

COUNCIL 17 JANUARY 2017

MEMBER QUESTION TIME

Questions submitted in accordance with Standing Order 12

1. **Councillor Duffy**

Many carers don't actually recognise they are carers (as revealed in recent research by Carers UK) and therefore miss out on much needed support often to the detriment of their health and personal finances. What are we doing as a Council to support people into identifying themselves as carers and therefore getting the support they deserve and need?

Answer

The council provides funding for Carers Resource and part of the work they are required to undertake on behalf of the council is "a robust outreach & engagement programme across Bradford, Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven covering all months throughout the year. They engage with over 1,000 new carers every quarter.

In the last few months they have;

- Run a poster campaign for Carers Rights Day placing posters across the district in community settings, libraries, post offices etc. to reach out to carers who have not engaged before
- Run information stands in the foyer of a number of big supermarkets across the district
- Run information stands at a range of community events where carers might be present
- Worked in GP surgeries to make contact with carers when they bring the cared for, for doctors' appointments
- Attended 2 memory assessment clinics weekly in Shipley and Eccleshill to engage with carers whilst the cared for person was being assessed.
- Visit all local hospitals on a regular basis meeting families and taking referrals from ward staff.
- Girdlington Community Centre refer carers who use their centre, to a worker who attends the centre monthly to talk to them
- Attend local jobcentres to advise and support carers
- Run professional open days so as to keep professionals informed about our service so that they can inform carers
- Strengthened links with the Bradford District Care Trust and simplified the referral route from that organisation.

Carers Resource would be happy to welcome Councillors to their office in Shipley if they would like more detail.

2. Councillor Davies

Could the Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills describe how successful to date the £660,000, ring-fenced over three years, provided to recruit and retain teachers across the district has been?

Answer

Despite the determination of central government to reduce the role of local authorities in education, Bradford Council remains committed to playing its part in supporting all our children and young people to achieve their potential. High quality teaching and school leadership are critical factors in driving improvements in education attainment which is why the Council has chosen to make this investment.

The funding, now in its second year, has leveraged in nearly £70,000 additional monies from partners to increase the scale of the programme. It has had the following impact:

- Bradford now has exclusive access to over 600 graduating teachers- promoting the District as a positive place to begin their career. Over 360 final year students attended the innovative 'bus tours' devised to 'showcase' the diversity of our Districts schools and promote career potential in 2015-16, with over 450 2016-17. Feedback has been 100% positive with a significant number of trainees now seeing Bradford as a positive place to begin their career. These tours are then followed up with 'Journey to your first teaching post' workshops which provide clear guidance and structure to securing a teaching post in Bradford and an invitation to apply for the Bradford Talent Bank.
- Established the 'Bradford Talent bank', providing a 'pre vet' service through the interviewing of potential newly qualified teachers (NQTs), by experienced Headteachers, who are then 'marketed' to schools using a database. This first trial year was highly successful with 90 NQTs securing employment in Bradford schools for September 2016. This was 'triallyed' through nursery and primary schools this year and will extend to secondary next year. The feedback from headteachers has been very positive and this action has reduced the percentage of schools reporting recruitment issues in nursery and primary from 58% to 32%. However there are still 'mid-year' recruitment issues.
- Extended the Talent Bank to experienced staff and school leaders from both in and out of District who are interested in moving into the area, by actively seeking talent, providing a bespoke recruitment service and matching people to posts now or in the future as well as working collaboratively with alternative models of teacher recruitment- Teach First and Future Leaders trust.
- Developed a co-ordinated 'pass on' method whereby unsuccessful yet employable candidates are 'passed-on' to other schools in the District looking for staff- keeping talent in Bradford.
- Worked with and advised Governing Bodies, headteachers and school partnerships on the most successful recruitment practices, processes and policies
- Worked with Governing Bodies to develop executive headteacher agreements securing 4 Executive headteacher partnership agreements over the last 12 months, all successful headteachers of good or better schools now additionally lead a second school in need of experienced leadership.

- All Bradford schools surveyed to ascertain the perceived issues with regards to retention across the District. The survey indicated that Bradford is not unique with regards to the retention of teachers. Despite Department of Education (DfE) statements, there is a crisis within our profession with an increased number of teachers, including senior leaders, leaving due to significant changes in the demands of workload, increased demands from Ofsted and Governmental changes to curriculum etc.
- Established a data collection process to gather retention information termly with Bradford information management team.
- Created a 3 year roll out career continuum for all stages of teaching from aspirant teacher programme of volunteering linked into Initial Teacher Education (ITE) through to Executive Headship. Established in 2015/16:
 - NQT deal for all NQTs in primary, nursery and special across the District which includes enrichment & development locality based training as well as core training provided by Birth-19 Teaching School Alliance (TSA).
Impact: all primary, nursery and special school NQTs in receipt of additional training of good quality across the District.
 - Emerging & enhancing middle leader training- primary, nursery through Exceed TSA
Impact: 15 emerging and 10 enhancing middle leaders began Autumn 2016.
 - Secondary Aspiring and Empowering English and Maths middle leader training - commissioned to Teaching Leaders
Impact: 16 English and 16 Maths Aspiring middle leaders successfully recruited and undergoing training and development with Teacher Leaders (nationally recognised and approved training provider)
15 of each established English and Maths leaders recruited to enhance their skills recruited for the Teaching Leader's Empowering middle leaders programme.
 - Executive headteacher/ system leadership training (primary, nursery and special) commissioned to Exceed TSA
Impact: 2 cohorts of 11 and 14 successful headteachers recruited to develop as potential executive headteachers for the future. Cohort 1 completed with excellent feedback. Cohort 2 Spring 2017.
Commissioned Leadership development monies for special schools through District Achievement Partnership (DAP)
Impact: DAP have developed a leadership programme to create a sustainable model for future leadership of special schools and Pupil Referral Units (PRUs).
New headteacher induction training programme including the provision of BHPP deployment (Bradford Headteacher Professional Partner) for every headteacher. There were 26 new substantive or acting headteachers or Heads of School in 2015-16 and 10 in 2016-17.
Impact: feedback from 26 attendees 2015/16 was 100% positive as they

felt supported, gained new knowledge and developed their network of contacts. All were very positive about having the opportunity to be mentored by an experienced headteacher.

Established this academic year 2016-17 to date (September – December):

- RQT (recently qualified teacher) training package for all teachers in their 2nd year of teaching to develop their practice to good and outstanding.
 - NQT mentor training – to strengthen the mentoring skills of teachers who support newly qualified teachers, ensuring consistency of quality across the district
 - Bradford Aspiring Leaders programme – recruited 18 ‘trainee’ headteachers and 18 headteacher mentors to undertake a development programme being delivered by a former HMI and prepare for future headships. Commences 24 January 2017.
- Commissioning the services of a well-established Teaching School Alliance to replicate the work with secondary schools.

Supplementary Question

Thank you for the answer. A very long answer which is great but I cannot seem to find anywhere in there the figures on the number of applicants per teacher and headteacher vacancy which I believe was one of the key targets?

Councillor Imran Khan

First of all thank you for asking me that question because you are right, it is a long answer because there is so much going on and it has been really, really positive and a real success story for Bradford. In terms of the numbers that you are asking for obviously I do not know them off the top of my head and I am happy to come back to you on those numbers.

3. Councillor Griffiths

Can the Leader of the Council confirm that Bradford Council has continued to receive repayments on the loan made to Bradford Bulls in line with the agreement and when we expect the amount to be repaid in full?

Answer

Yes, Bradford Council is continuing to receive the repayments on the loan made to OK Bulls Limited (in liquidation) in line with the agreement reached with the Guarantor of the loan. We are not able to disclose the expected date on when the repayment will be made in full as this is subject to a confidentiality clause. The Information Commissioner’s Office has ruled on two occasions now that the repayment details are exempt under s40 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act.

Supplementary Question

Thank you Leader for your answer. I hope you will appreciate given the travails of the Bulls of late I thought it was important that we just get confirmation that that was not going to have any deleterious effects on the Council. Without wishing to ask you

to breach anything confidential like that it is rather disappointing we cannot even know which decade the payments are going to be completed in. Are you able to confirm that at least given we do not know how long this is going to take we will receive a reasonable rate of interest on that loan and also will we be actually permitted to be told, when the payments are finished will we be able to be told that and be told what's happened after that?

Councillor Hinchcliffe

Councillor Griffiths this is subject to legal advice so I cannot just volunteer information without the City Solicitor.

Parveen Akhtar, City Solicitor

I am afraid all I can comment on this is because there is reference to a confidentiality clause in the answer to this question I would need to look at the detail of that to provide anything further at this stage so I would not recommend any further disclosure at this meeting. Sorry.

4. Councillor Love

Can the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing please update us on the current situation regarding the former Neville Grange Resource Centre site in Saltaire and give a timescale for work on building the much-needed facilities to commence there?

