

Question for Full Council Monday 24thApril, 2017

Question 1

Question to Cllr Hibbert from Cllr Ashraf:

Please can you include a report from NPH in your cabinet members report?

We need to have regular updates on - Waiting lists, Voids, Arrears, New Build completions, Refurbishments and their Environmental Improvements.

Response

I have now included some NPH highlights in my Cabinet Member Report.

With regard to your request for regular updates on operational issues, you are well aware (as a member of NPH's Board of Directors) that NPH already provides monthly updates on voids and lettings, tenant satisfaction, rental income and arrears, gas safety, repairs performance and fly-tipping. Due to the nature of investment works, quarterly and/or annual reports are presented for refurbishment and environmental works. Regeneration and new build performance are reported on an ad-hoc basis as and when properties are completed.

Councillor Stephen Hibbert
Cabinet Member for Housing

Question for Full Council Monday 24th April, 2017

Question 2

Question to Cllr Hallam from Cllr Haque:

Have you consulted the Chartered Institution of Wastes Management yet about the Environmental Service we are developing for 2018? If not why not?

Response

The focus of the consultation we undertook to inform the design of new environmental services for the town were the public. The public consultation undertaken included a letter to every household in the borough, an Ipsos Mori survey of 1000 individuals, and a number of consultation events with ward councillors and a wide range of community groups. It was by far the most successful consultation the council has ever undertaken.

Although we are members of CIWM, we decided to commission professional and technical advice from Eunomia.

Councillor Mike Hallam
Cabinet Member for Environment

Question for Full Council Monday 24th April, 2017

Question 3

Question to Cllr King from Cllr Haque:

Are you aware that Cllr. Stone and I have recently negotiated a Saturday Service for communities registering a death? This means that communities of all faiths, once the notification of death has been registered, may take bodies to a place of worship for ritual washing and prayers. This will be of great comfort to families in the town. Please can the Councillor make sure the Diverse Communities Forum know about this? I have a phone number for the Saturday Service that I am happy to pass on.

Response

For the sake of accuracy and other wider implications that could arise from the communication of misinformation, I do need to point out that you have not negotiated this service, but I do thank you for the suggestion you have made. Thank you also for your suggestion regarding the Diverse Communities Forum, I will pass it to the chair and vice chair for their consideration.

Councillor Anna King

Cabinet Member for Community Engagement & Community Safety

Question for Full Council Monday 24th April, 2017

Question 4

Question to Cllr Hadland from Cllr Gowen:

What is the Borough doing to support the staff who have lost their jobs because of the closure of Oliver Adams?

Response

The Borough Council does not have a remit to assist with redundancies, however has been in touch with the Job Centre and Oliver Adam's to offer assistance.

Councillor Tim Hadland

Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning

Question for Full Council Monday 24th April, 2017

Question 5

Question to Cllr Hadland from Cllr Gowen:

With yet another business going from our town, what are we doing to fill the void?

Response

The Borough Council offers an investment support service that proactively seeks out new inward investment. This year 13 new businesses and over 300 jobs have been created in the Enterprise Zone alone.

Councillor Tim Hadland

Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning

Question for Full Council Monday 24th April, 2017

Question 6

Question to Cllr Hadland from Cllr Duffy:

Our town centres and shopping centres are becoming dominated by food outlets. Isn't it time we put a cap on how many we allow on anyone street?

Response

Policy 13 of the Central Area Action Plan already seeks to resist non retail uses when these would result in retail uses making up less than 80% of the frontage in primary frontages and 60% in secondary frontages. In other locations, including district and local centres, Policy S2 of the Joint Core Strategy requires that careful consideration is given to planning applications for change of use, including hot food takeaways, in particular relating to how the proposal would impact on the vitality and viability of these areas, as well as in terms of their impact on the amenity of neighbouring occupiers.

Town centre economies have changed immensely over the last 5 -10 years and the retail mix of a town centre is a reflection of the changing shopping habits of the population within the catchment area. A restriction of use classes will not change the shopping trends, or indeed the economy.

Councillor Tim Hadland

Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning