

COUNCIL
12 July 2016

MEMBER QUESTION TIME

Questions submitted in accordance with Standing Order 12

1. Councillor Warburton

Please can the portfolio holder say how he will ensure Bradford gets its voice heard in the Transport for the North plan?

Answer

Transport for the North (TfN) is the regional transport body across the North of England commissioned by the Government to drive forward the delivery of transformational Northern Powerhouse transport investment projects. Bradford is represented on the Northern Powerhouse Transport Board by members from both the LEP and WYCA.

The Council is proactively lobbying for Bradford to be part of the proposed Northern Powerhouse (NPR) / HS3 rail network. Senior officers from the Council have met with David Brown who is the Chief Executive of TfN to push for Bradford's transport priorities. Last week John Cridland who is the Chair of TfN met in Bradford with the Council Leader, opposition spokesperson, Chief Executive, business leaders and senior council officers to discuss the aspiration for Bradford to be part of the Northern Powerhouse rail network. Officers have also met with local MPs and provided them with briefing material enabling them to raise the issue of Bradford's poor connectivity in parliament.

An advocacy document which makes the case for why the Northern Powerhouse needs Bradford is being produced and will be circulated to business leaders, MPs and representatives from organisations such as TfN to ensure Bradford's case for NPR is heard.

Officers and councillors have also seized opportunities at various seminars and conferences in relation to the Northern Powerhouse to push Bradford's case.

2. Councillor Cooke

Could the Leader of the Council inform members of the new "skill sets" that she considers her Executive re-shuffle to have brought to the table and detail, what new direction of or strategies for the Council, they will be utilised to deliver under her Leadership?

Answer

It's the prerogative of the Leader to appoint their own team and it's normal for a new Leader to want to make some changes at the top, just as the newly unelected Conservative Prime Minister will undoubtedly want to do. I was fortunate in having a good set of Labour Councillors with a wide range of skills and experience to choose from. How Councils operate in the future is going to be very different to how Councils operated in the past. By 2020 we will be half the size we were in 2010. This means that the Council and Councillors will increasingly use influence and brokerage to get things done

in the absence of money and extensive powers. The team I have selected is hard-working and can-do. I hope you can join me in congratulating them on their appointment.

Supplementary Question

Thank you for the answer Leader and for setting out what it is. I had a thought for a moment the skill set was not being a member of the Council from Wibsey but that aside can I just on a more serious note ask you allude to the broader challenges in terms of use the word brokerage. Can you give me some illustrations of the kind of work that is necessary in order to do that and how you think that the way we are set up now is an improvement because that would be helpful and interesting?

Councillor Hinchcliffe

Yes good question in that brokerage is going to become part of what we do as a Council more and more and I particularly think our relationships with businesses as well. Leverage in the efforts of business to support something like education is something we have been doing for a while with the Industrial Centre of Excellence and other initiatives where businesses support schools and support the curriculum in schools so to be able to leverage that you need to be brokerage, it is not about the Council delivering. The other thing is about broken relationships with other cities outside Bradford on the national stage and the international stage which I think is becoming increasingly important for us as a country as well as a city and I am pleased to be able to say that obviously we have now been invited to join the Executive Board of the Key Cities Group which is going to connect us with places like Coventry and Sunderland who are also on that Executive Board and that will mean that in the future we will have a say at more top tables and make sure that Bradford is outward looking and is at those decision making places and is not ignored. Leverage and brokerage I think is a very important part of what we need to be doing in the future and, yes, happy to do more of it with yourself of course.

3. Councillor Rachel Sunderland

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport - In each of the last 3 years how many accidents involving pedestrians and vehicles have taken place within 100m of school entrances across the district?

Answer

There are some 228 primary, secondary and special schools within the Bradford district. There were a total of 64 recorded pedestrian casualties within 100m of schools in the district in the last 3 years (April 2013-March 2016 - which is the latest available 3-year casualty statistic period). This breaks down into 15 in 2013 (April to December inclusive), 23 in 2014, 20 in 2015 and 6 in 2016 (January to March inclusive). However of the 64 (3-year) total, only 35 were of school age. It should also be noted that less than half of the total, 26 casualties, occurred at school start and finish times. When factoring in age and time of day, 18 casualties in 3 years (28% of the total) were of school age and injured at either school start or finish time.

4. Councillor Love

Given that the sale of the closed ladies toilet block in Shipley Market Place raised significantly more than was expected, will the Leader of Council commit to investing this capital receipt in Shipley Town Centre to try to compensate the residents, shoppers and businesses for the loss of the public toilets?

Answer

There is a policy decision that capital receipts are treated as a corporate resource to fund the Council's Capital Investment Plan. As such capital receipts are not ring-fenced for specific schemes. However, if there is a specific scheme which meets the Council's priorities it can be considered to be included in the Capital Investment Plan that will come to Budget Council for subsequent approval

5. Councillor Greenwood

Can the Leader advise whether Bradford's application for the Great Exhibition of the North is going to be successful?

Answer

In April 2016 the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) launched a competition to find a venue to host the Great Exhibition of the North for a minimum of two months in summer 2018 to celebrate great art, design and culture of the North of England. Closely aligned to the Northern Powerhouse, the exhibition will also showcase excellence in industry, innovation, academic research and entrepreneurship. An Exhibition Board chaired by Sir Gary Verity will recommend a venue to a Ministerial Board which will agree the successful venue that blends performing arts, culture, physical exhibits and interactive displays from across Yorkshire, the North East and North West.

There is a strong desire for Bradford District to host the event, drawing on its arts and cultural assets, rich heritage, diversity and reputation for innovation, industry and entrepreneurial flair. Bradford is also geographically well-located in the heart of the North of England.

Following a period of intense work with a range of partners including the National Media Museum, the University and Bradford and Shipley Colleges, businesses and creative and arts organisations, Bradford Council has submitted a high quality bid on behalf of the District. It comprises an ambitious, innovative and compelling programme to draw visitors from around the region and overseas to participate in a once in a lifetime experience.

Support for the bid has come from across the business, science, education arts and sporting communities of Bradford and the wider North and has endorsement from local figures such as the Brownlee brothers and Dynamo.

The success of the bid will rely on a suitably large venue with good transport links, inspirational content to occupy visitors for a full day, participation of communities and the support and collaboration from local, regional and national partners from arts and culture, media, business, educational institutions and community organisations. We believe our bid put forward a robust case for consideration by the Exhibition board who will make the recommendation to Ministers. Our bid has already achieved media coverage of Bradford in a positive light.

6. Councillor Tariq Hussain

Brexit has increased community tensions nationally and we're hearing reports of a rise in hate crimes, including towards Muslims. How is the Leader going to ensure safety and tolerance in Bradford?