Answer

We are currently in dialogue with partners on the future of the site, which include options for the development of a residential care home. The options appraisal activity and business case will be developed over the coming months and the findings will feed into the wider considerations for the in house residential services.

Supplementary Question

Thank you for the response. Can I ask whether the Partners mentioned in the response include Communities and whether or not the options that are being considered include the use of the land next door to the Neville Grange site which was along with the Neville Grange site subject to the planning approval about a year ago?

Councillor Val Slater

My answer to this question is the same as when your colleague asked me a couple of meetings ago. There is continuing discussions with all parties around that land and we are looking at all different options and I am not in a position to say anything further than that. Once we have got something that we can progress on then as ward councillors you will be one of the first to know.

5. Councillor Dunbar

The number of private renters made homeless has more than trebled under the Conservative Government. Will the Portfolio Holder join me in condemning the Conservative Government for lack of action in protecting private renters in this district and across the country?

Answer

I agree that the government's approach to housing policy nationally has been insufficient. Any rise in homelessness among private renters has to be of major concern to any government. In the Bradford district, in 2012/13 there were 903 homelessness applications, 139 of which (or 14%) were due to a private landlord giving notice to the tenant. In 2015/16 the respective figures were 1,219 applications and 167 (14%) due to notice in the private rented sector (PRS). When looking at those households accepted as Statutory Homeless, the reason of a PRS related eviction/threat of eviction, trebled from 2011/12 to 2015/16, however to put this in context the total number of Statutory Homeless cases almost doubled as well over the same period.

The rise of evictions from the PRS is not surprising given that the sector is growing significantly across the district – it grew by 131% from 2001 to 2011, and this equated to over 20,000 extra PRS properties. The PRS accounts for over 18% of all households in the district now, and is greater than the social rented sector.

In October 2015 the Deregulation Act gave Assured Shorthold Tenants in the PRS extra protection from Retaliatory Evictions if they have formally reported a repair to the Council, and this resulted in an Improvement Notice or Notice of Emergency Remedial Action being served by the Local Authority. In such cases the landlord can't evict the tenant for 6 months using a Section 21 Notice.

Further details on trends in PRS homelessness, including figures on County Court PRS repossessions can be provided as background information.

6. Councillor Dunbar

Does the Leader agree that rail fares going up by 27% since the Tories came to power clearly shows they are failing the economy and failing to appropriately invest in Britain?

Answer

Living costs are going up and people are struggling as a result. The increases in rail fares adds to this burden. The increase of 27% over the last 6 years is huge. This means an actual increase of up to £2,100 since 2010. Quality, affordable transport infrastructure is absolutely vital to this city in particular. We have all been working hard to engage Government and make the case for Bradford to be on Northern Powerhouse Rail. The people of Bradford need proper investment to grow.

7. Councillor Miller

Can the Leader of the Council provide colleagues with indication of which Community Centres are at greatest risk of closure in the near future?

Answer

There is a mixed economy of community centre provision across the District. Most community centres are not owned or run by the council, therefore a running total is not kept. The private sector, faith sector and voluntary organisations would all consider themselves to be the provider of community centres in the District.

Some of these centres have closed over the last few years as the funding cuts bite. Every ward councillor should have a good enough relationship with the community centres in their area to know which are vulnerable. If they are not sure, then should contact the area office who provide support and will have a direct relationship with that centre. They will be able to give them an insight as to their viability.

Supplementary Question

I thought the idea of questions to Leader was to get an answer and on reading this there is not an answer from the Leader or the Portfolio Holder apart from to bounce it back to the individual. So I will ask again could you answer the question because you have the all singing, all dancing information to your hands whereas me as a lowly backbencher I only have a little bit. So could I ask again that you answer the question? Thank you.

Councillor Hinchcliffe

Councillor Miller, we do not own or manage all the community centres in Bradford and some people would say this is a community centre because it is their organisation, they recognise for them that is a centre of their community. Some people say no it is not a community centre so getting a definition for what is a community centre and what isn't is actually quite difficult to do. Because we do not own or manage all of them and we do not have a definition for this is definitely a community centre this isn't, then it is very difficult to give you a number. Of course in my own community, my own ward, I know all the community centres and I know which ones are vulnerable and which are not. As I said in the answer if anybody has any issues with what is viable and what is not in their community, then I am sure the neighbourhood office is the one that has all that information by ward and by constituency. I was unclear about what you were trying to get at in the question Councillor Miller. I am happy to take questions off-line if you need more detail but that was the best I could do with the information you were giving me for the question. Thank you.

8. Councillor Thirkill

What are the policies and procedures of the Council to monitor and enforce against persons, builders, businesses or householders burning waste plastics and other materials on sites or at business premises which causes pollution?

Answer

The Environmental Protection Act 1990 places a duty of care on every business (including builders) to make sure that all waste produced is disposed of in a suitable manner. Burning of waste is not considered as appropriate and any business found disposing of waste in breach of their duty of care responsibilities risks being prosecuted and fined an unlimited fine on conviction.

The Environmental Enforcement team will investigate all complaints of businesses burning waste.

There is no law against householders having garden bonfires, but there are laws for the nuisance they can cause. The Environmental Protection Act 1990 places a duty on the Council to investigate complaints of smoke nuisance, which can result in an

Abatement Notice being served.

Environmental Health will investigate complaints of bonfires at domestic properties and complaints of dark smoke from commercial premises.

Penalties on summary conviction for non-compliance with an Abatement Notice are up to £5,000 for domestic premises or £20,000 if the nuisance arises on industrial, trade or commercial premises.

9. Councillor Warburton

The Council has just been awarded £1.6m through the Innovation Fund. Can the Leader confirm the amounts that other local authorities were awarded and how we plan to use the funds?

Answer

Bradford has been awarded Children's Social Care Innovation funding of £1,571,100 in this year and the same amount in the next year. Over 2 years therefore Bradford will be awarded a total of approximately £3.1 million over 2 years.

A total of 19 authorities were awarded Innovation Fund Monies.

The Department of Education (DfE) awarded a total £11,024,122.00. It can be noted that Bradford is the second highest value recipient of monies after Islington and received 14% of the total allocation.

The funding will be used to:

- Work intensively with young people, particularly adolescents "on the edge of care" by establish multi-agency "No wrong door teams". These teams have been successfully piloted in North Yorkshire, and the DfE recognise as innovation our ambition of replicating these teams in a very different demographic setting to North Yorkshire. In North Yorkshire these teams have contributed to a reduction in the number of children local authority public care.
- Support foster carers to work with some of our more complex children through the introduction of the evidence based "Mockingbird" programme. This should reduce the number of foster care breakdowns which result in children going into specialist placements
- Support residential workers to work with the most complex children through delivery of Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy PACE (playfulness, acceptance, curiosity, empathy) programme. This should reduce the number of children whose needs can only be met in external residential placements.

The funding also includes an amount for research and evaluation of the impact of the funding.

10. Councillor Mike Pollard

At the time of posing this question, it is appreciated that the Core Strategy Development Plan is subject to a temporary Ministerial Holding Direction, but would the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning & Transport, please outline what is

envisaged for the specific furtherance of Policy BD1 Criterion B(2) in respect of 'new road infrastructure' including 'the Shipley Eastern Link Road'.

Answer

The Sub Area policies contained within the Core Strategy sets out the key elements of the spatial change to be delivered by 2030. They set out the development strategy in line with other Core Strategy policies for the relevant sub area, key aspects for the sub area in terms of economic development and environmental considerations as well as transport. The policies also include an overview of the investment priorities linked to development and change.

Policy BD1 relates to the City of Bradford. Criterion B (2) relates specifically to the Shipley and Canal Road Corridor and sets out the key elements of the development strategy. These have been taken forward in the Shipley and Canal Road Corridor Area Action Plan (AAP) currently at examination with a government appointed Inspector. The AAP sets out in more detail the key improvements anticipated for the area including transport and key protection lines where known. The key scheme in this area is the Bradford to Shipley Corridor Improvements (a package of junction improvement measures and widening of Canal Road to interface with the recent Canal Road/Stanley Road improvement) being funded through the West Yorkshire Plus Transport Fund. The Shipley Eastern Link Road did not demonstrate sufficient benefits under the assessment for West Yorkshire Plus Transport Fund. However, it is still on the Council's list of schemes which we would look to deliver but this is dependent on identifying appropriate sources of funding and is also dependent in part on the now cancelled Morrisons development on the Crag Road Site.

Supplementary Question

Can the Portfolio Holder please advise me as to the rationale behind the Shipley Eastern Link Road not being deemed to demonstrate sufficient benefits for support from the West Yorkshire Plus Transport Fund. Additionally to what extent was the now cancelled Morrison's development of significant relevance as an appropriate potential source of funding?

