

Council

4 July 2007

Questions

Note: All accepted Questions are listed. Answers are provided for the first thirty questions.

- 1 **By: Councillor Jeremy Clyne (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Councillor John Kazantzis – Cabinet Member for Housing

Voids and squatted properties

How many Lambeth housing properties are a) void and b) squatted compared with the number in May 2006 when Labour came into power? You claimed to have changed the existing policy on long-term voids with a view to bringing what you described as family-sized properties back into use. What exactly was this change in policy, when was it made and who made it? Which properties have been placed before the disposals panel since May 2006 and how many have been authorised for disposal? Has the formula used to assess properties for disposal. been changed and if so how?

Party: Liberal Democrat

Answer:

a) In May 2006 there were 420 void properties, which included 142 short cycle voids and 278 long cycle/major repair voids. This represented 1.5% of the stock in management (vacant property awaiting disposal and demolition not included).

At 10th June 2007 there were 326 voids representing 1.2% of stock, including 177 short cycle voids and 149 long cycle/major repair voids. Regeneration and Housing Department aim to keep the total below 1.0%. The backlog of long term voids is still being cleared and this is affecting average turnaround times, these are mainly voids that need more investment in to bring back into use. Current and more recent short cycle voids are now turning around much faster. Of the 177 short cycle voids: 27 are just notified or being verified, 45 are being inspected, 57 are under repair, and 48 are ready to let or under offer. This represents a good spread through the cycle showing we are getting back to a normal workflow. The numbers represent a typical level in social housing voids for a tenanted stock of 27,200 dwellings.

b) In May 2006 there were 65 squatted dwellings and unauthorised

occupants in our management stock. There is an overlap in the definitions of squatted and unauthorised occupancy so the total figure has been given.

At 10th June 2007 there were 72 squatted dwellings and unauthorised occupants in our management stock. This represents 0.26% of the stock in management or between 2 or 3 dwellings per thousand which is not uncommon in Inner London.

The figures in June 07 and May 06 exclude squatted and unauthorised occupants in dwellings awaiting disposal and redevelopment.

You claimed to have changed the existing policy on long-term voids with a view to bringing what you described as family-sized properties back into use. What exactly was this change in policy, when was it made and who made it?

The council has an urgent need for family sized dwellings, as at June 2007 we have 1,869 family households in temporary accommodation, and 2,941 families who are authorised on the Housing Register waiting list for permanent housing to between 2 and 4 bed plus properties. The Administration last year asked officers to review the processes involved in assessing voids for disposal in light of this need, and therefore officers are more vigorous in challenging the economics of major works needed against the backdrop of demand for family sized dwellings. In addition, we have recently received additional funding from the London Housing Capital Pot to apply to long term family sized voids in need of major repairs. We are responding to demand.

Which properties have been placed before the disposals panel since May 2006 and how many have been authorised for disposal?

Two void properties in management have been presented to the disposals panel since May 2006. This excludes short-life properties and redevelopment schemes. One, a bedsit, was approved for disposal. The other, a large family dwelling in Brixton Housing Area, was referred for valuation and a cost benefit analysis to see if there is any way this dwelling can be retained, no decision has been made on this property to date.

Has the formula used to assess properties for disposal. been changed and if so how?

No, the formula and methodology are unchanged but in the last year as part of our overall strategy to improve management of voids performance and relating this to demand levels, a greater emphasis has been placed on retaining family sized dwellings – for example by bidding for additional funding to the London Housing pot.

- 2 **By: Councillor Clare Whelan (13.06.07)**
 To: Councillor Lib Peck – Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture

Operation Freshview

When will Operation Freshview reach any of the three Norwood Wards? It is apparent that while the Norwood Town Centre area has not yet had even one Operation Freshview clean up some other wards have been visited more than once.

Party: Conservative

Answer:

The wards selected for the operation were based on the Official ODPM (Office of Deputy Prime Minister) Deprivation Index. One of the aims of the Freshview initiative is to help reduce the gap of deprivation between wards in Lambeth. To achieve this five wards were selected for a one year trial of the scheme which each area is visited on a rolling schedule. These wards were:

- Coldharbour
- Princes
- Vassal
- Oval
- Herne Hill

The trial was supported by a small amount of NRF and the pilot is currently under review to identify what benefits were achieved and how it should be deployed in the future. The report is due to be completed mid – late July.

In the meantime Street Care will be able to address any specific environmental areas of concern. Alternatively we can arrange a mini Freshview where by Street Care will provide Skips and equipment to address specific areas of concern. There is a community cleanup (mini Freshview) scheduled for the 30th June in Norwood. This will be a community driven operation with the Council playing a supporting role, providing protective clothing, equipment etc.

- 3 **By: Councillor Rebecca Thackray (12.06.07)**

To: Councillor Steve Reed – Leader of the Council

Carbon emissions and Corporate Plan

Given the Council's commitment to reducing carbon emissions, where is its importance reflected in the Corporate Plan?

Party: Green

Answer:

Until last year, the Council didn't have a Corporate Plan. It was initiated by the newly elected Labour Administration to give a stronger focus for the Council's activities and to help drive improvement further and faster than during the previous four years when too many services were allowed to stagnate or even go backwards. We are learning how to make the Corporate Plan even more effective for future years.

Thanks to action taken by the current Administration, Lambeth has the most ambitious target for carbon-emission reductions of any London borough. We lead London on sustainable transport, including the promotion of car clubs. Given that our achievements to date demonstrate our success in working towards becoming the greenest borough in London, you are right to point out that the Corporate Plan should reflect the high priority we put on tackling climate change, and in supporting our communities to take action themselves. I will ensure this is the case next year, and will also make proposals that allow councillors from all parties to have input into the development of next year's Corporate Plan.

- 4 **By: Councillor Liz Atkinson (12.06.07)**
To: Councillor Donatus Anyanwu - Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Services

Befriending Scheme (Older People)

What progress is the council making with its befriending scheme to provide more contact and support for older people so that our elderly population are not living in isolation?

Party: Labour

Answer:

One of the things that many older people have told us about is the problems caused by isolation. The introduction of a Befriending scheme is one this Administration's top priorities and is a manifesto commitment to older and disabled people.

The council is currently working with Age Concern Lambeth to develop a befriending service for older people and a number of exciting projects are now getting off the ground with further services being developed in the coming months.

