COUNCIL MEETING – 19 JULY 2023

A. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

1. From local resident Dimitri Shvorob to Councillor Baroness O'Neill of Bexley OBE, Leader of the Council:

Can you please tell me who is responsible for the Council's failure to develop an Air Quality Action Plan in the 16 years since the creation of the Bexley Air Quality Management Area?

2. From local resident Dimitri Shvorob to Councillor Diment, Cabinet Member for Places:

Can you please tell me about the financial impact of the decision, made in early 2023, to close the Council's parking-warden phone line, crippling parking enforcement in the borough?

3. From local resident Paul McQuillen to Councillor Munur, Cabinet Member for Growth:

Could the Cabinet Member for Growth please explain why the Council, as a Statutory Consultee, did not object to Newham Council regarding London City Airports recent Planning Application to extend its operating hours, given that every other local authority adversely affected by the low altitude flight paths of City Airport aircraft objected and doesn't this inaction by the Council reflect a lack of concern for the amenity, health and the environment for thousands of borough residents?

B. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1. From Councillor Nicola Taylor to Councillor Baroness O'Neill of Bexley OBE, Leader of the Council:

Does the Leader of the Council fully support that the excellent Pride on the Pier event in Erith held on the 8th July, become an annual event?

2. From Councillor Asunramu to Councillor Gower MBE, Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing:

Will the Cabinet Member commit to ensuring that Bexley celebrates Eid every year in Danson Park for the many Muslims that reside in the Borough?

3. From Councillor Reader to Councillor Munur, Cabinet Member for Growth:

Does the Cabinet Member for Growth agree with me that the decision not to extend the DLR to Bexley is extremely disappointing?

4. From Councillor Slaughter to Councillor Diment, Cabinet Member for Places:

Can the Cabinet Member for Places tell me the latest information on recycling across Bexley?

5. From Councillor Ogundayo to Councillor Gower MBE, Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing:

Can the Cabinet Member please give us an update on how the Council commemorated Windrush Day and whether there are plans to do something to commemorate the day, each year?

6. From Councillor Ball to Councillor Baroness O'Neill of Bexley OBE, Leader of the Council:

Will the Leader join in congratulating the organiser and volunteers at Bexley's first ever Pride?

7. From Councillor Curtois to Councillor Leaf, Cabinet Member for Resources:

Would the Cabinet Member for Resources give us his assessment of the inflationary pressures on the Council and impacts on the MTFS?

8. From Councillor Moore to Councillor Newton, Cabinet Member for Education:

Could the Cabinet Member for Education give an update on progress on the Safety Valve agreement?

9. From Councillor Ball to Councillor Baroness O'Neill of Bexley OBE, Leader of the Council:

Would the Leader of the Council join me in calling for a plaque or similar permanent marker that acknowledges the role in slavery associated with Danson House?

10. From Councillor Francis to Councillor Baroness O'Neill of Bexley OBE, Leader of the Council:

According to the latest census data, how many Bexley households have a mortgage?

11. From Councillor Chris Taylor to Councillor Newton, Cabinet Member for Education:

Will the Cabinet Member for Education update Members on the SEND Peer Review which took place in April?

12. From Councillor Sandhu to Councillor Munur, Cabinet Member for Growth:

Would the Cabinet Member for Growth join me in congratulating all those involved and the winners of the 2023 Bexleyheath business awards?

13. From Councillor Borella to Councillor Diment, Cabinet Member for Places:

Does the Cabinet Member support the recent progress in the building of the DLR extension to Thamesmead, meaning a future extension to Belvedere is more likely?

14. From Councillor Day to Councillor Gower MBE, Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing:

What effect does the Cabinet Member think that the removal of the Selective Licensing scheme next month will have on residents in Slade Green and Northend who live in private-rented accommodation, such as in Manor Rd and on Frobisher Estate?

15. From Councillor Hall to Councillor Baroness O'Neill of Bexley OBE, Leader of the Council:

Could the Leader of the Council advise Members of the outcome of the Judicial Review of the Mayor of London's plans to expand ULEZ to Bexley (& Outer London)?

16. From Councillor Christoforides to Councillor Diment, Cabinet Member for Places:

Can I ask the Cabinet Member for Places what public transport investment the Council believes that TfL should be making in Bexley?

17. From Councillor Ferguson to Councillor Diment, Cabinet Member for Places:

Does the Cabinet Member agree with and fully support Newham Council's decision regarding London City Airport proposed expansion plan, as all neighbouring boroughs have an interest in the operations at the airport?

18. From Councillor Borella to Councillor Gower MBE, Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing:

Why has the implementation of the new selective licensing area been delayed from its original inception date of December 2023 to the new date of April 2024?

19. From Councillor Christoforides to Councillor Diment, Cabinet Member for Places:

Will the Cabinet Member for Places update Members on actions to reduce/combat fly-tipping?