Councillor Ross-Shaw

I can get you a bit more detail on both of those things. Obviously there are criteria that the Combined Authority work to. I think it was along the lines it did not unlock the land that it could have done that we hoped it would so if it unlocked more land for employment use for instance then that would bring greater economic benefits and provide more value for money. I know Councillor Cooke knows a lot about this and has spoken at the Airedale Partnership on it so whilst I am getting you the information you could chat to Simon if you like.

11. Councillor Warburton

Can the Leader tell me what action the Council is taking to address the problem of fuel poverty?

Answer

Poverty is often discussed in different ways - child poverty, fuel poverty or financial exclusion to name but three. Tackling poverty, or the impacts of poverty, requires an

approach that considers the causes and consequences together; whether a family is in poverty due to unemployment, ill-health or the state of their property, a coordinated approach, will always bring the greatest benefits.

The District Partnership's response to this is to create the Anti-Poverty Forum, which is chaired by the Executive Member for Regeneration, Planning and Transport and of which the Council is a key contributor. They have been tasked with ensuring a coordinated response to poverty in all its different forms

Fuel poverty continues to be a significant issue in the Bradford District. The latest figures available from the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC) show that 26,621 households (13.2%) in the District were considered to be in fuel poverty in 2014 (slightly down from 14.1% in 2013). This is equivalent to the combined total number of households in Central Keighley and the Worth Valley.

Fuel poverty in the Bradford District is higher than both the regional and national averages. Bradford has a relatively high level of fuel poverty due to the high level of deprivation in parts of the District, low household incomes and the poor quality of the dwelling stock. Officers from the Environment & Climate Change Unit work closely with colleagues from the Housing Service, Public Health and the voluntary sector on the fuel poverty agenda.

The Fuel Poverty Framework for Action for the Bradford District and the related Programme of Work was adopted by the Council in September 2015. An updated work programme for the 2016 to 2018 period has been approved by the Environment and Waste Management Overview & Scrutiny Committee in October 2016.

Bradford Council has always had a proactive approach to dealing with fuel poverty in the District. This includes direct support to vulnerable households; working with private sector partners to improve the homes that residents vulnerable to fuel poverty live in (utilising external funding from central government, energy companies, Local Growth Fund, etc); working with an energy supply company to offer fairer tariffs to local residents; offering loans (and other financial assistance) to enable households to afford energy efficiency improvements to their homes; and enforcing legislation to remove excess cold hazards in private rented stock.

The Executive was also pleased to give the go-ahead for the not-for-profit White Rose Energy scheme, which is committed to fair and consistently competitive tariffs, to be opened out to people in our District as an option when they shop around for cheaper bills (although at the time of writing this decision is subject to call-in). Households of course have the right to choose whichever deal is best for them and this will vary depending on personal circumstances. The arrival of another competitive supplier on the market is a positive development as part of our wider work to combat fuel poverty.

12. Councillor Nicola Pollard

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Sport & Culture:

In July 2015 I asked the following question of the Portfolio Holder:

“What is the timescale for the completion of the work scheduled to be carried out on

the Harrogate Road playing fields and what guarantees do we have that the site will not be let exclusively and will still be accessible for community groups?"

I received the following answer:

"The works to the site at Harrogate Road playing fields is programmed in for this financial year. Works will be tendered in line with the Council's Financial Standing Orders and rules on procuring works. Once completed, the site will be available for letting to sports teams from across the area and the site will be managed in the same way as all other recreation grounds in the District."

Would the Portfolio Holder please advise what work was completed, how many pitches were made available as a result of the work and the total cost of this work?

Answer

Following on from the initial reply to the question in 2015 the Council have re-assessed the management of playing pitches and are now looking at local clubs or leagues managing sites. The pitches at Harrogate Road are currently subject to a Community Asset Transfer Application (CAT) by Eccleshill United.

An agreement has been reached, in principal and subject to planning permission being gained, with the developer of a neighbouring site to invest money into the Harrogate Road site.

This has put the planned improvement works on hold until the outcome of both applications have been determined.

If the CAT application is successful, a local agreement clause will be incorporated into the lease to ensure that the pitches will be available for community groups and other local teams and not just for the applicant.

13. Councillor Berry

Can the Portfolio Holder outline the weekly cost of children's residential placements in the private sector as compared to local in house provision and outline the recent cost trends including the additional costs of staff travel to out of area private placements.

Answer

It is difficult to give a definitive cost for a placement in the private sector as these costs are often calculated based on the needs and support requirements of the individual young people. An average cost is £2,517 per week.

The in house mainstream provision has an average cost of £2,078.

The working figure that is currently considered to be accurate for residential placements in the disabilities home is £3,300 per week. This delivers at least one to one support.

During the last financial year there has been an increase in the number of secure placements purchased; these typically cost an average of £6,000 per week. During

this financial year there have been 6 young people placed in secure units.

There has also been an increase in the number of placements purchased in order to place children vulnerable to child sexual exploitation (CSE) outside Bradford, and an increase in children placed in homes offering treatment plans for children displaying sexually harmful behaviour. We currently have two children in this type of specialist placement. These charge a higher premium than the average, but also require a commitment to the programme for at least 18 months including a financial commitment.

There has also been an increase in the number of children accessing placements via the joint resources panel. While these placements are the most expensive for the partnership (social care, health, education). Social care is only responsible for a proportion of the cost, therefore in terms of average costs, these placements would not be considered to be unusually high.

There clearly are additional costs associated with placing children and young people outside the area. These are difficult to quantify as costs might include:

- The hourly rate of the worker
- The number of workers attending
- The transportation costs for the staff
- The potential transportation costs, or a proportion of them for family
- The costs of returning the young person for appointments (e.g. court).

Supplementary Question

That does affirm the vital need for there to be directly accountable local provision but after the detailed work of Sir Martin Narey which he reaffirmed the need for good residential provision to reach a growing range of needs can the Portfolio outline how in the light of the growing demand on the children's residential sector the commitment this Council made to the staying put provision for children up to the age of 24 have been in residential provision to have an opportunity to have somewhere to return to should they need to?

Councillor Val Slater

Thank you Councillor Berry. That was quite a complicated question and I think in depth I will have to come back to you on that but generally we will be taking all steps that we can to make sure that our looked after children do maintain all the links they need with the place that they were born and brought up. I know it was something that was particularly picked up in the Ofsted's annual report about social care, the need for particularly where for instance we placed some of our looked after children in university to make sure they have got a place to come back to during breaks from university etc. So as I said quite a complex situation. There isn't one overall answer but I will give you a more detailed answer in writing and I will circulate it to others.

14. Councillor Davies

Could the Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills provide members with the comparable percentages of children across the district at Key Stage 1 and 2 who currently receive pupil premium funding?

Answer

Recorded in the January 2016 Census, the total % of children eligible for Pupil Premium in the District, eligible through the “ever 6” free school meals criteria, was 21.98% at Key Stage 1 and 33.94% at Key Stage 2. The equivalent figures for the previous 2 years:

- January 2015: 25.08% Key Stage 1; 35.69% Key Stage 2
- January 2014: 26.23% Key Stage 1; 34.32% Key Stage 2

Supplementary Question

Thank you for the answer. How can you explain the fact that these figures are totally at odds to what I was told at last month’s meeting when you said there had not been a reduction of Key Stage 1 pupils receiving pupil premiums since the introduction of universal free school meals?

Councillor Imran Khan

You have a better memory than I have to be honest with you because I cannot remember what the answer from the previous meeting was but I am happy to come back and talk to you about it. I have slept since then but I am happy to come back and talk to you about it.

15. Councillor Berry

Bearing in mind that Leeds is in receipt of £173.5m from Government to invest in transport improvements, can the portfolio holder outline what interventions are being made to ensure their plans enable those Bradford residents seeking to gain employment from the wider region being able to better access travel to get them to work, and to seek for the connections between towns and cities in the county to be improved.

Answer

In response to the £173.5million Leeds Transport Investment Programme, I am pleased to inform Councillor Berry that headline proposals by Leeds City Council include introduction of a new high frequency 10 minute bus services as well as an additional £71million by First group to provide 284 brand new environmentally friendly clean buses with free WiFi and contact less payment. There will also be measures to improve journey times on some of the most congested corridors, such as the A647 Leeds/Bradford Corridor.

There are also proposals for a car park expansion at New Pudsey station which will increase its capacity for park & ride serving both Leeds and Bradford along this key rail corridor between the two cities and support better connectivity to jobs. The Council also supports proposals for a new parkway rail station serving Leeds Bradford Airport on the Harrogate line which is vital for the wider regional economy.

The proposals to enhance the bus network and improve rail park & ride along corridors between Leeds and Bradford will benefit residents in our District.