Answer

Some of our citizens are understandably feeling uncertainty following the vote to leave the EU and it is important that we now all show unity and support. As a Council we will continue to provide services and support to people of all backgrounds who live and work in the Bradford District. The Council, its partner organisations, the voluntary sector and other community groups will continue working to bring people from different backgrounds together, increasing understanding within and between communities. This has helped build, and will sustain, our tolerant, resilient and respectful society in the Bradford District.

As elected members we must also play our part as community leaders within our wards and encourage people to show unity and respect for different opinions at this time. Working with the Police and Bradford Hate Crime Alliance we will ensure that we do not tolerate hate crimes within Bradford District and that people seeking to use the referendum as an excuse for racist and inexcusable behaviour will be treated seriously and within the powers of the law.

It is worth reassuring people that the latest statistics show that reported hate crimes across West Yorkshire show no increase. However, there can be no complacency. Work is carried out with partners, community representatives and faith leaders to monitor reporting and of unofficial networks, such as social media feeds, to ascertain any likely impact on community tensions at Bradford. Meetings have taken place and are continuing to take place to ensure that we have a good understanding about how people are feeling across the district.

7. Councillor Whiteley

Can the Leader of the Council confirm how she intends to ensure that the NHS does not under contribute towards the funding of Adult Social Care for the Bradford District?

Answer

It should not be a case of 'us and them'; we need to work more closely and successfully with health partners to get the best results for the district. The Council will continue in its work, through the Health and Wellbeing Board, towards getting the health and social care system fully integrated to best serve the needs of the district.

Supplementary Question

Thank you for your answer. Given that the Airedale CCG has effectively reduced its contribution to the Better Care Fund does this not suggest that the NHS do see 'us and them'?

Councillor Hinchcliffe

I think it shows that with funding being tight organisations are having to make some very difficult decisions and obviously when you have three different CCGs as we have had in the past working to separate agendas that is obviously difficult for us to work with. I do not want to get into an 'us and them' kind of argument with health services because we cannot move forward if we are embattled. We have to work together. We all know that the funding envelope for health is getting smaller. The demands are getting greater. The funding for health is back-loaded to reactive rather than preventative and that does not help the Council in the social care that we provide. So I think it is a matter of having those conversations with NHS England, with Government, to make sure they realise that really where they need to put their money is in the front-end on the social care element and that is then going to reduce the pressure on the back-end in hospitals so as I say I appreciate the question and it is one of those difficulties that a fragmented health system I

am afraid that this Government has brought in has led to so we having to deal with that but I am not about to get into Punch and Judy politics with the health service.

8. Councillor Swallow

Please can the Leader comment on the success of the City Centre Growth Zone. In particular, how many new jobs were created; how many new businesses have opened successfully and are still open; and what kind of business support is still available to people wanting to be part of city centre development?

Answer

The City Centre Growth Scheme has seen major physical improvements to the City Centre through investment in City Centre Public Realm, including improvements to Kirkgate, the stations and the West End (the area around the Alhambra). The scheme has also funded the demolition of the former Police Station and the relocation of custody suite for the Magistrates' Court opening up a key development site, One City Park. New visitor signage has been installed across the City Centre and landscaping has been provided around the Broadway Shopping Centre.

The scheme has to date provided capital grants to 102 businesses, supporting them with the costs of property improvements and the purchase of key items of machinery and equipment to help their businesses to grow. 160 Businesses have also been supported with Business Rate Rebates based on the creation of new and additional jobs in the Growth Zone.

The total number of jobs created to date has been verified as 570, this is made up of part-time and full-time posts with a full time equivalency of 483.5.

The scheme has helped to support 90 businesses to open in the City Centre, of which 59 are new start businesses and 31 are inward investors. Of the new start businesses supported only four (less than 7%) are no longer trading.

On-going support to businesses in the City Centre Growth scheme is being provided in the form of Business Rate Rebates. Currently available for the period up to March 2018, these grants are available to businesses bringing empty units back in to use and creating additional employment.

The Priority Streets Scheme, funded by the City Centre Growth Zone money, is also available for businesses looking to invest in the targeted streets within the City Centre's retail core. These are streets with high levels of longer-term vacancies and areas affected by relocations to the Broadway Shopping Centre. The funding is targeted at bringing empty units back into commercial use in the following locations –

- Darley Street
- Kirkgate
- Rawson Place
- Rawson Square
- Ivegate

Incentives comprise a package of capital grant funding to assist with property improvements and a rate rebate to help de-risk the early stages of the business's trading.

There is also a small team of Business Advisors able to provide one to one support to companies looking to locate or expand their businesses within the Growth Zone.

9. Councillor Swallow

Please would the portfolio holder give an update on the work to promote Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) awareness to parents and young people across the Bradford district and how is she monitoring the effectiveness of all the work being done across the district?

Answer

As Council Leader I take this issue extremely seriously. It's vital that we have a robust, district-wide approach to CSE, including the way in which we spread awareness.

The co-ordination and leadership of the District's response to CSE is the responsibility of the Bradford Safeguarding Children's Board (BSCB), which is independently chaired by David Niven and which the portfolio holder is a member of. The Board has a CSE Sub Group which is chaired by Superintendent Vince Firth from West Yorkshire Police, and this group takes responsibility for monitoring the work done in this area. The group includes senior officers from the Council (including legal and licensing as well as social care), health, the police and the voluntary and community sector (VCS). A nine point plan has been developed as a partnership response to tackling CSE in Bradford and one of the nine points is about raising awareness with young people and parents. The CSE sub group seeks assurance from partners that work is being undertaken in line with the nine point plan, which was agreed by the Council Executive in September 2015.

There are a range of school-based preventative resources that are being used across all phases of education and in Pupil Referral Units in Bradford. Examples include Educative Drama and associated resources. The play "Somebody's Sister, Somebody's Daughter" has toured around secondary schools in the Bradford District and some community settings. This was funded by Bradford Council and commissioned by BSCB.

- This has been seen by more than 6,200 people.
- All students who saw the play received pre and post performance lessons using materials specially prepared for the tour.
- Bradford Youth Service worked with young people and the theatre company to produce attractive information materials and resources for teachers and young people to use in other settings.
- Surveys of the students both pre and post performance showed significantly raised awareness of the risks of grooming both online and in daily life.
- Students demonstrated a significantly increased awareness in how to access help if they have a concern for themselves or a friend.
- Each performance of the play was attended by colleagues from a range of statutory and voluntary sector organisations that were available to give local information and offer support to young people affected by the performance.
- 12 young people are now known to services as, on the day of a performance, they sought and received specific services in relation to CSE.