Two key projects include:

Befriending in care homes

Age Concern Lambeth has recruited 11 volunteers to visit elderly people in residential care homes. They will initially work in the seven care homes most used by Lambeth. Age Concern has held initial meetings with the care home managers. Those managers will identify people in the homes who would most appreciate a visit and the volunteers will then start to visit.

Befriending and good neighbour schemes

Working in Princes Ward in the north of the borough, we are working with three sheltered housing schemes managed by London and Quadrant to develop good neighbour projects and befriending for older and vulnerable people. The good neighbour part of the project will not simply focus on the sheltered housing schemes, but will work across the whole ward, involving a range of people living in the area. Age Concern are arranging a number of information events linked to this project, such as a Falls Awareness day, and are also mapping other opportunities for older people living in that area.

- 5 **By: Councillor Robert Banks (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Donatus Anyanwu - Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Services

PCT letter regarding eligibility criteria

Bearing in mind the recent letter from Kevin Barton of the Lambeth Primary Care Trust expressing concern at the council's cuts to eligibility criteria, will the administration sit down with the Primary Care Trust and take them up on their offer of working with the council to find a solution so that care will continue to be provided to those in the "substantial" care category?

Party: Liberal Democrat

Answer:

Due to the dire financial situation the Administration inherited in May 2006, where the council had little in reserves, Lambeth is now having to make tough decisions on budgets and service provision across the council. The council is investing a record amount in adult services this

year, £1.9 million more than last year whilst all other departments in the council have been asked to make savings.

These proposals for changing eligibility criteria are not what any of us would want to do – but may be necessary. We already work closely with the PCT and other health partners. This partnership working is valued by both organisations and has brought successes on an operational and strategic level. I have met previously with the Chair of the PCT and we will continue to work closely to improve and develop health and social care services for people in Lambeth.

- 6** **By: Councillor John Whelan (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Sally Prentice- Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

Building Schools for the future

Is the building programme for Wave One of Building Schools for the Future in Lambeth currently on time and to budget and what assurance is there for schools in the subsequent waves that funding will still be available for their projects?

Party: Conservative

Answer:

Lambeth's BSF programme is performing well and we are the first borough in London to start building a school under the BSF programme. In spite of difficulties with additional asbestos and the discovery of bat roosts in some of the existing buildings the problems have been mitigated within the overall phase 1 programme, which is on target, including for The Elmgreen School to move to its new building in September 2009. The phase 1 programme is still within the original budget.

We await confirmation from DfES and PfS of the funding for our second phase, Wave 5, under their latest arrangements, but do not expect there to be any significant change from their previous advice.

- 7** **By: Councillor Imogen Walker (12.06.07)**
To: Councillor Sally Prentice- Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

Progress on BSF Programme

What progress is the council making to ensure the successful delivery of our Building Schools for the Future Programme, which will see all

secondary schools in Lambeth refurbished or rebuilt by 2015?

Party: Labour

Answer:

Our first phase is now well under way with works on site for the Michael Tippett and Elm Court schools, and the Park Campus. The work on the interim building for The Elmgreen School is now almost complete. Lambeth was the first London borough to start construction in the Building Schools for the Future Programme, although not a Pathfinder or Wave 1 scheme.

Procurement of contractors for the rebuild of Stockwell Park High School and the new building for The Elmgreen School is on programme for construction to commence early in 2008, as planned.

Lambeth's second phase, national Wave 5, is dependent on DfES and PfS issuing the "Remit for Change", which they now expect to be in September 2007. Subject to their commitment we would expect to conclude contracts in Spring 2010 and complete refurbishment and rebuilding works at the latest by 2015.

- 8 **By: Councillor Andrew Sawdon (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Nigel Haselden – Deputy Cabinet Member for Parking and Transport

Parking Permit Increase

Will the Deputy Cabinet Member for Parking and Transport confirm that the new arrangements for Parking Permit charges will result in nearly £1million extra revenue. Will he also confirm that the emission based charging scheme for parking permits in Richmond followed widespread consultation with residents and will be revenue neutral.

Party: Liberal Democrat

Answer:

This proposal forms part of the new Administration's commitment to improving the environment and is one of a number of measures designed to help Lambeth meet our ambitious sustainability charter.

Specifically, the regime is being introduced in the context of the council's commitment to encouraging emission reduction and combating climate change and improvements in sustainable transport including the expansion of car clubs.

It is an environmental, not a tax raising measure and is targeted at car ownership and is aimed to encourage residents to consider how much their car pollutes and indeed whether to own a car at all. The measure addresses car ownership, but indirectly can affect car use if a driver switches to alternative means of transport.

The proposed emission based regime for residents parking is estimated to provide an annual £957,000 additional income in a full calendar year. The regime reflects the fact that resident permit prices in Lambeth have remained unchanged since 1998. Any surplus from controlled parking is pumped directly back into sustainable transport work as well as traffic safety schemes and Freedom Passes for older citizens. This funding benefits the whole population, including the 50% who do not run a car, but who must breathe the product of those who do.

When the Richmond Cabinet decided to introduce their scheme officers were unable to predict with certainty what the financial impact would be. It was estimated the change in income would range between a reduction of £50k and an increase of £28k per annum but would “approach cost neutrality”. The financial impact of the Richmond proposals will be influenced by a number of factors, as will be the case in Lambeth. Consequently the cost neutrality of their proposal cannot be confirmed at this time.

- 9 By: Councillor Suzanne Poole (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Sally Prentice- Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

One O’Clock Clubs Name Change

How much will it cost to change the name of the existing O’Clock Clubs taking into account publicity, signage, staff uniforms and other branding exercises and can she provide an absolute assurance to parents and carers that there will be no cuts in service hours or staffing levels?

Party: Conservative

Answer:

The Early Years and Sure Start Service conducted a review of the one o’clock club service in July, August and September 2006. The scope of the review was to look at the service offered, the links that could be made with other early years provision, and the training and development needs of the staff group.

Workers, parents, elected members and managers were involved in the review.

The key messages can be summarised as – the clubs were fairly isolated from the rest of early years provision, they do not necessarily reach as

wide a group of families, and the staff would benefit from additional training and support in order to develop their role.

We plan to link the one o'clock clubs closely to the children's centres, and for them to play a role in delivering excellent play services for under 5s and their parents and carers.

We have consulted widely on the name – many people felt that “club” is not a helpful term, in that it implies you need to be a member to attend. The issue of one o'clock again is misleading as we hope to open some of the centres for longer than the existing 3 hours, in order that more parents can access them,.