The Leader of the Council and myself have already engaged with Leeds City Council

and other delivery partners such as First Group on the programme and have tasked officers to work with Leeds City Council in identifying ways we can work together to maximise the benefits for both Bradford and Leeds.

The Council will continue to work with neighbouring authorities, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Rail North and Transport for the North on local and national programmes including HS2, Northern Powerhouse Rail/HS3 and the emerging Strategic Northern Transport Plan to ensure better transport connectivity between towns and cities in the north of England for the benefit of resident living in the Bradford District.

Supplementary Question

Just very quickly, can we ask that in those discussions you look at the patterns of where the jobs are and where people live because it is all very well getting to Leeds city centre but the bus and transport networks in Leeds that get you from the city centre to other places is what helps get people to work from other places and it is not pretty good at the moment as far as I can see?

Councillor Ross-Shaw

Yes I am sure that will be taken into account.

16. Councillor Berry

Can the Portfolio Holders advise how many families seeking re-housing have been supported in that process by Children's Social Care using Children's Act provisions to secure the welfare of children?

Answer

In the last 12 months Children's Services has provided Section 17 payments to support families with the costs of accommodation on a total of 24 occasions. The total cost of this expenditure was approximately £12,740. The majority of these costs were emergency costs (including women's aid and other providers). The main purpose for the payment of Section 17 payments on an emergency basis is to prevent the need for children to enter public care and keep children, wherever possible with their families.

17. Councillor Brown

Would the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport confirm that the projected financial outcome of moving the Highways Services out of the Stock Bridge Depot in Keighley, is likely in time to be an additional cost to the Council rather than a saving, as some services will continue to be based at the depot and would he agree that resultantly, this proposal is more likely to create great head line material, than service improvements or efficiency savings?

Answer

The projected financial outcome of moving Highways Services staff from Keighley Depot as set out in the proposed budget is based on reducing accommodation and transport costs for the Service. Whilst other Council Services would remain at Stocksbridge depot there would be the consolidation of Highways staff in other

existing locations which has the potential to lead to more efficient ways of working and cost savings in the future. I should emphasise that these are budget proposals at this stage which are currently being consulted upon, a decision will not be made until the budget meeting next month.

Supplementary Question

Can I just point out to the Portfolio Holder that the accommodation will remain unused at Stockbridge Depot and the extra cost in time for staff to travel to Keighley, Ilkley, Shipley and other sites will reduce the level of service provided. All this proposal will do is to add fuel to the independence for Keighley groups or is this part of the Executive's plan?

Councillor Ross-Shaw

Obviously we are having to make a lot of tough decisions at the moment with the size of the Council halving and these are the sorts of things we are having to look at to meet the budgets I am afraid. So the Highways Department is already less than half the size it was a few years ago so we are having to look at trying to get economies of scale wherever we can with the sort of least worst impact on services. It is important to us to make sure that everyone across the district gets a good service from the Council so it is something we are taking into account. It is out for consultation at the moment and obviously I am sure you will be feeding those concerns and they will be reviewed accordingly.

18. Councillor Fear

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport:

As of the 1 October 2015 smoke alarms and Carbon Monoxide alarms must, by law, be fitted in all private rented properties. Can the portfolio holder advise how many properties Bradford Council has inspected and found no Carbon Monoxide alarm and how many of these cases has led to prosecution?

Answer

The Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (England) Regulations 2015 came into force on 1 October 2015.

These Regulations place a duty on landlords of rented accommodation (excluding registered providers of social housing) to ensure that:

- a smoke alarm is installed on each storey of premises where there is living accommodation
- a carbon monoxide alarm is installed in any room of premises used as living accommodation, which contain a solid fuel burning appliance.

Where the Council believes that a landlord is in breach of one or more of these duties, it serves a notice requiring remedial action. Should a landlord then fail to comply with the remedial action notice within the time period specified, the Council can impose a financial penalty charge.

I can advise that the Council has served 51 remedial action notices and 3 financial penalty charges for failure to comply with the duties relating to smoke and/or Carbon Monoxide detectors.

Supplementary Question

Thank you Lord Mayor and thanks for the Portfolio Holder for the information. I did not ask for it but would it also be possible to get a bit more detail on the number of reported cases by residents and those that were discovered by the Council as part of inspections and things like that as well just to help clear up some of this?

Councillor Val Slater

That comes under my portfolio. As last time I think the Liberal Democrat Group are a little bit confused as to who does what but we will send you another list but yes I will get you that information.

19. Councillor Rickard

Could the Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills confirm whether the planned new sixth form college is expected to reduce the number of students (approximately a quarter of 16-18 learners) who currently choose to travel outside the Bradford district to find alternative post-16 provision?

Answer

Currently, approximately 3,000 (22%) learners aged 16-18 travel out of the District to continue their education. The travel to learn patterns show that the majority of young people that go out of District to study do so for geographical reasons. The majority of young people that travel out of Bradford live either in the north of the District and travel into Leeds or North Yorkshire or to a lesser extent in the south of the District that travel into north Halifax or Kirklees. It is often easier for young people who live on the edges of the District to access learning provision outside of Bradford due to local transport routes and links, particularly on public transport.

Although it is not possible to predict with absolute certainty, we do not envisage that the two planned developments from Dixons Academy Trust and New College Pontefract will have any significant impact on the numbers of young people studying outside the District.

These new larger sixth form colleges will establish a wider range of high quality academic pathways and extra-curricular learning opportunities in areas of identified demographic demand. We understand that the sites of the two new developments will be in the City of Bradford, close to the city centre. These two developments are in the main a consolidation of existing smaller sixth form provision that will increase student choice and the greater availability of high quality places. As such, we do not believe that these planned sixth form colleges will reduce the numbers of young people travelling outside of the District to study.

These issues were considered as part of the Post-16 Review of Education published in 2016. Whilst Bradford Council has clearly stated that it welcomes the two new planned sixth form colleges, it also identified the demand for larger school sixth form colleges to be developed in the Keighley/ShIPLEY area and in the north of District to broaden the range of high quality learning pathways available for our young people.

Supplementary Question

Thank you Lord Mayor and thank you to the Portfolio Holder for the answer. Can you just elaborate on your final paragraph which talks about demand in the north of the district and in particular the demand for larger school sixth forms in Keighley/ Shipley and in the north of the district. Just expand on what that demand looks like and what is being done to mitigate it. Thank you.

Councillor Imran Khan

Thanks for that question. We know that we have got approval for two large sixth form colleges in Bradford and at the moment the plans are as far as we know, it is not confirmed yet, but the plans are that they will be around the city centre area somewhere. So we know we have demand in the north of the district, around the Shipley/Keighley corridor area. We do not know the numbers. Obviously we could not tell what the number would be of people wanting to go into the sixth form in that area but what we are doing is trying to work with schools in that area to come together to form alliances where we can provide better subjects and the number of subjects to the kids in that area basically. So that is where we are at the moment and we are working with the schools. It all forms part of the post-16 review that has recently been undertaken and will be played out over the next year or two.

20. Councillor Love

Can the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport please update Members on the current situation regarding the Odeon building?

Answer

Bradford Live continue to pursue negotiations with an end user for the Odeon who they hope will be a music venue promoter. We are supporting the Bradford Live team in these ambitions. They have shown a great deal of commitment to the project.

Supplementary Question

Thank you Lord Mayor and thank you for the response. In a briefing note that was issued in May of last year we were told that the Council was supporting Bradford Live with their resubmission to the Heritage Lottery Fund in which they intend to submit later in the calendar year. Can I ask whether this has taken place yet and if not when is it likely to happen?

Councillor Ross-Shaw

I will be honest I will have to double check. I am not under the impression it hasn't but I will get you the information and see what we can tell Members.

21. Councillor Poulsen

Could the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport confirm what consultation with Ward Members has taken place prior to the new gritting routes being implemented?

Answer

In the context of severe Government funding cuts, the Council voted to reduce the winter maintenance budget in early 2016 which meant that we had to reduce the

miles of road gritted across the district by approximately 10%. Officers checked the routes and used a risk based approach in line with the winter policy and also used routing software to make sure that the routes for the winter season 2016/17 were most efficient within the budget. The final routes were agreed with the Assistant Director and Portfolio holder and Officers have been available to discuss specific routes or changes with members as and when required and requested. This has included attending community meetings e.g. forums and parish council meetings.

A map of the revised gritting routes for the district is available on our winter webpages:

<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/emergencies/winter-and-gritting/winter-and-gritting/>

The reduction in gritting routes of around 10% was for precautionary gritting, but in adverse conditions once the main routes are clear they do move onto side roads and estates (priority 2 routes).

Residents can also log a gritting request on our website (or by phoning our contact centre) and council officers will try and attend as soon as possible.

Information from our winter policy regarding this is below:

2. ROUTE PLANNING for CARRIAGEWAYS and FOOTWAYS

2.1 Carriageway Routes for Pre-Treatment

Priority 1- MAIN ROADS

The salting network identified for precautionary treatment are designed either to prevent the formation of ice in frost conditions or prevent snow or freezing rain from bonding to the road surface.