A new play "Mr Shapeshifter" has been written with input from professionals from Bradford and other areas. Funding for this is provided by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and will cover 8 performances.

- This is aimed at primary school children in transition to secondary school.
- It has been piloted in Bradford Primary Schools and a tour is currently being organised to take place in the summer term and Christmas term.

In addition there has been awareness raising work done by the CSE Hub and also the BLAST project working in particular with boys in schools. Within Bradford/Keighley there is significant awareness raising across the district to both professionals, parents, children and members of the public.

The VCS continue to promote awareness of CSE across the District, an example of which is the work being done by the 'Hand in Hand' project in schools and with GPs in Keighley and Craven.

Supplementary Question

Well I do welcome the answer and I know that I along with other members of Council have undergone all sorts of training as a Councillor. I am concerned for the parents across our district. I wonder if you can answer some of my concerns about that, the impact of CSE? Many parents might only become aware of the impact of CSE if sadly their child is involved in some horrific way and as in many things we all think it happens to somebody else. So I would ask you please if you could describe what support there is for parents and families to be aware of the potential signs before their children are affected and also support for victims and their families and also have a second supplementary if I am allowed? I have not read the rules, is that possible? Just a small story – I arrived home in Bradford Interchange last Thursday evening to witness a scene which could almost be described as something akin to Fagin in Oliver who was an older gentleman.

Lord Mayor

Sorry I think I must stop you. You are only really allowed one supplementary.

Councillor Swallow

I should have worded it slightly differently but what I will say as part of that is what other support is there for parents and for the children and young people in Bradford that are subject to other forms of exploitation such as drug dealing which I witnessed as well as sexual exploitation?

Councillor Val Slater

Thank you. I might take the whole of the rest of the question time to answer that. I welcome that question. I think it is a really good point. We have spent a lot of time working with the professionals and with Members and you will see there is something coming shortly that requires us to make training and understanding mandatory. I think it is one of the things for all of us to understand what CSE is, how it applies to vulnerable people and work with our constituents to raise that awareness, to challenge and to evaluate it but particularly I am concerned about getting the message out to parents and I have been speaking to the Director and the Chair of both Adults and Children Safeguarding Board about safeguarding week because what I have noticed in the past it seems very much professionals talking to professionals and I think we should be using that as a vehicle to get out there and talk to parents. It should not only be officers that are doing that and I have asked Labour Group if they are prepared to volunteer to join in and be part of that conversation. So I am waiting to progress that. I think that is the best way, all of us living up to our responsibility to pass that message on. I just wanted also to mention the new education hub and we had a report at Children's Trust Board yesterday and Jonathan Pickles a lot of you will know, is part of the hub and one of the things that they are looking at, it is not just tracking children that are missing from education or missing altogether, they have been doing a project on cyber safety and I think that is one of the issues that people have raised that is not always obvious on exploitation and they have been out to 120 primary schools delivering sessions on how to be safe on IT and

what to look out for there and I think they intend to roll it out to the secondary schools and to parents. I think the bit about drug taking is probably more of an issue for my colleague Councillor Jabar.

10. Councillor Mike Pollard

Could the Leader of the Council confirm the number of enforcement actions which are currently pending with the Legal Department, broken down into two key areas, i.e. breaches of Planning and of Environmental/Health regulations?

Answer

Councillor Pollard has clarified that in addition to planning enforcement, he is seeking information in relation to environmental health, fly tipping and other environmental offences, and housing offences.

The numbers are as follows:

Environmental Health 16
Fly tipping and other environmental offences 15
Housing 13
Planning 23

Please note these numbers can change rapidly, as matters are commenced and concluded. These are prosecution cases. Legal Services do not deal with enforcement action other than prosecutions, except in the case of planning notices, details of which have been provided below.

Legal Services hold the following records in relation to planning enforcement notices. The figures below are for the last 12 months, and for the last quarter to 30 June 2016.

Period 1/7/2015 - 30/6/2016

New Enforcement files opened - 151
Enforcement Notices - 138
Planning Contravention Notices - 5
Breach of Condition Notices - 8

Notices issued:

Enforcement Notices - 114
Planning Contravention Notices - 3
Breach of Condition Notices - 9

In addition we issued 2 Section 215 Notices (untidy land notices).

It is important to note that some of the notices issued during the period will relate to files received prior to 1/7/2015 and some files received during this period will not yet have had notices issued. There are also instances where no notice is issued at all because the matter is resolved at an early stage - some people actually rectify the breach on receipt of the initial letter from Legal Services.

Period 1/4/2016 - 30/0/2016

New Enforcement files opened – 33, as follows:
Enforcement Notices - 27
Planning Contravention Notice - 2

Breach of Condition Notices - 4

Notices issued:

Enforcement Notices - 32

Planning Contravention Notices - 2

Breach of Condition Notices - 4

Supplementary Question

I have been kindly supplied with details of planning enforcement files opened and notices issued in the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016. I would like to know how many of those files have been closed and marked as resolved?

Councillor Ross-Shaw

I will get those figures.

11. Councillor Dunbar

What is the Council's policy on integration and support for EU migrants?

Answer

Bradford is a city and district which is rightly and proudly described as being built on immigration. From the 19th century onwards Bradford's wealth was built on the contribution of migrants, from across the UK and the world, many of whom brought their industrial and commercial innovation with them. Over 85 languages are now spoken across the district.

Support is provided to EU and international migrants coming to Bradford. We work with some of our smaller communities who have not yet become well established within the District to produce 'Community of Interest Plans' providing them with a voice and influence within the District's governance structures and a conduit in to the Council, and partner organisations such as the NHS, to help respond to questions and enquiries about access to services.

From an educational perspective the Council supports families originally from Central and Eastern Europe by working with a range of statutory and voluntary agencies to ensure their children/young people are accessing education as quickly as possible following their arrival in the District. When families are attending local settings/schools their children are learning English, parents are meeting parents from other communities and the family has access to the range of services available on offer and this makes integration more likely.

The Council makes settings/schools aware of the complex factors which have an impact on the education of children and young people from families originally from Central and Eastern Europe to make educational success more likely. It has recently commissioned six settings/schools to act as New to English Centres of Good Practice to ensure that new to English pupils make accelerated progress and close the gap with their peers, an outcome which is in everyone's best interests. There are good and outstanding schools in this district making superb levels of progress with children who are new to English.

12. Councillor Fear

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport - Given the Council has announced the Private Sector Lettings Scheme, a scheme to allow private rented

accommodation to be let through the Council's Housing Options Team, what measures are in place to ensure that the homes being let are of a suitable standard?