20. From Councillor Reader to Councillor Seymour, Cabinet Member for Adults' Services:

Can the Cabinet Member for Adults' Services update us on the new Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy?

21. From Councillor Asunramu to Councillor Newton, Cabinet Member for Education:

Could the Cabinet Member for Education please outline the work that is being done within schools across Bexley to explore the concept of consent and preventing sexual assault and abuse in schools?

22. From Councillor Asunramu to Councillor Newton, Cabinet Member for Education:

Can the Cabinet Member for Education outline the outreach work completed to ensure organisations catering to over 14-year-olds in the Borough can benefit from the HAFs programmes over summer 2023?

23. From Councillor Catterall to Councillor Seymour, Cabinet Member for Adults' Services:

Can the Cabinet Member for Adults' Services update us on development of the Adult Social Care Vision?

24. From Councillor Bacon to Councillor Diment, Cabinet Member for Places:

Can I ask the Cabinet Member for Places for an update on progress with the Council's road maintenance programme for 2023/24?

25. From Councillor Francis to Councillor Leaf, Cabinet Member for Resources:

How many voter authority certificates has the Council issued to electors?

26. From Councillor Francis to Councillor Leaf, Cabinet Member for Resources:

How many complaints has the Council received from residents regarding the text message reminder sent on 29 June 2023 regarding council tax payments?

27. From Councillor Chris Taylor to Councillor Munur, Cabinet Member for Growth:

Could the Cabinet Member for Growth update us on our performance for new job starts and sustainment?

28. From Councillor Ward-Wilson to Councillor Seymour, Cabinet Member for Adults' Services:

Can the Cabinet Member for Adults' Services update us on the recent Carers Event held in Bexley?

29. From Councillor Hinkley to Councillor Baroness O'Neill of Bexley OBE, Leader of the Council:

Following changes brought about by a rare Call-in meeting relating to waste amenity sites, would the Leader consider convening the Constitution Review Panel to look collaboratively at how scrutiny and back bench Councillors from both parties can more effectively support policy formulation?

30. From Councillor Amaning to Councillor Newton, Cabinet Member for Education:

Is the Council aware or has identified any reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) in our schools and educational institutions and have they sought any specialist advice or management plans to deal with this?

31. From Councillor O'Hare to Councillor Gower MBE, Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing:

Could the Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing confirm what the Council is doing to help residents seeking support with housing?

32. From Councillor Curtois to Councillor Gower MBE, Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing:

Could the Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing clarify what is being done to prevent homelessness?

33. From Councillor Francis to Councillor Munur, Cabinet Member for Growth:

How many schools, church/community halls and/or places suitable to hold a consultation event are located within a mile of the BexleyCo development site at Bursted Woods?

34. From Councillor Ball to Cllr Diment, Cabinet Member for Places:

Can the Cabinet Member confirm the capital programme underspend from 22/23 on repairs to Bexley's roads and pavements?

35. From Councillor Moore to Councillor Read, Cabinet Member for Children's Services:

Will the Cabinet Member for Children's Services please update us on recruitment of new foster carers?

36. From Councillor Ward-Wilson to Councillor Read, Cabinet Member for Children's Services:

Will the Cabinet Member for Children's Services please update us on the progress of the SHiFT initiative?

37. From Councillor Perfect to Councillor Newton, Cabinet Member for Education:

Could the Cabinet Member outline how the Council assists Year 6s with their transition to secondary school?

38. From Councillor Perfect to Councillor Newton, Cabinet Member for Education:

Could the Cabinet Member provide an update on how many SEND children in the borough are being home-schooled, expanding on how the Council ensures that they have the right access to health services that they would have otherwise received at a school?

39. From Councillor Catterall to Councillor Read, Cabinet Member for Children's Services:

Will the Cabinet Member for Children's Services please tell us how Bexley matches the current aspirations of the Care Leaver Covenant?

40. From Councillor Hall to Councillor Leaf, Cabinet Member for Resources:

Would the Cabinet Member for Resources provide an update on the distribution and use of funds from the fourth round of the Household Support Fund?

41. From Councillor Francis to Councillor Leaf, Cabinet Member for Resources:

Could the Cabinet Member please outline the protocols for the LBOB Twitter account?

42. From Councillor Francis to Councillor Baroness O'Neill of Bexley OBE, Leader of the Council:

Would the Leader of the Council confirm when Issue 2 of the Member Enquiries Monthly Update Report will be issued, following the very useful Issue 1 which was sent to Council Members in November 2022?

43. From Councillor Hinkley to Councillor Diment, Cabinet Member for Places:

What representations is the Cabinet member making regarding the proposed ticket office closures at Erith, Slade Green, Belvedere, Barnehurst, Welling, Bexleyheath, Falconwood and Albany Park?