

Council, 21 July 2021

Questions from Councillors

Wards: All

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Report summary

Questions and answers submitted by Councillors, in accordance with the Council Committee Rules and Procedures as set out in the Constitution.

1. Councillor Scott Ainslie

To: Councillor Claire Holland, Leader of the Council

Taskforce for net zero emissions

In this year of COP26, will the Leader confirm Lambeth Council's full support of the Local Government Association, the Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport and others for a joint local and national government taskforce to coordinate planned action to reach 'net zero' emissions and will she also write to Alok Sharma MP, President for COP26, the Prime Minister and the Leadership Board of the LGA informing them of our support and ask for the taskforce to be established as soon as possible?

Such a partnership can set appropriate regulations, benchmarks and targets and create the much needed long-term funding mechanisms to enable local communities and economies to decarbonise whilst remaining resilient and sustainable.

Party: Green

Answer:

I can confirm Lambeth's support for a joint taskforce between local and national government to deliver the necessary actions to not only meet the necessary targets to safeguard our planet for future generations, but to deliver the vast co-benefits that can, if properly directed, accompany climate investment.

Sitting on the LGA's climate change board, I have been involved in those discussions with government ministers and have clearly set out our position on what government needs to do if the United Kingdom is going to tackle the biggest crisis facing our future with the required urgency. I will continue to do so.

2. Councillor Tim Briggs

**To: Cabinet Member for Sustainable Transport, Environment & Clean Air (job-share),
Councillors Danny Adilypour and Cllr Mahamed Hashi**

A date for Low Traffic Neighbourhoods to begin reducing traffic gridlock

When Low Traffic Neighbourhoods were introduced across Lambeth, residents were told by Labour councillors that the extra traffic and traffic gridlock they produced on the roads around the closed-off streets would soon evaporate. The traffic displaced from LTNs has made Bedford Road in Ferndale the busiest road in the country, and now affects Clapham High Street, Stockwell, Oval, Brixton, Brixton Hill, Tulse Hill, West Dulwich and Streatham. As people on lower incomes tend to live nearer main roads, and a larger proportion of those people are from Black and ethnic minority backgrounds, this policy disproportionately affects the same people that Labour and Green councillors tell us they want to help.

Meanwhile in Conservative Wandsworth, people and businesses with a similar ethnic demography to Lambeth are getting on with their lives on uncongested roads, paying half the

council tax of Lambeth, having removed all LTNs for far easier physical mobility, especially for disabled people, and far higher social mobility for children from lower income families. As evidence of not having lied to residents that traffic will evaporate, can Labour councillors now give a date for when the displaced gridlocked traffic will finally be gone?

Party: Conservative

Answer:

The statements made in your question have no basis in the facts when considering how Lambeth has implemented its emergency transport programme. Independent academic analysis has verified that Lambeth's LTNs are highly equitable, with the new modal filters being in areas with higher levels of deprivation.

Lambeth has published its Low Traffic Neighbourhood Monitoring Strategy, which explains how the council will monitor the impact of the Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) and use this information to improve the schemes and inform decisions about their future. As part of the strategy, roads both within and around the LTNs are assessed to identify the overall impacts of the schemes

We have published Stage 1 Review reports for the LTNs implemented as part of our emergency C-19 response programme and these set out the recorded impacts in a transparent way for all to see. The Stage 1 Reviews report an overall reduction in traffic on the monitored network, but with some variances from scheme to scheme. These outputs have been independently verified.

We are now working on the Stage 2 Review. This stage will repeat traffic surveys carried out in Stage 1 and include additional analysis of air quality impacts, equalities impacts and other factors such as bus journey times.

The LTNs are experimental and, as set out in the strategy, ongoing assessment and evaluation is required on a scheme-by-scheme basis.

Since the outset, we have committed to a full public consultation above and beyond legal requirements on our emergency transport programme schemes and the monitoring data we have collected will be presented as part of that process to allow local people and stakeholders to be informed before having their say.

3. Councillor Marianna Masters

To: Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance, Councillor Andy Wilson

Protection of disabled workers employed by our contractors

Before the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, disabled workers faced huge barriers getting into and staying at work. The pandemic has now exacerbated the barriers disabled people face.

Worryingly a recent TUC report showed one in eight disabled workers did not tell their employer about their disability, health condition or impairment, with many believing that telling their employer would lead to negative consequences.

Can the council ensure any contracts outsourced to providers includes contract terms protecting disabled workers both registered disabled and those living with long term conditions?

Party: Labour

Answer:

The council recognises that the global pandemic and subsequent lockdowns continue to have a devastating effect on some of the borough's most vulnerable communities. We know that many of the negative impacts of the virus have exacerbated challenges of poverty and inequality already experienced by parts of our communities including disabled residents and those living with long term conditions.

