

COUNCIL MEETING – 21 SEPTEMBER 2017

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

- a Councillor Court to Councillor Shaikh, Executive Member for Economic Development:

What is the council policy around Islington's Heritage Plaques, and does the executive member share my concerns over multiple voting distorting the awarding of Heritage Plaques?

- b Councillor Poole to Councillor Watts, Leader of the Council:

With the centenary of the end of WW1 fast approaching what progress has the Council made on securing the memorial arch at the site of former Royal Northern Hospital, and facilitating public access?

- c Councillor Poole to Councillor Webbe, Executive Member for Environment and Transport:

Will the Council offer free parking for members of the Armed Forces who are home on leave or visiting relatives in Islington?

- d Councillor Wayne to Councillor Webbe, Executive Member for Environment and Transport:

The stretch of Essex Road between Essex Road Station and the Balls Pond Road is a busy main road that divides Canonbury Ward in half. There is no dedicated safe cycle crossing point on this stretch of Essex Road. Will the Executive member for Transport confirm that a dedicated safe cycle crossing point along Essex Road is something that she supports, and that she will seek external funding from TFL for this crossing?

- e Councillor Ismail to Councillor Watts, Leader of the Council:

In terms of BAME officers working in the Council in the last year there have been some positive increases, but we have long way to go yet. The breakdown of internal promotions by ethnicity for the year 1st June 2016 to 30th May 2017, shows that of those members of staff being promoted 52.36% were White, 42.93% BAME, 3.66% in the 'any other' category, with 1.05% failing to declare.

Can you share with Full Council how long those people who have been promoted have been in post for before their promotion; whether they have been promoted to senior staff or corporate management team positions; and what the breakdown of those people being appointed to such positions is by ethnicity and gender.

- f Councillor Ismail to Councillor Hull, Executive Member for Finance, Performance and Community Safety:

How does the Council promote and prepare training for BAME staff with potential to take on leadership and corporate management positions, and what plans for the current financial year does the council have to promote BAME staff and staff identifying in the 'any other' ethnicity category?

- g Councillor Russell to Councillor Burgess, Executive Member for Health and Social Care:

Councillor Hull was quoted in Government Business on 3rd November 2015 saying "no-one should have to do a hard day's work – whether for the council, a local business, football club, or charity – for less than they can live on. Every employer in Islington should do the right thing, pay the Living Wage and stop using zero hours contracts"

The Islington Tribune on the 1st of September reported that GLL staff working at the Sobell Centre on zero hours contracts would lose pay for two weeks during the construction of a wall dividing the sports hall.

Is it fair that people working as sports coaches in Islington Council sports facilities have so little job security?

- h Councillor Russell to Councillor Watts, Leader of the Council:

At the last Full Council meeting we passed a motion on Fire Safety, resolving to:

- To make public all existing fire safety risk assessments of high rise towers in Islington;
- To reassure residents in Islington about fire safety and work with local residents to hear and address any concerns;
- To assist London level efforts to support the victims of the Grenfell Tower.

What progress has been made since 29th June on each of these three commitments?