

## COUNCIL 14 JANUARY 2020

### MEMBER QUESTION TIME Questions submitted in accordance with Standing Order 12

---

#### 1. Councillor Caroline Firth

Climate emergency is a huge threat to our planet. I am therefore pleased that the budget proposed by the Labour Group is committing £25 million towards Climate Emergency. Can you please outline how the money will be spent and when and how residents can get involved?

#### Answer

In the budget we identified an additional £25m for a series of major new revenue and capital investments as part of our response to the climate emergency, some of which are still subject to further developments and detailed feasibility studies.

#### · District Heat Network: £14.3m

The aim of the scheme is to significantly cut carbon in the provision of heat and electricity in the city centre and to act as a springboard for low carbon regeneration projects in the city centre. This will save at least 12,640 tonnes of carbon over the life of the project.

#### · Renewable energy projects: £5m

We are in the early stages of carrying out a feasibility study into what a renewable energy programme might look like. It would seek to significantly cut carbon emissions, air pollution, costs and we will be engaging with businesses and residents. It could save over 1,000 tonnes of carbon per year.

#### · Climate change building controls: £2.5m

This programme of work has underpinned the Council's strong performance in energy reduction in its own estate over the past nine years and budget has been made available to continue this good work.

#### · Fleet – electric vehicles programme: additional £1.8m

This will support the transition of the Council's fleet to electric vehicles and an expansion of the associated charging infrastructure, which will cut carbon and improve air quality. Various options are being explored but by converting light vehicles to electric and heavier vehicles to biomethane the CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions reduction of the fleet would be 4,157 tonnes per year or 78% of total fleet emissions.

#### · Flood alleviation: £200,000

We are currently undertaking flood alleviation work on Ilkley Moor (see question 13) and this funding is set aside to extend this work, subject to an assessment of the impact of the current pilot projects.

In addition we are already delivering the Smart Street Lighting project, a major multimillion-pound scheme to upgrade the ageing and less efficient orange street lights to new smart LED technology. Over 59,000 lights and 17,000 lampposts will be replaced and this will deliver significant environmental and financial benefits. The new, more environmentally friendly lights could reduce the Council's street lighting power consumption by 65% and cut carbon emissions by over 6,000 tonnes per year.

Residents can already start to get involved with the plans for these capital allocations through the council's website under "Have your say on the proposed financial plan 2020-21". Some of the proposals have lots of scope for public involvement, particularly the work stream for new renewable energy projects which is at an early stage of development, and we would love to see people across the district get involved, offer their ideas and share good practice on this vital agenda.

## **2. Councillor David Heseltine**

When is the defective designed and constructed junction at Main Street / Chapel Lane in Bingley going to be rectified to stop adjacent premises flooding?

### **Answer**

As Cllr Heseltine is aware this is an issue which has arisen from the construction of the Lidl building on the site of the former Bradford & Bingley Building Society. Officers from the Highway Development Control have been trying to arrange to meet with the developer's consultant to look at how to remedy the situation for some time.

Highways Maintenance staff have removed a blockage from a gully/pipe following a flooding issue at the adjacent café however any re-design/new construction/replacing of defective elements will need to be agreed with the developers as the works are still under warranty.

Officers have stressed the importance of a resolution to this issue as a priority to the developer and the situation is being escalated to the Strategic Director and Portfolio Holder to secure a resolution as quickly as possible.

### **Supplementary Question**

Leader – did you know Bingley used to have a ford centuries ago? The new one created by this junction on Main Street is not acceptable. How long does a priority take mentioned in the answer? How long is the warranty and when is it going to get sorted? It started in August last year.

## **Councillor Susan Hinchcliffe**

You are very abreast of this situation in Bingley. It sounds to me that officers have been speaking to you on a regular basis about it. I am happy to support you and provide you with as much power as you need to get this done. Lidl should have acted if they have not done so before. You are always welcome to come and see me at any point or ask for my support or portfolio holder support any time to write a letter to Lidl etc. Always happy to help. You do not have to wait six months to bring it to Full Council to do so. Thank you.

### **3. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland**

Given that the links between the consumption of artificially and sugar sweetened soft drinks and ill health are well proved and that tackling childhood obesity is a top health priority for the Leader can the Healthy People and Places Portfolio Holder advise Members of Council what steps she has taken to remove artificially and sugar sweetened drinks from Council premises?

#### **Answer**

We have taken the following steps to remove sugary drinks and drinks with artificial sweeteners:

- Primary schools – no sugary drinks or drinks with artificial sweeteners are provided. Drinks are limited to water and the occasional pure fruit juice in line with the Government's Food Standards.
- Secondary schools – no sugary drinks are provided. Drinks are limited to water, flavoured water, pure fruit juice in line with the Government's Food Standards. Some drinks provided may have artificial sweeteners.
- Civic catering - no sugary drinks are provided. Drinks are limited to water, flavoured water, pure fruit juice in line with the Government's Food Standards. Some drinks provided may have artificial sweeteners.
- Vending in Leisure Services - no sugary drinks are provided. Drinks are limited to water, flavoured water, pure fruit juice in line with the Government's Food Standards. Some drinks provided may have artificial sweeteners.

We keep this provision under constant review given that the body of research is continuously growing and the number of available options increases.

Through the Living Well initiative the Council, with CCG, NHS and VCS partners, is focusing on a whole system approach to reducing preventable mortality and ill health which includes tackling childhood and adult obesity. The core mission of Living Well is to make it easier for people in the Bradford District to adopt healthier lifestyle behaviours and be better able to care for themselves. The approach evolved out of the need to halt the rise in childhood obesity in the district. There is growing evidence that a whole systems approach is the most sustainable way to tackle complex, preventable conditions associated with unhealthy lifestyles.

Our engagement with Council employees through the 'Make One Change' challenge will raise awareness of sugar intake and the need to choose food with less artificial sugar content.

It is acknowledged that there is no single golden intervention that we can implement to improve lifestyle behaviours however the planned work of the Living Well initiative starts what will be a long and sustained journey for Bradford District and Craven bringing on board new and, most importantly, coordinated initiatives that will strive to change the system and culture in which we live as a whole so we are all working together to make it easier for everyone to live a healthier lifestyle.

### **Supplementary Question**

Thank you for the answer but as somebody who is a regular attender of a particular pool and fitness centre in Bradford, Council run, I think you should check your answer because it is simply not true. People come with a BEEP card, enter the pool for free, barely swim, get back out, eat a Mars Bar, drink a sugary drink and we have a net deficit in terms of any impact on their health. Actually can we just get to grip with it rather than saying No that does not happen, yes it does, no it doesn't, yes it does because that is not useful but there are people who we are making their health worse by the impact of the activities that the Council undertakes. The question is to ask the portfolio holder now given the link between sweetened drinks and mental health and the rise in mental health crisis amongst young people, is it not just time we scrapped these things altogether? And when she looked at scrapping them could she look at the price differential where the Council charges £1 for a sweetened drink and £1.60 for a glass of water and at the last attempt at the swimming pool there wasn't water for people to participate and children were coming out of the pool.

### **Councillor Susan Hinchcliffe**

If that is happening at a pool near you I need to know that example and I will need to take it up with officers. Apologies if that does not ring true. Happy to look further.

### **4. Councillor Martin Love**

Can the Portfolio Holder for Transport please tell us what impact the proposed widening of Canal Rd/Valley Rd to 4 lanes will have on traffic congestion and air quality between the Valley Rd/Otley Rd junction and the Bankfield roundabout?

