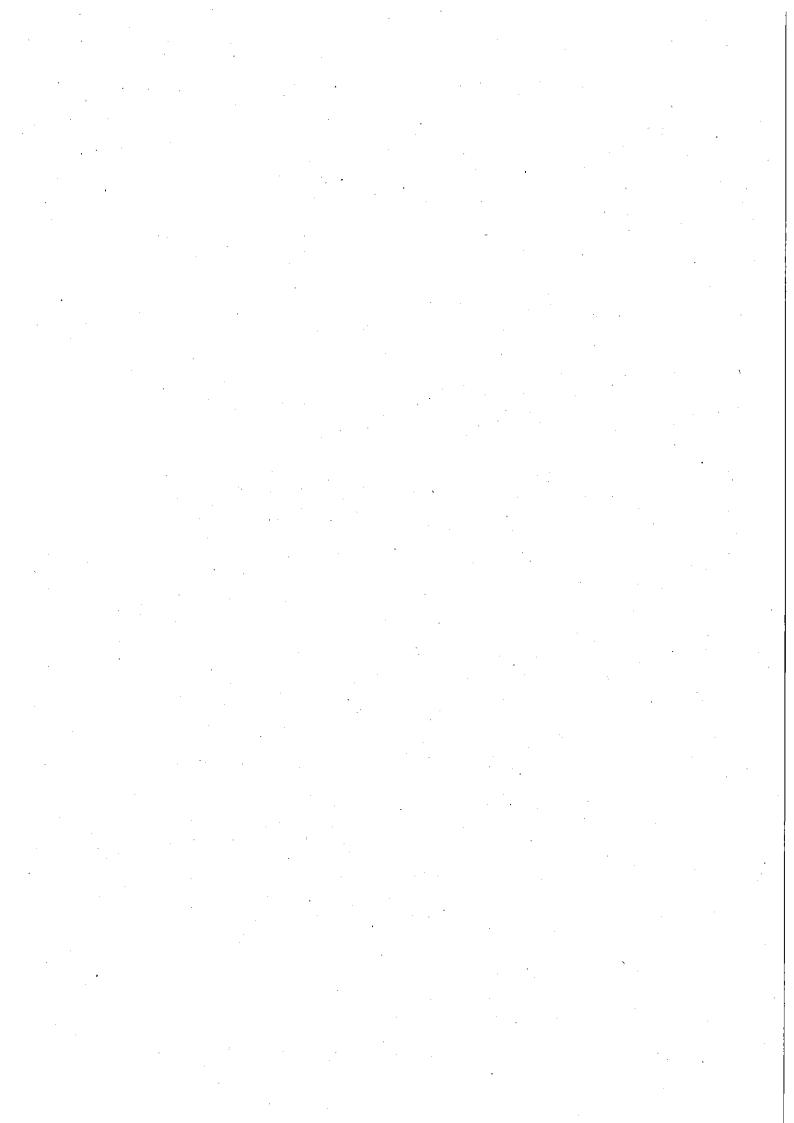
Answer:

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

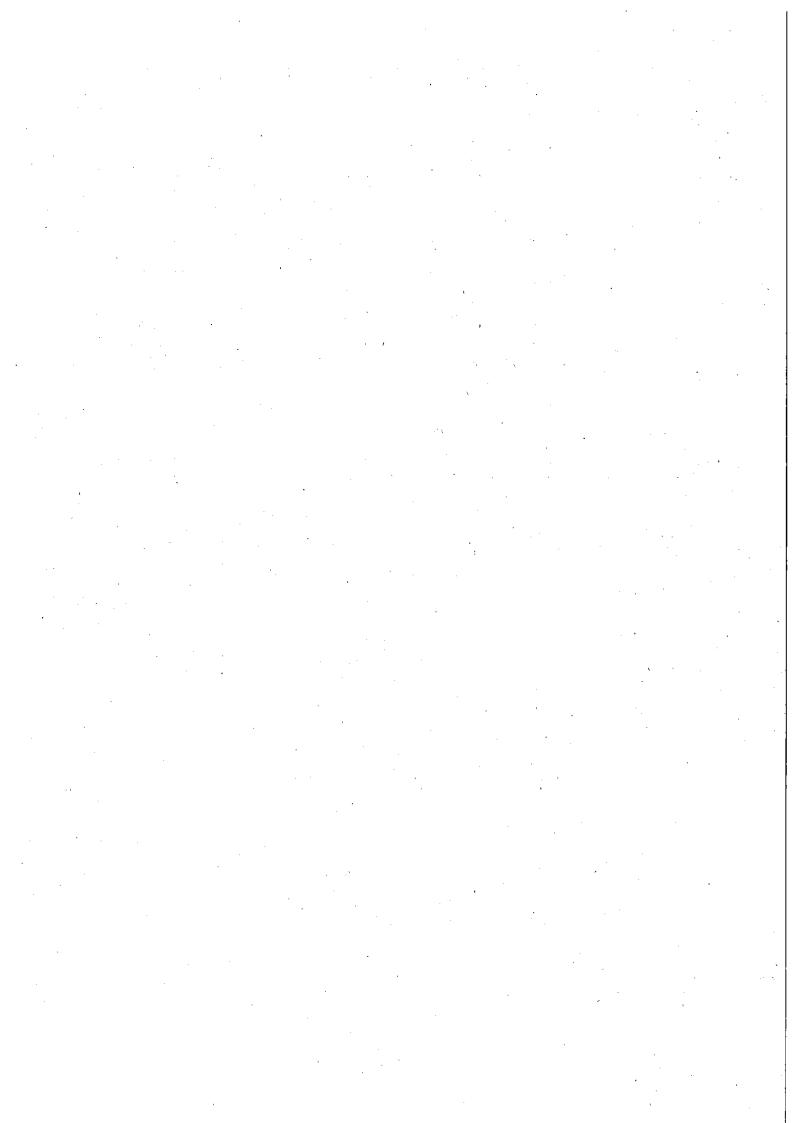
"ATG Audit Report"

Question:

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

Answer:

On 2nd December 2019



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

"Bus Depot"