Answer

The Council's Private Sector Lettings Scheme (PSLS) has been established to provide a wider choice of good quality accommodation options for customers of the Housing Options service. In order to be accepted onto the scheme, properties must not present any health and safety hazards and must be of an acceptable let-able standard. We ensure this by the Council's Housing Standards team visiting and inspecting every property before we agree to accept it. We also ensure that valid gas and electrical certificates are in place at the start of the tenancy. For licence-able Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO), we ensure that the appropriate HMO licence is in place before accepting onto the scheme. With these measures in place, we are confident that the PSLS scheme only offers customers homes of an acceptable standard of safety and quality.

Supplementary Question

Thank you for the Portfolio Holder for the answer. I just want to ask whether the visits by the Housing Standards team come out of their usual budget thus limiting their ability to pursue less than co-operative landlords who are not taking part in the scheme?

Councillor Val Slater

I think the answer to that is yes it does come out of their normal budget but it is part of their ongoing work and since the Homeless and Housing Option teams have come back in to work directly in the same section in Regeneration. It is now a case of sharing those resources but resources on this are stretched but I think this whole process is a win-win. It is a win for private landlords but it is also a win for people that are urgently in need of accommodation and it is about the best way we can deliver our resources in housing and tackling a number of the issues and crisis in housing that we have got across the district. It is a balancing act always.

13. Councillor Berry

Can the Leader outline what steps are being made to improve air quality in key areas of Bradford where growing numbers of children face breathing in high levels of micro particulates?

Answer

Since 1997 the Council has been tasked with a statutory duty to review and assess air quality. This function is carried out by Environmental Health Services located within Public Health. Bradford Council has a robust air quality monitoring network, and through a data sharing agreement, and partnership working with Born In Bradford (BiB), the Council's monitoring and expertise form an essential part of the largest health and air quality study currently ongoing in the world. Through joint working with health professionals (in the NHS, Public Health England, and academia) the Council understands the negative health impact of air quality on our population. Research at BiB and elsewhere has shown that air pollution doesn't just make us cough, it also causes premature death, respiratory problems such as COPD and the development of asthma in children, heart attacks and strokes, cancer, low birth weight and pre-term birth and developmental problems in children and reduced IQ in affected populations. It is acknowledged by the Council that these impacts are significant and are the cause of an estimated 222 early deaths and a health cost of ~£157m each year in the City and that there are areas of the City are failing to meet the legal Air Quality Standards.

In order to tackle this significant problem Bradford Council has developed a comprehensive strategy to look at all options available to improve air quality via the adoption of the Bradford Low Emission Strategy (LES) in 2013 (<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/media/1385/bradfordlowemissionstrategy2013.pdf>); this document builds on the Air Quality Action Plan (2006) and the Air Quality Strategy (2011) and is currently being updated. Some of the key elements of the Bradford LES are;

- In 2013 Bradford became one of the first Local Authorities in the UK to change planning policy to improve air quality, since then every relevant planning application includes conditions to improve air quality such as electric vehicle charging points for all properties, emission standards for commercial fleets and site specific mitigation for the larger schemes.
- Setting emission standards for commercial bus fleets in the city in partnership with WYCA and operators
- Attracting funding to improve air quality such as the £400,000 bus retrofit scheme which has successfully reduced emissions by >90% on 25 City buses
- A partnership with Public Health England and local Universities to raise awareness of the health effects of air pollution and the benefits of driving cleaner vehicles and using vehicles less
(<http://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/14162794. Ditch the diesels drive rs urged in campaign to improve city s air quality/>)
- Bradford Council looks to lead by example and fleet procurement incorporate the whole life costs of vehicles and opportunities to use low emission vehicles. The fleet will be ~80% at the 'euro6' standard or better by 2020 and the number of low emission vehicles such as hybrid, electric and possibly gas will increase
- Bradford Procurement policy is being upgraded to include air quality in procurement decisions via implementation of the Social Values Act (2012)
- Bradford is leading on partnership work across West Yorkshire to align the local authorities through the development of a West Yorkshire Low Emissions Strategy. This work is supported by Defra funding resulting from a joint WY bid developed and managed by Bradford.
- Bradford, in partnership with the other local authorities, WYCA and BiB are leading on a WY research project looking at behaviour change in relation to the school journey and how policy change can be implemented to reduce emissions.
- Work is ongoing with local business, and other stakeholders to reduce emissions in partnership through schemes such as Ecostars (a fleet recognition scheme which will be implemented in 2016), joint bids for funding, information sharing and policy change.
- Bradford Council is partner to the £50m Betterstart project which will reduce exposure to air pollution through creating a 'Better Place'. The Council was key to the development of this area of work as part of the initiative.

A Bradford Low Emission Zone feasibility study was reported to the HWBB in November 2014 (<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/media/1384/reportofthelezfeasibilitystudy.pdf>), the study quantified the improvements in health that could be achieved by making changes to the vehicle fleets in the City, it also demonstrated that air quality affects the deprived most and adds to health inequalities. The HWBB resolved to support further work to achieve the reductions in emissions needed and improve health across the City.

14. Councillor Carmody

Can the Leader of the Council confirm that she believes that when new housing estates are being approved for planning, the council is both receiving and effectively utilising developer contributions for the provision of additional school places?

Answer

In the case of all major planning applications for new housing development in the district consultation takes place at the early stages to determine if local schools have already reached capacity within the catchment area. Where schools are full or are close to capacity a Section 106 contribution from developers is sought with the money to be spent on additional school infrastructure and individual schools are identified for expansion in accordance with a Council wide planned schools expansion programme.

All Section 106 contributions are effectively monitored and developers are sent invoices immediately after set trigger points in Section 106 Agreements are reached. There are no current instances of developers not making the required education contributions as set out in S106 Agreements. When money is received it is monitored to ensure it is spent only in conjunction with the intended school expansion programme. Bi-annually the Council's Regulatory and Appeals Committee receive a detailed report setting out all S106 contributions received including where the money is derived from.

The Section 106 contributions are an important part of funding extra school places in individual schools and they are used in conjunction with Basic Need funding received from the Department of Education. The Council is facing a significant growth in secondary pupil numbers in the coming years and the s106 money together with the £23.8m Basic Need funding for the Council which was announced in April 2016 will be key to ensuring that places are provided where required. The £23.8m Basic Need funding was the largest Basic Need funding allocation ever received by the Council and came about as a result of extensive lobbying from officers, members and District MPs.

15. Councillor Warburton

What has been the overall take-up of the brown bin garden waste scheme? Since the extension of the deadline how many more have taken up the scheme?