One o'clock club is not a universally recognised term – in fact when some parents – particularly families new to the borough - were asked what a one o'clock club was they had no idea that it was anything to do with the delivery of children's services.

We have considered a number of names, have consulted with the staff, and colleagues and managers in the service, and would like a much simpler name – that describes the services – and incorporates the word Play – as this is their core business.

For the time being there are no proposed changes to opening hours, staff numbers, access for parents, services offered or budget changes.

- 10 By: Councillor Daniel Fitzpatrick (12.06.07)**
To: Councillor John Kazantzis – Cabinet Member for Housing

Housing Revenue Account

Can you tell me what kind of reckless financial practices occurred in the past which has led to the Housing Revenue Account being in such difficulty?

Party: Labour

Answer:

The HRA account has been financially mismanaged for years. The previous administration's patch work approach to procuring contracts, their misguided and failed attempts to achieve the decent homes standards and the much maligned “reframing” project has cost tenants millions of pounds in rent money. Their cavalier attitude towards the finances by the Liberal Democrat and Conservative administration was further demonstrated by the inappropriate practice of capitalising money that should have been taken out of the revenue account

Sterling work carried out by housing officers has meant the true scale of the problem has started to be recognised. Many tough measures had to be put in place last year and this has helped to make significant inroads

into bringing our finances back into balance. More work will have to be carried out before the HRA will be in a strong financial position again. The Liberal Democrats wasted and lost millions of pounds of tenants and leaseholders rent and service charges through weak decision making and fraud and we are now seeing the true cost of their four years of misrule.

- 11 **By: Councillor Roger Giess (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Lib Peck – Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture

Regeneration of Streatham High Road

Can the Cabinet Member for Environment confirm that TfL's programme for the major regeneration of Streatham High Road, including the removal of the centre reservation, is now seriously behind schedule. Can she confirm the length of the delay and give an assurance of the current timetable and whether the delay in progressing this important scheme can be shortened? Can she give Council details of recent meetings they have had with TfL aimed at moving this important project forward. Can she also confirm that internal squabbling within TfL and its partners is causing not only delay in implementing the stage requiring the removal of the central reservation to return this key area of the shopping centre to people rather than cars but also to existing projects such as landscaping around Streatham Station and the remodelling of the notorious St Leonards junction. Can she confirm that the Council's existing financial contribution towards the landscape upgrade of the area between The Odeon and Woodbourne Avenue will be ringfenced for this purpose when the work finally commences?

Party: Liberal Democrat

Answer:

The administration remains very committed to the programme of improvements agreed for Streatham High Road and regrets that there has been considerable delay in delivering it.

These have been due mainly to meet the requirements the Network Assurance part of Transport for London.

This meant that a very detailed modelling and testing process needed to be followed and this, in itself, has taken more than a year.

This has been necessary to ensure the proposed changes to the road layout - which including improved crossing facilities for pedestrians, the widening of footways and a bus lane the full length of Streatham High Road and Streatham Hill - will bring the benefits anticipated, keeping the

traffic flowing as well as possible on Streatham High Road, without creating undue congestion elsewhere.

The modelling is now complete and would seem to indicate the appropriate level of benefits. However a decision from Network Assurance is awaited before the scheme can go ahead. The additional improvements, e.g. to street furniture, greening, public art and so on, cannot commence until the other work is underway as this would obviously be disruptive and expensive.

Overall the delay has been about two years for these reasons. There is a concern that new procurement requirements will add further delay to progressing that section outside the Odeon. I will ensure that ward members are kept up to date with this situation.

In relation to greening of Streatham station Approach, and the planned improvements outside Streatham Station itself, this work is now underway again. The delay of about 3 months was due to the change to TfL's term contractors. The changeover period from February through April 2007 was needed to complete existing work, hand over from old to new contractors and recommence work.

Officers are working in partnership with TfL's project team to progress the scheme with the minimum of delay and are of the view that TfL are now doing their utmost to progress this as fast as their procedures will allow.

The Assistant Director of Street Management (EC&CS) has regular liaison meetings with officers in TfL. To ensure that the council's concerns over the project are fully communicated at the appropriate level within TfL this project is now a routine agenda item at that meeting.

The balance of funds, allocated through LOF, has been ring fenced for the agreed improvements to Streatham High Road.

- 12 **By: Councillor Graham Pycock (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Mark Bennett – Cabinet Member for Safer Communities

Communities First

What was the original budget allocation in capital and revenue to ward councillors convened in Area Committees and to Town Centre offices for 2006/2007 and what projected savings were to be made in 2006/2007 by cuts in these budgets and what savings were realised?

Party: Conservative

Answer:

There is a Capital allocation of £293,000 – this amount has been safeguarded and remains in the budget (Ward Purse). There has never been a revenue allocation for ward councillors. The 2006-2007 Area Services (including Town Centre) base budget was reduced by £150,000, which is currently being delivered. These are part of a three year projected saving of £315,000. The next phase of savings will be realised following completion of the communities' first development work and the proposed restructuring of the Regeneration & Enterprise Division where the area services resources are currently located.

- 13** **By: Councillor Peter Robbins (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Jackie Meldrum – Deputy Leader of the Council

Numbers of Agency Staff

What progress has been made on reducing the number of agency staff employed by the council?

Party: Labour

Answer:

It has been a key priority of the HR service to enable the reduction of agency workers throughout the Council. In April 2005 agency workers totalled 948, which was 19.6% of the workforce. As a result of the HR challenge presented to departments requesting agency worker assignments, this figure has reduced from 948 to 639 in April 2007, 14.25% of the workforce.

The reduction of agency workers continues to be a Council priority and work continues within HR to facilitate this.

- 14** **By: Councillor Julian Heather (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Paul McGlone – Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise

Streatham Hub Progress Report

In the light of the abolition of the Streatham Area Committee, which received updates at each meeting of progress on the Streatham Hub Development, would the Cabinet Member for regeneration provide an update on what progress has been made since the last Streatham Area Committee held on 25th April on taking forward the Streatham Hub development and give an indication of the key delivery timescales

Party: Liberal Democrat

Answer:

The technical review of the complete Streatham Hub Scheme has been completed and the guide price for the overall development reduced to a level acceptable to Tesco.

The first 3 months of the planned 'review period' in the scheme has been complete. This represents the period during which Tesco could have unilaterally withdrawn because the scheme couldn't be made to be 'financially' viable.