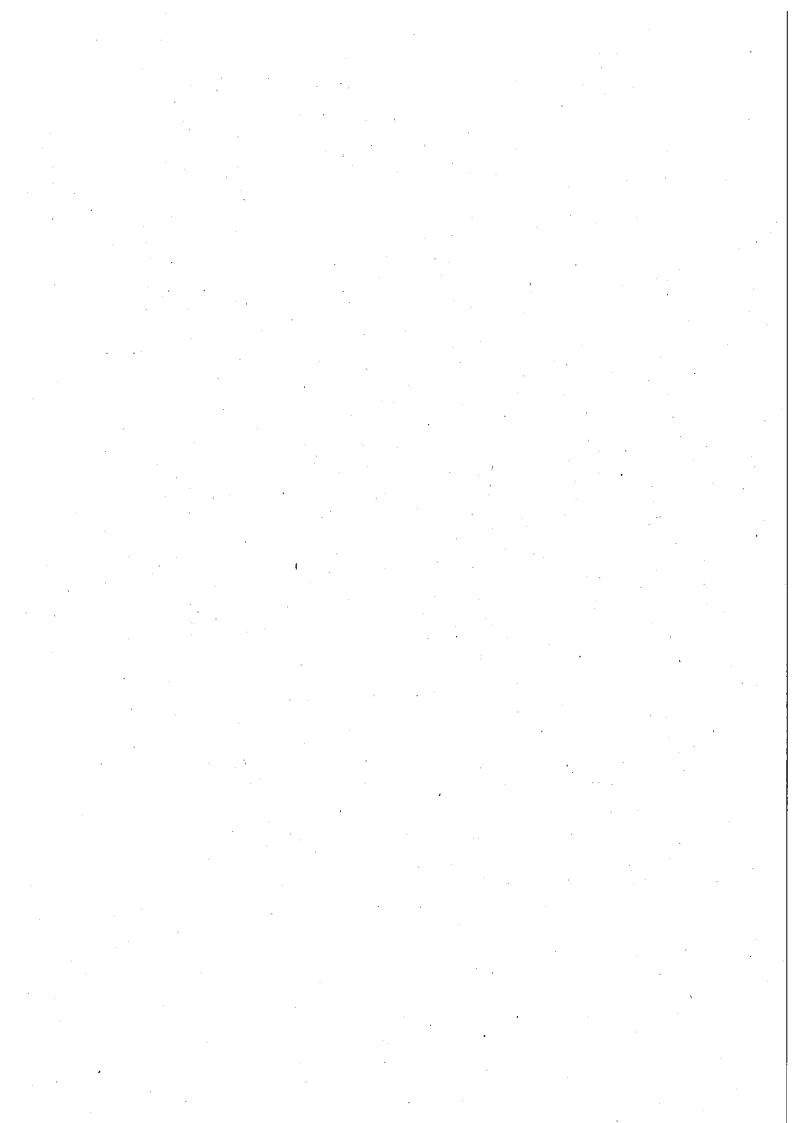
Question:

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

Answer:

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

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



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

'Declaration of a Public Register for Declared HMO's

Question:

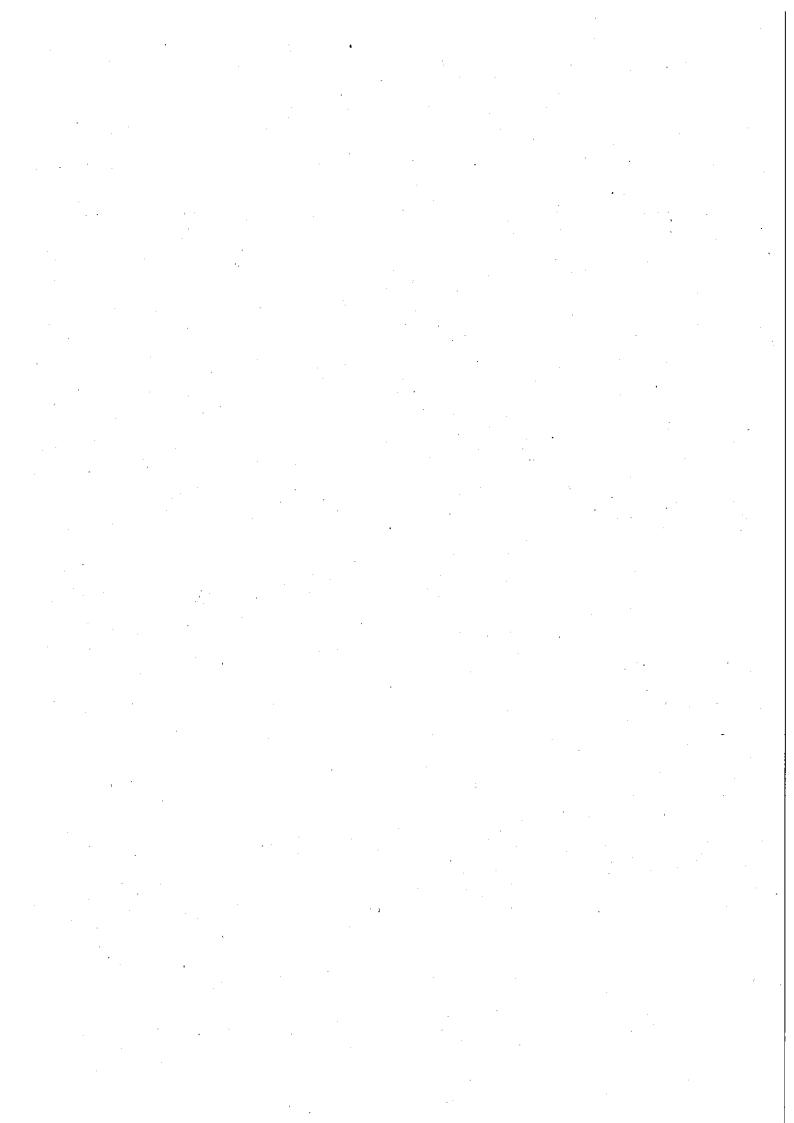
Will there be a public register of the HMOs that have been declared prior to the introduction of the new Article 4 in June?

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.