As part of the procurement process, the council ensures that all potential contractors adhere to appropriate legislation and regulations. This includes adherence to the Equality Act 2010 which provides protection to disabled people and people living with long term conditions. Further we are keen to ensure that we leverage our buying power to support local people and economic development. Our recovery strategy for the borough has been developed in partnership with stakeholders from across the borough and recognises economic recovery as a critical factor in supporting the health and wellbeing of our residents.

This is why we are refreshing our Responsible Procurement Policy to include a greater focus on supporting Covid-19 recovery and to ensure the priority groups identified are able to access the opportunities created through our contracts. The 'Opportunity Lambeth' service provides an important platform linking Lambeth residents to employment opportunities arising from procurement activities. Additional resource within the Skills and Employment team have also been identified to support this activity and to work with the local community groups to ensure priority groups, including disabled residents and those with long-term conditions, are able to benefit.

4. Councillor Paul Gadsby

**To: Cabinet Member for Sustainable Transport, Environment & Clean Air (job-share),
Councillors Danny Adilypour and Cllr Mahamed Hashi**

Road safety Knatchbull Road and surrounding areas

I recently received a letter from a nine-year-old constituent in Vassall, Merryn James Walshe, who explained how upset she was at the danger being caused by speeding motorists on Knatchbull Road and how a dog was injured by a careless driver. It was a really heartfelt, and moving letter, and one of a number I have had from residents about the need for traffic calming or other measures on Knatchbull Road. Can I ask the cabinet member to consider asking

transport officers to look again at the problems facing residents in the area and can we consider implementing measures to improve the safety of the community?

Party: Labour

Answer:

Speeding motorists pose a multitude of dangers to our residents and a huge increase in speeding was in fact one of the reasons that we initiated our emergency transport programme during the first lockdown after the police reported a huge increase in speeding in London.

We have an enormous task ahead of us to reshape our streets so that they are healthier, safer and prioritise people, but our Transport Strategy that we adopted in late 2019 sets out how we will go about achieving those aims.

We carry out regular monitoring of traffic levels in the borough, both as part of scheme evaluation and in response to reported issues from residents. The latest data we hold for Knatchbull Road from 2017 indicates an average speed of 18-23mph, depending on road section, which is broadly in line with our 20mph policy but with some exceptions. The borough has a 20mph limit on all roads that we manage and we have a rolling programme to improve traffic calming, installing new features such as humps but funding for these measures has decreased significantly after over a decade of Tory-led austerity hitting council budgets.

However we receive a large number of requests and are not able to act on all of them. Instead we prioritise locations for new traffic calming features based on speed data from over 350 count locations and also factor in the number of collisions, proximity of schools and the road's classification.

Local authorities have no legal powers to enforce against speeding - this is something we are lobbying for alongside other boroughs. Currently all enforcement around speeding is carried out by the police and these incidents can be reported with the Met online: <https://www.met.police.uk/ro/report/rti/rti-a/report-a-road-traffic-incident/>

Thank you for flagging these concerns with us and I will ask for a further survey to be carried out at the next opportunity so that it can inform any necessary measures for inclusion in our Road Danger Reduction Programme.

5. Councillor Mary Atkins

To: Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance, Councillor Andy Wilson

Fair Tax

Within Lambeth's procurement processes we have a policy to secure the best value for money and highest quality of services for our residents. The policy also requires that our contracted services pay the London Living Wage as a minimum, support apprenticeships, training for local people, and contributes to our efforts to make Lambeth carbon neutral by 2030.

Another important element of ensuring the best in our procurement is through fair tax. Research commissioned by the Fair Tax Foundation from DatLab has revealed that between 2014-19, 17.5% of UK public procurement contracts – with a combined value of £37.5bn – were won by businesses with connections to a tax haven. Many tax avoidance loopholes have been closed in recent years, but an estimated £7bn of corporation tax receipts are still going missing as a result of profit-shifting.

Could the Cabinet Member responsible for procurement outline how the Council supports the local economy and how the issue of fair tax is incorporated into it, and would the Council consider joining other local authorities in applying for the Fair Tax Mark facilitated by the Fair Tax Foundation?

Party: Labour

Answer:

The responsible Procurement Policy sets out the council's approach to procurement designed to ensure that our procurement activity contributes to the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the borough.

Our procurement activity supports the local economy in a number of ways. Firstly, through the creation of employment and local supply chain opportunities and the council is currently strengthening its approach to ensure that local people are aware of the opportunities and able to access them.

Secondly, we are committed to ensuring that local business, particularly SMEs, are able to successfully bid for tender opportunities. In the past year a fifth of all our contract spend was with local providers which equates to 513 local businesses and a spend of over £117m.

However, we recognise that there is more we can do to improve accessibility and we are reviewing our procurement practices to ensure they are inclusive and improving our communications with local businesses to ensure they know how to take part.

The council strongly supports the principles of fair tax and expects all contractors to transparently meet their tax obligations. As such, we are happy to consider applying for the Fair Tax mark.