### **Answer**

The A6037 Canal Road corridor is a key strategic route network and the proposals are to widen the carriageway to two lanes in both the northbound and southbound directions to increase traffic capacity, reduce congestion and improve journey times. From initial transport modelling work undertaken, the benefits of the preferred options reduce congestion and include improved journey time savings by up to 18 minutes for the Preferred Option "with" new bridge and 15 minutes for the Preferred Option "Without" new bridge. Further transport modelling work will be undertaken with detailed design for submission of the Full Business Case expected early 2022.

The reduced congestion and improved journey times on the A6037 Canal Road and A650 Manningham Lane corridors should assist in reducing the level of harmful pollutant emissions from vehicles and lead to improved air quality for some local residents. In addition to delivering the Bradford to Shipley Route Improvement Scheme, the Council is also preparing a Clean Air Plan for Bradford (B-CAP) in line with Ministerial Direction. The critical success factor and primary spending objective of the B-CAP is to achieve compliance with the EU Limit Value for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) in the shortest possible timeframe, expected to be in 2022, which will bring forward compliance by at least 5 years. The Bradford to Shipley Route Improvement Scheme falls within the B-CAP scheme area and both schemes are being coordinated together to improve air quality. Impact of these schemes on Air Quality will also be confirmed after final design at the next stage.

### **Supplementary Question**

When I first read the written answer promising improved journey times of 18 minutes or 15 minutes I was going to use a would you like to better my supplementary question. It is not answering the question I was asking which was about the traffic congestion between the end of the proposed route “improvement” and the Bankfield roundabout. It is about the congested area which is constantly congested, heavily populated, the area where I live and the area where Alex (Councillor Ross-Shaw) you live. What is going to happen to an area which is already gridlocked?

### **Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw**

I wondered if our proximity to each other would come up in your supplementary but I did fire-up internally when you say Bankfield roundabout. There was a bit of confusion on which side you were thinking of. I think what the answer is trying to get to is that the clean air plan we are having to produce does incorporate further than the Shipley Canal Road Corridor and therefore the whole air quality along that area is being looked at and therefore that plan when it is produced and if we can get the funding for it to deliver it will improve air quality on that corridor as well. It is a fair point. What happens on either side of these large projects is to make sure that you do not just move a problem along instead of roundabouts have had a lot of work to try and smooth the flow and one of the challenges in the clean air work is what do you do near Saltaire which is a World Heritage Site. You have got to be very sensitive around that. All that work is being looked at and the modelling does look at either side. Like I said the clean air plan does look further along that stretch where we live.

### **5. Councillor Vanda Greenwood**

The NHS numbers regarding referrals for Adult Safeguarding incidents in the district reported recently are lower than last year but still high. Can the portfolio holder advise what the council are doing about the issue and also publicise more frequently what the general public can do to report concerns?

### **Answer**

A new SaferBradford.co.uk website has been developed which provides safeguarding information to the district's residence. This includes the general phone number and email address to report any concerns. To report safeguarding abuse for adults, you can call 01274 432736, email [BSAB@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:BSAB@bradford.gov.uk) or visit [www.saferbradford.co.uk](http://www.saferbradford.co.uk) for more support. A campaign to raise awareness of the new website is being planned. This will also be included in the regular communication work that we do, including social media promotion that takes place throughout the year on national safeguarding issues like mate crime and fraud and other forms of abuse, and the regular training and support that is given to agencies through training initiatives like Safeguarding Week.

Throughout Bradford health and social care agencies actively publicise how both staff and members of the public can report concerns through to their own agency. All concerns that meet the thresholds under the Care Act (2014) are screened by the Adults Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub, which is a service run jointly by the Council and police, and dealt with appropriately and these services are publicised. Members of the public are encouraged to report issues via the contact details above.

## **6. Councillor Beverley Mullaney**

It's a time for New Year's resolutions, can the Leader advise why residents might be tempted to save with the Bradford Credit Union particularly in view of the launch of the Prizesaver account?

### **Answer**

Bradford Council has always been a supporter of our local credit union, so I am more than happy to be able to explain why our residents should take advantage of the services they offer.

As an organisation that is owned and run by its members, it has no shareholders to satisfy and exists solely for their benefit.

Whether our residents simply want to save regularly – we know putting a bit aside each week can soon add up – or combine savings with taking out competitively priced loans, the Bradford District Credit Union is the answer.

We all know the importance of savings, so I am even more delighted to congratulate the Credit Union, who are one of only 15 across the country, for being selected by the Government to deliver its Prizesaver account.

This is an account that will further encourage savings and everyone that signs up and saves in to the account, will be entered in to a monthly prize draw. With a first prize of £5,000 and several £20 prizes, it is really worth signing up for a chance to win each month.

The first monthly draw has already taken place and whilst the first prize went elsewhere, Bradford did have a £20 winner.

There has never been a better time to join our Credit Union and get in to the savings habit, especially with the launch of the prizesaver account.

## **7. Councillor Geoff Winnard**

How many teacher vacancies are there in each of the schools directly managed by Bradford Council and what is being done to improve the recruitment and retention of qualified teachers in Bradford District Schools?

### **Answer**

The schools directly managed by Bradford Council are those maintained schools as identified as part of the 2018 School Workforce Census, the data for which was submitted by schools in November and December 2018. Until the 2019 figures for the School Workforce Census are produced later this year by the DfE, this figure for 2018 remains the most accurate way of reporting on this query using validated data. The figure provided represents the position for those schools as they were on the 7th November 2018.

1 full time teaching vacancy was recorded for Bradford, within the 108 schools that submitted a response to the census that year.

In terms of what Bradford Council is doing to improve recruitment and retention of qualified teachers in its schools, we are working proactively with 'Bradford for Teaching' who are working on the district's behalf to engage and retain teaching staff. This follows on from the success of our Retention & Recruitment programme, where we invested £660,000 over 3 years to attract teachers to the district. This programme was very successful in showcasing Bradford as a fantastic place to 'work, live and play'. Furthermore, Bradford is a pilot area for the new extended Newly Qualified Teacher/Recently Qualified Teacher programme from September 2020. Support is also provided to Newly Qualified Teachers through Children's Services and we work in partnership with teaching schools in the city to provide continuing professional development to teachers.

### **Supplementary Question**

The response suggests that in Bradford schools, of Bradford maintained schools, the sense of which was done suggested there was only one vacancy reported in 108 schools. That suggests that the situation with recruitment in Bradford for teachers is extremely healthy. It is not the picture and the feedback I am getting from people when I talk to people in the sector. Clearly a lot of good work is being done in terms of initiatives to make Bradford a place people want to come and work. I would question 108 schools, I know it does not include the non-maintained schools but it seems rather a rosy picture to me.

### **Councillor Imran Khan**

I was surprised when I saw that answer as well. Part of the problem is that the data around teacher recruitment sits with HR in Corporate Services and not within Children Services. I have asked officers to work closely together to get a more updated picture on this. Part of the problem or part of the reason why that number is quite down is because if schools are taking on supply teachers then technically that is a box ticked. It is not a vacancy. At the time when we did the census back in 2018 that was the accurate figure. We will have more of an idea again when the census is produced at the end of this month but it is supply teachers who are skewing the figures.

### **8. Councillor Rosie Watson**

Can you confirm how the city is going to acknowledge the contribution of Richard Dunn now that the Swimming Pool at Odsal is going to be demolished?

### **Answer**

I absolutely agree it is right that we continue to acknowledge Richard Dunn and his standing in the Bradford District. Once the Richard Dunn Sports Centre has been demolished the site will be redeveloped. A road on the new site will be named after Richard Dunn. In addition, a photograph of Richard Dunn will be permanently displayed within the new Sedbergh Sports and Leisure Centre. We will also be looking at further options to acknowledge Richard Dunn and our other sports stars to ensure that they are appropriately celebrated as an important part of our shared social history and heritage

## **9. Councillor Fozia Shaheen**

Can you update us on what work the council will be doing in 2020 to support people's mental health?

