

COUNCIL MEETING – 3 MARCH 2022

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

1 **Gill Weston to Cllr Ward, Executive Member for Housing & Development:**

In 2012 the Council began work on plans for accommodation for 14 people with learning disabilities to be built at Windsor Street. In 2014 the Council's financial evaluation projected that the development would cost £2.298 million comprising £1.874 million build cost and £0.424 million development fees and other expenses, but noted that after 30 years the scheme would still have a £1.430 million deficit and that it would be over 30 years before the annual and cumulative revenue income would exceed running costs, depreciation charges and debt management costs. In 2018 the Council awarded itself planning permission for the development at Windsor Street (but to accommodate 11 people). Nearly four years later, building work has just begun. Please will the Council explain what are the current estimated costs – in terms of build costs, development fees and all other expenses?

2 **John Hartley to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment & Transport:**

Barnsbury suffers from some horrendous traffic. Many vehicles cut through totally inappropriate roads such as: Offord Road, Barnsbury Street, Theberton Street and Cloudesley Place. The junction at Roman Way and MacKenzie Road is far too busy for people on bikes to be safe. The whole Barnsbury area is desperately in need of a Low Traffic Neighbourhood and when the Council announced that this would be implemented in March 2021 we were delighted. But that just didn't happen. We look on the other Islington LTNs (in St Peters, Canonbury, Highbury, etc.) green with envy. Now we understand that our LTN will be preceded by an extensive Engagement and Design process, which was due to start "Autumn 2021". We are perfectly willing to "engage" and "design" along with the rest of the community but, please tell us: What will the process be, and most important, when will it start?

3 **Harry Nugent to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment & Transport:**

How can the council let their own fleet of vehicles pass through the LTNs without being fined but Tradesman, Undertaker's and Funeral Processions can't?

4 **Rebekah Kelly to Cllr Lukes, Executive Member for Community Safety:**

In response to the Islington Together, Walk for women and the Safe Haven scheme. Why is women's safety fears in LTNs not considered a priority? Women feel unsafe walking through deserted neighbourhoods, where there are no businesses to act as "Safe Havens", women feel unsafe after dark when there is often no people around. The restriction of traffic adds to this feeling of being alone, and these concerns have been diluted in the consultation process that has been lobbied by cycling campaigns.

5 **Finella Craig to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment & Transport:**

From the comparative lack of garden waste generated locally, to the high proportion of flats where architectural issues often make recycling more difficult, the obstacles faced by boroughs such as ours who are working hard to improve recycling rates are complex and structural.

What steps are being taken to address these challenges and increase recycling rates, as well as driving down waste generation through reduce and reuse initiatives, and in particular what action is being taken to tackle period waste?

6 **Ernestas Jegorovas-Armstrong to Cllr Chapman, Chair of the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee:**

The last Children's Services Scrutiny Committee meeting happened before last Full Council (December 2021), over 100 days ago. There has not been a meeting in January or February, why? May the council make sure that there is a Children's Services Scrutiny Committee meeting by next Full Council?

7 **Nicholas Brainsby to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment & Transport:**

A lack of charging points is one of the main reasons why consumers are reluctant to buy an electric vehicle (EV). What plans does the Council have to materially increase and properly maintain the number of fast charging points in Islington?

I am an EV driver and am frustrated by the lack of fast chargers in Islington and the fact that often they are out of order for long periods of time.

8 **Minda Burgos-Lukes to Cllr Lukes, Executive Member for Community Safety:**

Every one of us has a role to play in making Islington a safe place for all - where women are free from harassment and violence, young people can grow up in safe environments with bright futures to look forward to, and Black and Brown, migrant, disabled, LGBTQ+, working class people and people of faith can go about their lives freely and happily, without fear of prejudice and discrimination.

What plans does the Council have to make Islington a safer and more dignified place for all over the coming years, and what's your message to the wider community about how we can help build this place together?

9 **Benali Hamdache to Cllr Ward, Executive Member for Housing & Development:**

Can the Council let me know how much money the Council has had to spend responding to housing disrepair legal cases each financial year since 2019?