

WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

The following questions have been received from Councillors and will be taken as read along with the written answer which will be included in an addendum that will be circulated at the meeting:

(1) Councillor: Gibson

The answer to the below question was initially deferred till after the budget and then answered partially without revealing the modelling of actual costs for the specific schemes, so please provide the full answer to include all the specific schemes referred to in the question below?

“Can the new homes schemes modelled (in answer to question 8 to full council on April 19th 2018) as estimates (using estimates of borrowing and build costs) be modelled inputting the actual build cost and the actual capital charges (or if this is not easy to establish using the weighted average capital charge on actual borrowing taken out since 2015) of the loans used to fund the schemes over a 60 year period to establish the projected surplus/deficit based on more accurate inputs?”

Reply from Councillor Williams, Chair of the Housing Committee

(2) Councillor Gibson

In the light of the recently announced changes to PWLB rates please can you update the costs provided in answer to the following question asked to Policy & Resources committee in February 2019;

Please provide a table showing the annual repayment required of BHCC on a loan at current PWLB rates for 5, 10, 20, 25, 30,35, 40 and 50 million pounds? (showing repayment periods of 30,40, 50, and 60 years for each loan).

Reply from Councillor Platts, Leader of the Council

(3) Councillor Clare

How many complaints arose from events in Brunswick and Adelaide Ward so far this year?

Reply from Councillor Yates, Deputy Chair (Finance) of the Policy & Resources Committee

(4) Councillor Nemeth – King Alfred

Starting with Councillor Geoffrey Bowden, who proudly launched the King Alfred project whilst Chairing the Economic Development & Culture Committee, please provide a timeline of lead Members for the project since Councillor Bowden, finishing with whoever is leading now?

Reply from Councillor Robins, Chair of the Tourism, Equalities, Communities & Culture Committee

(5) Councillor Miller – Madeira Terraces

When on current projections are all 147 arches likely to be restored by this failing Labour Administration? Would they prefer the Conservative group to take over and have work start on all of them within 24 months?

Reply from Councillor Robins, Chair of the Tourism, Equalities, Communities & Culture Committee

(6) Councillor Miller – Private Schools

Does the Leader of the Council, and her colleague MP's, agree with the Labour Party that successful schools in our city, educating many local pupils, such as Brighton College, Roedean, Lancing College and St. Christopher's to name but a few: should be closed down, and stripped of their assets? So as to increase the financial and land pressure on our local maintain, free and academy schools and ultimately lower standards and outcomes for all our city's young people?

Reply from Councillor Platts, Leader of the Council

(7) Councillor Fishleigh

Is it possible for Cityclean to allocate two people to spend one day a week every week maintaining the area around Brighton train station so that this gateway into the city is more appealing to both residents and visitors with regular tasks to include painting over and scrubbing away graffiti, peeling off stickers and painting over the damage caused by them on lamp posts, repainting the black railings, weeding and tending plant beds?

Reply from Councillor Pissaridou, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

(8) Councillor Hugh-Jones

On 1 October 2019, the Government opened the consultation on Future Homes Standard by 2025. The consultation ends on 10 January 2020. The government withdrew the Code for Sustainable Homes (CSH) in March 2015 following which this Council had to fight hard to incorporate the equivalent of CSH Level 4 into City Plan Part 1.

Unsurprisingly, more recently, in its report on energy efficiency, the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) Committee also described it as "*nonsensical to be continuously making the problem worse by allowing new homes to be built that will also need to be retrofitted*".

In relation to existing housing stock, the Committee on Climate Change noted in its 2019 report to Parliament that:

Policies are not in place to deliver the Government's ambitions on energy efficiency ... Building standards are not sufficiently enforced ... Regulations for

the private rented sector prioritise costs for landlords over running costs for renters. MHCLG must play its part, including minimum standards for social housing.

Does this administration plan to respond to the consultation? If so, and in light of the climate emergency, will the Council explore, as a matter of urgency:

1. The adoption of the Scottish model of making zero interest or equity loans available to homeowners for energy efficiency improvements, or an equivalent model?
2. Better enforcement of energy efficiency standards including, in the private rented sector, lobbying for the removal of the £3500 cap on landlord's fuel efficiency improvements?