### **Answer**

#### **Suicide prevention**

Public health in the council leads a multi-agency suicide prevention work stream - a full action plan and strategy is available on request.

Key recent work coordinated via a multi-agency suicide prevention group has included:

- Mental health support within the community (outside clinical settings) is supported and delivered by a number of VCS organisations - Sharing Voices, Roshni Ghar, Youth in Mind, Cellar Trust, deliver specific male and female services as well as open offers to both sexes;
- Sharing voices specific work with East European and South Asian communities;
- World Suicide Prevention Day coordination 2019 – included market stall approach in shopping centres; awareness drop sessions;
- SafeTalk training and suicide prevention awareness sessions;
- Top tips for safe prescribing and guidance on suicide prevention distributed and developed for Primary Care and presented to clinical forums locally;
- Designed and wide distribution of z-cards (suicide prevention myth buster and crisis / community support lines);
- Pathway and guide to referral to safer spaces and first response developed for VCS organisations;
- The Council is currently conducting a suicide audit with the local coroner to look at current risk factors;
- Regular surveillance bulletin using police collected suicide data is distributed to partners (covering time, means, location of death etc...);
- Supporting a postvention support service for West Yorkshire and delivered locally in Bradford;
- Supporting work on self-harm pathway with increased community support focus rather than clinical A&E pathway);
- Samaritan press guidance on reporting suicide sent to local newspapers.

#### **Work commissioned by the Council's Health and Wellbeing Department**

- Wellbeing Service which works with people for a time limited period to provide one to one personalised support to achieve their personal goals including to gain confidence, re-gain social skills, develop their own friendship groups and get involved in activities that support their wellbeing
- Improving access to employment support incorporating increased provision with additional funding from 2019
- Supporting people to live in their own homes including reviewing supported living provision and other housing options
- Counselling & emotional support for survivors of sexual violence provided by consortium of local VCS providers

- Daytime activities list to be procured in order to further develop and extend opportunities for people to get involved in group activities that are therapeutic
- First Response service offering support 24 hours a day, seven days a week to people of all ages living in Bradford, Airedale, Wharfedale or Craven experiencing a mental health crisis.
- Community Mental Health Teams, made up of social workers and health professionals, supporting people living in the community who have complex or serious mental health problems.

## **Main components of Council Mental Health programme for 2020**

### **Proposed development of a Mental Health Training programme**

A coordinated district wide training programme for basic mental health knowledge and skills and suicide prevention training (for professionals within VCS and statutory sector, workforce & business). This will be targeted at basic mental health awareness and support within the workplace and to support organisations delivering suicide prevention for identified suicide high risk groups in Bradford District. This work will align closely with the Living Well workplace charter and training academy.

Actions

- 1.1 A survey of current training capacity/expertise and demand for training is currently live across relevant organisations (Dec 19).
- 1.2 The Suicide audit of 2016-2018 deaths in Bradford District currently being completed.
- 1.3 Full business case to be developed (Feb)
- 1.4 Papers to integrated workforce board and Mental Well Being Board (Feb).

### **Small grants scheme managed and jointly delivered via the VCS**

A small grants scheme will provide a more coordinated means of supporting mental health prevention and recovery within community settings. Small grants explored/ for key suicide risk groups (e.g. Men in Sheds programme; Developing Community Green Hub). Conversations have taken place about a suitable delivery model with local VCS mental health providers and VCS forum.

A full business case will be worked up January/February for Mental Health small grants scheme using 5 ways to well being model (and delivering against 'pillar 1 - prevention' from the Mental Well Being Strategy; and Logic Model 2 from the HWB strategy).

### **Health and Well Being in Mental Health (strategic partnerships and planning)**

Extend the shared CCG/LA Mental Health commissioning post via a section 75 agreement. This post leads commissioning of NHS based mental health prevention and treatment services. Strategic support provided by the LA H&WB directorate and technical support from Public Health.

### **Public Health will be conducting a Children and Young People Lifestyle Survey in 2020**

The survey will be district wide and offered to all pupils in years 5, 7 and 9 in mainstream, special schools and PRUs in the Spring Term 2020. The survey has been designed to build on previous years questionnaires to enable the identification of any long term trends in mental health, lifestyle and other trends. To identify new

areas of potential issues across the district, feedback has been received from Children's Services, Born in Bradford, School Nursing, Youth Services and Public Health and new questions have been added.

### **Youth in Mind**

The Youth in Mind model has delivered community based support that is focussed on supporting young people to understand and take control of their mental wellbeing and build resilience, including council Youth services and mental health champions.

### **SEND**

Public Health will be leading a review of Special Education and Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in the district for the SEND board and Joint SEND commissioning work stream. This will draw intelligence together in order to inform more effective joint commissioning of SEND services between the Council and its partners.

### **Supplementary Question**

I want to thank the Council for the amazing and immense work you are doing with people that are suffering mental health. In regards to the work that we are doing can I ask the Council to continue the work that they are doing with the voluntary sector. As a Mental Health Champion for the district I am working closely with the VCS and we are looking at ways where we can make community hubs rather than any organisation investing money but if we can just have people who are trained up to deliver such a service. It is not about training, it is about people who just want to come and speak to people so as a Mental Health Champion that is what I am doing. In regards to healthier minds in Bradford what we have done with them is work closely with the Council. So all I want to know in regards to the work that we are doing with VCS. What is the timescale in regards to hubs that we could set not only as a Mental Health Champion for myself but we will be continuing this as long term work and not just relying on funding because we are doing amazing work through the Council.

### **Councillor Susan Hinchcliffe**

Just looking at the answer there is a huge amount of work going on there and a considerable part of that does involve the voluntary sector. I want to say thank you to you and your colleagues for all the work you do on that. Regarding hubs and voluntary sectors getting involved in mental health support the community health partnerships around the district which have been set up in co-ordination with GPs and other health partners are key to sustainability, the health system in the future. I am pleased to see the voluntary sector are participating in those. There are still in their infancy so we do need to give them time to mature and I would ask Elected Members to go and get involved in theirs and ask questions about theirs. Serving their local residents and make sure the voluntary sector is involved in their own community health partnership because that is the kind of locality working we need to see in the future.

### **10. Councillor Jackie Whiteley**

What revenue has been collected in respect of on street parking charges and fines since they were introduced in Ilkley, how many extra parking staff are employed in to cover the area and at what cost, for the same period?

**Answer**

Data for November and December have not been fully reconciled at this point but from the launch of the scheme on 29 July to 31 October (three months) total income for on-street parking is £90.9k.

Actual PCN income from August (bearing in mind two week grace period after launch) until 31 December (five months) is £52k. Please note that prior to the introduction of the new Ilkley scheme, PCNs issued were still issued but for different restrictions therefore the £52k income figure is not all additional income due to the introduction of this. As with any new scheme we would expect early figures to be higher than the eventual 'steady state' once the scheme has bedded in.

We have two Council Wardens covering enforcement in Ilkley, including the town centre and the residential permit areas, at a cost of £65k per annum for both which includes NI, shift pay and other allowances. However on top of this there are many other costs such as implementation and maintenance, administration and back office support to deliver the Ilkley scheme.

**11. Councillor Paul Godwin**

What consideration has been given to naming the vehicles in our gritter fleet?

**Answer**

We are happy to consider naming the vehicles in our gritter fleet. However, since we have been moving from owning our gritter fleet to hiring gritters for the winter season the opportunity to do so may be less frequent.

**Supplementary Question**

Presumably there will be an opportunity now to submit names to be considered?

**Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw**

You can submit names to me if you like. It is if we own the gritters or we hire them is what the question is getting at. I know one of our colleagues suggested Titus Salt as a potential name for doing so. If you can beat that then I will put you on the short list.

**12. Councillor Geoff Reid**

To the Portfolio Holder, do the Council have established procedures for responding to the stalled development on the Pilley's (Union) Mill site at Harrogate Road, Eccleshill, where inconvenience to footway and highway users has been extended indefinitely without any construction taking place and where residents continue to look out onto an empty site?

**Answer**

Whilst the planning application process cannot set time limits for development to be completed it should be acknowledged with regards to this site, the developer has now submitted an application for approval of various pre-commencement conditions associated with the planning consent for this site, indicating a greater likelihood of an imminent commencement of works.

I have asked Planning Enforcement officers to contact you to discuss any issues regarding highway obstruction currently affecting the site.

### **Supplementary Question**

Thank you for the answer. It would be unfair of me to ask the portfolio holder how imminent is imminent. We have to wait and see. In the fullness of time I look forward to discovering what the concerns of the developer are because there has been a lot of puzzlement amongst people living in the vicinity of Harrogate Road. Would it be fair to say in the portfolio holder's judgement it should not be too much of a problem getting this show on the road again?

### **Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw**

Obviously I will not know the details of the case in great detail but I have already asked officers to pick up with you if there are issues on the site so I am sure you will have the opportunity to try and get a bit of feedback on where the lay of the land is but obviously when we start putting in an application to get those pre-commencement conditions done that usually indicates they are ready for the next stage. Fingers crossed we will move forward quickly.

### **13. Councillor Paul Godwin**

Can the portfolio holder tell me about the moorland flood alleviation work being carried out and what plans he has to extend it?

### **Answer**

There are currently two Natural Flood Management Schemes ongoing within the district. One on Harden Moor and one on Ilkley Moor. An update for each of these is below.

#### Harden Moor

A pilot Natural Flood Management (NFM) project is being progressed on Harden Moor. Bradford Council officers and volunteers are working on the project, which is funded by Leeds City Council and is one of five Aire catchment-wide projects being undertaken. The project was launched with the construction of leaky dams. Friends of St Ives volunteers planted trees with the assistance of the Woodlands team before the end of the planting season and further tree planting will be undertaken this coming season. The Countryside & Rights of Way team (CROW) have undertaken footpath works over summer and further works and Sphagnum moss planting will be undertaken shortly.

A volunteer tree planting day was undertaken. Volunteers from Friends of St Ives were assisted by Bradford Council staff and a Harden Town Councillor to plant 300 Oak Whips on site. Cross drains were installed on footpaths at the end of July. These have been shown to be working well. Geo-referenced hi res drone survey was undertaken in September.

The Council met with Moors for the Future in the autumn regarding peatland restoration works and sphagnum planting for both Harden Moor and the Backstone Beck NFM project. Further footpath works will be undertaken over winter and tree

and sphagnum planting will be done in the New Year. Work will continue on site until the end of March 2020.

The Council has been out on site with Yorkshire Wildlife Trust engaging with adjoining landowners who have expressed undertaking NFM works on their land. This has resulted in six landowners within the Catchment willing to be involved.

### Backstone Beck

The Land Drainage, Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) and the Landscape Design and Conservation Teams continue to work alongside multiple partners to produce Natural Flood Management (NFM) pilot projects within Bradford District. A collaborative agreement between Bradford Council and the Environment Agency (EA) for the Defra funded NFM project on Backstone was signed in November 2018 and work is in progress to achieve assents and consents through Natural England for the proposed works. Flow monitors were put in place last summer on the watercourse at mid and lower catchment levels in order to establish some baseline flow data. A further funding bid has been put forward to Defra to facilitate the implementation of a lower catchment attenuation feature that would provide flood risk mitigation and enhance amenity and biodiversity value whilst linking the historical aspects of the moorland to the urban catchment. Local groups such as Friends of Ilkley Moor and Ilkley Civic Society have already expressed an interest in involvement in the project. Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School (which lies on the watercourse) was accepted into the Yorkshire Water Soak It Up project and worked with Yorkshire Wildlife Trust to implement small-scale SuDS on site to reduce piped discharge of surface water to sewer <https://www.yorkshirewater.com/soakitup> .

### Future Work

The Leeds FAS2 team are currently generating a land bank of areas in the River Aire catchment where NFM measures can be undertaken as part of the wider FAS2 scheme. Bradford is working with the LAs within the programme boundaries (Leeds, Bradford, Craven, Pendle and the Yorkshire Dales National Park) and the Environment Agency as well as other partners such as the National Trust, Aire Rivers Trust and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. Drainage officers have provided sites of interest within Bradford District. The Harden Moor NFM pilot is also being expanded to involve adjoining landowners. Landowner visits have been undertaken to determine the best measures for each site.

Modelling work has been used to identify the most suitable interventions to be undertaken in the Backstone Beck catchment on Ilkley Moor. The project is a national Defra funded pilot NFM project but the long term objective from the Council's perspective is to expand the work to the other watercourse catchments on the moor. Grip blocking has been identified as a beneficial intervention that can help to restore natural drainage patterns, encourage revegetation and peatland improvement, reduce erosion and the associated sediment pollution and minimise hydrological change downstream. Furthermore, rewetting of the open moorland reduces wildfire risk, encourages the colonisation of sphagnum and other specialist plant species providing vegetation communities with significant conservation value. Wet flushes can also increase invertebrate numbers providing important feeding habitats for birds.

**14. Councillor Debbie Davies**

Given the Council is closing Ian Clough Hall in Baildon at the end of March (and therefore the library above needs to close) what financial support will be offered to Baildon Town Council to provide alternative library premises for the period the site is under redevelopment, before the new library opens?

**Answer**

The Council will continue to work with Baildon Town Council and provide support regarding provision of library services during the period the existing site is under redevelopment. This support will include contributing a fixed sum in line with the current library's premises running costs until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

**Supplementary Question**

I just wondered why the financial support is only for a year when the redevelopment is likely to take significantly longer?

**Councillor Sarah Feriby**

As you know we are going through a budget process. We are doing engagement work and to enable those conversations to take place that is why it is for twelve months. Obviously conversations are on-going.

**15. Councillor Sue Duffy**

Will the portfolio holder give us an update on how we are tackling adult and childhood obesity in the district, given the importance of the issue?

**Answer**

We recently launched the Bradford District Living Well approach to improve health and wellbeing across the district. The main trigger for Living Well was the challenges regarding obesity in the district, especially childhood obesity.

Living Well is a whole system approach developed in Bradford to enable people to make healthier lifestyle choices including for increased physical activity, healthy eating and better mental wellbeing. Under this approach, everyone, including businesses across the district, will be encouraged to see improved health and wellbeing as one of the main measure of their success.

The Living Well approach was developed over 18 months and involved asking large numbers of cross system partners in the District what they recognised as the root causes of unhealthy lifestyle habits, in particular for food and physical activity. These root causes were then grouped into 3 key theme areas for action - People, Societies and Environment – to be enabled by a fourth area focusing on the Systems aspect. These 4 areas are now the focus to embed the Living Well approach across the district. Achievements so far (from June 2019) include:

- Development of a new Living Well website <https://mylivingwell.co.uk/>
- Development of the Living Well Service and Living Well Service Team.
- Commitment from over 3,000 people across Bradford district to take up the 'Make One Change Challenge' to improve their health and wellbeing.

- Living Well supported the Bradford UNESCO City of Film’s annual Bradford Family Film Festival in August.
- Partnership with Bradford University media students filming the Living Well launch events in June and the Shake Up games in City Park in August.
- Development of Living Well video clips highlighting case studies of those making positive changes to their health and wellbeing.
- Supporting Self Care Week 2019 across Bradford and Craven from 18<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> November with support from 100 Bradford University Pharmacy students.
- Sponsoring the Active Bradford Sports Awards 2020 and more specifically the Active Achiever category.

