

## **COUNCIL MEETING – 28 SEPTEMBER 2023**

### **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

**a Nick Collin to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport**

We have observed that the majority of Islington's tradespeople and small businesses, who rely, directly or indirectly, on cars and vans, have a serious concern that Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) are bad for business. This is particularly as a result of longer journey times, congestion on boundary roads, limited parking and increased fines. Do you recognize this concern from the consultation carried out to date on the planned Barnsbury, Laycock Liveable Neighbourhood (LN), and how do you propose to address it?

**b Pete Gilman to Cllr Ngongo, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families**

Islington's Labour council is to be congratulated for introducing free school meals for all primary school children. Would it be possible to extend this to secondary school children?

**c Rebekah Kelly to Cllr Ngongo, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families**

The Mayor of London has recently pledged to fund school meals for primary school children in the whole of the city. Given that Islington Council already provides free school meals for primary school children. What will this budget now be used for?

**d Ben Pearson to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport**

The council has accepted that the original roll out of motorcycle parking charges in February was not carried out correctly and has consequently agreed to cancel any parking fines which had not already been paid. However, the Council has refused to pay back the fines that have already been paid, despite accepting that they shouldn't have been given. Since the council has accepted that no fines should have been given at all in the first roll out will the council now agree to pay back all fines given?

**e Andrew Berry to Cllr Turan, Executive Member for Health and Care**

Can the council leader, confirm council policy, that all new council contracts will require the employer to have an occupational sick pay scheme and pay full sick pay to all staff (as and when needed) employed via such contracts and therefore working indirectly for LBI?

**f Helen Strongman to Cllr Ward, Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance**

We've been told by Peabody they will be paying £13m in community infrastructure levy related to the Holloway site. 50% of this will be allocated for strategic projects across the borough, 35% for local strategic projects, and 15% for 'local CiL' - other projects within the ward.

Are these figures correct? Can they change?

We've also been told by Peabody that some of the local funds have already been earmarked. What decisions have been made about how these funds will be spent and how can the local community have a say? Please supply details in full.

**g Fiona Bullman to Cllr Turan, Executive Member for Health and Care**

Sports provision is a key component of helping young people in Islington achieve better futures. Research clearly shows the positive impact on school grades, physical health and mental health.

Sports is where children learn about teamwork, goalsetting and the pursuit of excellence in performance and other achievement-oriented behaviours—critical skills necessary for success in life. Interest in football is at an all-time high for girls, but there are limited opportunities to excel. One such opportunity is participation through schools and into the district system that operates across London and the England. District football allows children to represent Islington and compete with their peers in the other London boroughs. The Year 6 - Year 9 district boys teams regularly feature in the local paper.

Unfortunately, there is no funding available in Islington to run the existing Year 6 and Year 7 girls teams or to support the development of district football for girls in older age groups.

Last years, the first ever girls district team highlighted the enthusiasm and talent of Islington girls with over 50 girls attending trials and two trophies being won during a successful first season.

Just £2,500 per year will fund two teams, with training, training materials and match fees for a full season. Each team will give at least 15 girls an opportunity to play football at the highest local level and inspire further generations of girls to achieve. £83 per year for a girl to represent Islington across London and inspire other girls to engage in sports. Islington would like to at least keep the existing Year 6 and Year 7 girls district team going. Will the council financially support them?

**h Jeremy Drew to Cllr Champion, Executive Member for Environment, Air Quality and Transport**

I support the Council's plan for 50 bays for Dockless bikes by 2024. But to provide bays close to where they are needed, the number needs to be much higher. Camden already has over 200 bays for Dockless bikes and plans to have 300 by 2025. Could you please explain why so few are planned.

**i Naomi to Cllr Ward, Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance**

Recent conversations with local residents and groups, as well as a poll, have shown that many believe that there is a need for services on the Holloway Park site that benefit everyone. The site will be home to over 3,000 new residents, who will have to share already stretched local amenities.

Peabody is proposing a large residents' lounge/space, measuring over 1,300 sqm. However, this will be a segregated space, exclusively for the use of the development's private residents.

This means that the residents of the 42% of the units that will be for social rent will be excluded from this space.

What is the council's view on the proposed use of this space?