Not yet approved

CITY COUNCIL - 4 FEBRUARY 2020

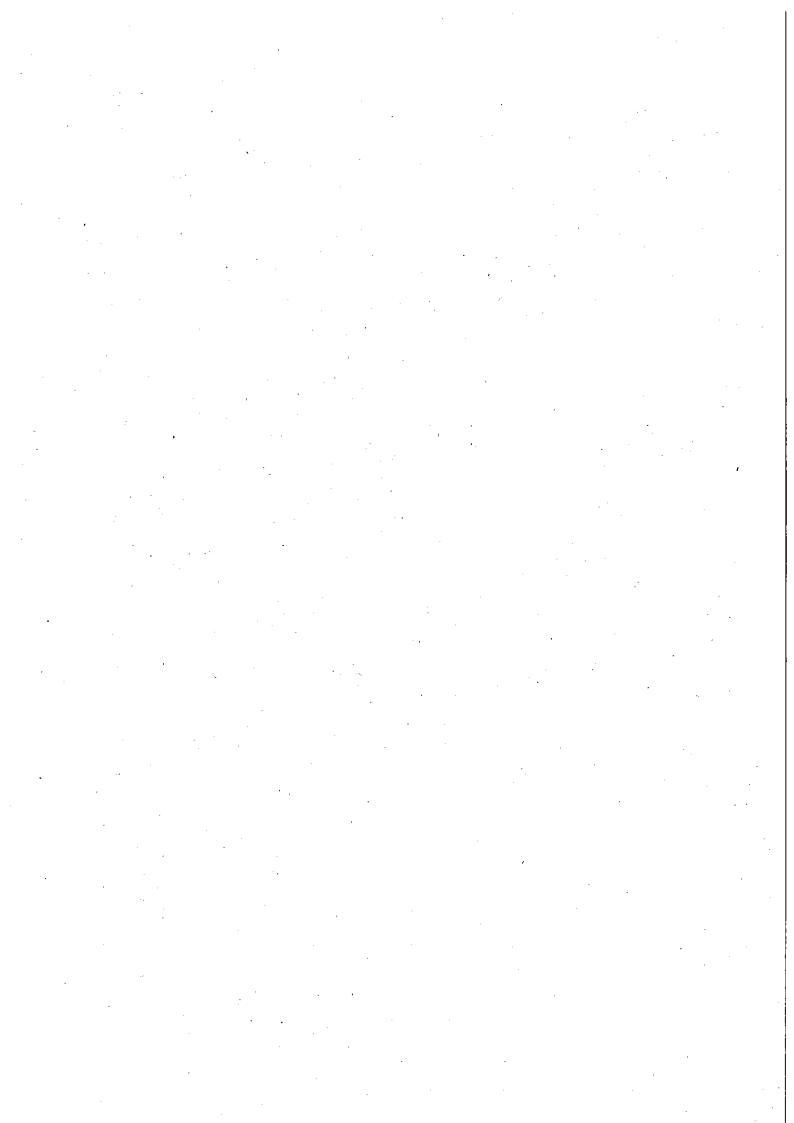
WRITTEN QUESTION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR HOMES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS FROM COUNCILLOR JON HUNT

'Bescot Court, Perry Barr - Current Status

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

'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?

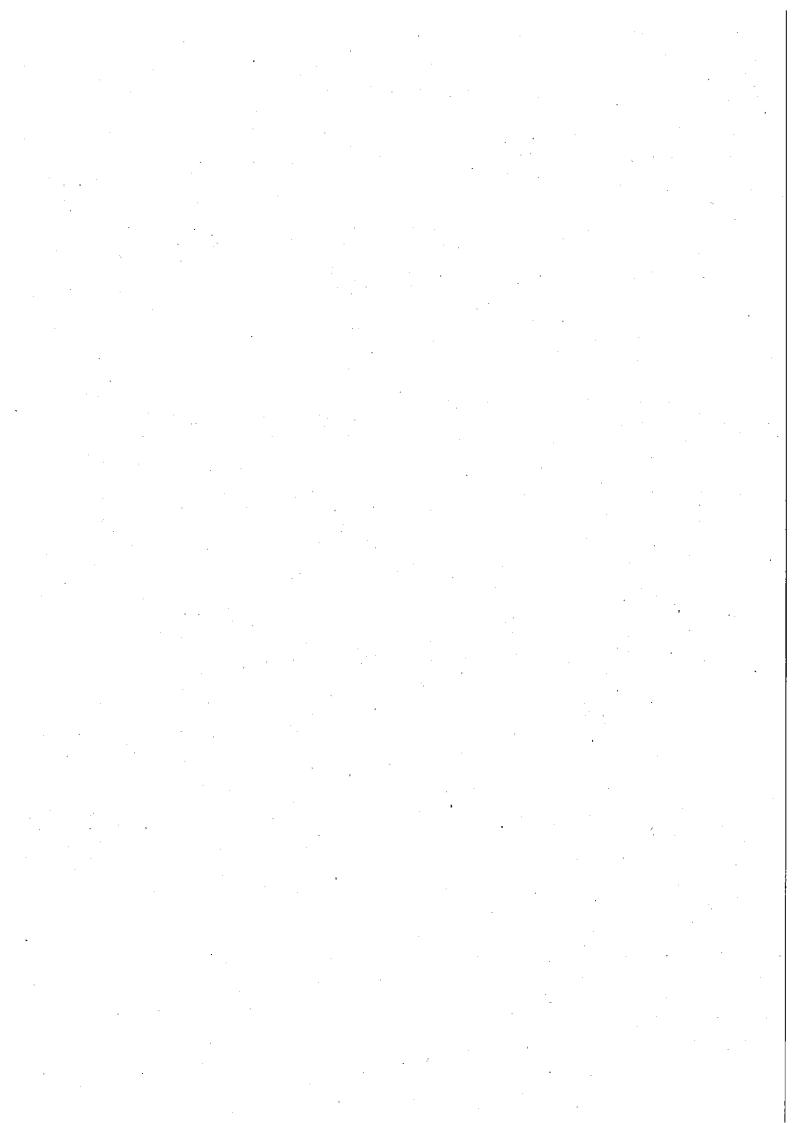
Answer:

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.



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

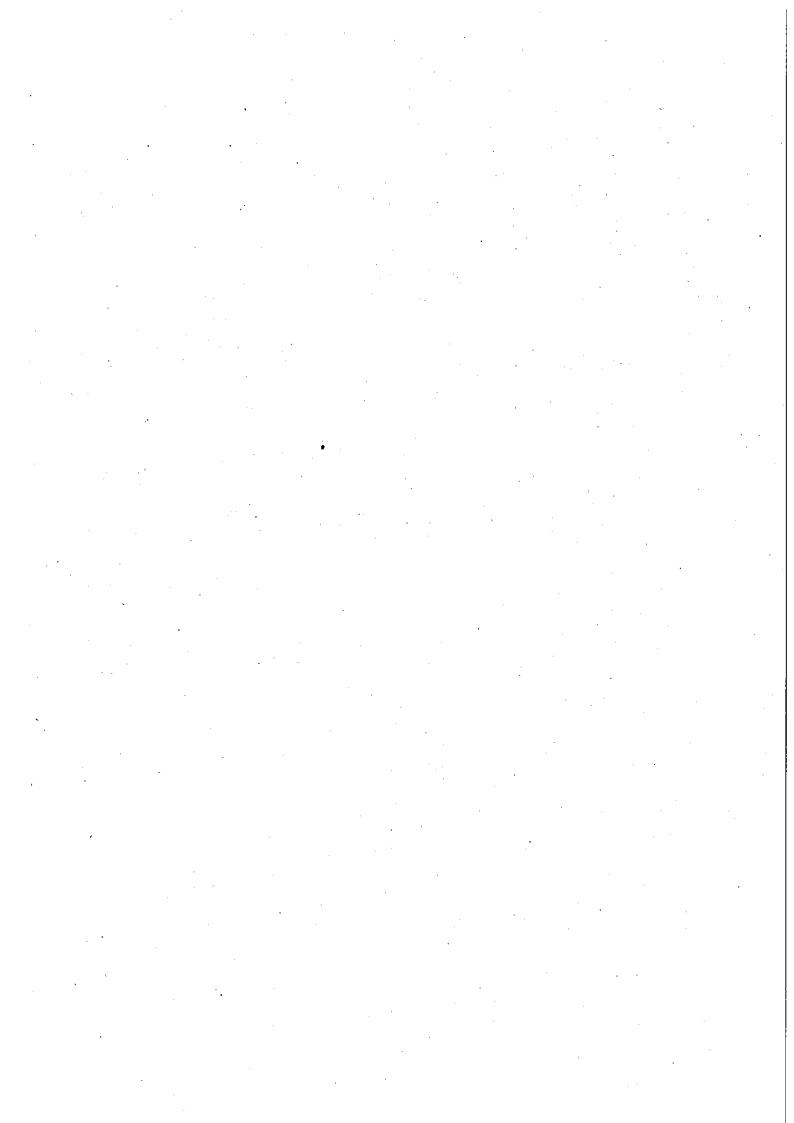
"ATG Audit Report"