6. Councillor Scarlett O'Hara

To: Deputy Leader (Job, Skills and Community Safety) Councillor Jacqui Dyer

Disorder in Coldharbour

In what ways is Lambeth helping to ensure public safety in Coldharbour following the recent outbreaks of disorder?

Party: Labour

Answer:

Across London we are seeing an increased rate of violence against young people. We are taking a targeted approach to violence reduction across Lambeth and in particular within our six most high-profile wards. We continue our joint work with the police in delivering our summer violence reduction plan. Additional locally led diversionary activity is provided and the community safety partnership ensures sharing of data and intelligence is efficient and effective. We are aware that early information about conflict or arising tensions enables the partnership to respond quickly and therefore working with our communities to understand the emerging picture is key. The Police are also working on a disruption and deterrence plan with the aim to prevent violent occurrences.

We have engaged local residents in Lambeth Made Community forums. This community engagement approach underpins the delivery of our Lambeth Made Safer strategy. We are embedding a shared approach to community collaboration, supporting residents to share their knowledge and community safety concerns, which then inform place-based priority action plans with solutions and accountability for delivery built in. We are keen to build upon community resilience so that communities can lead in the long-term improvement of their neighbourhoods and be supported by stakeholders to ensure progress building community safety is made.

We are taking a proactive approach across the borough and have changed the way we have oversight of incidents; we are aware that the summer period will be a sensitive time across London. In response to this we are working on plans in relation to our enforcement powers as an authority, looking at gang specific plans which are locality based, increasing our on-street presence and exploring alternative methods such as gang mediation. There is a great deal of summer activity taking place in the Coldharbour ward, we have commissioned 11 organisations (BigKid Foundation, Brixton Library, Brixton Mosque & Islamic cultural Centre, Brixton Wings, Code Ltd, Groove School CIO, Grove Adventure Playground, Max Roach Centre, MTVH delivering out of Moorlands Community Centre, Marcus Lipton) to deliver a wide range of fun activities and food for children aged 0 – 18. In addition, SEND support is being delivered by these providers through Stay and Play sessions as well as Short breaks provision. Across 5 weeks of the summer holiday, 286 sessions will be made available daily and a total of 5680 sessions will offered during the summer period. Lambeth council has committed to spend £68,160 for universal fun activities.

7. Councillor Jackie Meldrum

To: Leader of the Council, Councillor Claire Holland

Protection for EU Citizens

The deadline to apply for Settled Status and remain legally resident in the UK was 30th June. After that, unless resident EU citizens had a good reason for missing the deadline, they cannot gain Settled Status, and to be legally resident would have to re-apply for entry to the UK under the new immigration rules.

The consequences of not obtaining Settled Status can be life-changing, losing access to NHS services and loss of a home or a job as landlords and employers face huge fines as part of the government's hostile environment policy.

What is the council's response to this new & additional hostile environment, both as an employer and as a landlord, for staff and residents who are EU citizens without Settled Status? For example, for those EU citizens in Temporary Accommodation who are not protected, and those who are in receipt of welfare benefits.

Party: Labour

Answer:

We are passionate about making sure that our residents from the European Union feel welcome in Lambeth. They are an integral part of our community and make an invaluable contribution to the economic, social and cultural life of our borough.

We commissioned support to help residents apply for the EU Settled Status Scheme. Three advice agencies have been commissioned by the council to ensure that residents who are EU nationals have access to additional support to complete these applications. Residents were able to contact Citizens Advice or IRMO for Level 1 legal advice, and Southwark Law Centre for Level 2 legal advice. IRMO offers advice in Spanish and Portuguese as well as English. Further, we have written to Kevin Foster MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Immigration and Future Borders, raising our concerns regarding the cliff-hanger date of 30th of June, as well as the often failing online-only approach. We are concerned that an estimated 400,000 cases are outstanding nationally, with many of those residents left to wait for a long time to hear for a response. We are further concerned about those that are most vulnerable, such as Care Leavers, who might have required additional support to submit their applications in time.

The council wrote to all residents regarding the EU settlement scheme in January 2020 and has run a high-profile communications campaign alongside organisations like Lambeth for Europe to raise awareness of the scheme and the need for people to register.

The Government's hostile environment policy will mean that anyone making a claim on or after the 1st of July 2021 will need to have an immigration status, pre-settled or settled status or be able to show that they made an application to the EUSS before the deadline. Existing benefits claimants will continue to be paid currently. Most EU citizens in receipt of benefits will have been identified as part of the Home Office/DWP scans and they will be contacted accordingly and urged to apply for Settled Status or risk losing their benefits. DWP will issue a final letter to all DWP and housing benefit claimants in September 2021 to ensure that they understand the requirement to make a late application for EUSS.