Answer

At the close of business on Monday 4th July 2016, **32,191** residents had signed up and paid for the garden waste service. This is 2,191 above the target.

The deadline was extended from May 15th to May 31st and during that period **4,569** residents signed up and paid. Since the deadline ended and the new service commenced on the June 1st, an additional **2,355** residents have signed up and paid for the service.

16. Councillor Berry

Does the portfolio holder agree that parents should have a serious say in the future of their child's school, including the right to have parent governors?

Answer

The Portfolio Holder strongly supports the right and entitlement of parents (and carers) to have opportunities for structured input into the future of their child's school. The Portfolio Holder is also supportive of parental representation on school governing boards, either as

a formally recognised stakeholder or by other means e.g. appointment by virtue of their skills or experience to governing boards.

It is the intention of the Department for Education (DfE) to remove automatic parental representation on school governing boards in favour of professionals with the right skills. There is understandable concern that this will reduce or remove parental influence in the running of schools.

Until now, places have been reserved for elected parents on school governing boards, but under plans outlined by education secretary Nicky Morgan in the White Paper 'Educational Excellence Everywhere' it is likely that those roles will be abolished.

The new emphasis will be on the skills – for example in business or finance – that an individual brings to a governing board, rather than as a stakeholder e.g. a parent with children in the school.

There is concern that the voices of parents (and the local community) may be silenced and democratic accountability in schools threatened.

The National Governors' Association (NGA) has called on the government to keep parents on boards arguing that recruiting a small number of board members from certain stakeholder groups and having a skilled board are not mutually exclusive.

To replace parent governors, the DfE is proposing a new online 'parent portal' with information on the key things a parent needs to know about their child's education.

Education Secretary Nicky Morgan said: "This portal will provide parents with everything they need to understand their children's education."

We know from our outstanding schools in the district that the very best schools encourage the active involvement of parents and carers in their child's education and in the life of the school. Parental involvement ultimately leads to better results.

17. Councillor Davies

Could the Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills confirm whether there will be an update on the Education Covenant?

Answer

An update on the progress of the Education Covenant will come to full Council in December 2016.

18. Councillor Berry

In the light of increased pressures on school budgets from national cuts, what steps are being made to ensure that children who have additional needs or face family and other problems are not unduly excluded and are actively supported by schools?

Answer

School budgets will face even greater pressures when the government's new funding formula comes in. The Department for Education has made it clear vulnerable learners will still be the responsibility of the local authority so we need to continue to ensure we work effectively with all schools and ensure the best possible provision for children with additional needs.

Our Secondary Achievement Officer has been providing targeted challenge and support this year for our schools that need it most. That work has focused on improving Special Educational Needs provision, as well as other key issues of improving pupil attendance and behaviour policies, and its successes have been noted including by Ofsted. Best practice from the attendance work has been shared between headteachers via the schools partnerships.

We've recently strengthened this area with the appointment of a Strategic Manager for SEND and Behaviour. This will ensure that the strategy and work commenced in this area will be continued so that all of our schools can improve policy and provision and that the exclusion of vulnerable pupils is reduced.

The Strategic Manager alongside the behaviour support services will work across mainstream, with the Pupil Referral Units (PRUs), Behaviour and Attendance Collaboratives (BACs), special schools and with alternative providers across Bradford to ensure that universal provision for all pupils is of the highest quality and that where additional and different provision is required for pupils on a short term and on a longer term basis that this is also at least good and that the outcomes for this group improve significantly over time.

Opportunities for more jointly commissioned, collaborative work with health and social care will be identified and exploited to ensure that proactive and preventative work can be developed with schools, pupils and their families. In Primary Schools the Achievement Officers are kept informed by the Behaviour and Attendance Team of any exclusions or attendance that causes them concerns. The Achievement Officer will raise this with the headteacher concerned and ensure that appropriate rules and regulations are being followed.

Where necessary round table discussions involving appropriate agencies or bodies - e.g. Achievement Service, Behaviour Support, Educational Psychologists, SENCo, headteachers - are held and solutions discussed and agreed upon. Primary school reviews include scrutiny of the school's safeguarding procedures and their attendance data and the impact of the actions taken by the school to improve attendance.

19. Councillor Greenwood

Please can the portfolio holder explain what actions he is taking to encourage or support the owners of empty business premises across the district to get them back into use?

Answer

After experiencing success with the City Centre scheme, the council is now looking to introduce incentive schemes district-wide.

Within the City Centre, businesses are currently being incentivised to bring vacant properties back into use through the offer of Business Rate Rebates. This allows business to recover up to their full annual rates bill, subject to the creation of new and additional jobs.

Within the City Centre's designated "Priority Streets" area businesses bringing vacant properties into commercial use can apply for assistance not only with business rates but also with capital grants to support property improvement works.

Work is being undertaken to promote available units to potential end users more widely using retail industry expertise.

Planning, Transportation & Highways are submitting a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a Townscape Heritage Initiative for a designated area around the top end of the City Centre. This follows a successful first phase of the scheme delivered in Keighley, and will assist owners of listed buildings to restore them and in some cases bring them back into use.

In December last year the Council executive approved the introduction of Discretionary rate relief schemes to support new large scale developments as well as bringing empty properties back into use district wide.

The three schemes being developed include:

- District wide incentive to support significant Inward Investment in a new-build development (minimum of 20 new jobs) - 100% relief for up to three years
- District wide incentive to encourage bringing empty listed buildings back into active commercial use (vacant for minimum of 12 months) - Relief offered on a sliding scale over a three year period.
- Scheme to support vacant properties being brought back into use within the designated Town Centre planning boundaries for Shipley, Ilkley, Keighley or Bingley (one year relief based on £16k per new job created for previously unemployed residents).

This scheme will shortly go out for public consultation and is expected to launch before the end of the year.

20. **Councillor Nicola Pollard**

To the Portfolio holder for Health and Wellbeing - Now that residents of the district are paying a 2% precept for social care can the portfolio holder detail how these funds have been allocated?

Answer

The monies collected through the 2% precept have in their entirety been allocated to funding adult social care. The monies are a contribution towards the increased costs of social care, in part arising out of the changes to the national minimum wage. In total the social care precept in 2016/17 will raise approximately £3m. To put this in context the gross spend on Adult Social Care for 2016/17 will be in excess of £150m and accounts for nearly one third of the Council's net budget. The February 2016 budget papers illustrated that the Council had a financial gap to address of close to £100m by 2021/22. The Government has introduced the social care precept for local authorities as it recognises the pressures faced from spiralling adult social care costs. Even with the social care precept the Council put an extra £1.5m into adult social care to recognise the demographic pressures on the budgets.