The feasibility of the scheme has been tested and reviewed during this period. As a consequence the phasing of the various buildings and the exchange of property has had to be altered. Subsequently we have had to bring the Section 106 and the Development Agreement in line with the revised building schedule.

This has been completed however we are awaiting a 'letter of assurance' from Tesco – regarding the critical path in the building programme – before the Executive Directors can reasonably sign off the Delegated Decision and the documents can be exchanged.

On the 15th of June the 6 month development and procurement phase of the project began – regardless of the exchange of documents. The first meeting of the Technical Review Group concerning the Leisure Centre will take place on the afternoon of the 21st of June.

A new team of Canadian engineers – expert in Ice Arenas - is now involved and the Project Team have completed a series of visits to sites in the UK . This in order to ensure a greatly increased awareness of the issues associated with:

- the initial building.
- the long term life cycle.
- the impact of the facility layout on management performance and costs.
- energy use.

If there are revisions to the floor layouts these will be tested upon the Streatham Stakeholders Technical Group and the Council's new Leisure Contractor – Greenwich Leisure Ltd.

Other than for the exchange of documents all other factors are progressing according to the revised critical path for the project that was included in the last report to the Area Committee.

To: Councillor Lib Peck – Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture

Sustainability and Climate Change

Despite the fact that the administration constantly tells residents that sustainability and climate change are important challenges for the Council, why has the administration failed to find the funding for even one new member of staff to work on sustainability issues and when does it plan to do so?

Party: Conservative

Answer:

Sustainability and climate change are recognized as important challenges for the Council, and for the contribution the Council can make to pan London initiatives around climate change. We are making climate change an important part of our new sustainable community strategy, and will work through the Local Strategic Partnership to involve partner organisations and agencies from throughout the Borough. We have also placed climate change in the performance management framework of our senior management to ensure that all Departments make their contribution to this agenda. The Council currently employs two dedicated sustainability posts. We have a Sustainable Development Policy Officer who has been very active in developing carbon management proposals for the Council, establishing a Council wide 'environment champions' scheme, and led the way in delivering the recent successful Conference on the issue in Lambeth Town Hall. We also have a Waste Minimisation Officer, an initiative developed in partnership with Remade.

16 By: Councillor Florence Nosegebe (13.06.07)
To: Councillor Lib Peck – Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture

The Successful Climate Change Conference

This Administration held the first ever Climate Change Conference in February 2007. This Conference was named as an example of best practice by the Carbon Reduction Trust. Can you explain what made this conference so successful and what plans you have to build on this success?

Party: Labour

Answer:

Lambeth Council's first Climate Change Conference held in February

2007 was aimed at raising awareness among businesses, residents, visitors and Council staff. The day started early with a Climate Change Business Breakfast (featuring speakers from the Carbon Trust and the Brit Oval explaining practical steps businesses can take and the finance/support/advice that is available), followed by the main Climate Change Conference. In addition there was a public fair all day that anyone could drop in to, to see the wide range of actions different Council services are taking to address Climate Change (e.g. Lambeth Cemeteries are installing new cremators that will utilise waste heat to space heat cemetery buildings, they are also composting green waste and waste flowers on site and providing electric vehicles to transport mobility impaired visitors around the cemetery). There were also a series of workshops that were repeated throughout the day on the theme of 'Practical Action in your ...home/work/community/travel' to demonstrate what each individual can do. Comments after the conference from the Carbon Trust were that the day had been extremely well attended, with an unusual level of interest and enthusiasm and that they had particularly enjoyed the public fair. The intention is to hold another conference in June 08 where we will update delegates on progress made over the year and promote recent projects and initiatives. It is hoped that the Council's Carbon Management Strategy will be published in September.

17 By: Councillor Darren Sanders (13.06.07)
To: Councillor John Kazantzis – Cabinet Member for Housing

Notre Dame Estate and CCTV

Why was CCTV not introduced on the Notre Dame Estate when it was proposed in the Housing Opportunities Fund? When will he listen to people and introduce CCTV on the Estate?

Party: Liberal Democrat

Answer:

- £20,000 were allocated for CCTV at Notre Dame which was insufficient to provide satisfactory CCTV
- Whilst reviewing our options other Notre Dame schemes came in over budget – the lighting improvements at Pepys & Brady Houses and the increase in parking provision.
- In 2005 the Town Centre Team allocated £25,000 to enable to make the Notre Dame Hall DDA compliant. However following tendering problems by the consultants, Hunters, work has only recently commenced. As the budget was insufficient to carry out DDA works to the Notre Dame Hall £12,000 of HOF to cover the additional costs.

- The remaining funds have been amalgamated with a small budget allocation from the Community Safety & Crime Unit to install netting above the multi use games area – this work is presently with Peter Fish of Housing Property Services.
- All of the above was done in conjunction with the TRA.

As far as I am aware there are no plans to install CCTV on Notre Dame. Certainly the miniscule budget allocated to this matter would have barely purchased one camera, let alone the ongoing maintenance contract costs, etc. To be an effective system you would need cameras in each lift, around each block, overlooking all communal areas, etc. and would require a joint project with Highways as some of the roads are public and not estate owned.

18 By: Councillor John Whelan (13.06.07)
To: Councillor Lib Peck – Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture

Libraries Review

When will the recommendations of the Libraries Review on restructuring the service including improving value for money, reducing central overheads and using innovative solutions to make libraries more welcoming to the public be disclosed to Opposition Leaders and Spokespersons on Cultural Services and will she rule out the possibility of library closures or cuts in opening hours?

Party: Conservative

Answer:

The Libraries Review will be going to Cabinet on July 9th following the usual process of consultation for Cabinet papers. Cabinet papers for 9th July will be published and available to Members and the public on June 29th.

The Review is wide ranging and a central part of it was to look at providing more efficient services with better value for money for the community. The suitability of current opening hours and the location and use of libraries in the borough are key to effective service delivery and were naturally included in the many aspects of service delivery under review.

The Review has not identified a need to cut opening hours but it has identified a need to review the current pattern of opening hours at all libraries. The last change to opening hours was introduced in 2003 and no evaluation of their current suitability has been undertaken in the intervening period. It may be that some libraries are now open at the

wrong times for the lifestyle of their users or for their location (e.g close to a station) so, following Cabinet approval and implementation of the Review, a review of opening hours will be held in consultation with local communities to identify local need.