8. Councillor Pauline George

To: Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care (job-share), Councillors Jim Dickson and Lucy Caldicott

Covid-19 Vaccine for care home staff

What action has the Council taken to further educate care home staff empowering them to further increase the uptake of vaccinations of staff who work in care homes in Lambeth?

Party: Labour

Answer:

Lambeth has a dedicated Care Homes Vaccine Uptake Taskforce group in place to oversee a partnership action plan to increase vaccine uptake of the Covid-19 vaccine, via a range of targeted initiatives. The Taskforce includes direct representation from care homes and trade unions, alongside commissioners and other health and care partners. To inform our work it's been vital to understand better the fears and concerns underlying low uptake via in-depth engagement with individual staff members and use of detailed independently commissioned survey work on the key drivers of vaccine hesitancy.

As a borough, we have made significant progress in uptake of the vaccine amongst care home staff. Since the taskforce was established in April 2021, uptake of the vaccine amongst Lambeth care home staff has increased from 52% to meeting the SAGE recommendations of 80%.

Lambeth Council recognises that peer-to-peer support within care homes is vitally important for encouraging vaccination uptake amongst staff. The council has worked in close partnership with care homes senior officers to promote relevant resources, facilitate events and offer training to inform and empower care home staff to increase vaccine uptake.

Lambeth Council is providing motivational interviewing training for care home staff in Encouraging Vaccination Uptake, provided by the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH). The training is designed to enable staff to hold supportive conversations about the vaccine, drawing on key Public Health evidence and motivational interviewing techniques. Following the success of the first tranche of training in May, Lambeth Council has commissioned a second round of training dates in July and August, which care home staff are currently enrolling to attend. The aim to influence from within.

We have facilitated a range of discussion events for care home staff and managers about the Covid-19 vaccine – including specific forums for care home managers and events for care home staff. Lambeth's approach is to work with health professionals to feature trusted voices, with a focus on representation of people from Black African and Black Caribbean backgrounds. We have facilitated GP in-reach visits into care homes with faith leaders and community vaccine advocates supporting, to answer questions about the vaccine and offer staff information and advice to inform their decision-making. We have also facilitated direct conversations with Public Health professionals regarding the vaccine in care home team meetings.

Alongside vaccine resources that Lambeth Council has created specifically for Lambeth care home staff, we continue to promote resources to support staff to have confident vaccine conversations. Most recently, we have circulated South East London CCG's new guide about talking about the COVID-19 vaccine to care home staff. On the 8th of July Public Health England have held interactive training session to support health and care professionals in talking about the vaccine and encouraging their community to make informed decisions.

For July, the Taskforce is focused on refreshing our engagement plan to draw on different approaches to reach staff who have firmly declined the vaccine to date. Care home providers, trade union and GSTT representatives within the Taskforce have shared insights from staff feedback, including recent learning from an engagement project with GSTT staff regarding the Covid-19 vaccine. This learning will inform ongoing communications, engagement, and targeted support to inform and empower care home staff who have not yet had the vaccine.

9. Councillor Nicole Griffiths

To: Councillor Claire Holland, Leader of the Council

Citizen's Assembly

We understand why the Leader of the Council would address the Citizens Assembly (CA) to welcome and thank participants. However, we are deeply concerned that the speech she went on to make was done so based on a particular political standpoint. It was essential that the CA remained an apolitical, independent body able to envision a future free from suggested political limitations.

Not only was there a lack of political balance, as neither the Green Group or Cllr Briggs were invited to speak and give their view, a scene was set that suggested parameters and limits to the Citizen Assembly's participants.

Can the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for the Climate & Ecological Emergency please explain her actions?

Party: Green

Answer:

In my civic role as Leader-elect and then Leader, I opened and closed the citizens' assembly.

The citizens' assembly was overseen by a steering group with representatives from all the main political parties in Lambeth including yourself the Green Party representative and Cllr Briggs as the Conservative Party representative, our youth council, as well as public, private and third sector leaders. These representatives have been involved at each stage in approving the focus, design and communications for the citizens' assembly.

This cross party, and cross organisational approach will be critical in taking the recommendations from the assembly and working together to implement an ambitious climate action plan for the borough.

10. Councillor Joshua Lindsey

To: Cabinet Member for Young People, Councillor Ed Davie

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

The pandemic has badly disrupted the lives of children and young people in Lambeth leading to, among other issues, a 25% increase in referrals to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services. This increase in demand combined with staffing issues is leading to waiting times of over a year in some cases. What are commissioners and providers doing to reduce waiting times and ensure effective and timely treatment and other support to children in need?

Party: Labour

Answer:

The COVID-19 pandemic represents an immense challenge to many services, not least our child and adolescent mental health provision delivered by the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust (SLaM).

