

COUNCIL MEETING – 22 SEPTEMBER 2022

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

a Cllr Poyser to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport:

On 13 August 2022, at 12.10am, Police attended a serious road traffic collision outside the Shell Garage on Hornsey Rise, N19, in Hillrise Ward. Four people were injured, one with life threatening injuries. Our deepest sympathies are with the families of the victims. Obviously the incident will be investigated by the relevant authorities and blame cannot be apportioned until this has happened

Some local residents that have cars on this road drive too fast. Is there anything Islington can do to make this stretch of road safer in future?

b Cllr Convery to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport:

On Wednesday 17 August, heavy rainfall caused "flash" flooding in Islington on Upper Street and Pentonville Road at Kings Cross seemingly worsened by blocked drains on TfL roads. In the previous week, a Thames Water mains burst on Tollington Way caused extensive damage partly exacerbated by the slow speed at which drains could remove water.

With the risk of such extreme events recurring, please will you say whether Islington's preventative programme of gully maintenance will be adjusted to ensure that further episodes of very heavy rain do not cause flooding on Borough roads and residential streets?

c Cllr Gallagher to Cllr Ward, Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance:

The conservative government has spent 12 years making this unprecedented cost of living crisis through 12 years of deliberately planned austerity, attacking working people from all ages, backgrounds and all sectors. To add insult to this injury inflicted on normal working islingtonians and people across all of the UK, the average pay of FTSE 100 CEOs jumps by 39% - an inflation busting pay-rise which is at a rate of 109 times that of the average UK worker; energy firms make £170 billion excess profits. People are living in fear and despair at being unable to survive. Winter is coming. What can the council, our key partners and organisations do to prevent normal people from having to turn to crime to make ends meet, pay the daily bills or feed their families?

d Cllr Gallagher to Cllr Turan, Executive Member for Health and Social Care:

Has the Executive Member received the latest up-to-date figures on male suicide and suicide in general within the London Borough of Islington? Could he share with me and members what is the strategy to tackle male suicide within the borough and to have an integrated approach across all council services and departments to address this issue and prevent the cost of living crisis becoming a cost of life crisis?

e Cllr Jackson to Cllr Khondoker, Executive Member for Equalities, Culture and Inclusion:

Black men are 17x more likely to develop severe mental health problems than any other group. They are also 4x more likely to be sectioned under the Mental Health Act. These stark statistics show us a focus on mental health for Black men is more important than ever before. Can the exec member tell me their plans to tackle and ensure Young Black Men can live well and access the support they need?

f Cllr Heather to Cllr O'Halloran, Executive Member for Homes and Communities:

What action is being taken by the Council to protect renters, including private renters, in Islington amidst the cost of living crisis?

g Cllr Chapman to Cllr Ngongo, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families:

We were delighted by the fantastic GCSE, A Level and vocational results this summer which significantly improved compared to 2019. What work is the Council doing to maintain these high standards in the years ahead?

h Cllr Poyser to Cllr Ward, Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance:

This summer has demonstrated the severity of the climate crisis we face and the urgency to respond. Coupled with the energy crisis, not only will our residents feel the impact through their bills, so too will our council buildings and schools. With this in mind, what steps are the council taking to retrofit and insulate our council buildings and schools?

i **Cllr Hamdache to Cllr Woolf, Executive Member for Community Safety:**

Can you give an update on the progress of expanding the selective licensing scheme for landlords operating in Finsbury Park and the positive impact that the scheme has had?

j **Cllr Russell to Cllr O'Halloran, Executive Member for Homes and Communities:**

The papers to the Executive on 1st September showed that Council tenants and leaseholders living in the 57 council buildings with communal heating systems will be subject to escalating costs for heating and hot water. Can you set out how many buildings with communal heating systems are in each EPC category from A to F?

k **Cllr Jegorovas-Armstrong to Cllr Woolf, Executive Member for Community Safety:**

Can you update us on the Safe Havens program? How many people have used a safe Haven in Islington?

l **Cllr McHugh to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport:**

With fuel prices at near-record highs, the impact on our vital public and community transport providers is proving substantial. In particular, we were saddened to learn of the difficulties faced by HCT Group, a social enterprise, resulting in the withdrawal of the 812 community bus service and the forfeit of several TfL routes to for-profit competitors.

Given this, and the ongoing funding constraints faced by TfL as a consequence of Government austerity, what steps has the Council taken to protect our local transport services and support those residents affected by the cuts, and what further steps need to be taken to protect our transport network from rising costs over the coming months?

m **Cllr Russell to Cllr O'Halloran, Executive Member for Homes and Communities:**

What is the Council's timeline for insulating and ventilating every council home in the borough?

n **Cllr Jegorovas-Armstrong to Cllr Ngongo, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families:**

What has Islington Council and Islington schools planned for Anti-Bullying Week 2022 (Monday 14th - Friday 18th November)?