This includes all classified roads (A, B and C roads) heavily trafficked routes, bus routes, roads connecting isolated communities, strategic residential/estate link roads, access to hospitals, schools, police, stations ambulance stations, fire stations and known trouble spots e.g. Steep gradients, tight bends, exposed areas and wet spots. (i.e. before the road temperatures reach 0° centigrade freezing).

Under the priority 1 plan the gritting operation treats 23 routes over a total distance of 626 miles which is 50% of the Highway network. Each route accounts for approximately 30 miles and is completed within 2 hours 50 minutes depending on traffic flow.

Priority 2- SIDE ROADS

These routes include minor estate roads, other bus and school routes that are of a varied width and not always capable of carrying two way traffic and are generally in built up residential areas with a high population. These roads are only treated once the operational managers are confident that the priority 1 network has been attended too.

Supplementary Question

Thank you for the answer. The section that says the officers have been available to discuss specific routes and changes with Members is great but I have been trying to

find out what the specific routes and changes are for three months so that we could discuss them and I am still waiting for that. I did ask for that information at the last Council meeting and all I have had so far today was the link to the website that tells you what the current gritting routes are. It does not tell you any changes so it is difficult to discuss the changes if we are still waiting three months later to be told what they are. So can you please ask them to send that information out as a matter of urgency?

Councillor Ross-Shaw

I can only apologise. I did think it had been sent out so we can get that out because I have asked officers for the information so they collated it so obviously I have taken my eye off the ball and not got it to every group but we will get it and get it out. Obviously you can raise any specific concerns directly with officers as well if it has come up over the last week anyway but yes I appreciate it is easier once you have got the routes. One thing I will say is the routes are not split by ward because obviously they do not work that way when they design the route but we will get the information to you.

22. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport:

How much compensation has been paid to drivers as a result of damage caused by potholes in the district in each of the last three financial years?

Answer

The total amount of compensation paid to drivers as a result of damage caused by potholes in the district over the last 3 financial years is as follows:

- 2014/2015 - £1372.20
- 2015/2016 - £4928.11
- 2016/2017 to date - £7745.61

Supplementary Question

I am surprised to see the numbers going up given that we had quite a sizeable chunk of money given to us, was it April, to pay for patching up potholes. It is never enough, not in Bradford, it is never enough but it is not the answer. So can somebody tell me, it must be you because you are looking really expectantly, we have never received details of who does what in the Portfolio along with details about potholes and details about gritting. I do not know who you are sending it to but it is not us. Going back to potholes and you, it is just a comment really that we have had quite a substantial amount of money and yet the amount of money that we are now paying out in compensation claims, I just wonder whether you want to make a comment on, is it an increasingly poor state of roads or an increasingly claim conscious culture?

Councillor Ross-Shaw

Thank you. I will liaise with the previous Portfolio Holder on any specific ring-fence funding we have got in previous years. Councils across the country are struggling to keep up with the pothole backlog. It is not Bradford making a specific unique claim that we have got a backlog every Council has and the Local Government Association has identified about £12b worth of pothole repairs that need doing across the

country. Bradford is no different but we do repair around 10,000 potholes a year but as I said earlier the Highways Department has taken its fair share of cuts as every department has and that means we just have less ability to do what we would like to do and if we had that funding then obviously we would be able to repair even more potholes but I think the Local Government Association says on average it will be about £60m per Council so I am more than happy to lobby Government with you if you want to make representations for us to get that funding.

23. Councillor Heseltine

Could the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport list the requirements for a town to be promoted to a principal town in the forthcoming Development Plan.

Answer

The settlement Hierarchy is set out in the Local plan Core Strategy Core Policy SC4. It was based upon the now revoked Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) which identified Ilkley and Keighley as Principal Towns and allowed Local Plans to identify additional Principal Towns based on local evidence. The RSS work was then tested further with reference to the existing settlement hierarchy in the Replacement Unitary Development Plan (RUDP) and through further local technical work. In particular the Council produced a Settlement Study which provided an up to date review of the nature and characteristics of the settlements within the District. This study brings together information and data from a range of sources to develop a wider understanding of the Bradford District and its settlements. It contains settlement profiles which provide an enhanced understanding of each area, their individual characteristics, roles and functions along with specific any issues, challenges and opportunities which they may experience.

In particular this identified the size and extent of facilities within each settlement. Further profiling of each settlement was also undertaken as part of the Growth Study which reviewed the environmental, social and economic characteristics of each settlement within the proposed hierarchy.

Policy YH4, YH5 and YH6 of RSS set out the following Hierarchy for the District:

- Regional City of Bradford
- Principal Towns of Ilkley and Keighley
- Local Service Centres

Policy YH5 Criterion C allowed for additional Principal Towns be added if they met 5 specific criteria listed. These were:

1. Support delivery of the Core Approach and transformation of Regeneration Priority Areas; and
2. Will provide employment, community facilities and services for local and surrounding populations; and
3. Will have good accessibility by public transport to Regional Cities and Sub Regional Cities and Towns; and
4. Have capacity to accommodate development in accordance with policy YH7 without harm to the town's environment and character; and

5. Have potential to develop a role that complements and supports the wider settlement network.

In light of the Findings of the RSS Settlement Study the Core Strategy confirmed the named Principal Towns but also added an additional Principal Town of Bingley in light of the criteria under Policy YH5, its current standing in the RUDP and the further work undertaken locally through the settlement study.

Policy SC4 was fully considered by the Inspector at the Examination including a dedicated hearing and related hearings on individual sub areas and their respective settlements. In particular the Inspector sought in his Matters and Questions to test whether the Settlement Hierarchy and status of each settlement was appropriate, effective, locally distinctive, and justified and the policy approach including the various criteria of each level of the hierarchy were appropriate and fully justified. In his Report the Inspector supported the overall approach to the settlement hierarchy and inclusion of Ilkley, Keighley and Bingley.

All the relevant documents setting out the approach and related evidence can be viewed on the Local Plan web page.

Supplementary Question

Thank you Leader. I could ask quite a few questions but I will limit it to local service centres point 2 will provide employment for community facilities and services. What facilities and services, a list and who will be providing them? Thank you.

Councillor Ross-Shaw

I will take it even though I am not the Leader. I am quite happy where I am thank you. I can get that detail to you on what they were taking into account but generally speaking they are just looking at the capacity of each town for growth and where they see that they believe that growth has that capacity then that is how it does. So I think it is in there but if you want a bit more detail then I will try and get you that and maybe benefit from sitting down with officers just so you can be reassured about the process.

24. Councillor Davies

Could the Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills provide Members with an explanation as to why the number of children achieving a good level of development in early years foundation stage is constantly being reported as positive progress, when the Council's own figures show that it is three percentage points below the national figure, the same margin as in 2013 and the gap for boys' progress, local versus national, in those three years has actually widened?

Answer

The percentage of children achieving a good level of development (GLD) has improved by 24% since 2013 when the new framework for assessing five-year-olds was introduced; this is a strong upward trend, but it is recognised that the gap to the national average, which had widened between 2014 to 2015 is still 3%. The gap to the national average did close by 1% in 2016 but this only restores the gap that

existed in 2013.

When compared to the Yorkshire and Humber region the improvement in GLD is also favourable, above the regional average for the past three years, and shows a strong three year rising trend.

The percentage of boys achieving a GLD has improved from a low base in 2013 (44%) to 59% in 2016, which although still too low has reversed the widening gap between the performance of boys nationally seen in 2014 and 2015. The gap is still 3% which is greater than it was in 2013 when it was 2%.

It is acknowledged that while strong improvements have been made in the percentage of children achieving a GLD there is still much to do to close the gap to national averages overall and boys to their peers nationally.

25. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Sport and Culture:

The total number of incidences and total weight of flytipping and the amount of money collected in fixed penalties for flytipping since the introduction of the new powers compared to the previous six months.

Answer

Fixed Penalty fines for flytipping were introduced on 1st October 2016. Since their introduction 14 fixed penalty notices have been issued and £3,700 of fines have been collected by the Council. Fixed penalty fines are issued for low level flytipping offences, generally where less than a car boot load of household waste has been dumped. For larger amounts of waste and all commercial waste the Council will prosecute offenders. In 2016 there were 20 prosecutions for waste offences resulting in £27,079 of fines.

Also in 2016 new seizure powers were used and a van that was used persistently for flytipping was seized and crushed. The van was crushed as there was no registered keeper, the van was not roadworthy and nobody came forward to claim responsibility. The crushing of the van was a first for a Yorkshire Council.