To meet rising demand and tackle waiting lists, SLaM have implemented a number of initiatives, aimed at increasing capacity of the service to meet level of need and ensuring any risks or crisis cases are appropriately and quickly seen to, including:

- Securing the input of an overseeing Psychiatrist who will support with ADHD reviews (an area of high wait).
- Ensuring all young people and families waiting have been sent relevant support information and guidance of what to do if their situation worsens (e.g., webinars and group offers).
- Ongoing recruitment drives to permanently fill vacancies in CAMHS teams.
- Appointment of agency staff in interim who have been specifically tasked with managing and reducing waiting times. These staff members sit in the River (community adolescence) team to add additional capacity for children and young people experiencing moderate to severe mental health and learning difficulties, and in the Rapids (crisis/enhanced treatment) service to provide specialist outreach support to young people at significant risk of presenting at A&E (or recently discharged).
- Weekly meetings within CAMHS to check on progress in tackling waits.

Lastly, to provide further assurance – all the children and young people in crisis or emergency situations are prioritised and seen immediately.

The difficulties experienced by our CAMHS service is unfortunately not unique to Lambeth and mirrors difficulties seen elsewhere with increasing referrals, increasing complexity of presentation, and an ever-decreasing pool of suitable clinicians. SLaM have however prioritised addressing long waits and continue to report back to commissioners on their progress monthly.

11. Councillor Jonathan Bartley

To: Councillor Sonia Winifred, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture

Establishment of working group

In October 2018, Full Council passed a motion directing that a council working group should be established to look at the impact of the hostile environment on Lambeth's residents and what could be done to address it. The working group was never set up. After I drew this to the cabinet members' attention via council officers, I was told that the decision not to set it up was made by Cllr Winifred, but that this decision would now be reversed and that a Windrush Working Group headed by Cllr. Winifred with community representation from the Windrush generation will finally be established more than two and a half years late.

Please can the Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture reassure council that it will go ahead and that its terms of reference will be those set out in the original council motion?

Party: Green

Answer:

To take forward the motion and continue the council's role in fighting for justice for those affected by the Windrush scandal and the hostile environment, the council has worked with community groups, local institutions, and campaigners to campaign for a fair compensation scheme, to oppose immigration policies that unfairly impact Lambeth residents and to provide advice and support to residents.

The council has campaigned on the need for a full report into the Windrush scandal and wrote to all residents urging them to participate in the scheme if they were affected, or to assist friends, family or neighbours who were. Last year the Government made changes to the compensation scheme after lobbying from organisations including Lambeth Council.

The Windrush campaign and securing justice for the Windrush Generation, of which I am a proud member, is a long-term priority for the Council which has included providing financial support for the Black Cultural Archives sessions with specialist immigration advisors to run surgeries on compensation applications and the ongoing campaign for the Windrush Memorial being located in Windrush Square.

I believed this would be best delivered and actioned politically, with specific joint work with the Black Cultural Archives and others, but despite our best efforts in lobbying Government and the Home Office, we anticipated much more progress with the Windrush Compensation Scheme at this stage.

We now have new evidence which suggests that a large percentage of the compensation applications are from Lambeth. Therefore, we will be pulling together a Windrush Working Group with community representation from the Windrush generation focussing on the compensation scheme, among other related subjects.

12. Councillor Mohammed Seedat

To: Deputy Leader (Job, Skills and Community Safety) Councillor Jacqui Dyer

Youth Offending

What is the Council doing to reduce the over-representation of looked after children amongst the cohort that receive support from the Youth Offending Team?

Party: Labour

Answer:

Lambeth's Youth Offending Team and Children's Social Care work in partnership to reduce the number of children looked after from entering the criminal justice system. It has been a challenging time during the Covid-19 pandemic, but work continued remotely. Youth Offending Service (YOS) case workers and social workers work jointly to plan and ensure appropriate interventions for identified young people. Information is shared to identify young people early and prevent involvement in criminal activity. There is a joint protocol in place across the YOS and children's social care to identify vulnerabilities and promote joint working of cases to support children looked after.

The latest Local Authority returns identified that there had been a reduction of children aged 10 years and older who had been looked after for more than 12 months who had received a conviction or youth caution from 19 in 2019 to 9 in 2020, the caveat to this is that this was during the Covid-19 pandemic and it is anticipated that there will be an increase in numbers 2021/22 as lockdown restrictions ease.

It is recognised that there is an over representation of black young boys within the criminal justice system and we are proactively working to reduce this cohort, some of which are children looked after. This includes working in partnership with Black Thrive who have a specific focus on mental health and well-being. We have also gained agreement for a Magistrate to sit on the joint working group with a focus on this cohort of young people. The Youth Offending Service Management Board has oversight of the data relating to young people involved within the service and provides scrutiny and gains assurance as to the work being undertaken.