Equally, the Review has not recommended any library closures. It has recommended a medium term programme of building and facility improvements to bring all buildings up to modern health and safety levels over a period of 1-5 years. It has also recommended, as a priority, developing a new permanent Waterloo library with heritage centre to house the Archives service, currently co- located with Minet library, which would be further developed as a community library, and a new library at Streatham Vale.

However, the Review has also kept sight of the fact that developments in neighbouring authorities, most significantly Southwark, may impact on the use of some of Lambeth's libraries in the future. It is essential to keep a watching brief on developments and evaluate the potential impact over the coming months and years.

- 19** **By: Councillor David Malone (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Mark Bennett – Cabinet Member for Safer Communities

Support for families at risk of criminality and anti-social behaviour

Community Safety is this Administration's top priority and this must include preventative as well as enforcement measures. Can you update Council on the measures that you have taken to support families at risk of criminality and anti-social behaviour?

Party: Labour

Answer:

The Youth Offending Service is currently rolling-out a Family Intervention Project (FIP) within the borough. From July the Project will work with the 40 families identified as having the most acute support needs, and aims to prevent family break-up and homelessness, prevent Children and Young People within those families entering the criminal justice system, and prevent anti-social behaviour. The project is a partnership with the charitable organisation NCH's Pinnacle project, an existing service working with African, Caribbean and mixed parentage young people and their families within the borough. In addition to providing hands-on support and a tailored support plan supported by a lead professional, each family engaged by the FIP will attend a 12-week parenting programme, designed to increase parenting skills. Families will also have access to a Super Nanny to provide on-to-one parenting support.

- 20 **By: Councillor Ashley Lumsden (13.06.07)**
**To: Councillor Councillor Paul McGlone – Cabinet Member for
Regeneration and Enterprise**

Progressing the GVA Grimley Streatham retail study

The Streatham Area Committee commissioned a Report from GVA Grimley on improving retail activity on Streatham High Road, resulting in extremely good links being made to major retail chains and established which retailers might be interested in relocating to Streatham. What has the Labour Administration done to take this work forward? In particular, what has the Administration done with the residue of funding allocated to this work which was supposed to enable JVA Grimley to continue talking to retail chains in order to improve the retail offer in Streatham and ensure that key sites such as Caesars/Megabowl and Safeways attract good retail developments.

Party: Liberal Democrat

Answer:

The retail study commissioned from GVA Grimley has been well received and has been of particular benefit in our meetings with the Developers for the Caesars' and Megabowl site. Members will be aware that within the Regeneration Delivery Plan, there are two key projects identified for the next year. These are:

1. Gauge developer interest in the two major vacant sites on Streatham High Road – i.e. the Safeway site as well as the Megabowl / Ceasar's complex and prepare a development brief if no applications come forward, and
2. Develop a masterplan for Streatham High Road, including residential, retail and leisure uses. This will also encompass plans for the physical appearance of the High Road, building on the work undertaken over the past years and the Design Guidelines that have been developed.

Both projects will build on the work undertaken as part of the GVA Grimley study and will be led by the Regeneration and Enterprise division within the Regeneration and Housing department.

It is good news for Streatham that the Megabowl / Ceasar's complex and site has been acquired earlier this year by one developer as a consequence of the Labour administration's new approach to attracting inward investment. In partnership with the Council reflecting for the first time a commitment economic regeneration, the company has been negotiating with major retailers, several of whom have expressed interest in becoming a new 'anchor' on the high street in accord with the Council's strategy.

The previous Liberal Democrat administration was anti development and even now seeks to hide behind external consultants in attracting inward investment. The new Labour administration is seeking to reverse the damage done to the borough and Council by the Liberal Democrats and is actively seeking opportunities to improve the lives of all Lambeth citizens.

- 21 **By: Councillor Suzanne Poole (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Sally Prentice- Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

Pupil Referral Unit

Recently released figures for Nationwide Pupil Referral Unit Performances and Exclusions show a relatively low number of fixed term exclusions from Lambeth PRUs in 2003-2005. What plans are in place to build on the excellent performance under the previous administration?

Party: Conservative

Answer:

The PRUs have well established systems for supporting children with challenging behaviour. These include careful assessment of children's needs, good relationships with parents/carers, comprehensive staff training programmes, a key focus on the quality of teaching and learning and a proactive approach to reintegration (particularly for pupils up to the age of 14).

The Kennington Park Primary PRU has a particularly stable staff, which has helped to embed behaviour management systems effectively. The Park Centre (Secondary PRU) has had more staff turnover, but has managed this well, as evidenced by the outcomes of its very recent Ofsted Inspection. The performance of both PRUs is monitored and evaluated by the PRU Management Board, the LA and Ofsted. The PRUs are seeking continuous improvement and will be supported by the LA, both educationally and financially.

The recent Ofsted inspection of The Park Centre (Secondary PRU) acknowledged its improvement since opening and the good leadership the headteacher provides by "articulating a clear vision for the role and future of the centre which is shared by all members of staff". Procedures for child protection and safeguarding students are thorough. The Park Centre also has good links with a range of agencies, which enables it to provide good support for students with more severe needs.

- 22 **By: Councillor Helen O'Malley (13.06.07)**

To: Councillor Paul McGlone – Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise

3-Bedroom New build housing units

How many new-build housing units of 3 or more bedrooms has the Planning Department agreed for the Borough since 2002?

Party: Labour

Answer:

A total of 2229 housing units have been approved in the six years 2002-2007. The following is a year by year breakdown:

2002: 220

2003: 238

2004: 215

2005: 270

2006: 208

2007: 1078 (very high figure due to Clapham Park).

23 By: Councillor Diana Braithwaite (13.06.07)
To: Councillor Paul McGlone – Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise

S.106 in Stockwell Ward

What has happened to the Section 106 money, worth about £100,000, which was made available to the Council by the developers of Millpond Close in Stockwell ward? Under the previous Lib Dem-led Administration there was a clear understanding that the money should be invested in improvements in the surrounding area, which were to be agreed with local residents. Extensive consultation with residents took place to determine priorities. But residents are now being told that the money is no longer available for the purposes originally intended. What has the money been used for? Why was this decision taken and on whose authority?

Party: Liberal Democrat

Answer:

The question refers to S 106 Agreement signed on the 15 February 2000 (Legal Ref 41/S106A) entered into by the Developer of the former Springfield Centre (DC Reference 99/02036/FUL) and the Council, and the specific planning obligation on highway and traffic works.