The new FPNs for fly tipping have now been in force for three months and the table below shows a comparison between that period in 2015 and 2016 and the preceding three-month period. Whilst information isn't known on the amount of fly tipping incidences, information has been provided on the number of reports from residents and businesses for the corresponding period. This includes multiple reports of single fly tips.

Fly tipping is cleared by a dedicated vehicle (tonnage shown) and by Street Cleansing Teams, where it is co-mingled with general street cleansing arisings (tonnage also shown, but not all fly tipping)

	2015		2016	
	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec
Fly Tipping (Dedicated team)	164	145	175	141
General Transit Waste	674	805	822	745
Total Litter & Fly Tipping	838	950	997	886
CRM Reports	2,397	1,829	2,643	1,934

However, there are degrees of seasonality in fly tipping and it is not possible to draw a direct relationship between the introduction of the new legislation and amounts of and reports of fly tipping for the corresponding preceding period.

26. Councillor Pennington

Can the Leader of the Council confirm whether any risk assessments have been carried out on service providers affected by Council spending cuts?

Answer

I must point out the fact first of all that these are Government funding cuts and the Government undertakes no risk assessment to evaluate the impact on the individuals, communities, service providers and economy of Bradford District. These are not cuts which this Council has brought in on its own whim. When service areas are being asked to put forward budget proposals they are specifically asked to consider the internal impact and external impact of the proposals. They are also asked to consider the risks and issues that arise from the proposals. Many of the providers of services affected by the proposals are VCS organisations and a separate analysis is made of the impact on that sector to inform the decision making process. In addition to this, the consultation process allows all affected parties to feedback on the published budget proposals.

Supplementary Question

Thank you Lord Mayor. Just a quick one here. Your answer confirms that the Government do not undertake risk assessments but surely we as a Council have a duty of care but I would be interested to know what legal reasons there are that instruct a Council to cut costs on children's food and clothing?

Councillor Hinchcliffe

That does not seem to be related to the question. Sorry Councillor Pennington but if you want to let me know afterwards I am happy to respond to that. There has also been a directive that the Government has cut milk funding as well recently so there are all sorts of cuts coming out of Central Government. If this is a new one I am happy to respond to it if you give me the details. It is just a bit off piste. Sorry about that.

27. Councillor Heseltine

Could the Leader of the Council list the Council assets and services that have been sold, ceased or closed over the last 5 years in Bingley and the ones they have identified for future termination or disposal?

Answer

Please see below which covers sold, ceased or closed premises in Bingley over the last 5 years as recorded on the Council's Property Management System. This accounts for 4.4% of the number of assets disposed of across the District in the same time period. In addition, Executive approval was given in 2013 for the disposal of Bingley Town Hall as part of the Property Programme 'invest to save' strategy. In January 2017 the Executive approved that the Council bring forward the development of a new community Swimming Pool and Sports Facility in the North of Bradford City, allowing for Bingley Pool to be offered for community management. If a solution cannot be found the pool will close.

Estates are currently dealing with one potential disposal in Bingley which is included in the list.

Bingley Sales

2011/12

A650 Bingley Relief Road	Land
Car Parking E & F Busfield Street, Bingley	Land
Car Parking G Busfield Street, Bingley	Land
Land at Micklethwaite Lane, Bingley	Land
Plot D, Busfield Street, Bingley	land
Plot A, Busfield Street, Bingley	land
Plot at Busfield Street, Bingley	land
Bingley Cemetery Lodge, Bailey Hills Road, Bingley	Former Environment & Sport Office - operational

2012/13

Land at Main Street, Bingley	land
2-2A Chapel Lane, Bingley	surplus non-operational retail unit
Plots 3/24 3/28 + 3/47- A650 Bingley Relief Road	land
Plot B, Busfield Street, Bingley	land

2013/14

146 Main Street, Bingley BD16 2HL	Former one stop shop closed with contact point in new library
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2014/15

Dryden Street, Bingley BD16 2LU - Land and buildings on the west side of	surplus non-operational industrial premises
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2015/16

nil

2016/17

Former Bingley Youth Project Premises, Leonard Street,
Bingley BD16 1DP, service relocated

Proposed

Priesthorpe Annexe, Mornington Road

In addition to the above sales the Estates Team are aware of the following changes at Council owned premises

00016 - Bingley Arts Centre let on long lease to BLT	
00323 - Aire Valley School	Academy conversion
02093 - Former Main Street Public Conveniences	Replaced with new public conveniences
50920 - Chapel Lane 13a Patch Base	Adults local office moved to Town Hall
53764 - Chapel Lane superloo	Closed
54821 - Prince of Wales Park Public Conveniences	Closed
50289 - Bingley Cemetery Bottom Chapel	Lease surrendered
53842 - Bingley Cemetery Top Chapel	Vacant
59327 - Trinity Five Rise Children's Centre	Changed to a Service Delivery site and transfer to Diocese imminent
52163 - Beck Lane Allotments	Transfer to Town Council
52742 - Stanley Street Allotments	Transfer to Town council
01682 Warren Lane Allotments	Held in Trust Transfer proposed to Town Council

Supplementary Question

Thank you. I will come back to some items in future questions but for the moment can the Leader detail the process and timescales for transfer to the community management of Bingley Pool?

Councillor Hinchcliffe

Not really because I think the community need to say they are up for it first. Talks are on-going is my understanding and we would be willing, very willing, to make sure that happened and we have been very supportive of other assets that have managed to be managed now by the community including the Bingley Arts Centre which is tremendously successful. So happy to talk to people in the community who want to take that on and expedite it as soon as possible.

28. 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 both 2015 and 2016?

Answer

Information on Fixed Penalty Notices for littering in 2015 and 2016 are shown below

Ward	FPNs 2015	FPNs 2016
Baildon		1
Bingley	2	1
Bingley Rural	1	
Bolton & Undercliffe		1
Bowling and Barkerend	2	
Bradford Moor	2	3
City	32	14
Craven	2	
Eccleshill	2	
Heaton		1
Idle & Thackley	1	
Keighley Central	4	2
Keighley East	5	
Keighley West	5	
Little Horton	3	
Manningham		1
Shipley	3	4
Toller	2	
Wharfedale	1	
Windhill & Wrose	4	
Worth Valley	1	2
Total	72	30

29. Councillor Poulsen

Could the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport confirm how many streetlights are awaiting repair and how many wait more than 4 weeks?

Answer

As at 10th January there were 630 faults to complete, of which 207 were printed off on Friday. No repairs will wait more than four weeks, the longest wait should be three weeks.

The reason why we have a delay in the repair times at this time of year due to the significant increase in the number of fault reports by the public from when the clocks go back at the end of October, we are receiving around 150-200 reports per day- this is around the average over the past few years between November and February.

It is also much easier to report faults using the web and mobile app. This is an improvement on last year when we were looking at repair times of up to six weeks.

In part the increase in the number of faults is due to the budgetary cuts in past years which have forced us to stop bulk lamp change creating an increase in the number of reactive fault repairs.

As we increase the number of LED lanterns in the District this will assist in reducing the number of faults.

Supplementary Question

Yes just some clarification on the first section. It says "207 were printed off on Friday". Can you explain to me what that actually means?

Councillor Ross-Shaw

It means that when that question was prepared they had not really thought that when it is read out in Full Council Friday would not necessarily make a lot of sense. What they are saying is when they got the question it did obviously have a print-out or an assessment on what was there and that 207 I think had just come in I think is what it means. But just to reassure you what the answer is essentially saying is that nothing is going beyond four weeks at the moment, it is about three weeks. If there are any specific ones because I guessed there would be, do let me know directly and we will find out what is going on with them.

30. Councillor Miller

Can the Leader of the Council provide the cost including officer time etc, of the Council writing to various bodies and individuals, as resolved at council meetings, along with details of any tangible benefit to the residents of Bradford District, resulting therefrom?

Answer

The costs of writing to bodies and individuals as a result of direct requests through full Council resolutions are minimal. A relatively small amount of officer time is involved in complying with these requests and correspondence is often sent to recipients directly via email therefore incurring no postage costs.

Over the last two years 13 Council resolutions have asked specifically that the Council to write to external bodies or individuals, often as part of a wider set of resolutions. The purpose of these letters has been to:

- Request the District's MPs to back the Council's call for greater Government support for education in Bradford District and to support Parliamentary calls for statutory protections to be extended to youth services.
- Ask the Department for Education to review policy on elective home education with a view to helping the Council ensure that all children are safe and able to benefit from a good education.
- Request the Chair of the National Infrastructure Commission to make the case for a high speed rail stop in Bradford.
- Raise concerns with the Arts Council about the London bias in funding and the need to ensure that Bradford District receives its fair share of national financial support for culture and the arts.
- Ask NHS partners to ensure that proposed changes to health services implied by Sustainable Transformation Plans are subject to proper public consultation and scrutiny.
- Send messages of reassurance and continued support to community groups in the wake of the Brexit vote.