21. **Councillor Dunbar**

Does the Leader of the Council agree that the Tory Government proposal to sell off the land registry, a self-funding public service which returned £120m to the Treasury in the last year alone, is not in the public interest and in fact will decrease transparency in property ownership?

Answer

I share the questioner's concern about the planned sale. It sounds like a short-term decision to realise a sale without thinking about the long-term availability of the service to consumers. I know the Business Secretary under the last Government, Vince Cable, stepped into halt the sale but with the brakes taken off, it is now going ahead. My biggest concern would be the danger of higher fees which could then make the service inaccessible to residents of average income. I will raise the issue in my briefings with our district's MPs.

22. Councillor Pennington

Will the Leader of the Council please clarify what repayments have been made against the £200,000 commercial loan, personally guaranteed by Omar Khan, whilst he was at the helm of Bradford Bulls?

Answer

I can assure you that regular repayments are continuing to be made against the loan to OK Bulls Limited according to a repayment plan.

However, the individual has not consented to the disclosure of the amount and terms of the loan, the amount that has been paid to date or the amount of any outstanding payments due to be made to the Council. Failure to take this lack of consent into account would breach data protection principles.

The Information Commissioner's Office has reviewed the position and has confirmed the Council's obligations in this regard.

Supplementary Question

Easier to plait fog I think then get an answer on this one. I am not concerned at all with the individual. I am concerned with the fact it is public money and I want to know the Council's exact financial position on this loan?

Councillor Hinchcliffe

Councillor Pennington I think the answer is very clear that actually we have consulted with Information Commissioner and we cannot give that information because it is subject to data protection legislation so I can only reiterate the answer I am afraid. Thank you very much.

23. Councillor Love

Can the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing please give us an update on the situation regarding the former Neville Grange Residential Home in Saltaire?

Answer

There is no confirmed plan for the site with all options still to be considered. We will keep local councillors informed.

Supplementary Question

Given that it is considerably more than two years since the previous Neville Grange Resource Centre was demolished and the other buildings around it demolished, I am a little surprised that the answer I have got said there is no confirmed plan "with all options still to be considered." We were promised a good facility, the sort of accommodation that

the district desperately needs. Can I ask when will we be likely to get some movement on this scheme?

Councillor Val Slater

Thank you Councillor. You know nobody regrets more than I do that we were not able to progress with that extra care facility that was planned on that site. It was in partnership with Incommunities and unfortunately Incommunities withdrew from that partnership. That was a difficult period. There are a number of options being considered as the answer says. We have moved on. We have been on a journey about the need for particular places. There have been lots of changes, for instance some of our private homes were found inadequate by QCC but we have been working with those and a number of them are now coming back into compliance so it is an ever changing picture about the actual need for bed spaces and where exactly those bed spaces are. So we are continuing to consider all options for that site and as soon as we are able to come up with some concrete options then you and your ward colleagues will be one of the first to know.

24. Councillor Davies

Could the Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills inform members of the amount of the overspend on the children's centre reorganisation and advise as to whether the process should be considered a success?

Answer

Children Services had a budget of £10.3m in relation to Children Centres services in 2014-15. This budget was reduced by £2.98m in 2015-16 and a further £0.403m in 2016-17 as part of agreed budget savings. In 2015-16, there was a £0.2m shortfall in budgeted saving due to the delay in external procurement. We are currently forecasting to deliver the full saving in 2016-17.

Supplementary Question

You have answered the first part of the question but not the second. I just wondered if you could answer that please.

Councillor Imran Khan

Obviously it is a yes. I think in the circumstances I think we did a pretty good job.

25. Councillor Riaz Ahmed

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Sport and Culture - How many littering fines were issued by Council Wardens, per ward, in the whole of 2015?

Answer

Littering Fixed Penalty Notices served by Wardens per Ward for 2015 are as follows:

Ward	No. of Fixed Penalty Notices
City	35
Keighley Central	11
ShIPLEY	2
Bowling & Barkerend	1
Wharfedale	1
Idle & Thackley	1
TOTAL	51

The numbers of FPNs for City and Keighley Central include Bradford City Centre and Keighley Town Centre. Numbers of fines issued in these areas are relatively high due to high footfall. Also, litter enforcement training is undertaken in Bradford City Centre as the incidents of littering tend to be higher than elsewhere. Littering offences are sometimes difficult to witness as people tend not to drop litter in front of Wardens. However, Wardens have been taking an educative approach towards litter dropping by speaking with businesses that tend to generate a lot of litter. Anti-litter posters have been given to shops and business owners have been asked to talk to customers asking them to use litter bins. Shopkeepers are also being asked to work with the Council and pick up litter from outside their shop fronts. If businesses fail to encourage their customers to comply and if businesses do not pick up litter at agreed times of the day they will be prosecuted.

26. Councillor Heseltine

In light of the numerous derelict buildings throughout Bradford District, such as Station Masters House and Priesthorpe Annex in Bingley, can the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Planning inform members of the number of Town & Country Planning Act (1990), Section 215 notices (which have proved very effective for other councils) which have been served within the Bradford District?

Answer

The number of Section 215 Notices issued since 1 January 2010 totals 19 this follows 78 investigations. In the last twelve months 30 June 2015 – 1 July 2016 the department has issued 2 such notices.

Supplementary Question

Would the Leader agree with me that a robust and concerted effort is required as three notices per year when we have so many buildings blighting our communities could be seen and is an inadequate response to the problem?

Councillor Hinchcliffe

Councillor Heseltine I understand your local concerns but we have to work within the remits of the law and the legislation set out I am afraid so officers push as much as they can but the legislation does not always allow them to complete so I am sure you can have a more detailed conversation with officers on that if there are any particular concerns you have and any help you can give us with Tory Governments to unblock some of that legislation. Thank you.

27. Councillor Ellis

Could the Leader of the Council confirm, that it is upholding all of its responsibilities as a signatory of the Armed Forces Covenant and specifically in relation to the consistent encouragement of all suppliers and tenderers to the Council, to themselves sign up to the covenant and abide by its principles?

Answer

The Council and its partners in signing the Community Covenant, promised to:

- Encourage local communities to support the armed forces community in their areas and to nurture public understanding and awareness among the public of issues affecting the armed forces community
- Recognise and remember the sacrifices faced by the armed forces community

- Encourage activities which help to integrate the armed forces community into local life
- Encourage the armed forces community to help and support the wider community, whether through participation in events and joint projects, or other forms of engagement
- Ensure the armed forces community do not face disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services
- Give special consideration in appropriate cases, especially for those who have given most such as the injured and the bereaved.