Measures taken to reduce the number of children looked after entering the criminal justice system include:

- At point of arrest, we have services working in partnership with the police to ensure that all the additional needs of children who are arrested are identified swiftly which enables an appropriate response to be implemented. This includes Operation Harbinger whereby police contact children's social care within the first hours of a child being in custody to establish any additional needs that the child may have and access to emotional health screening from the Liaison and Diversion practitioners . Where there is no further action for young people after arrest they will have access to DIVERT Youth which delivers interventions in and around police custody suites and aims to divert young people away from crime, including our children looked after.
- The service is focused on ensuring that where possible children are diverted from the formal criminal justice system at the earliest opportunity and this includes their referral to the Out of Court Disposal panel which assess the needs of children, the gravity of

the offence which they have provided an admission to and the appropriate interventions that can be implemented

- Future work will include widening the remit of our restorative justice work, which focusses on the rehabilitation of offenders through reconciliation with their victims and the community at large.
- Practice includes working with residential placements to reduce the incidents of children entering the criminal justice system for offences that occur within their homes
- Work is currently being undertaken to utilise existing intelligence to identify children looked after who may be at risk of contextual safeguarding (where young people experience significant harm outside of their families) to ensure appropriate risk assessments and safety plans are in place to safeguard our young people.
- The newly developed Edge of Care service within Children's Social Care will be providing intensive support include support available in the evenings. At the point of a young person becoming known to the Youth offending Service, if the assessment process identifies a risk of potential homelessness or family breakdown, the service will be deployed to support the young person remain at home with their family.

13. Councillor Marcia Cameron

To: Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture, Councillor Sonia Winifred

Compensation for Windrush generation

I was pleased to see another set of fantastic Windrush Day events organised across Lambeth to celebrate the Windrush generation and all they have contributed to the UK, and to reflect on the challenges and discrimination they have faced and continue to face. Lambeth Council and Cllr Winifred in particular have a long history of fighting for the rights of the Windrush generation. How will Lambeth continue to pressure the government to deliver the full compensation those affected by the Windrush scandal deserve, and how can we make sure that the atrocities which led to the unlawful deportations and discrimination of people who have made Britain their home for decades will never be repeated?

Party: Labour

Answer:

Thank you to Cllr. Cameron for raising this issue – and for all Members who helped make Windrush Day 2021 a success. I was really pleased to see such a positive agenda of events to celebrate the huge contribution made to our borough by the Windrush generation.

Cllr. Cameron is right to mention the work we have done to stand up for the rights of those who came to the UK all those decades ago and helped save our NHS and public services. Despite the 'hostile environment' policies of this Government, we have done a lot to move this agenda forward, including grants from the council to enable the Black Cultural Archives to continue to provide advice sessions for those faced with huge bureaucracy on the part of the Home Office.

I have strong views about the location of the proposed Windrush Generation monument. I believe that Windrush Square is the right place for this to be placed. The Government believe otherwise, and so it is important we keep pushing as a council for this to be located here in Lambeth.

Meanwhile, with cross-party support, I have sought to convince Parliament to pick up the mantle and investigate this matter, as well as place the issue of reparations for the horrors of the past to be considered. I have written to the Home Office, to the Speaker of the House of Commons and to the Chair of the Home Affairs Parliamentary Select Committee on these issues and have so far not had a positive response. We will continue to press on this issue, while also lobbying for an end to deportations of those who – through no fault of their own – have fallen victim to the harsh policies – and the interpretation of them – by the Home Office themselves. After decades of public service, no one should be told their nationality is in question.

Through our Windrush Day celebrations we must keep awareness as high as possible, but also drive new work to ensure this happens. That is why I have decided to establish a Working Group, which I will chair, to review where we are on Windrush and decide on next steps to keep this matter high on the agenda. I look forward to working with colleagues across the council to achieve this.

14. Councillor Scott Ainslie

To: Councillor Jacqui Dyer, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills and Community Safety

Strategy to combat violence

17 teenagers have been murdered in London this year, already surpassing the previous year's figure of 15. Some young people in London are describing London's streets as a 'war zone.' Serious youth violence continues to be one of the council's highest risks and has been for many years.

Can the Cabinet Member explain what lessons were learned from the murder of John Ogunjobi, Tulse Hill, in 2018 that could have perhaps prevented the death of Denardo Samuel-Brooks in Streatham recently, and what is their strategy to stop this cycle of violence both in Lambeth and across London?

Party: Green

Answer:

Following the tragic murder of John in November 2018, the Lambeth Safeguarding Children Board (now Partnership) initiated a Serious Case Review. This was completed in summer 2020. Following a request from the family and agreed by the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel, the report was not published. Instead, the learning has been shared

via anonymised case studies, briefing sessions, trainings and in the work of the LSCP's Contextual Safeguarding Subgroup.