- Oppose Boundary commission proposals that would divide the District and undermine local democratic representation.
- Express concerns about the undermining of trade unions and employment rights and the potential for international trade agreements to undermine public services.
- Support calls for a public inquiry into Orgreave.
- Express the District's condolences to the people of Paris, Peshawar and Baga, Nigeria following terrorist atrocities.
- Congratulate the District's Paralympians and special Olympians on their achievements.

The outcomes of these letters are not quantifiable in cash terms however local people expect the Council, as the sole democratically accountable body for the District, to be debating issues that matter and lobbying, campaigning and seeking to influence on their behalf. It is difficult to see why anyone would oppose for example, the Council calling for greater support for education, improved child safety, transparency in health services, fairness in arts funding and better transport links; likewise the promotion of cohesion and local democracy, congratulations to local athletes or expressing solidarity with the victims of terror attacks.

Supplementary Question

Leader again I asked a simple question but I do not get an answer. A relatively small amount of officer time is involved. I put it to you there are 90 of us sat in here when we are debating these things, there are the officers around here. Officers cannot write on our behalf without our permission but I am sure you as a Leader can speak to the other Leaders and save the taxpayers of this district an awful lot of money by just agreeing to write. So again I ask how much is the cost because a relatively small amount does not answer my question? Thank you.

Councillor Hinchcliffe

Councillor Miller I honestly cannot understand why you are taking up air time in asking how much it costs to write a letter. It is something we do as an everyday part of our job. It is an important thing to do to reach out, ask people outside the organisation a question so we get a response whether that is positive or negative. It is part of engagement, it is part of talking to people and I cannot imagine you would think that we should stop writing letters to save money because otherwise nobody knows we are here and we do not get anything done. So I will continue to write letters at very minimal cost to the Council to make sure we forge relationships outside the Council as any normal organisation would do. Thank you.

31. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Sport and Culture

Can the Portfolio Holder provide details of the actual work that has been undertaken by Bradford Council or its partners to reduce the likelihood of flooding from rivers in the District?

Answer

The Council, in partnership with the Environment Agency (EA) has secured £850,000 of Local Levy funding for the Bradford Flood Programme, to commission

flood risk management options appraisals and develop community resilience and stewardship projects. The Flood Programme Board has been established to ensure that effective partnership and collaborative working is undertaken.

We have identified 15 priority locations for further work or detailed investigations. These investigations ("Initial Assessments") will allow us to better understand the reasons for flooding and the costs of tackling the sources of flooding.

The locations are broadly grouped within:

- Keighley and Stockbridge
- Bingley and Airedale
- Baildon and Shipley
- Esholt and Apperley Bridge
- Silsden

The outputs from the Initial Assessments are supporting the development of the Bradford Flood Programme, which includes initiatives such as:

- Modelling assessments of upstream storage options
- Surface water modelling
- In-water debris clearance at the Initial Assessment locations, in partnership with the Aire Rivers Trust stewardship project
- Resident and business Flood Resilience and Community Engagement information packs

A further £30,000 of Local Levy funding was secured to undertake surface water and asset investigation works for the Canal Road Flood Risk Reduction Project.

Whilst the different Risk Management Authorities have different responsibilities in regard to drainage, the interaction between different sources of flooding make partnership working very important. Bradford Council is leading on project outputs where surface water or ordinary watercourses are identified and the EA is leading on outputs involving main rivers. For example, Bradford Council is leading on the Canal Road works, drainage surveys in Esholt that will be undertaken to gain a better understanding of the drainage processes impacting on that area, Worth catchment modelling and a surface water study in Keighley and Stockbridge.

We are also undertaking work in partnership with the EA and the Aire Rivers Trust to develop River Stewardship Schemes. Work is proposed in four areas (Bradford, Shipley, Bingley and Keighley) and these will be aligned with the Initial Assessment areas. River stewardship schemes have multiple potential benefits such as improved conveyance of watercourses and a reduction of flood risk, improved community engagement and resilience, a greater understanding of riparian responsibilities, improved water corridors, improved wellbeing and health and improved land values. River stewardship works are applicable to all rivers and their tributaries and engagement with all parties from riparian owners and communities through to Risk Management Authorities is critical. This is another reason why it is important that this work is being carried out in partnership. We will be running flood roadshows together in the next few months to inform residents and businesses further regarding the work that we are all undertaking, and to get comments and suggestions to feedback into work as we progress. These roadshows will also

provide an opportunity to find out more about how you can get involved in local river stewardship and community resilience work.

We are working with the EA, Leeds City Council, North Yorkshire County Council, Yorkshire Water and the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust to develop an integrated approach to managing flood risk along the River Wharfe. The EA will be creating a Wharfe Catchment Partnership Board as the first step in this process.

As part of our resilience works a joint newsletter was produced by the EA and the Council prior to Christmas and disseminated to all Cllrs in advance of the Flood Pack being sent to residents.

The Council is also deploying water level sensors. This work is being done initially to demonstrate the usefulness and practicalities of an innovative multipurpose data based network (based on LoRaWAN network) and five sensors will be installed initially on Bradford Beck. Should the performance of these be satisfactory the network and number of sensors might be expanded to cover many watercourses. As the main rivers are monitored by the Environment Agency, the Council could give priority to rapidly responding ordinary watercourses. Water levels are only one application of these sensors. They could also be utilised to monitor air quality, temperature etc.

Asset repairs and flood risk management schemes

Bradford Council continues to undertake maintenance works to ordinary watercourses where it is our responsibility as a riparian owner to do so. Our Land drainage officers are out daily across the district responding to issues regarding blockages and defects on ordinary watercourses and addressing concerns over surface water issues.

The EA works to restore assets to their pre-winter 2015 standards continued through the summer and early autumn, with the majority of the work completed by September 2016.

They have repaired or rebuilt several sections of channel side wall on the River Worth, and on the River Aire they have repaired floodwalls to prevent seepage, and undertaken rendering to the rear of some commercial premises to ensure watertightness. They have completed shoal removal works on the Rivers Aire and Worth, and on Silsden Beck. Works on the River Aire at Westlea Avenue in Stockbridge, Keighley, were completed at the beginning of November. This involved removal of a tree and a shoal island from the channel.

The EA have plans for a programme of tree works on the Rivers Aire and Worth. Sections of channel side walls along Silsden Beck are being repaired by adjacent land owners and contractors for City of Bradford MDC.

32. Councillor Heseltine

Could the Leader of the Council explain the reasons for the delays with the disposal of the Mornington Road Annex and formally contacting the charity commission for permission to sell?

Answer

The Mornington Road Annex, Bingley (Priesthorpe Annex) was acquired in 1896 by the Trustees of the Bingley Technical School, and the Terms of the Trust cannot be found. Independent legal advice has now been obtained on possible restrictions to a sale given the implied Educational charitable trust status. The Charities Act 2011 allows for charitable land/assets to be sold by a trustee, (the Council) subject to an independent report from a qualified surveyor on behalf of the trustees and by at least one month's notice inviting representations from the public, and the trustees must consider those representations. Further legal advice has been requested as to how the proceeds of any such sale can be applied given the complex background and history to this buildings original purchase and use since 1896.

The Charities Commission has also been consulted but confirms it holds no record of a formal trust document or the terms of the trust. The independent report from a qualified surveyor has already been commissioned and subject to receipt of further legal advice, the next step is to seek the Trusts approval to commence the disposal process, as soon as we receive the additional legal advice, a report will be submitted to the Regulatory and Appeals Committee, who will act as trustees.

Supplementary Question

Thank you. This has been dragging on for quite a number of years now and we seem to have lost some documents. Can we have a definitive timescale as this building is derelict and harmful to the local community and environs? Thank you.

Councillor Hinchcliffe

Thank you Councillor Heseltine for pushing it. It is certainly something that is on Councillor Ross-Shaw's radar. Obviously the document dates from 1896 so I do not think anybody alive now obviously can be judged faulting for not having still got it. I cannot castigate anybody for that however Councillor Ross-Shaw is on to it and making sure it goes forward as quickly as possible with your help and co-operation of course. Thank you.

33. Councillor Fear

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport:

Has the Council identified land for schools to be built on should the funding be made available?

Answer

Work to identify necessary sites for new schools is being taken forward as part of the Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) but it is too early to say exactly where those sites will be until the actual location and distribution of housing sites are identified. With regards to the funding of new schools, the Council has limited financial means to acquire land for new schools nor the power to build schools outright as community schools. As such there will be a strong reliance on collaboration with the private sector in the delivery of new schools under the Free School/Academy legislation with the Council. Planning will continue to work with their colleagues in Education and Estates and the Education Funding Agency to explore opportunities for school provision (new and expanded) where possible as work

continues on the Allocations DPD over the next 2-3 years.