A comprehensive Living Well plan is being developed and this will be used to identify key milestones, track progress, identify risks and will facilitate regular updates and reports for the Living Well Board and others.

Reports with further information will be tabled at Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee in January 2020 and at Bradford and Airedale Health and Wellbeing Board in March.

In 2021, Public Health will be investing further to tackle obesity in the District based on needs assessed.

**16. Councillor Mohammed Shafiq**

One of the areas identified by the Ofsted monitoring report is that “Key professionals do not always attend critical meetings, including conferences and some core groups”. What plans have the children services put in place to ensure that professionals from partner agencies attend essential meetings to safe guard our children’s welfare?

**Answer**

The number of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC) being undertaken in Bradford has increased significantly with a 30% increase in total since January 2019. This significant rise has inevitably put pressure on services and attendance at conferences has proved to be challenging for all partners. Bradford Safeguarding Partnership is working to set out expectations with partners and to assess resource needs. Recording systems have been changed in the Safeguarding and Reviewing Unit to record partner attendance at conference and from December this is now being monitored by the Head of QA and Safeguarding.

**17. Councillor John Pennington**

Almost 12 months ago the LGA drew member authority’s attention to buildings constructed in Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC). Used in many schools built between the mid 1950s and 1980, there is now fear of a component failure. Are there any buildings in Bradford & District which may give cause for concern?

**Answer**

The Council has previously reviewed this issue and is not aware of any schools or

other Council buildings which have been constructed using the Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete method.

### **Supplementary Question**

Note: Councillor Pennington's supplementary question was not captured by the electronic recording. It was asked given the problem as big as Grenfell could he look at the previously reviewed paperwork?

### **Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw**

I will ask officers to get in touch with you.

### **18. Councillor Vick Jenkins**

Given our Climate Emergency priorities, can the portfolio holder confirm that major new developments, such as One City Park and the market on Darley Street, will have excellent environmental credentials built in as standard?

### **Answer**

Both the new Darley Street Market development and the One City Park development have environmental considerations at the forefront of the designs which are being developed.

The preliminary design of the One City Park scheme has been produced by the Council's chosen preferred development partner, Muse developments Ltd, to be delivered as a high quality sustainable development rated as BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) 'Excellent', which is the world's longest and leading method of assessing, rating and certifying the sustainability of new buildings. The scheme will also be designed to achieve an EPC (Energy Performance Certificate) Energy Efficiency 'A' (most efficient) rating, and subject to applicable cost/funding parameters, these high performance sustainable development and energy efficiency credentials will be utilised by the Council through the detailed design and planning application phases of the development.

The new Darley Street Market project will also include a range of environmental initiatives. Lighting to the building will be LED technology and will be dimmed using controllers to compensate for daylight changes. There will also be maximum use of natural daylight to reduce the use of energy and sunlight will be used for water heating and power generation via solar thermal eating panels. The market building will be a 'tempered ambient' and mainly a naturally ventilated building with an inside temperature of +/- 5 degrees C to reduce the use of energy. Heat recovery from the ventilation will be utilized during the summer months and rainwater harvesting for use in WC's will also be used.

### **19. Councillor Alan Wainwright**

Does the leader join me in calling on the Government to finally develop and deliver a national plan for adult social care, including more funding for local authorities?

### **Answer**

Absolutely yes, the government has promised a green paper for the past four years.

It is unacceptable for such an important area of national policy to be delayed for so long. What's more Government have said there will only be a financial settlement for adult social care for local authorities when this has been produced. It's high time this was sorted.

## **20. Councillor Brendan Stubbs**

In June 2016 the then Environment and Waste Management Committee requested 'That the Strategic Director Regeneration be requested to make available a register of areas of Council owned neglected land across the District on a ward basis and report back to the Committee by the end of 2016'. Can the portfolio Holder give details of this register, where it is held, and how residents can access the information to help them to take community action to improve neglected areas in their neighbourhoods as was intended by the Committee?

### **Answer**

Land is not classified as "neglected" on the Council's property database. A list of vacant land across the district can be provided to Members on request from Estates & Property and I have asked for Cllr Stubbs to be provided with the list directly. Officers can apply a range of filters and their knowledge of the estate to such a list to suit specific requirements. The raw data is published online in Data Mill North and can be accessed by residents free of charge at <https://datahub.bradford.gov.uk> under the "Bradford Council Land and Property Assets" heading. At present only limited information is provided for vacant land but this is in the process of being amended for 2020.

### **Supplementary Question**

I am sure the portfolio holder will agree with me that three and half years of not getting round to producing a request from a committee is not great going. I hope they will encourage a proper answer back to the committee if not to myself about when a list will be made publicly available which is the intention the committee had when it made the request so that members of the public can in the short term adopt orphan land, if you do not want to use the word neglect, but currently an eyesore in communities is all over the place so they can do something with it. In the meantime until a development or something else is done with it for the future.

## **Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw**

Happy to look into it for you.

## **21. Councillor Sinead Engel**

With Holocaust Memorial Day approaching, can the portfolio holder give an update on what actions we are taking with partners to address hate crime? Anti-semitism, Islamophobia, homophobia and hate crime of all kinds must not be tolerated in our district?

### **Answer**

Bradford district will never tolerate hate and the anniversaries coming up this year amply illustrate why. This year marks two major anniversaries – 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the genocide at Srebrenica.

We are working on events with local schools, Bradford College and Bradford University on putting on public and civic events to commemorate them. We are working with the trustees of the Synagogue to co-design the HMD event and provide reassurance to them on anti-Semitism. In 2018 the Council adopted a motion on anti-Semitism and in July 2019 a motion was approved by the Council on a resolution on Islamophobia.

- The Bradford Hate Crime Strategy 2017-20 is the second Hate Crime Strategy to be produced by Bradford Council and its partners. This revised local strategy is aligned with the national action plan around the following objectives:
  - **Preventing hate crime**
  - **Responding to hate in our communities**
  - **Increasing the reporting of hate crime**
  - **Improving support for the victims of hate crime**
  - **Building our understanding of hate crime**

Bradford Hate Crime Alliance (BHCA) is commissioned by the Safer & Stronger Communities Partnership to support a network of 28 third party hate crime reporting centres and provide direct support to a wide range of victims. In addition, BHCA provide a positive presence on local social media and have resources and campaigns, they also provide talks at community and centres and schools.

West Yorkshire Police undertake a specialist review of all reported hate crimes, considering investigative actions, problem solving and support services for victims as part of early intervention. This draws together statutory, voluntary and non-statutory services best placed to tackle issues and support vulnerable individuals.

BMDC have the Anne Frank Exhibition on permanent tour with schools which is supported by 'Stand Up Speak Out Make A Difference' Ambassadors (SUSOMAD) from high schools. The programme has reached over 10,000 students in the district. An updated resource pack for Hate Crime education has been prepared and will be sent out at the start of term to primary and secondary schools in the district.

Another touring exhibition is the Common Wealth Soldiers contribution to WW1 and WW2. This exhibition provides information on the scale and sacrifice millions of people from the empire gave to this country and rebuts the question from some quarters about – 'what are you doing here?'

The Prevent Team have delivered the 'Sophie Lancaster' game in primary schools across the district. This game is particularly suitable for young people who are about to go through transition to high school. It highlights how we often judge people based on what they look like and teaches us the need to get to know people first and to be tolerant and accepting of differences.