Question:

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

Answer:

On 2nd December 2019



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

"Bus Depot"

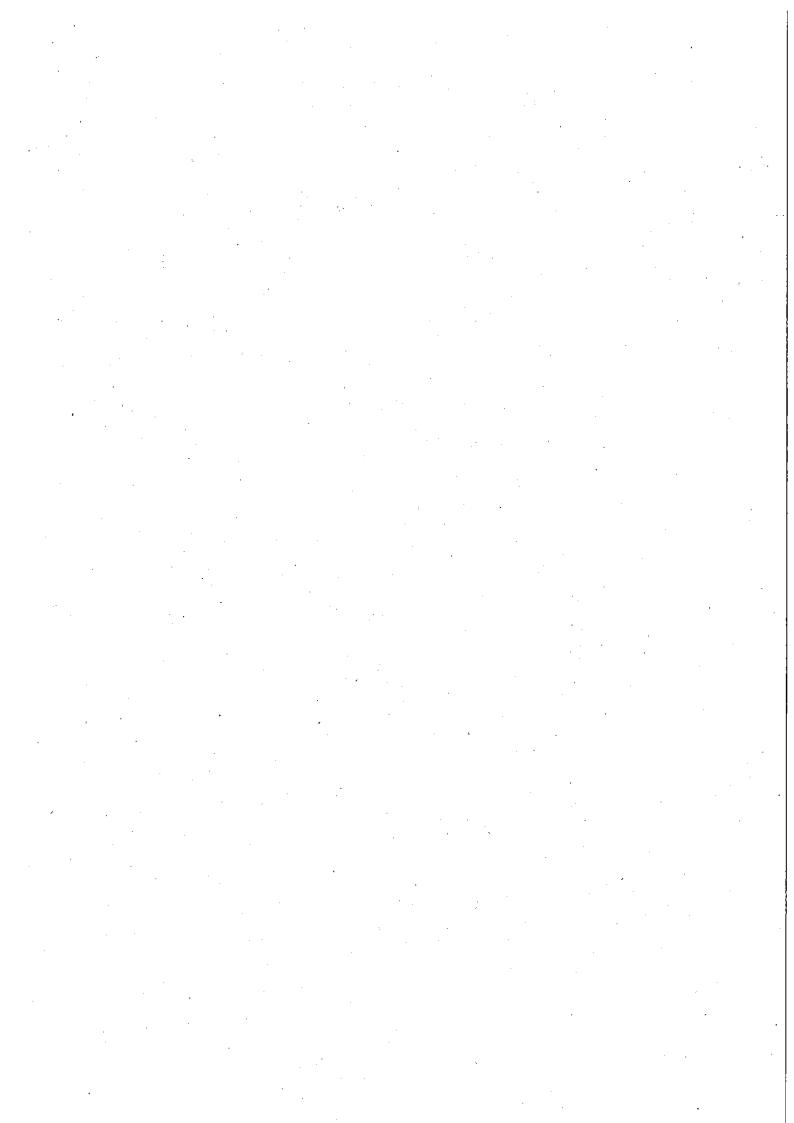
Question:

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

Answer:

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

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



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

"Beat sweepers"

Question:

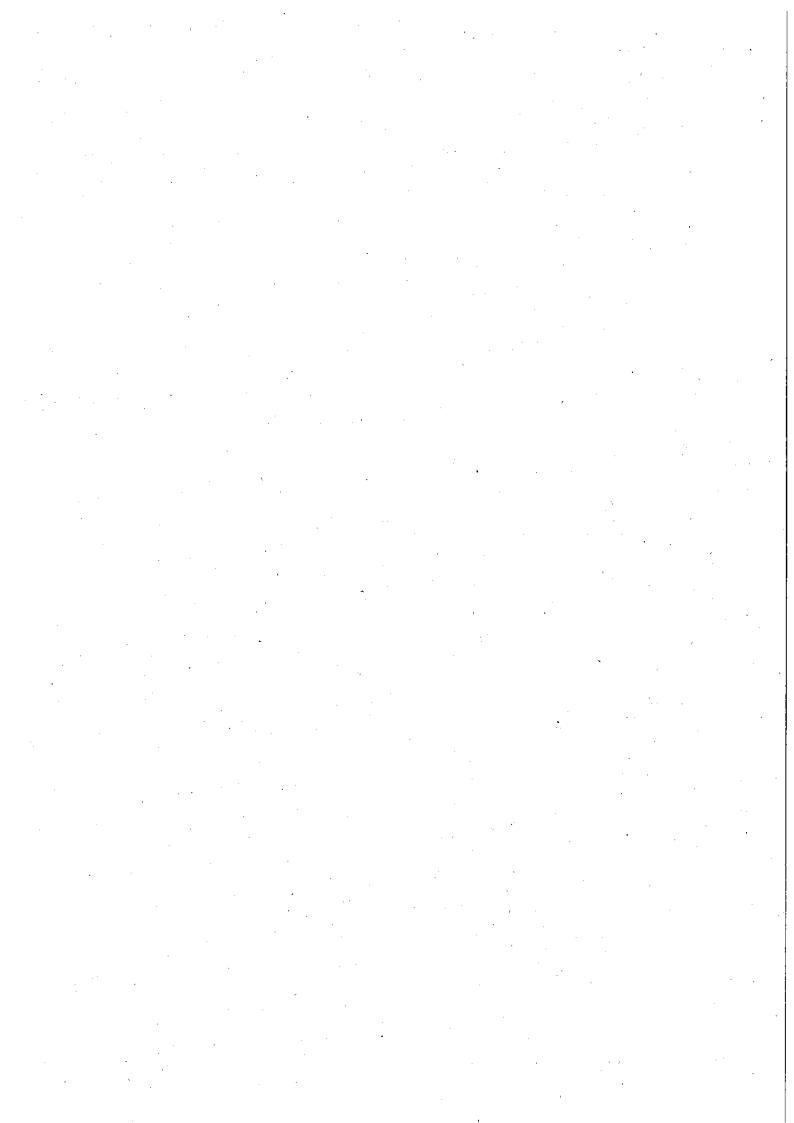
In each year since 2012, how many beat sweepers per ward have been employed by the council?