There were a number of lessons learned in this review which remain relevant to our current approaches to reducing serious violence affecting young people. These included the need to:

- a. fully implement Contextual Safeguarding approaches as defined by the University of Bedfordshire Contextual Safeguarding Network and developmental and transitional safeguarding;
- b. review of how the educational needs of children who do not meet the behaviour expectations of secondary schools should be met. This should include PRU and within school provision in the borough to ensure it meets the local need; and
- c. Ensure there is a comprehensive professional development offer on Child Criminal Exploitation

Partners in Lambeth are committed to tackling serious violence affecting young people. In September 2020, Lambeth launched a 10-year strategy, [*Lambeth Made Safer*](#), which sets out a long-term, Public Health approach to community safety – intervening as early as possible so that the aspirations of a young person do not become limited due to the obstacles that they encounter in life. To support this strategy, the safeguarding partnership is working with an academic team led by the University of Bedfordshire, and including the University of Sheffield, the University of Huddersfield, and Royal Holloway University to create a community-led response to extra-familial and contextual harm.

15. Councillor Joseph Corry-Roake

To: Deputy Leader (Planning, Investment and New Homes) Councillor Matthew Bennett

Thornton Park Development

The construction of the Thornton Park development has been a disaster for many local residents of Notre Dame estate, Abbeville road, elms road and Lambeth Academy with the developers and construction company consistently and unapologetically obfuscating or simply evading questions and queries and seeming unwilling to compromise to limit the detrimental impact their work has and continues to have.

This follows a long, drawn out and ultimately successful legal process by the council concerning a CIL late payment surcharge.

It is no wonder that the good faith with which local councillors and residents have entered into discussions has dissipated.

With a continued focus on working from home for the foreseeable future, can the cabinet member advise how the council is working with local residents to ensure the developers live up to their promises and are dealt with appropriately if they try to avoid delivering on them? And could they also advise how local ward councillors can hold developers to account to ensure that they make good on their commitments to reduce the negative impact of the development and deliver benefits to the local community?

Party: Labour

Answer:

The Council is mindful of the harmful impacts from noise and other disturbance from major construction and that strong measures to limit these impacts are necessary, especially in light of the pandemic where there is more working from home and effects during daytime will be more perceptible. When making decisions officers use available planning tools such as conditions to secure mitigation measures to reduce impacts though inevitably there will be some local disruption and inconvenience from major construction work.

As you are aware the development in question was granted permission subject to conditions and obligations which secured mitigation to protect the environment, including the amenity of neighbours, and also the delivery of the scheme's public benefits. The developer must adhere to the agreed Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) approved as part of the planning permission – but must also operate in compliance with, amongst other legislation, the Control of Pollution Act 1974. Officers have collaborated internally to respond to concerns raised by local residents and members.

There are currently three areas of intervention where officers are involved in ensuring the developer minimises harmful impacts. This work has included site visits and liaising directly with the developer and neighbouring residents and involves:

- Public Protection– who are monitoring the works in terms of construction work hours – and overall noise levels at the site. An agreement in respect of extra working hours was granted only following the consent being obtained from the Tenants Residents Association. Public Protection are also monitoring the dust levels.
- Housing– in terms of the developer using the Notre Dame Estate for access purposes and carrying out works are representing the council tenants and LBL as landowner.
- Planning Enforcement- in terms of investigating any alleged non-compliance with the approved CEMP, which to date has been minimal.

Separately the construction site is registered with the Considerate Constructors Scheme which provides best practice procedures for the construction industry aiming to reduce impacts on neighbours and the public. This scheme has a complaints procedure where concerns can be raised direct through reporting either to the site manager or through the Scheme's website and details of this are displayed on signage at the site. The main contractor, Henry Construction, has also employed a Resident Community Liaison Officer and liaison with officers has modified how they work to reduce impacts on neighbours by:

- Providing an indoor cutting room to reduce noise
- Relocating site welfare facilities and offices to a basement to reduce noise
- Relocating concrete pump and jet wash away from the boundary to reduce noise
- Installation of sheeting to scaffolding to improve appearance and reduce noise
- Use of noise monitoring equipment along the site boundary
- Switching off lighting after hours
- Use of CCTV to record hours of works

I am however happy to take up any resident concerns directly with the relevant authorities and the contractor if these obligations are not being kept to.

16. Councillor Becca Thackray

To: Councillor Claire Holland, Leader of the Council

Governance Petition

The recent petition for a committee system in Lambeth emphasised its advantages over a cabinet.

Given the benefits in terms of democracy, cost & inclusion of a broad range of councillors' ability, is the Leader of the Council considering this petition seriously?

Party: Green

Answer:

I am very happy to listen to representations from residents about how we can improve the council's processes and operations. Lambeth currently operates under the Leader and Cabinet model of governance, which is the strongly favoured system of governance by the vast majority of London councils and councils across England. It is a system which provides strong, transparent, democratic leadership, and a robust function providing overview and scrutiny of decision making.

