

COUNCIL MEETING – 15 OCTOBER 2015

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC

- a From Anita Frizzarin to Councillor Webbe, Executive Member for the Environment and Transport

The Supreme Court has ordered the UK Government to present a plan to reduce air pollution by the end of 2015 because it is too high, and Islington has to do its bit to bring about that reduction. Most air pollution comes from transport, and only one third of people in Islington drive. Is Islington council going to be intimidated by a minority who want to carry on driving and parking anywhere they like and not go ahead with the proposed Controlled Parking Zones, although extended CPZs would help achieve a reduction in the illegally high air pollution that we are all forced to breathe in against our will, and which is particularly harmful to young children?

- b Question from David Wilson to Councillor Watts, Leader of the Council

Last year Council, in debating a motion on the Right to a Fair Trial, recognised that 2015 would be the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta and resolved to promote the celebrated qualities of that historic document throughout this year. What has the Council done to fulfil that commitment?

- c Question from Greg Foxsmith to Councillor Webbe, Executive Member for the Environment and Transport

Last year I was encouraged to hear from the Executive Member for the Environment that the Council would look into the viability of joining Elthorne Park and Sunnyside Gardens by closing the stretch of Sunnyside Road between them. Has that assessment been completed, and does the current Exec member support that proposal for making a larger green space in the North of the Borough?

- d Question from Jayne Kavanagh to Councillor Watts, Leader of the Council

The council website states that, 'Islington is a diverse and vibrant borough and in recent years, like many inner London boroughs, Islington has received new refugee communities from troubled parts of the world'. Can you tell me how many refugees and asylum seekers have been received in Islington in the last 5 years including as part of the Gateway programme?

- e Question from Rachel Bloch to Councillor Watts, Leader of the Council

On Sept 12 in Parliament Square at the Refugees Welcome rally Jeremy Corbyn finished his speech by stating: 'Open your hearts, open your minds and open your attitude towards supporting people who are desperate and need somewhere safe to live'. What steps is Islington taking to resettle refugees from Syria and to make this a reality in our borough?

- f Question from Benali Hamdache to Councillor Caluori, Executive Member for Children and Families

What efforts have local schools made to comply with statutory requirements under the Prevent strategy? How much training has been done of local teachers and governors to identify extremism and build appropriate strategies to tackle these issues?

- g Question from Jessie Godwin, aged 15, to Councillor Watts, Leader of the Council

Many local authorities are refusing to take refugees from Syria under the resettlement programme unless the government pledges 5 years of full funding in advance. What is Islington's position on this?