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

"Garden Waste Subscriptions"

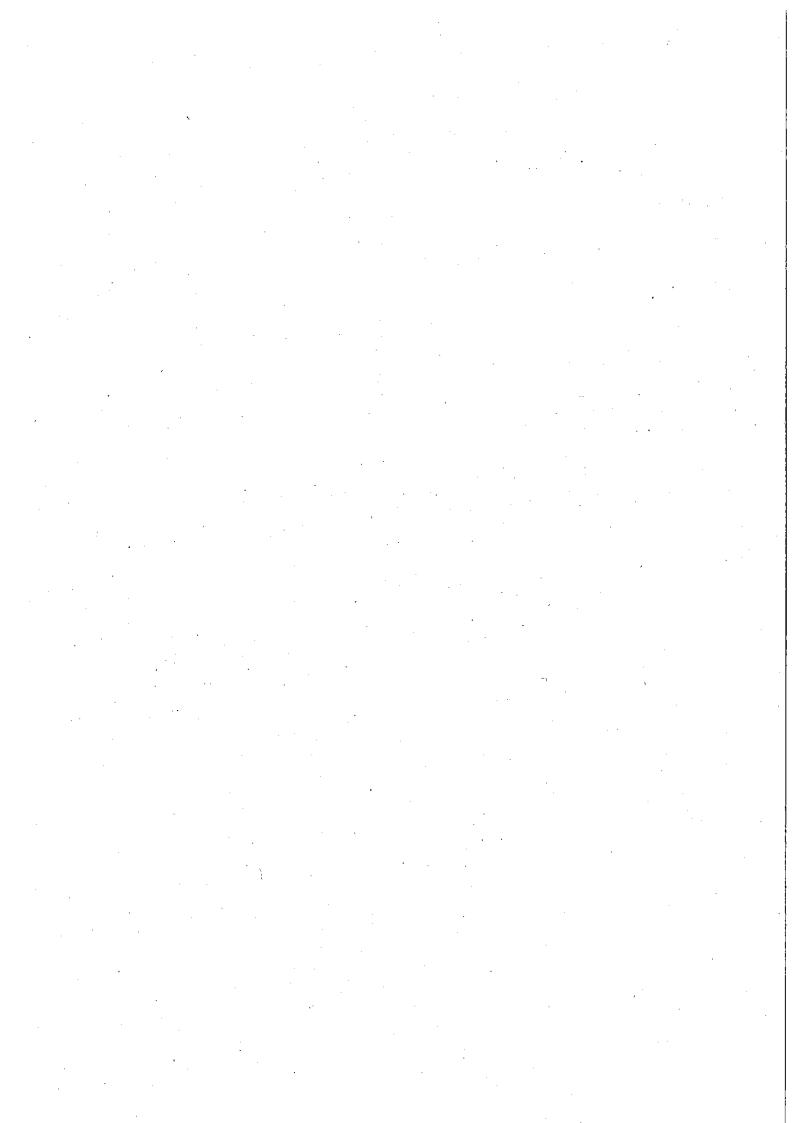
Question:

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 4th 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

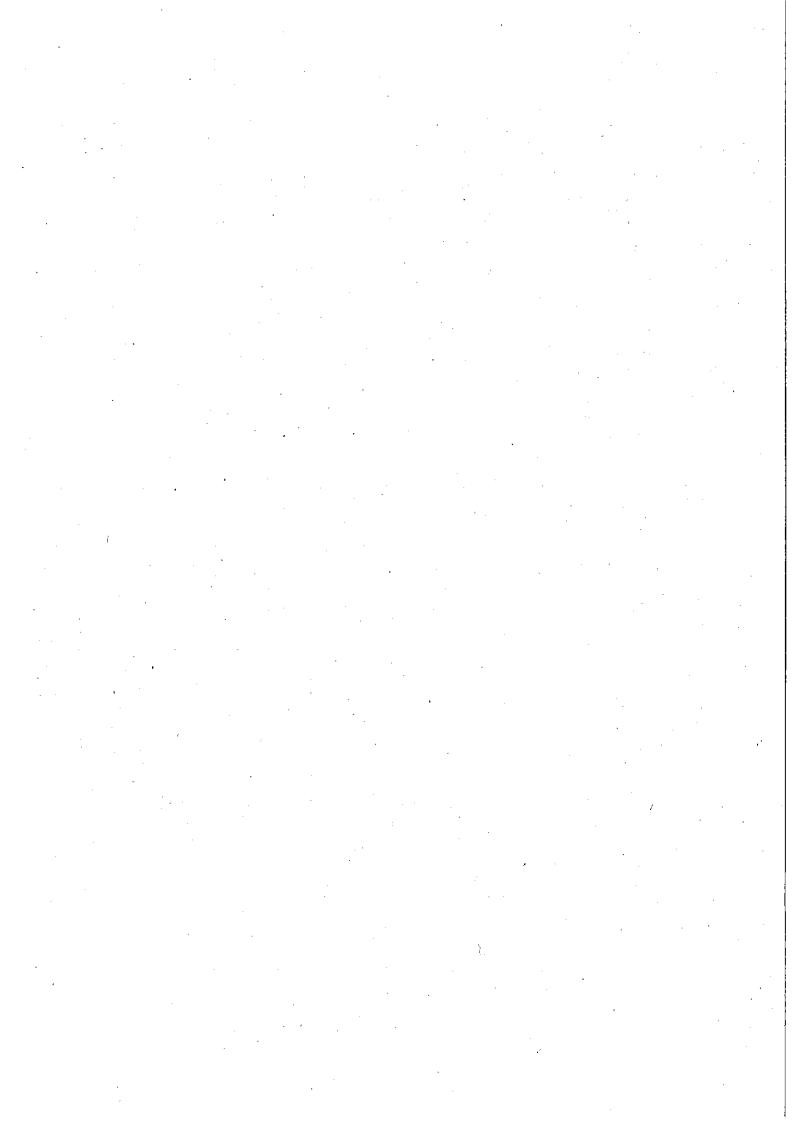
"ATG Audit Report"

Question:

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

Answer:

I was 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

"Bus Depot"