The Bradford District Armed Forces Community Covenant Action Plan 2015-17 describes actions that need to be taken to meet the promises made. The plan was developed following workshops with stakeholders, including ex-forces and currently serving personnel. Implementation of the plan is monitored by the Partnership and also reported on at least annually to the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Reports are available on the Council's website as are web pages that describe the support available to the local armed forces community.

In particular the Council and its partners have:

- Changed the housing allocation policy to give more priority to service leavers seeking social housing in the district.
- Supported the local Gurkha community to integrate into their local neighbourhoods and link into community and voluntary activities and groups
- Worked with and maintained contact with groups across the district who have run projects to support the integration of the armed forces into civilian life, promoted respect and understanding between the armed forces and civilian communities.
- Worked with and advised services, such as Adult and Community Services, about priority criteria for armed forces community members accessing services and service provision to this community.
- Provided Armed Forces awareness sessions for Council and Partners' staff.
- Dealt with specific enquiries from individuals from the armed forces community to help them access the services they need.
- Provided at no charge space for the Royal British Legion to provide drop in sessions at City Hall and Airedale Hospital
- Provided at no charge rooms at City Hall for the Royal British Legion Bradford Central Branch meetings
- Promoted and attended local armed forces commemorative, remembrance and celebratory events – Yomp to the Somme, services to install local VC winners commemorative stones, Pals 100 years commemorative service, Keighley and Bradford Armed Forces Day events, conferring Freedom of the City on local regiments, inviting veterans to an annual Veterans Lunch at City Hall.
- Offered work placement opportunities within the Council to ex-forces personnel
- Offered the Armed Forces Employment Team the opportunity to provide stands in our workplaces to encourage staff to join the Reserve Forces.

Whilst the Armed Forces Covenant was recently re-branded by the Ministry of Defence our pledge remains the same.

In relation to the consistent encouragement of all suppliers and tenderers to the Council, to themselves sign up to the covenant and abide by its principles

The Council and our local Armed Forces Community Covenant Partnership have to date promoted the Armed Forces Corporate Covenant at business, armed forces and other events across the district. We will continue to do so.

The Council's Armed Forces Champion, Cllr Alex Ross-Shaw, has written to the editor of the Telegraph and Argus about the Armed Forces Covenant, inviting the newspaper to sign a Corporate Covenant and offering to work with the paper to promote the Covenant through its pages.

On Armed Forces Day 25 June 2016 the Rt Hon Matt Hancock Minister for the Cabinet Office and Paymaster General launched guidance from the Crown Commercial Service to support government and non-government bodies to use their procurement activities to raise awareness of the Armed Forces Covenant with their suppliers, and encourage them to become signatories to the covenant.

Colleagues in the Council's commissioning and procurement services are aware of this new guidance and are currently considering its adoption.

As part of our Covenant Pledge, we will ensure that partners are aware of this guidance.

28. Councillor Townend

Could the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transportation, explain how and why there has been such a huge delay between the authorising (29th April) of and the issuing of an enforcement notice for the Baildon Moor reservoir site, with 2 months on and it still not issued?

Answer

We can advise that Enforcement Action was authorised on 29 April with the file being sent to Legal Services. There was a statutory requirement to issue a section 330 notice (notice of ownership) allowing the recipient 21 days in which to respond. , This document was sent on the 13 May, and this document was returned within the statutory 21 days.

Whilst awaiting this response and since its return officers from Planning have been working to prepare a draft levels plan that is required for the service of the notice. The preparation of this plan has involved numerous visits to the site and the development of a detailed land survey plan.

Therefore we can advise that in these circumstances there has not been a 'Huge Delay' in the Enforcement process. The Draft Enforcement Notice was approved by The Planning Manager on Thursday 7 July and the papers have been sent to Legal Services. It is intended that the Notice will be served within the next two weeks.

Supplementary Question

Can I have an assurance from the portfolio holder that notice will definitely be served as opposed to intention within the next two weeks?

Councillor Ross-Shaw

We have no intention of not serving a notice but obviously if something happens I am not going to give you that cast iron guarantee but we have got every intention of serving a notice within the next weeks.

29. Councillor Ward

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills - How many children and young people per ward are currently in a secondary school which is either in special measures or requiring improvement?

Answer

We currently are not able to report pupils by the ward where they live as we report the ward of the school they attend.

We do hold postcode information at pupil level, therefore it is possible to calculate this information, however it is likely to take some time to complete as it is a substantial piece of work at the busiest time of the academic year.

A briefing paper will be provided to all Members when this is completed.

30. Councillor Davies

As there have been a number of incidences recently, of Baildon Library having had to close early due to staff sickness and the absence of cover available, causing inconvenience to customers, could the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Sport & Culture advise members of any plans to improve the system for providing emergency staff to work evenings?

Answer

Any library closure throughout the district is not taken lightly and is a last resort.

Unfortunately we have lost 2 members of staff at Baildon library and several others throughout the service leaving vacancies which has created a high demand on our casual and current members of staff.

We have sent a memo out to all staff asking if they would like to work extra hours or overtime to help cover the shortfall. Our Team Leaders are constantly communicating and working together to provide each others branches with cover if any available.

Supplementary Question

I just wondered if there had been any response to the memo since a memo has been sent about working extra hours?

Councillor Ferriby

Thank you Councillor Davies. I will find that information for you but I do know that officers are speaking with staff about cover and additional cover when people are off sick. I will actually see if there has been a response.

31. Councillor Riaz

Could the Leader of the Council provide figures detailing the proportion of postal and proxy votes issued per ward, in this year's local elections?

Answer

The elections held on Thursday 5th May 2016 were combined elections for the District, Bingley Town Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The breakdown of the total number of postal votes and proxy votes issued for the District election for each ward, including the percentage total, is as follows;