34. Councillor Rachel Sunderland

How many parking tickets were issued to drivers during 2015 and 2016 for dangerous and inappropriate parking outside each of the six Primary and two Secondary Schools in Bolton and Undercliffe Ward

Answer

Parking tickets - penalty charge notices (PCNs) - are issued to vehicles parked in contravention, in a restricted area such as the yellow zig zags outside schools. Penalty charge notices are not issued for dangerous driving – this would be dealt with by the Police. The table below shows the PCNs issued on the street listed below (the street on which the school is located) and it includes the PCNs issued for the entire street as our notice processing system does not allow us to identify a particular part of the street. However, we are able to identify by contravention code and code 48 relates to PCNs issued on school keep clears/yellow zig zags (code 48J are the PCNs issued by the camera car to vehicles parked on school keep clears/yellow zig zags). These are shown in the table below.

Street	Tickets issued 2015	Tickets issued 2016	Total Tickets 2015 & 2016	Of those no. issued as code 48	Of those no. issued as code 48J
Peel Park Primary School Oxford Road	7	3	10	3	0
St Francis Catholic Primary School and Grove House Primary School Myers Lane	28	26	54	13	3
Swain House Primary School Radcliffe Avenue	8	16	24	11	9
Poplars Farm Primary School Poplars Park Road	3	3	6	2	0
Wellington Primary School Dudley Hill Road	7	6	13	2	0

Feversham College Cliffe Road	2	1	3	0	2
Hanson Secondary School Sutton Avenue Please see Myers Lane above as this is where most vehicles park to drop off and collect young people attending Hanson School.	0	0	0	0	0

The Police deal with dangerous driving, parking on footpaths and instances of obstruction.

In addition, a co-ordinated programme, including educational work, is ongoing between the Police, the Council's Road Safety Team, Ward Officers and Council Wardens to offer early intervention for nuisance parking and driving around primary schools. Primary school children are being encouraged to design a banner to persuade parents and other local residents of the need to drive in a safe and considerate manner. The local community will then be encouraged to vote on their favourite design using the Online Watch Link (OWL) system to which 13,000 residents of Bradford are already signed up. The winning banner will be used to further the campaign at additional schools.

In conjunction with this, education programmes will also run at chosen schools across the district. Information regarding the scheme will be passed out to parents and teachers and primary school children will dress in mini police officers uniforms and give out advice notices to drivers. They will be accompanied at all times by a Police Officer or Council Warden. Following this, additional days of action will occur where the Council Wardens and PCSOs give out tickets, or the camera car will be used.

35. **Councillor Fear**

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport:

How many empty homes, long term and short term, are there in each ward?

Answer

Number of Long / Short Term Empty Properties by Ward – data correct at beginning January 2017

WARD	Long Term*	Short Term*	Total
Baildon	60	76	136
Bingley	83	128	211
Bingley Rural	120	109	229
Bolton And Undercliffe	123	103	226
Bowling And Barkerend	280	165	445
Bradford Moor	175	104	279
City	392	290	682
Clayton And Fairweather Green	95	97	192
Craven	81	105	186
Eccleshill	99	104	203
Great Horton	196	160	356
Heaton	150	99	249
Idle And Thackley	90	118	208
Ilkley	68	91	159
Keighley Central	188	134	322
Keighley East	226	121	347
Keighley West	67	89	156
Little Horton	180	129	309
Manningham	251	109	360
Queensbury	133	115	248
Royds	108	102	210
Shipley	114	106	220
Thornton And Allerton	128	92	220
Toller	142	97	239
Tong	103	99	202
Wharfedale	37	61	98
Wibsey	119	91	210
Windhill And Wrose	56	62	118
Worth Valley	117	122	239
Wyke	93	90	183
Total	4074	3368	7442

* Long term empty properties are defined as those being empty 6 months or more.

Supplementary Question

Thank you Lord Mayor and I am guessing this one will probably come to you again Val so apologies for the mix up on that. There are a number of wards that have got significantly higher numbers of long term lets than others. Are we doing anything in particular to target those specific wards?

Councillor Val Slater

The answer is yes but we cannot tackle all the wards. It is looking at priorities. The ones with the biggest number of empties but it is not always down to number, it is

also about the impact on the community and sometimes there might be a conglomeration of empties together which have a bigger effect on the community. Part of the work being done by the Empty Homes Team is working with particular wards to try and concentrate on those and it is a matter of prioritisation but if you need further discussion then David North of the Empty Homes Team will be only too happy to take you through it.

36. Councillor Fear

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Planning and Transport
How many homes in each Ward have been given permission to build and where work has not yet started?

Answer

The Council's Housing Land Register is in the process of being finalised following an update to the sites and permission data and site survey work of all sites to confirm progress and completions. This is in the process of being reconciled and quality checked. The information requested will be made available as soon as it have been finalised.

Supplementary Question

The last sentence of the answer says the information requested will be made available as soon as it has been finalised. Do we have a rough idea when that will be?

Councillor Ross-Shaw

I do not know but I will find out a rough timescale for you.

37. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing
How many homes providing both Nursing and Residential Care have been placed by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) in each of the following categories:-
Outstanding, Good, Requiring Improvement or Inadequate at their last inspection?

Answer

<u>CQC rating</u>	<u>No. of homes</u>
Inadequate	7
Requires Improvement	43
Good	65
Outstanding	1

38. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing
How many Home Care Agencies have been placed by the Care Quality Commission in each of the following categories:- Outstanding, Good, Requiring Improvement or Inadequate at their last inspection?

Answer

1	outstanding
24	good
17	requires improvement
2	inadequate

Above figures based on 1 January 2017 CQC ratings report. Figures include all companies operating in Bradford District and subject to CQC new inspection process (Outstanding, Good, Requiring Improvement or Inadequate).

39. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing

For each category of Care Provider (Nursing care Home, Residential Care Home, Nursing and Residential Care Home and Home Care Agency) how many places in each of the Inspection Categories (Outstanding, Good, Requiring Improvement and Inadequate) is the Council purchasing?

Answer

<u>CQC rating</u>	<u>Residential homes</u>	<u>Council funded places as at 10/01/2017</u>
Inadequate	4	37
Requires Improvement	26	451
Good	41	526
Outstanding	1	9

<u>CQC rating</u>	<u>Nursing homes</u>	<u>Council funded places as at 10/01/2017</u>
Inadequate	3	49
Requires Improvement	17	629
Good	24	539

40. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing

How many Residential Care Homes and number of places have been placed by the Care Quality Commission in each of the following categories:- Outstanding, Good, Requiring Improvement or Inadequate at their last inspection?

Answer

<u>CQC rating</u>	<u>Residential homes</u>	<u>CQC registered beds verified 28 Oct 2016</u>
Inadequate	4	47
Requires Improvement	26	860
Good	41	1010
Outstanding	1	10

41. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing

How many Nursing Care Homes and number of places have been placed by the Care Quality Commission in each of the following categories:- Outstanding, Good, Requiring Improvement or Inadequate at their last inspection?

Answer

<u>CQC rating</u>	<u>Nursing homes</u>	<u>CQC registered beds verified 28 Oct 2016</u>
Inadequate	3	87
Requires Improvement	17	790
Good	24	900

42. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing

Is the Council continuing to commission care in residential settings which have been rated as less than good?

Answer

The Council does not solely rely upon CQC outcome ratings to determine where placements can be offered. It is the individual service user choice however we encourage all staff to make individuals and their circle of support aware of the latest CQC findings.

Where we have concerns regarding a service delivery sufficient to place restrictions this is managed through the Integrated BMDC, CCG Serious Concerns procedure. One of the actions available through this process is an embargo on all new placements until the quality of the service has improved and that improvement has been sustained.

43. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing

Is the Council continuing to commission home care from providers who have been rated as less than good?

Answer

Yes, some providers are rated as requires improvement and commissioned to deliver home care services. If a provider is rated as inadequate the Council's Serious Concerns Policy will apply, which includes a process in respect of new/existing commissions.

If a provider is rated inadequate overall or inadequate for Safety then the Serious Concerns procedure which is jointly agreed by the council and our NHS partners including the regulator CQC is invoked. An urgent meeting with the provider is called to analyse risk to those currently receiving the service from that provider and to produce an improvement plan. The council and its providers will work with the provider to bring about the required improvements. An embargo on any new clients is imposed until the Serious Concerns group which is made up of key partners is satisfied that the required improvements have been made. If improvements are not made during the agreed period then decommissioning of the service will be considered.

44. **Councillor Jeanette Sunderland**

To ask the Portfolio Holder for Wellbeing

How many total packages of home care have been commissioned which include scheduling sufficient travelling time between visits?

Answer

Scheduling of travel time will be planned by the Provider themselves. The provider will have the opportunity to accept/decline the work on the basis they can meet the requirements set within the individual care plan and operational aspects of their service.