There was a full schedule of events for Hate Crime Awareness Week in October 2019 to raise awareness and reporting of hate crime for all protected characteristic groups. A wide range of partners were involved with key partners including Bradford Hate Crime Alliance, West Yorkshire Police, Social Landlords and health centres.

The week saw some good broadcast and print media exposure and social media tweeting drew over thirty two thousand impressions (amount of people who saw them).

The Police also lead a Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel which is held six weekly. Members of the panel are local residents or individuals working within Bradford's communities and offer invaluable critique and advice on police investigations and ways to improve services for victims. The Panel Chair is also independent, leading the discussion, review and advice of members.

The integration and Cohesion Pilot programme is also developing an anti rumour campaign to dispel myths around new migrants and minority communities. This will also aid in tackling hate crimes.

The Police Community Engagement Team also has dedicated officers that compile hate crime stats and hold regular hate crime case conference meetings with key public and voluntary agencies.

## **22. Councillor Russell Brown**

In light of growing anecdotal evidence, indicating that the site is being actively marketed by officers, does the Portfolio Holder still insist the changes at the Stocks Bridge Depot in Keighley are simply a tidy up?

### **Answer**

The site is not on the market. As with all council land we regularly review usage to ensure sites are being used as efficiently and as effectively as possible. There are a small number of buildings on the depot site that are no longer in use and haven't been for some time. If we can utilise the site more effectively a section of it may become surplus to requirements. However, we can give an assurance that that the Council's services will continue to be based at Stockbridge Depot, it's a useful location for us.

### **Supplementary Question**

There is a slight nuance between not for sale and being marketed. I did ask if it was being marketed. We shall wait further developments with interest.

### **Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw**

I will take that as a comment. Sorry it is a question - you await further developments with interest?

### **Supplementary Question**

Sorry I did ask if it was for sale or marketed and you did said it is not for sale. Slight nuance there. There have been many officers been down there talking to staff about what is going to happen. I do not think your answer matches up what has been going on down there. We will wait and see what happens.

### **Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw**

It says the site is not on the market. So I do think it does answer your question.

**23. Councillor Rizwana Jamil**

As culture is an important part of the council's strategy to regenerate the city, can the portfolio holder tell us about some events and initiatives planned for the district in 2020?

**Answer**

A number of large scale events are being planned to take place around the district in 2020. Some of the Council run events include Bradford Festival which will be moving from its original July date to the August Bank holiday weekend, City Runs and The Big Bike Ride. Other large events organised by other parties are The Bradford Literature Festival, Bradford Science Festival, Saltaire Festival, Shipley Arts Festival, Bradford Classic, Pride, Windrush and Lister Park Lantern Parade.

As well as these events the Council is actively working with partners to ensure a joint approach to the Bradford Events Calendar and exploring ideas for other cultural events and activities in the run up to the UK City of Culture Bid for 2025.

**24. Councillor Martin Love**

Can the Portfolio Holder for Education please tell us whether the Council will be successful in complying with the statutory legal deadline to notify parents of children with EHC plans of their secondary school allocation for September 2020, as this has been missed for at least the last 3 years?

**Answer**

This year we instituted a new policy requesting that all of the annual reviews for Year 6 and 11 children should have been completed by the 31st of October. Most of the Primary schools have complied with this and we have received school preferences from the majority of parents of children in Year 6. As of the 24th December all of the school preferences had been consulted and where parental preference was not expressed / available, the 3 closest suitable schools were consulted. All consultation responses will therefore be returned by January 17th.

Year 11 parental preferences have been returned and these will be processed from the 20th of Jan.

This should mean that we have ample time to meet the statutory deadline.

**25. Councillor Angela Tait**

Following the recent launch of the district's skills plan, what are the next steps to build on our progress in this area and deliver on the plan?

**Answer**

"People Skills Prosperity", the District's Workforce Development Plan is a 5 year plan and was approved by the Executive in September 2019. We are in the early stages of implementing the approach set out in the Plan. This plan builds on the District's bold economic strategy Pioneering, Confident and Connected, which provides the vision for a stronger more inclusive economic future for the district.

The Plan builds on the strong partnership working we have developed with our education, business and community partners. Further deepening our partnership working is the key to delivering the vision it sets out. Across the district, there is already a fantastic range of partners' initiatives helping to address deeper challenges around employer engagement, skills development, and community prosperity. For example, there has been significant progress in strengthening our partnership work through:

- The Industrial Centre of Excellence partnership that delivered career education activities to over 15,000 young people through 2018/19 academic year.
- Bradford Manufacturing Week 2019 that involved 5,203 young people having experience of work provided by 65 manufacturing businesses.
- SkillsHouse that has supported over 1,400 unemployed residents from deprived communities into work over the past 3 years.

It is recognised that through working together in collaboration on these programmes we are able to have a much greater impact and work is on-going to significantly scale up these areas of partnership working.

The next key step is to establish the new governance arrangements for the Plan that will be in place by the end of January 2020. There will be a newly established Bradford Employment and Skills Board, which I will chair as the portfolio holder. This Board will have strategic oversight for the delivery of the plan. In addition, four work stream groups that will be chaired by partners will lead on key areas of the Plan. Each work stream group will develop a clear action plan to develop and achieve the priority actions in their area of work.

Work continues at pace to achieve our goals with the support and coordination of the Council's Employment and Skills team.

## **26. Councillor John Pennington**

Bingley, like many other Wards, is plagued with problems outside schools where some people have little regard for other road users. When will the Labour Council take a proactive approach to safety by introducing Red Line road markings? No grey area, instantaneous prosecution for transgressors. In Boris speak, "get the job done".

### **Answer**

Bradford Labour has a very proactive approach to road safety, despite the continued pressure of austerity on council budgets. The majority of school sites across the district already have 'School Keep Clear' markings at access points where the most concentrated pedestrian movements are. These are enforceable by Council wardens and the mobile parking enforcement vehicle.

We are also in the middle of our roll-out of 20mph zones for schools and the surrounding areas with the next phase of Keighley schools being consulted on. The launch of 'No Idling Zones' across the district is also imminent and we are working with our colleagues in Public Health to look at additional programmes to encourage fewer car-based journeys to schools.

Red routes are just one option for highways enforcement that can be considered and their use is generally focused on high volume corridors such as the Major Road Network. Chapter 3 of the Traffic Signs Manual states that Red Routes should only be considered on strategic networks which considered the whole route implications. It does state that they should not be used on short sections.

### **Supplementary Question**

Road markings and signs in force and when they are enforced we are not sure who can enforce them. This is on the red route issue. Can I please ask surely the red route issue should be included or is already included in the road safety issue?

### **Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw**

So again it explains it all in the answer so we say it is an option for highways enforcement but red routes, the guidance from the Government and how they use it, and not intended for use on just short stretches of roads without taking into account the major road networks. Generally more on major road networks where you can put in 24/7 enforcement of them in essence. So there may be other ways and means of dealing with the issues. If you have got an issue on a specific in mind then let's have a look at how we can enforce that. What you would have to do with the red route is for how long that exists you would have to have active enforcement on it at all times. It would not necessarily work for a school but there may be other ways we can look at it and we do have say a mobile camera enforcement to keep clear signs. So if you know of a hotspot let us know and let us take a look at it.

### **27. Councillor Hassan Khan**

Salaries in Bradford district have increased more than any other UK city according to a recent study, following another finding from PwC that Bradford is the most improved city. Can the portfolio holder tell us how we can build on this progress in particular to help those who are out of work or in low paid jobs?

### **Answer**

Bradford experienced an increase in the employment rate from 65.6% in 2013 to 66.3 in 2019, created 6,500 new private sector jobs in 2017 and along with the recent location by PwC into the city shows that the ambition the District's economic growth strategy 'Pioneering, Connected, Confident' to create 20,000 jobs is being delivered.