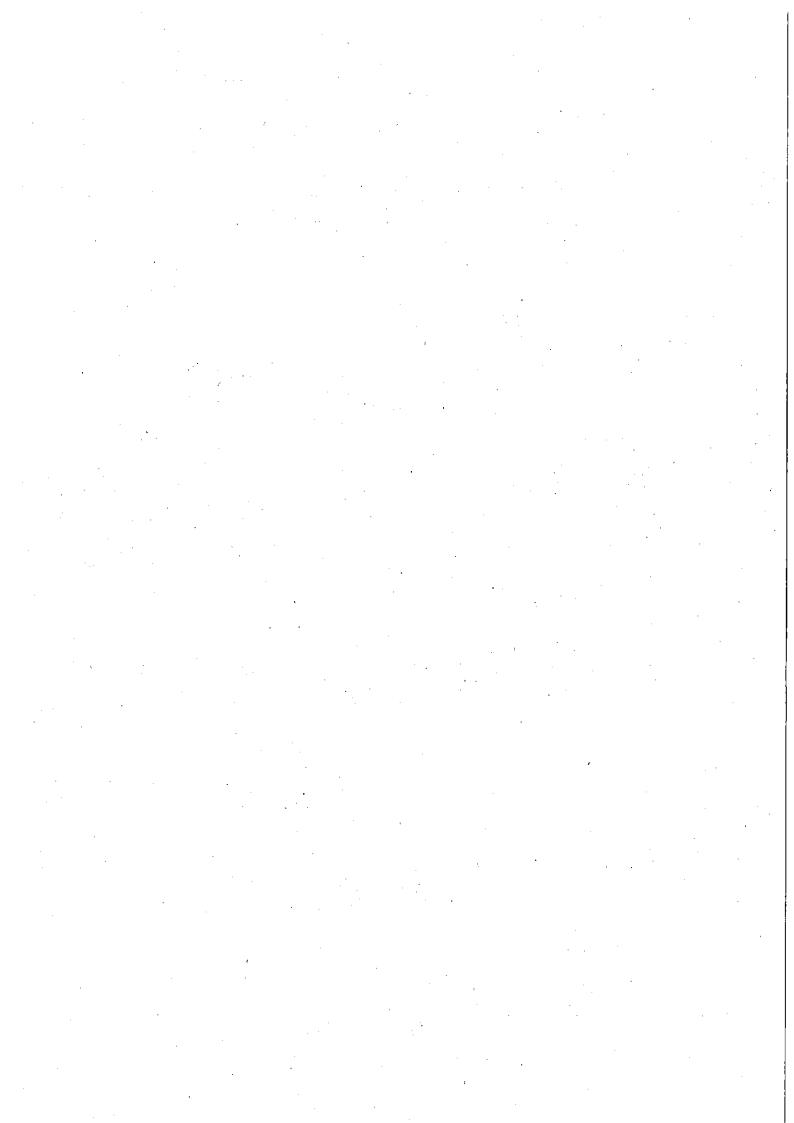
Question:

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

'2019-2020 Garden Waste Collection subscription comparison'

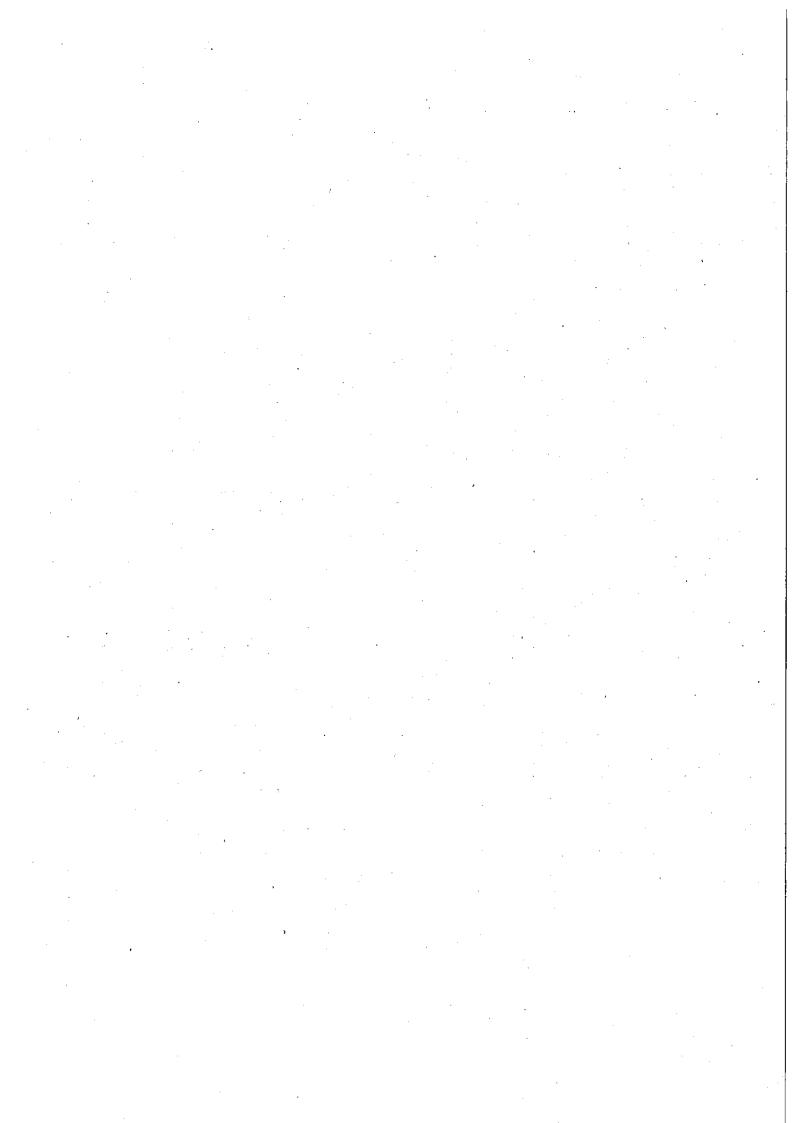
Question:

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 4th 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.