Reply from Councillor Williams, Chair of the Housing Committee

(9) Councillor Gibson

As of 1st of October 2019, please can you tell me, across Brighton and Hove how many:

- CPZ permits were issued?
- What the annual cost average charge per permit?
- How many addresses have each of 2, 3, 4, 5 permits issued?
- How many vehicles have permits for 2 zones?

Reply from Councillor O'Quinn, Chair of the Licensing Committee

(10) Councillor Osborne - Students and noise complaints in Coldean

What is the council doing to put pressure on the bus companies, the university and other stakeholders to address the issues caused by anti-social behaviour in Coldean coming from the Varley Halls?

Reply from Councillor Pissaridou – Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

(11) Councillor Osborne - Advertising- removing sugary/fatty foods and drinks

Dame Sally Davies, Chief Medical Officer for England, recently announced that one of the best ways to tackle the obesity epidemic in children is to cut out advertising of unhealthy food and drink.

Does the council lease any land/property to advertising companies? Does the council have powers to restrict advertising in places which it doesn't own and does the council intend to use its authority as a licensing body to limit the advertising at events?

Reply from Councillor Pissaridou – Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

(12) Councillor West

Electric cars offer an opportunity to reduce air pollution, though will not address road congestion and the danger faced by active and vulnerable road users. While it is hoped electric cars will be powered with renewable energy, the energy levels required to power large scale use of electric cars will need a huge investment in generation, transmission and charging infrastructure. When account is also taken of the high level of embodied energy needed to produce electric cars, what overall carbon saving can be achieved through switching from conventionally powered to electrically powered private vehicles? Given the Labour administration shares the Green goal of the city being carbon neutral by 2030, does the Labour administration accept that electric cars are not a panacea for carbon neutrality and that instead there needs to be a rapid and major shift from car use to active and sustainable travel modes in the city?

Reply from Councillor Pissaridou – Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

(13) Councillor Mac Cafferty - Communal Bins

Can you please tabulate:

- (1) the quantity of complaints about communal bin collections;
 - (2) the quantity of complaints about the state of communal bins and;
 - (3) the age of each communal bin,
- on each street in Brunswick and Adelaide Ward for the past five years?

Reply from Councillor Pissaridou – Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

(14) Councillor Mac Cafferty – Pavement Parking

Further to Scottish Parliament legislation and the Commons' Transport Committee recommendation to implement a ban on pavement parking in England, what will be done ahead of legislation in the meanwhile to enable our council to sign up to the Living Streets “Pavements for People” charter?

Reply from Councillor Pissaridou – Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

(15) Councillor Mac Cafferty – Licensing Complaints

Can you please tabulate the quantity of complaints about licensed premises for each street in Brunswick and Adelaide Ward in the past five years?

Reply from Councillor O’Quinn – Chair of the Licensing Committee

(16) Councillor Mac Cafferty – Anti-Social Behaviour Policy

Can you please tabulate the quantity of anti-social behaviour incidents for each street in Brunswick and Adelaide Ward in the past five years?

Reply from Councillor Moonan – Chair of the Health & Wellbeing Board

(17) Councillor Mac Cafferty - Fixed penalty notices for environmental offences

Can you please tabulate the quantity of fixed penalty notices for environmental offences of littering, graffiti, fly posting and fly tipping respectively for the last five years across the city?

Reply from Councillor Pissaridou – Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

(18) Councillor Hills

Residents in my ward are keen to recycle as effectively as they can, but it can be difficult to access information about the whole range of what they can recycle and where. One comprehensive digital map that contains all public recycling points, as well as other non-council recycling services, would be really helpful. There are maps on the council website that show where specific materials/items can be collected, that is, cartons, electricals and textiles/clothes/shoes. But would great if all recycling points could be on one map, with pull down options so users can look up recycling facilities for specific items or materials. It is particularly difficult for residents to find out about non-council recycling options and it would be great if these could be included on the map too. Recycling services such as the Green Centre collect a wide number of materials but only at specific locations on particular days, and it would really help residents if information on services such as this could be available in the same place as council information. It could help residents to locate supermarkets that collect plastic bags, and garden centres that take plant pots too. The A-Z on there at the moment is useful but the provision would be better if such a map were available too, as people generally respond better to information presented visually. I'm sure my residents would really appreciate this as many don't have cars and would prefer to recycle as locally as they can.

When do we expect a food waste collection service be available in the city?

Reply from Councillor Pissaridou – Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