The S 106 Agreement states "The Council shall draw up a scheme of highway and traffic works in the vicinity of the Land with an estimated value for the same of £100,000"

A financial contribution of £100,000 has been paid to the Council, and with accrued interest the amount has risen to £112,785. No expenditure approval has yet been given, to apply this sum to any particular project.

Lambeth Highways have been requested by Crimsworth and Thorparch Residents Association to retain the majority the funding to lever in a matched additional amount of funding for environmental or public realm improvements in the vicinity. Local residents have been working with the Groundwork Trust to develop proposals for the local area. It has been agreed by Highways that time should be allowed for these proposals to be developed. In addition, there are proposals to apply a proportion of the money (approximately £18,000) to traffic calming measures involving a contra flow arrangement for cyclists at the junction of Wandsworth Road and Cowthorpe Road.

Local ward councillors, the Cabinet Member for Environment and Cultural Services and I will be consulted on the suggested proposals to commit the S 106 funding prior to a final decision being made.

24 **By: Councillor Graham Pycock (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Lib Peck – Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture

Upper Norwood Joint Library (UNJL)

The 10-year budget freeze by the Croydon's Labour administration from 1996 to 2006 has created a funding crisis for the UNJL. The new Conservative administration in Croydon has begun to make up the deficit with cumulative £10,000 annual increases, but the all-important officer joint discussions called for by the Joint Committee in January have yet to take place. Despite increases in funding this year for other Lambeth libraries for staff salary increases etc, why has this administration frozen the budget for UNJL?

Party: Conservative

Answer:

The unfortunate funding crisis experienced by UNJL results from the fact that Croydon's contribution towards the library falls £55,000 short of Lambeth's. This is despite the fact that there is an agreement between the two boroughs to make an equal financial contribution to the library.

Further, the apparently welcome announcement from Croydon that they would be contributing an extra £10,000 per annum was rather diluted by the fact that they are claiming back an £22,400 as an additional payment this year.

Inflation of £140, 615 was received for 2007/08 based on the 2006/2007 cash limit but subsequent changes to the budget structure coupled with expected efficiency savings have reduced the additional sum to £75,407. The likely salary inflation costs for the year are expected to be in the region of £80,000. The budget for UNJL has been sustained at the 2006/07 levels which was assured last year and no efficiency savings have been passed on to them.

Lambeth is in the process of undertaking joint work with Croydon to review the funding and service delivery of UNJL.

- 25 **By: Councillor June Fewtrell (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Lib Peck – Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture

Recycling

In the light of recent newspaper reports that material for recycling is causing problems for those dealing with these materials, how certain is Lambeth Council that the orange recycling bags are being sorted properly and that they are not contaminated products?

Party: Liberal Democrat

Answer:

There continues to be professional and media interest in the quality of recyclate presented by residents for recycling, the effective sorting of material, and subsequent processing into 'new' products.

Within Lambeth residents are provided with details of what materials can be recycled through our service; this is provided via leaflets, bin stickers, press releases, web site information etc.. Residents sometimes misunderstand the details of the recycling service and this can lead them to putting the wrong items in their recycling containers eg plastic film, yoghurt pots etc. These incorrect items are referred to as 'contamination'.

Where we use transparent orange sacks for recyclate collection staff make a judgement as to whether the material placed out for collection contains the correct material. If the wrong materials are presented (ie contamination) the bag is not collected, but is 'stickered' asking residents to remove the 'contamination', and service information is provided so that the resident can better understand the scheme.

Where we use wheeled containers these are checked visually, prior to emptying; If excessively contaminated the bin cannot be emptied due to the risk that the entire vehicle load will be treated as contaminated. If the source of contamination is determined then service information is directed to that address. Where there is more widespread contamination we send information to all residents in an area.

The material is delivered to Western Riverside Waste Authority, and is sorted in a materials recovery facility (MRF). Here it is sorted both mechanically and manually to produce materials that are of a standard that is acceptable to the recycle processors.

There have been some publicised incidents of UK waste management companies exporting material which is insufficiently processed to meet UK export standards, though the material may meet the technical standard required by the importing company.

As all of L B Lambeth's collected recyclates are passed to Western Riverside Waste Disposal Authority we have sought assurances from them that they only utilise properly licensed contractors and processors, and that legal compliance is achieved. WRWA confirm that their contractor Cory Environmental have given such an assurance.

- 26** **By: Councillor John Whelan (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Paul McGlone – Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise

Farmers Markets

Following the mass petition of support for the West Norwood Farmers Market have officers investigated all options open to help them ensuring the market flourishes including grant schemes from DEFRA and advice available from such bodies as the National Farmer and Retail Markets Association and the Local Government Association Guide to Farmers' Markets?

Party: Conservative

Answer:

The City and Country Farmers' Market Ltd (CCFM) is an established provider which is operating farmers' markets successfully in many other boroughs and has also extended its provision to other parts of Lambeth.

The initial arrangement between the Council and CCFM was for CCFM to manage the provision of Norwood Road Farmers Market for a six-month pilot, subsidised by the Council. This arrangement has now been extended to another six months to test further the market's economic

impact in the West Norwood Shopping District and its sustainable viability.

The main issue that has been highlighted by CCFM is poor customer turn out for the fortnightly markets. It is increased footfall that would ensure that the market flourishes in West Norwood. To this end the Council is assisting CCFM with their marketing strategy to ensure a more effective publicity.

The Town Centre Management (TCM) has provided A-Boards for posters in strategic locations in the town centre area, as the signs used in the past by the CCFM contravened the Council's strict policy against fly posting and graffiti. Posters and leaflets are also displayed in the library and other community notice boards as well as in the shops. The TCM publicises the Farmers' Market in Lambeth Life, Norwood Town Talk and Lambeth web sites. E-mail reminders are also sent out on market weeks.

The Lambeth Market Team is publicising the market in their notice boards and other publicity outlets.

CCFM distributes 2,000 leaflets for each market to households in the neighbourhood areas and beyond. They are also advertising the Norwood Road market at other market venues, including Dulwich Farmers Market which they also manage.

The secondary issues of subsidy/funding and other advice arise out of the need for the traders to build their customer base during the trial period when the Farmers Market is trying to establish itself in Norwood Road.

The information from Lambeth Regeneration is that DEFRA grants scheme is mainly aimed at supporting rural communities. The Council's Transformational Markets Strategy and the Specialist Markets programme for Norwood will include measures to assist CCFM and other market providers with a range of assistance, including information about available grant schemes and advice from relevant bodies such as the National Farmer and Retail Markets Association and the Local Government Association Guide to Farmers' Markets.

27 **By: Councillor Clive Bennett (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Lib Peck – Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture

Street Cleaning Services

With street cleaning services having deteriorated drastically in the last twelve months, please could you provide a full report on how the service is to be improved, in an attempt to reflect the high standards previously experienced by tax payers between 2002 and 2006.

Party: Liberal Democrat

Answer:

Councillor Clive Bennett should check his facts more carefully before making such sweeping statements. Lambeth's BV199 tranche scores for the year 06/07 were 30%, 27% & 17% respectively. These scores were then combined to create the yearly average score for Lambeth which was sent to Defra as our official score for the period. Lambeth year score for 06/07 was 25% making Lambeth one of only eight London Boroughs to reach the target set by Defra.

It is worth noting that our tranche three score was the best we've ever received in tranche three, and the scores show an improvement through the year. This year we hope to maintain this improvement with some major changes in the way in which the contract is operated and monitored.

Our cleansing resources are being deployed more evenly across the day. There will be no changes to the frequency of sweeps in the morning but we are increasing sweeps in the afternoons and evenings to prevent the deterioration of environmental quality, enabling concentration on areas that historically suffer from poorer standards later in the day. In tandem with this we are increasing the number of on-street monitoring officers who will be proactively grading streets and reporting problems direct to the contractor.

Independent grading for BVPI199 takes place between 8.00am and 4.00pm. As the extra resources are in general being deployed outside of these times, improvements in the cleansing service might not be reflected in this performance indicator. However our monitoring resource will be deployed between 8.00am and 8.00pm Monday to Saturday and they will be able to provide performance information that will be more accurate. We will also use the number of complaints received about sweeping as an important indicator of performance levels. We are confident that the changes made to the service will result in improvements to environmental quality across the borough and contribute to the promotion of safer, stronger communities.

28 By: Councillor John Whelan (13.06.07)
To: Councillor Paul McGlone – Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise

Beaufoy Institute

What has been the cost since May 2006 of keeping the Beaufoy Institute empty and unused and why has the administration yet again deferred making any decision about its future?

Party: Conservative**Answer:**

Since May 2006, the cost of maintaining and securing the Beaufoy Institute has been £79,930. This is in contrast to the period 2002 to 2006 when a total in the order of £323,000 was incurred in maintenance and security costs and very little progress was made in deciding how to proceed to bring the Institute back into use.

The administration has not deferred making a decision about the Beaufoy Institute's future. Indeed, the Council took the decision to progress the open market sale of the Beaufoy Institute and associated land at Cabinet on 15th March 2007.

In order to implement the Cabinet decision of 15th March, the Corporate Committee of 27 June 2007 instructed officers to make a formal application to the Charity Commission to grant the power of sale of the Institute, which is held by the Council on trust.

As part of this process the Charity Commission will carry out a public consultation exercise before issuing a "Scheme" giving the power of sale and amending the purposes of the trust.

When that process is complete, the Corporate Committee will give consideration to the marketing and sale of the Institute. This will require a formal Corporate Committee decision. The Committee will be under a legal obligation to obtain the best price possible. The process of sale will be monitored by the Charity Commission.

Legal Services has advised that no marketing of the building can take place until the Corporate Committee has adopted the new constitution giving the power of sale.

Members will be fully briefed as to the current legal position on the Beaufoy Institute in the Prince's Ward Investment Strategy 'Next Stage Options' report scheduled to be considered by the Cabinet on the 30 July 2007.

The report will also outline how once the Corporate Committee has taken the formal decision to sell the Institute, officers intend to progress the open market sale of the Beaufoy Institute and associated land including proposals for a development/ marketing brief for the sale which will set out the Council's community objectives for the future use of the Institute building. The timetable indicated in the Cabinet report in July will show that officers expect to take the Beaufoy Institute to the market early in the next financial year.

29 **By: Councillor Jeremy Clyne (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor John Kazantzis – Cabinet Member for Housing

ALMO Ballot

Why has the Administration not made known the date for the ALMO ballot? Why will the Administration not agree to the wishes of tenants and leaseholders for a single ballot question on whether the ALMO should go ahead? And why can the Administration not see that until the Government makes its mind up about Lambeth's bid and while national policy on direct funding of housing repairs and maintenance is set to change, the ballot should be delayed so that tenants and leaseholders know exactly what they are being offered and what they are voting about?

Party: Liberal Democrat

Answer:

As outlined in the Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee call-in of 13th June, the decision on the final content and when the ALMO ballot will be undertaken was delegated to the Executive Director Regeneration and Housing by Cabinet in their decision of 11th June 2007. This decision will be made in the light of the level of resident awareness and in order to meet the agreed timetable it must be conducted before the end of September. The report to Cabinet also concluded that residents had asked for a ballot and that in fact Tenants Council and Leasehold Council Executives, have all contributed to the issue of the type of 'test of opinion' that they wish it to be in the form of 100% ballot and that it could contain more than one question. The recommendation agreed by Cabinet took on board those wishes. Subsequently at the Tenants Council meeting on 12th June, residents put forward that there should be no more than four questions on the ballot with a key question about support to go ahead with the ALMO, being proposed. As part of the delegated decision to go ahead and the content of the ballot, these views will be considered.

Again as outlined in the Housing Scrutiny Sub-Committee a majority of other local authorities who bid in Round 6 to establish an ALMO have gone live as shown below, it is important that the council demonstrates its commitment to residents and the Government that it will deliver on the bid, whilst it is unfortunate that the announcement on the exact funding is awaiting the outcome of the Comprehensive Spending Review. Whilst it is acknowledged that there has been press speculation that there may be a change in housing funding, it does appear that this is about new build council housing and not necessarily additional direct funding of refurbishment. Any delay to the agreed timetable will have considerable additional unbudgeted costs being incurred. If a delay occurred compensating savings would have to be found in service areas within the HRA to remain within the overall HRA budget.