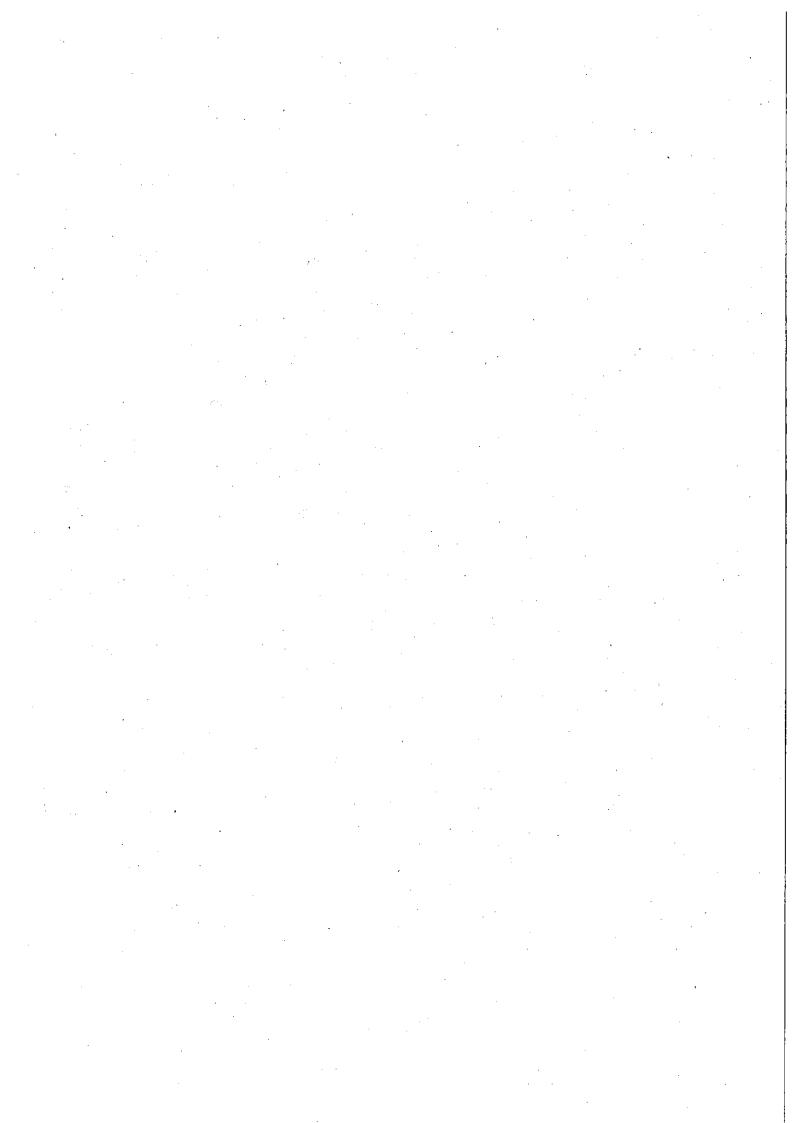
'Pressure placed on staff during Garden Waste Renewal for 2020'

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

"Tree Coverage Per Ward"

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.

Table 1- Wards arranged alphabetically by Constituency

| 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 |
| Hall Green | Hall Green North | 25.3 |
| Hall Green | Moseley | 33.6 |
| Hall Green | Hall Green South | 34.1 |
| Hodge Hill | Alum Rock | 12.6 |
| Hodge Hill | Small Heath | 15.1 |
| Hodge Hill | Ward End | 15.8 |
| Hodge Hill | Shard End | 16.4 |
| Hodge Hill | Heartlands | 20 |
| Hodge Hill | Glebe Farm & Tile Cross | 20.6 |
| Hodge Hill | Bromford & Hodge Hill | 22.2 |
| Ladywood | Bordesley & Highgate | 9.66 |
| Ladywood | Holyhead | 10.8 |
| Ladywood | Aston | 11 |
| Ladywood | Newtown | 12 |
| Ladywood | Nechells | 13.2 |
| Ladywood | Ladywood | 14.6 |
| Ladywood | Bordesley Green | 15.2 |
| Ladywood | Soho & Jewellery Quarter | 18.8 |
| Ladywood | North Edgbaston | 26.7 |
| Northfield | Rubery & Rednal | 18.8 |
| Northfield | Weoley & Selly Oak | 19.29 |
| Northfield | Allens Cross | 20.8 |
| Northfield | Longbridge & West Heath | 23.2 |
| Northfield | Northfield | 23.4 |
| Northfield | Frankley Great Park | 24.8 |
| Northfield | King's Norton South | 26.1 |
| Northfield | King's Norton North | 30.3 |
| Perry Barr | Lozells | 11.4 |
| Perry Barr | Handsworth | 16.4 |
| Perry Barr | Birchfield | 18.4 |
| Perry Barr | Oscott | 18.6 |
| Perry Barr | Perry Barr | 20 |
| Perry Barr | Handsworth Wood | 23.8 |
| Selly Oak | Highter's Heath | 18.2 |
| Selly Oak | Stirchley | 19 |
| Selly Oak | Druids Heath & Monyhull | 20.6 |
| Selly Oak | Bournbrook & Selly Park | 21.94 |
| Selly Oak | Brandwood & King's Heath | 25.5 |
| Selly Oak | Bournville & Cotteridge | 28.2 |

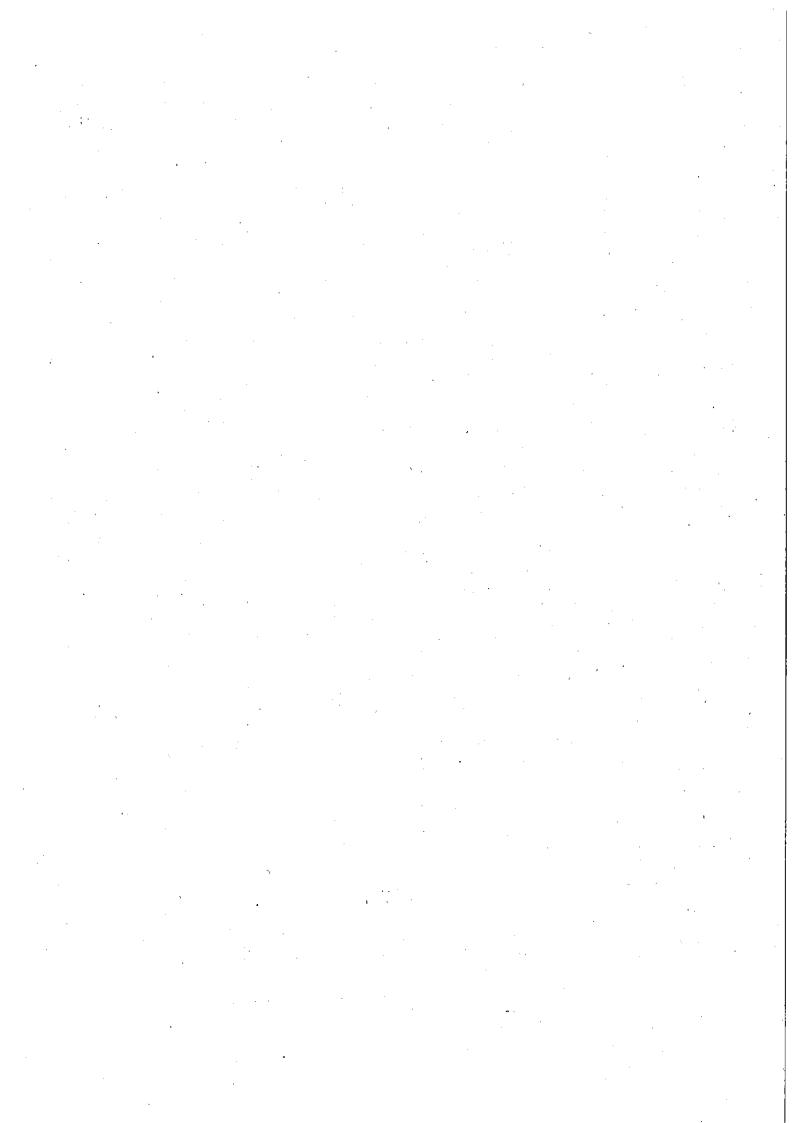
| Selly Oak | Billesley | 31.5 |
|------------------|---------------------------|------|
| Sutton Coldfield | Sutton Reddicap | 17.4 |
| Sutton Coldfield | Sutton Walmley & Minworth | 19.2 |
| Sutton Coldfield | Sutton Roughley | 19.8 |
| Sutton Coldfield | Sutton Mere Green | 22.6 |
| Sutton Coldfield | 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 |