In "People Skills Prosperity", the District's Workforce Development Plan, one of the three key themes is connecting communities to good jobs and careers, with a focus on supporting low-skilled jobseekers into work and progressing in-work. We will continue to work with employers and partners such as our colleges, independent learning providers, community organisation, University of Bradford, and DWP to ensure local people are equipped with the skills and confidence to access the employment opportunities that are being created in our economy and the wider city region.

The Workforce Develop Plan sets out how partners in the District will work together to maintain our focus on ensuring all people can access these opportunities. Key

partnership actions to deliver this include SkillsHouse, Community Led Local Development in Bradford and Keighley, Industrial Centres of Excellence, the Opportunity Area programme, the One Workforce initiative, and the Screen Industries Diversity Fund. Furthermore the work the Council is doing to promote more inclusive employment alongside the focus on inclusive growth across Leeds City Region and building on actions being delivered through the Integrated Communities Strategy programme continues.

## **28. Councillor Sarfraz Nazir**

I'm delighted that Lister Park is getting £650,000 to refurbish it. Its 20 years since any money was spent on it and I've campaigned for this investment for years. A number of our parks such as Cliffe Castle, Harold Park, Roberts Park and Lister Park were highly acclaimed at the 2019 Yorkshire in Bloom awards. Does the portfolio holder agree that green spaces are vital for supporting people's wellbeing and could she tell me what plans we have for all our parks in 2020?

### **Answer**

Lister Park is a destination park that attracts people from far and wide and, as you say, parks and green spaces are an absolutely vital part of our offer to support people's wellbeing, in particular children and young people.

The Parks and Green Spaces Service continues to champion the use of our parks and green spaces to provide opportunities to be active, to be social, to volunteer, to be outdoors, to experience nature and to breathe clean air. The World Health Organisation has summarised the wealth of research evidence to tell us how important the access to high quality local parks and green spaces is to people's health and wellbeing in all areas of the District, but particularly in areas of health inequality.

Maintenance staff continue to work with community volunteers and 'friends groups' to retain green flag status, the national quality award, for six of our major parks. February will see the launch of a community led forum of Friends groups and other stakeholders to work with the Council on delivery and the creation of a strategic vision for the District's parks and green spaces that recognises the key role they play in supporting health and wellbeing, biodiversity, climate mitigation and adaptation.

Local managers will continue to arrange a series of Fun Fairs, Circuses, Band Concerts and events in addition to supporting hundreds of commercial, charity, community and sporting activities in parks and green spaces across the district. Park Runs and cycling events continue to take place in a number of parks across the district supporting the Health & Wellbeing agenda.

The Council has recently committed to a £20m investment in play area and playing pitch improvements with the refurbishment of Lister Park play area and the creation of Wyke Community Sports village both due to be delivered in the coming 12 months.

External funding opportunities continue to be pursued and the Government's Park Improvement Fund 2019 will enable additional outdoor gym equipment to be

installed in five sites across the district, support access improvements to Riverside Gardens and provide new play opportunities in Devonshire Park, Keighley. Further bids to the Pocket Parks fund have been supported and will, if successful, deliver improvements at Hirst Wood Recreation ground, Brackenhill Park & Littlemoor Park during 2020. The Service is also entering the initial stages of scoping a major potential Heritage Fund application for another of its major parks to secure a sustainable development plan for improvements and long term viability of the site.

The Service continues to work with Ward Councillors, Friends of Parks Groups, communities and our colleagues in neighbourhoods to allocate S106 monies to projects such as provision of accessible paths and improved entrances at Riverside Gardens, new paths in Silsden Park to encourage families to walk to the new school and new play equipment in Myrtle Park and Eldwick Recreation Ground. Co-delivery of major playable spaces projects will continue with a new natural play area being built in Peel Park as part of the Local Delivery Pilot (JU:MP) with two further initiatives currently in development. Additional physical activity & play opportunities in Bowling Park and Horton Park are planned for 2020 working with the Better Place team. Joint working continues to seek European Structural and Investment Funds for projects to aid climate control issues such as flood alleviation which will involve the community in and around Horton Park.

#### **29. Councillor Rachel Sunderland**

In July the Council made a commitment to pursue play streets. Can the Portfolio provide an update on the progress and plans for a District wide programme?

##### **Answer**

Officers have developed an approach and a 'play street manual' which will be launched in Quarter One of this year following approval. This will enable a district wide programme, accessible online, that will be monitored and evaluated to make sure that it maximises the benefits realised by outdoor play. This programme of work is supported by investment from Public Health and resources from Highways/Transport demonstrating the positive impacts of cross departmental partnerships.

#### **30. Councillor Julie Lintern**

It's great to see that the CQC has just rated our Home support service as Outstanding. Can the portfolio holder briefly outline what that team does and give me an update on our transformation of our adult social care services?

##### **Answer**

Bradford Home Support (also known as Bradford Enablement and Support Team, BEST), is registered to provide personal care and support to people at home. The service provides short term support to people when they are discharged from hospital or in response to a social care crisis. Because of the type of service, the numbers of people supported can vary from day to day. At the time of the inspection the service was supporting 231 people across the Bradford district. CQC only inspects where people receive personal care. This is help with tasks related to personal hygiene and eating. Where they do they also consider any wider

social care provided. People's experience of using this service and what we found the leadership of the service was excellent. Significant time and resources had been invested in implementing and improving digital systems to ensure people consistently received a high-quality responsive service which met their needs and preferences. People were extremely positive about the service and told them they would have no hesitation in recommending it. The service had excellent quality assurance and monitoring systems to ensure people received safe care and treatment. These systems meant the management team were able to identify any shortfalls in the service and act quickly to rectify them. The management team were passionate about the service and were continuously looking at ways to improve people's experiences. They worked in partnership with other health and social care agencies and this collaborative work had benefited people across the whole Bradford district. Examples of this included reduced admissions to hospital and improved support for people receiving end of life care at home. The management team had dedicated a lot of time and resources to staff training and development. Staff told CQC they were very proud to work for the service and felt extremely well supported in their roles. They said they would recommend it to family and friends who needed care and as a place to work. People were supported by staff that were exceptionally kind and caring. Staff were dedicated to ensuring people experienced the best possible care and support. People's equality and diversity needs, and preferences were respected. The service placed a strong emphasis on enablement, supporting people to live fulfilling lives and be part of their local community. Staff actively encouraged and supported people to be as independent as possible. We found numerous examples of staff supporting people to improve their quality of life by supporting them to access local services. People were supported to have maximum choice and control of their lives and staff supported them in the least restrictive way possible and in their best interests.

### **31. Councillor Dale Smith**

How many of the recently introduced pavement eating / refreshment licences have been paid for and which Wards are these in?

#### **Answer**

I am presuming that you are referring to Outdoor Seating Licences, which were introduced during late summer last year. The licences were rolled out after the peak summer period to allow the maximum time for businesses to apply for licences in time for the next outdoor season this coming year.

Licences so far that have been paid for are listed below for each area:

- Bradford City Centre – x4
- Ilkley – x3
- Idle – x1
- Saltaire – x2
- Keighley – x1

As we approach the next outdoor season we will be following up with businesses to ensure those that require them apply.

#### **Supplementary Question**

What was the anticipated number you might get issued over a 12 month period.

**Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw**

I will try to get the info to you. I would not want to give an estimate without knowing it but obviously the question says we deliberately rolled it out after the peak period so you have got the longest possible lead in until the next one. So we are really in the middle of that phase.

**32. Councillor Tariq Hussain**

Does the portfolio holder agree that whilst any funding is welcome, the £4m announced by the government to tackle rogue landlords is tiny compared to what is really needed to tackle the nationwide problem of irresponsible landlords who blight the sector and cause misery for tenants?