ALMO	Number of Units based on original bid	Bidding Round	Star Rating	Status
Ashfield Homes	8,288	1	3	
CityWest Homes (Westminster)	14,000	1		
Derby Homes	15,424	1	3	
Hounslow Homes	14,801	1	3	
Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing	28,269	1	3	
Rochdale Boroughwide Housing	16,831	1	2	
Tristar Homes (Stockton on Tees)	14,060	1	1	
Wigan & Leigh Housing Company	26,446	1	2	
Barneslai Homes (Barnsley MBC)	23,648	2	2	
Blyth Valley Housing	7,756	2	2	
Bolton at Home	21,500	2	3	
Brent Housing Partnership	8,528	2	3	
Carrick Housing	3,872	2	3	
Cheltenham Borough Homes	5,027	2	2	
Colchester Borough Homes	7,060	2	2	
First Choice Homes Oldham	18,550	2	2	
Hillingdon Homes	13,904	2	2	
Kensington & Chelsea TMO	7,100	2	2	
Leeds East Homes	12,661	2	2	
Leeds North East Homes	6,851	2	2	
Leeds North West Homes	12,178	2	1	
Leeds South East Homes	8,727	2	2	
Leeds South Homes	16,265	2	1	
Leeds West Homes	13,206	2	2	
Barnet Homes	11,452	3	2	
East Durham Homes (Easington)	11,212	3	1	
Gateshead Housing Company	24,663	3	1	
Golden Gates Housing (Warrington)	9,935	3	2	
High Peak Community Housing	4,389	3	2	
Homes for Islington	30,231	3	2	
Poole Housing Partnership	4,726	3	3	
Sheffield Homes (partial)	11,074	3	3	
Solihull Community Housing	11,541	3	2	
South Lakes Housing (South Lakeland)	3,421	3	2	
Your Homes Newcastle	32,092	3	2	
2010 Rotherham	25,128	4	2	
A1 Housing Bassetlaw	7,925	4	0	
Brent Housing Partnership (partial)	775	4	3	
Ealing Homes	14,679	4	2	
Eastbourne Homes	3,835	4	1	
Hammersmith & Fulham HMS	13,778	4	2	
Newark & Sherwood Homes	5,864	4	2	
Northwards Housing (Manchester) (partial)	13,839	4		
Nottingham City Homes	33,434	4	1	

People 1 st (Slough)	6,974	4		
Sandwell Homes	35,079	4	3	
Sheffield Homes (partial)	22,165	4	3	
Six Town Housing (Bury)	8,936	4	2	
Wolverhampton Homes	26,770	4	1	
Dale and Valley Homes (Wear Valley)	5,169			
		5		
Gloucester City Homes	4,739	5	0	
Hackney Homes (partial)	21,324	5		
Newham Homes	17,814	5		
Sheffield Homes (partial)	17,903	5		
South Essex Homes (Southend)	6,258	5		
South Tyneside Homes	19,564	5		
St Leger Homes of Doncaster	23,730	5		
Stockport Homes	11,806	5		
United Residents Housing	3,027	5		
Basildon District Council		6		live
Blackpool Borough Council:		6		live
Charnwood Borough Council		6		?
Enfield London Borough		6		not live
Homes in Havering		6		live
Lambeth		6		not live
Lewisham London Borough		6		live
North East Derbyshire DC		6		live
Redbridge London Borough		6		live
Sedgemoor District Council		6		live
Stevenage BC		6		live
Tower Hamlets London Borough		6		not live
Salix Homes (Salford Council)		6		live
Ascham Homes (LB Waltham Forest)*	11,409			
		1 to 4	1	
New Prospect Housing (Salford)*	29,900	1 to 4		
Ascham Homes (LB Waltham Forest)	11,409			
		1 to 5		
New Prospect Housing (Salford)#	29,900	1 to 5		

- 30 **By: Councillor Darren Sanders (13.06.07)**
**To: Councillor Nigel Haselden – Deputy Cabinet Member for
Parking and Transport**

The Avenue

When will Transport for London consult on The Avenue gyratory system on the South Circular?

Party: Liberal Democrat

Answer:

It is assumed that Cllr Sanders is referring to the mini-gyratory system at the junction of The Avenue, Cavendish Road and Clapham Common Southside.

This junction is wholly the responsibility of Transport for London.

TfL have advised officers that they have been undertaking preliminary design work around a proposal to provide controlled pedestrian crossing facilities across Cavendish Road.

The traffic conditions and geometry of the junction are such that the introduction of the desired pedestrian facilities necessitates changes to operation of the whole junction and consequently it has been difficult to identify a proposal which will deliver the required benefits such that it would be prioritised in TfL's work programme.

Until that proposal has been identified it would be premature to undertake consultation. TfL are proposing to carry out further work on this before communicating the findings to the public and hope to be able to do this before the end of financial year 07/08.

The Council is involved in ongoing discussions with TfL to impress upon them the importance of resolving this issue to further increase pedestrian safety in line with the Administration's priorities for safer and healthier communities.

I have taken a personal interest in this case and participated in a Cycling Route Implementation Study Plan (CRISP) in conjunction with TfL and their consultants and expect significant improvements to the walking and cycling environment to be integrated into any future design developments.

No Answers Below this Line

- 31 **By: Councillor Ashley Lumsden (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor Lib Peck – Cabinet Member for Environment and Culture

Wyatt Park Road

When is Wyatt Park Road, Streatham Hill, SW2 going to be resurfaced? It has not been done for at least 40 years and the pavements in this road are definitely dangerous.

Party: Liberal Democrat

- 32 **By: Councillor Jeremy Clyne (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor John Kazantzis – Cabinet Member for Housing

Housing Medical Assessments

As a result of your cuts to the Housing Service there is reported to be a huge backlog in medical assessments of applicants for housing. Did you foresee this?

You chose not to conduct an Equalities Impact Assessment into the effects of the Customer Service Improvement Project on users because it allegedly only affected staff. Do you acknowledge this error?

Party: Liberal Democrat

- 33 **By: Councillor Jeremy Clyne (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor John Kazantzis – Cabinet Member for Housing

Streatham Community Rangers

Exactly which residents and/or residents' bodies and associations have been consulted over the proposal to scrap the Streatham Community Rangers?

Party: Liberal Democrat

- 34 **By: Councillor Jeremy Clyne (13.06.07)**
To: Councillor John Kazantzis – Cabinet Member for Housing

Sertima House

Could the Cabinet Member for Housing confirm that a Building Surveyor's Report will be urgently undertaken on the state of Sertima House, Poynders Gardens Estate, SW4 (Thornton ward).

Party: Liberal Democrat