WARD	ELECTORATE	POSTAL VOTES ISSUED	PROXY VOTES ISSUED	TOTAL OF POSTAL & PROXY VOTES ISSUED	PERCENTAGE OF POSTAL & PROXY VOTES FOR THE WARD
Baildon	11,778	2,263	6	2,269	19.26
Bingley	14,008	2,398	15	2,413	17.22
Bingley Rural	13,790	2,297	12	2,309	16.74
Bolton & Undercliffe	10,994	1,835	7	1,842	16.75
Bowling & Barkerend	11,558	2,163	12	2,175	18.81
Bradford Moor	11,436	1,908	24	1,932	16.89
City	10,820	1,782	22	1,804	16.67
Clayton & Fairweather Green	10,790	1,395	3	1,398	12.95
Craven	13,036	2,514	3	2,517	19.30
Eccleshill	11,661	1,740	7	1,747	14.98
Great Horton	10,442	1,520	10	1,530	14.65
Heaton	10,956	1,834	22	1,856	16.94
Idle & Thackley	12,075	2,177	7	2,184	18.08
Ilkley	11,799	2,774	15	2,789	23.63
Keighley Central	11,090	2,700	91	2,791	25.16
Keighley East	11,734	2,172	13	2,185	18.62
Keighley West	10,985	1,648	11	1,659	15.10
Little Horton	10,786	1,631	10	1,641	15.21
Manningham	10,689	1,603	23	1,626	15.21
Queensbury	11,950	1,750	13	1,763	14.75
Royds	11,694	1,419	2	1,421	12.15
Shipley	11,140	1,744	25	1,769	15.88
Thornton & Allerton	11,624	1,927	14	1,941	16.69
Toller	11,382	2,434	39	2,473	21.72
Tong	11,150	1,493	3	1,496	13.41
Wharfedale	9,349	1,715	10	1,725	18.45
Wibsey	10,315	1,380	1	1,381	13.38
Windhill & Wrose	10,976	1,787	9	1,796	16.36
Worth Valley	10,733	1,711	10	1,721	16.03
Wyke	10,166	1,449	4	1,453	14.29
TOTALS	340,906	57,163	443	57,606	16.89

32. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland

To ask the Leader of Council - How many children in public care have been housed in bed and breakfast accommodation for each of the last 12 months?

Answer

We have not placed any children in public care in Bed and Breakfast accommodation in the last 12 months.

Supplementary Question

Can you tell me where they have been housed on a temporary basis then? Thank you.

Councillor Val Slater

Well I cannot give you chapter and verse of each individual if there are but we do have a system of supported accommodation that we work with particularly with children in public care when we have got to move them on but I can assure you it has not been in bed and breakfast. But if you want individual answers then I can answer you outside this meeting if you have got any actual particulars that you want following up.

33. Councillor Davies

Could the Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills confirm the percentage of in year school applications were processed within the 20 day target?

Answer

The current database used does not allow us to measure the number of school days taken to deal with an in-year transfer request due to a Capita upgrade from v3 to v4.

We aim to deal with applications within 20 school days. We are aware that some applications take a few days whilst others are over this time period. The Team deal with 6-7000 in-year transfers at the same time as the 15000 reception and Yr7 allocations and the 2000 appeal hearings and are always conscious of delays that affect In-year applications whilst they are meeting their statutory deadlines.

We currently have an ongoing IT project within the Team and one of the outcomes will allow us to measure this as a KPI.

As staff are funded from the dedicated schools grant, which has been frozen by the Government for some time, we will have to consider the impact of the new funding formula and its impact on the Team's current funding before any additional staffing can be considered.

Supplementary Question

Thank you for the answer. I just wondered the ongoing IT project when that is likely to be completed please?

Councillor Imran Khan

I have no idea but I will come back to you on that.

34. Councillor Whiteley

Could the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Sport & Culture confirm that the vacant Warden position in Wharfedale will be replaced and can members be provided with any indication as to when this might take place?

Answer

The new Shipley Warden Team Leader will cover the Wharfedale Ward when he starts in August 2016. This post has been vacant for 2 months and during this period it has been covered by Council Wardens on bikes particularly at weekends and evenings. We have recently recruited to 13 Council Warden posts and most of these Wardens have started and are currently being trained.

35. Councillor Stelling

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning & Transport - In the last 12 months how many storm drains and gullies across the district have been serviced?

Answer

The figures for June 2015 to June 2016 show that 51,664 gullies were cleaned.

Supplementary Question

Thank you very much for the answer. Is it possible to have a ward breakdown for that figure?

Councillor Ross-Shaw

Yes I will provide that.

36. Councillor Davies

Given that a greater proportion of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) access mainstream education in the Bradford District when compared to the national average and that these children underperform similar children nationally does the Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment & Skills accept that this strategy has been wrong?

Answer

We are currently reviewing the support to children with special needs and disabilities. With the growth in pupil numbers there is a recognition that we now need more dedicated places for children with special needs. However it's also important to note that successful schools are also inclusive schools and serve all their pupils well, irrespective of ability and need.

Supplementary Question

I just wondered when you do this review of Special Educational Needs of children do you look at the impact on children that do not have special needs like in terms of mainstream education? Sometimes you have disruptive children that can impact on the children that are not. Do you look at that?

Councillor Imran Khan

I think we have got an obligation to look at those kids that do have special needs and make sure that we give parents a choice of where they want to send their kids and get the best for kids involved.

37. Councillor Poulsen

Since the no-parking zone was introduced on Haworth Main Street, how many initial warnings and Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued?

Answer

Since the no-parking zone was introduced on Haworth Main Street Wardens have patrolled the area.

The warning notice period was between the May 23, 2016 & June 3, 2016. Only one warning was issued during this period and other vehicles were moved on.

Enforcement commenced on June 8, 20/16, and to date one Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) has been issued at this location.

Feedback from Wardens suggests that as this contravention requires observation for 5 minutes prior to issue, attended vehicles generally drive away.

It is possible to implement a waiver of observation time so that instant PCNs can be served. Historically this works really well and can improve the parking habits of motorists.

Supplementary Question

Given the no parking zone on Haworth Main Street which has taken over two years to finally come to fruition I am disappointed that I am receiving daily photographs. In fact I have six photographs this morning alone from different residents and businesses about vehicles who are blatantly ignoring the no parking zone and blocking the street. Can the Leader give some assurances to residents and traders that stronger enforcement will take place in the future rather than the one notice that has been served so far?

Councillor Hinchcliffe

If you have received information I am hoping you are forwarding that on to officers to follow up with which is obviously important. Wardens do have to leave a five minute waiting period I think before they can actually fine people. There is talk in here of shortening that in certain procedures so perhaps that is something that you can look at with Councillor Jabar.

38. Councillor Stelling

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning & Transport -In the last 12 months how many complaints have been received by the Council in regards to blocked storm drains/gullies across the district?

Answer

The department received 2736 requests for clearing out blocked gullies etc via contact centre between June 2015 and June 2016.

Also Bradford has 17 storm grills and all 17 have been cleared in the last 18 months, since January 2015.

39. Councillor Davies

Could the Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment & Skills, please provide the figures for the amount of pupil premium grant received across the district over the past 5 years?

Answer

Amounts of Pupil Premium received in the last 5 years, excluding summer schools and early years. Figures for all maintained schools and academies in Bradford (all state funded schools)

2016/17	£35.85m
2015/16	£36.35m
2014/15	£35.43m
2013/14	£27.57m
2012/13	£17.46m

Supplementary Question

Do you think this substantial amount of money is used effectively?

Councillor Imran Khan

Yes.