**Answer**

It is very frustrating that Government announces small pots of money to be eked out through competition to many different local authorities all over the country. This seems to be to give Ministers a headline rather than to make any real difference in local communities.

This particular pot of funding announced by the Government relates to the Private Rented Sector Enforcement and Innovation Fund. This fund was the subject of a competitive bidding process to help Local authorities to carry out their duties and to develop or enhance existing enforcement activity in the private rented sector and has resulted in about £20,000 being given to Bradford.

This will be used to deliver specialist training for officers on complex legal ownership models; to improve access to information sources to assist with debt recovery following the service of Civil penalty notices on non-compliant landlords; and to provide free training to 300 landlords.

**33. Councillor Kyle Green**

Why are the most recent SEND outreach opportunities for parents / guardians not taking place in major towns in the district such as Ilkley, Addingham, Silsden and Haworth?

**Answer**

A number of parental listening sessions have been planned from January to June 2020 in Bradford Central, Shipley and Keighley areas based on feedback and requests from parents/carers who attended events in November. The service are looking to increase engagement with parents and carers and share feedback from the events on the Local Offer for all parents/carers to access. The service will hold further events for parents in other areas of the district as requested. We are happy to receive invitations from groups who wish to engage in this process.

**Supplementary Question**

I just want to say thank you to Councillor Khan for meeting up with the LS29 Group during the Purdah period at Christmas. I welcome a reply from the portfolio holder

that groups are welcome to attend meetings but can they advise what is prohibiting a more localised meeting taking place in towns such as Ilkley, Burley or Addingham especially given the difficulty those parents and carers of children with SEND have in making longer journeys either from Ilkley or Burley to Keighley.

**Councillor Imran Khan**

Absolutely nothing. I have put in the answer that there are further events planned over the next six months but if there are groups out there who want to invite us we will be happy to go out. Let us know and we will be there.

**34. Councillor Brendan Stubbs**

To the Portfolio Holder, How often are the district's swimming pools and sports centres inspected to ensure that general maintenance and standards of cleanliness are being maintained, and what procedures are in place to tackle issues of cleanliness or poor maintenance when they arise?

**Answer**

The Council sport and leisure facilities are inspected on a daily basis and the inspections are recorded. Staff patrol the facilities throughout the day and remedial action is taken as required. Building defects are recorded in the fault log and any repairs required are carried by the Council's building services team.

**Supplementary Question**

Can I invite the portfolio holder to join me with perhaps a senior officer to tour Eccleshill Swimming Pool because over the last few months a number of concerns have been raised by residents and things I have seen myself along with some other Councillors in our Group where we think standards might be slipping. I do not want to criticise any individual member of staff but maybe some fresh eyes and your good self we could have a look around the pool to see if there is anything else we can do to help them out.

**Councillor Sarah Feriby**

More than happy Councillor Stubbs.

**35. Councillor Geoff Winnard**

In view of the various political commitments made during the General Election, the campaign by Friends of the Earth and the challenges of climate change, what is the strategy and target for tree planting across the Bradford district?

**Answer**

As part of the Council's on going contribution to the Northern Forest and efforts to mitigate and adapt to the Climate Emergency and Biodiversity loss, an ambitious programme of tree planting and woodland creation is underway. During 2019/20 we aim to plant up to 20,000 trees and in the Labour budget for 2020/21 the aspiration is to begin a programme to plant one tree for every primary school child in the district.

**Supplementary Question**

Friends of the Earth are campaigning for a doubling of tree cover in the Bradford

area and I noticed that the BBC reported in Ethiopia they planted 353 million trees in a period of 24 hours. So obviously things can be done. In response to the answer given do we know how many trees that would result in Bradford in getting planted over the next few years?

**Councillor Susan Hinchcliffe**

It is 55,000 primary school children. We have ambitions to do more but a starting point we are starting with the primary school children which is 55,000.

**36. Councillor Jeanette Sunderland**

An investigation by the Telegraph has claimed that NHS officials are working as private consultants and charging elderly people's relatives for help securing funding from the State. In what could be a serious conflict of interest, it seems the senior managers are paid by the health service to oversee applications for the social care funding, but are also allegedly charging up to £400 a day for help trying to obtain such grants. Can the Portfolio Holder for Healthy People and Places outline the steps she has taken to ensure that this is not the case in Bradford?

**Answer**

The Telegraph article is referring to Continuing Health Care funding which is for some people with long term complex health needs. There is a national framework in place and the CCG is responsible for the processes involved in ascertaining eligibility. People who may be eligible for CHC go through a thorough assessment process involving health care and social care professionals. The member question and this response have been shared with the Director of Nursing and Quality in the CCG with a request for her comments, this can be forwarded once received.

**Supplementary Question**

Can I ask that there has been a bit of a hoo-ha following on from the Telegraph report. Can you confirm to Council, maybe not now, but in a subsequent letter that there are no Council employees in any department involved in charging for advice outside of their normal day stream job as I would hate to make an accusation or moonlighting or any of that but even that it appears to be happening in the NHS then we ought to have a really hard look at officers working for this Council not making any accusations whatsoever but I think we are a reasonably well paid Council.

**Councillor Sarah Feriby**

Yes I will look into that Councillor Sunderland and confirm.

**37. Councillor Jackie Whiteley**

In the original plan, period 2013 to date, employment rates in Bradford District have fallen by 6,500 according to ONS data. Please can the Portfolio Holder confirm that this is correct and provide an explanation as to why Bradford is faring so badly compared to Yorkshire and Humber, the UK as a whole and how does this data affect housing numbers going forward?

**Answer**

**Employment Rate Change 2013-2019**

Cllr Whiteley's figures are not the same as the latest Annual Population Survey figures from Government which show that the employment rate actually increased from 65.6% in 2013 to 66.3 in 2019. Whilst the overall numbers in employment fell by 1100 in the period 2013 – 2019, the proportion of people of working age fell by more over the same period (5100). It is also the case that the actual number of workplace jobs in the district increased by 3% (or 7,000 jobs) between 2013 and 2018, an increase of 3.5%.

The recent Leeds City Region business survey found that hard to fill and skill-shortage vacancies are a growing consideration for Bradford employers. In Bradford there was an increase from seven per cent in 2015 to 10 per cent in 2017 in establishments with a hard to fill vacancy. Similarly there was an increase from five per cent to eight per cent in skill shortage vacancies. In volume terms this equates to nearly 2,000 reported skill-shortage vacancies in Bradford.

We will continue to work with business and partners such as the DWP Jobcentres to ensure local people are equipped with the skills and confidence to access the employment opportunities that are being created in our economy and the wider city region. Bradford experienced an increase of 6,500 private sector jobs in 2017 and the recent location by PwC into the city shows that the ambition of the economic strategy to create 20,000 jobs is being delivered.

However it is clear that we need to maintain our focus on ensuring all people can access these opportunities. Key actions to deliver this include SkillsHouse, Community Led Local Development in Bradford and Keighley, Industrial Centres of Excellence, the Opportunity Area programme, the One Workforce initiative, the Screen Industries Diversity Fund and work the Council is doing to promote more inclusive employment alongside the focus on inclusive growth across Leeds City Region and building on actions being delivered the Integrated Communities Strategy programme.

Further, connecting communities and aligning housing to transport hubs gives access to jobs and skills opportunities across the City Region and beyond and enables an agile and mobile workforce.

### **Implications for Housing**

Increasing numbers of jobs and people in work should support a stronger housing market. However the key driver of housing demand is population growth. In terms of the Local Plan the Government requires all Councils to plan for housing need using their national standardised calculation (based on ONS household projections together with an affordability adjustment). And this is exactly what we are doing.