Table 2 - Wards arranged by least cover to greatest

| Constituency | Wards | Canopy |
|--------------|----------------------------|--------|
| | | % |
| | | |
| | | |
| Ladywood | Bordesley & Highgate | 9.66 |
| Hall Green | Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath | 10.15 |
| | East . | |
| 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 |
| 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 |



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

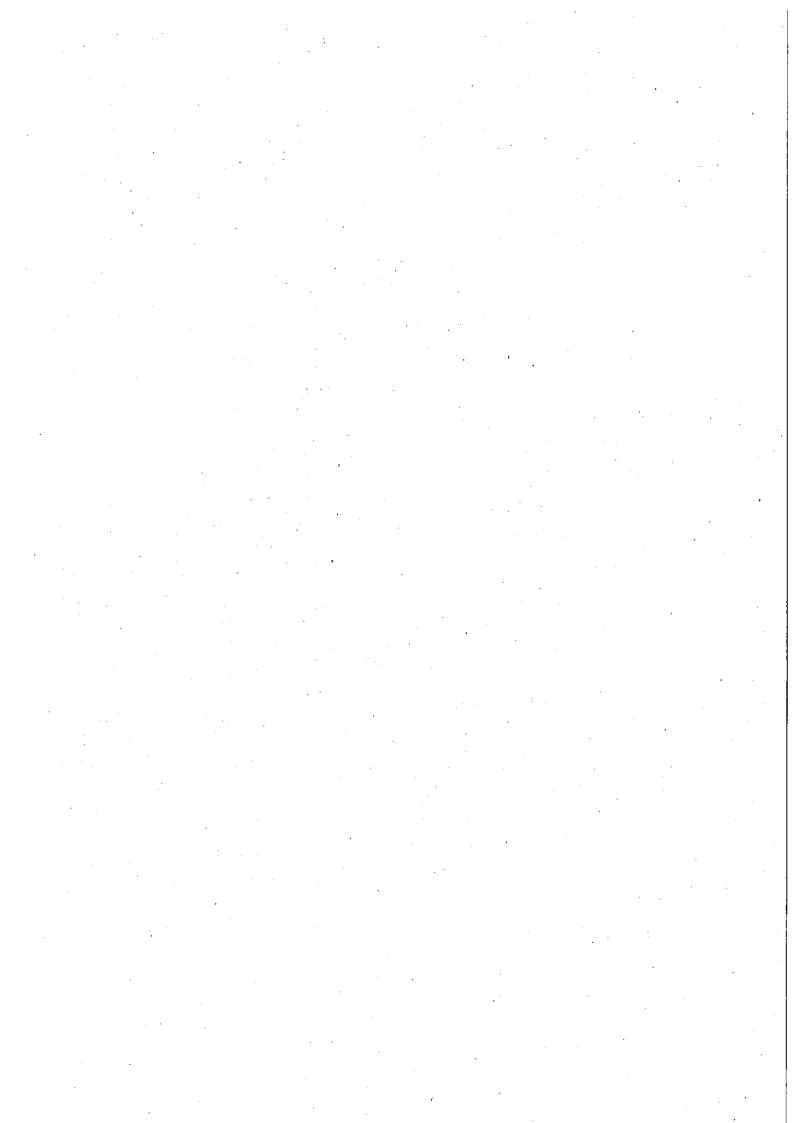
"ATG Audit Report"

Question:

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

Answer:

2 December 2019.



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

"Bus Depot"

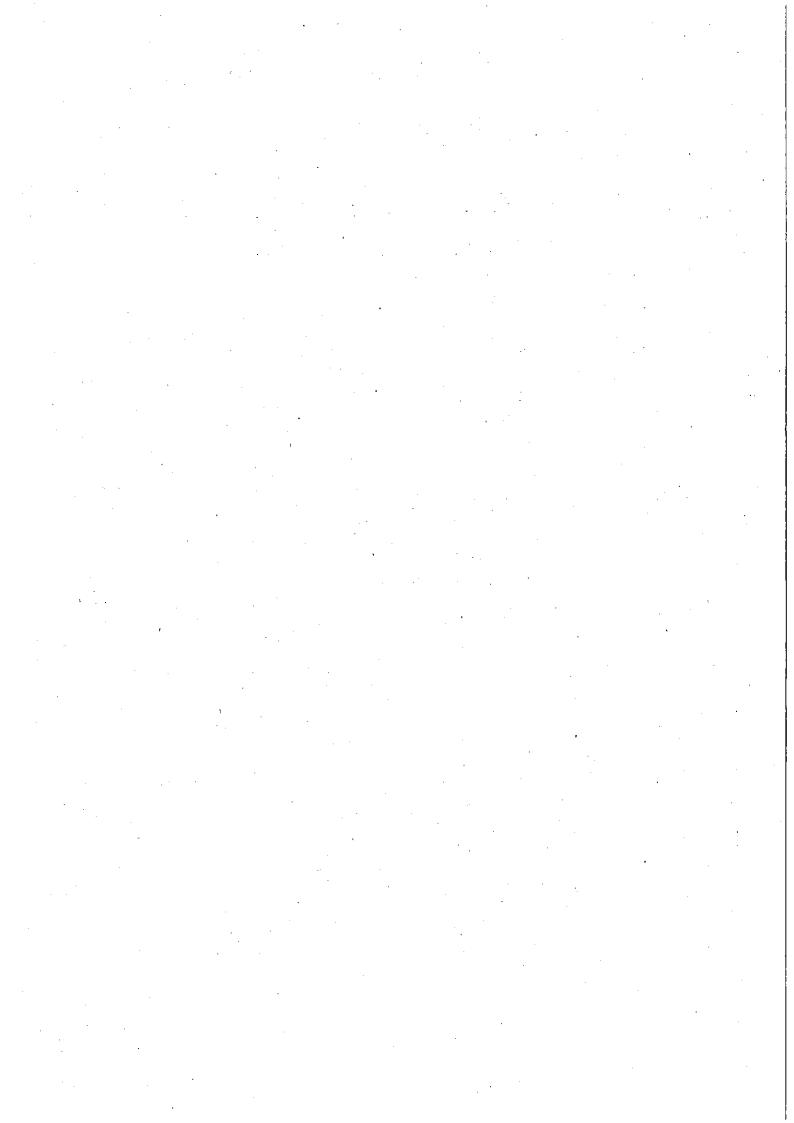
Question:

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Answer:

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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.

'Cost breakdown of Vehicle Actual Speed Signs for Yardley and Hodge Hill'

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.