The Leader and Cabinet model ensures the clear mandate given to the governing party's manifesto voted for by the residents is able to be implemented. This model also empowers all fifty-seven Labour councillors, five Green councillors, and one Conservative councillor to represent their constituents and input into decisions through a variety of structures. These include full council meetings, cabinet meetings, Lambeth's overview and scrutiny structures, and other committees such as Planning and Licensing. This model has allowed the council to respond to emergencies such as the Covid-19 pandemic quickly, making decisions at pace for local people and by elected politicians.

A committee system on the other hand would make that impossible and could lead to officers having to make decisions without direction from the elected politicians. When councils moved away from the committee system twenty years ago, it was because it made local government slow, unaccountable, and opaque.

On the 6th of May, residents in two local authority areas in London, Tower Hamlets and Newham, voted comprehensively against adopting a committee system of governance for their council. I do not believe that, after more than a decade of Tory imposed austerity, Brexit, and the Covid-19 pandemic, Lambeth residents want the council to be looking inwards and spending our time debating the way in which we organise ourselves. They want us to get on with the job of securing a recovery which leaves nobody behind, building the houses our families in Lambeth need, and creating a fairer borough, built on social, climate and racial justice for all. And that's what this Labour administration will continue to do.

17. Councillor Nanda Manley-Browne

To: Cabinet Member for Young People, Councillor Ed Davie

Supporting Children and Young People

How is the council supporting children and young people catch up and have a good summer, after the pandemic related problems of the past 18 months?

Party: Labour

Answer:

Lambeth's Summer activity programme for children and young people is led by the Holiday Activity and Food programme (HAF) this year to ensure that young people on free school meals and with no recourse to public funds have access to food and activities throughout the Summer.

The HAF delivery team have commissioned over 80 grants across the borough to provide a range of engaging, healthy and memorable activities covering ages 5-19 and up to 25 with a special educational need or disability.

This Summer will see over £800,000 funded activities for Lambeth's children and young people with over 3,000 individual food deliveries happening every day over the 5 weeks of the Summer. The Summer activity programme will now be online on the Lambeth website and will help users to find in depth information about all of the individual services on offer.

Additionally, as a part of the wider recovery package to support children with their mental health and wellbeing and to catch up on missed face-to-face learning, £200m of funding is available for secondary schools to deliver face-to-face summer schools this year. The aim of the programme is to deliver a short summer school with a blend of academic education and enrichment activities. Funding in Lambeth schools range from £7164 to £72 536 based on the calculations relevant to class sizes. All mainstream secondary school have now confirmed signing up to the funding by the June 30th deadline.

The DWP Covid local support grant awarded Lambeth £1,052,653 for spend during Summer 2021 and of this 80% will be ring-fenced to support families with children with food and bills. Planning around allocation of this fund is underway but it is likely that 80% of this fund will be awarded as food vouchers for families with children eligible for free school meals.

18.

Councillor

Fred

Cowell

**To: Cabinet Member for Sustainable Transport, Environment & Clean Air (job-share),
Councillors Danny Adilypour and Cllr Mahamed Hashi**

Nuisance Parking

After the ULEZ is introduced what measures can the council adopt for communities south of the south circular to, stop nuisance parking and help reinforce the ULEZ's environmental aims?

Party: Labour

Answer:

The expansion of the ULEZ will improve air quality for a significant number of residents and those coming to work and visit north and central Lambeth, and complement Lambeth's own action to reduce harmful pollution from motor vehicles by monitoring air quality, enforcing against idling and introducing measures to enable people to make more journeys on foot or cycle.

Transport for London are responsible for planning and implementing the ULEZ and have modelled the impact of the scheme. TfL have assured us that they will continue to monitor and assess impacts after implementation and officers will report any issues arising and seek support for any mitigation that is required. We recognise the potential benefits of the scheme but we continue to lobby the Mayor to extend the ULEZ to cover the whole borough to ensure that the benefits are evenly spread.

A potential increase in nuisance parking as a result of the extension of the ULEZ southwards to the South Circular in October is an issue that our officers are aware could impact on existing levels of parking stress in streets south of Thurlow Park Road. Whilst it isn't possible to accurately quantify what this might be prior to implementation, we will be keeping a close eye on this and consider solutions such as consulting on parking controls should this become an issue.

19. Councillor Joanna Reynolds

To: Councillor Sonia Winifred, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture

Anti Social Behaviour on Clapham Common

The good weather has seen an increase in anti-social behaviour on Clapham Common with especially negative impacts on the residents of Windmill Drive and Clapham Common Southside. Residents, local councillors, and the police are working together to mitigate this as much as possible. But with long queues for the toilets leading to people urinating on people's properties, sound systems attracting large numbers of people likely to increase during the coming summer months, and the idling ice-cream van's pollution, what additional steps are the council taking to alleviate future problems?

Party: Labour

Answer:

Clapham Common is Lambeth's largest open space and a number of additional measures have been put in place, or are planned, to help mitigate the increases in usage arising from Covid-19 restrictions.

- The toilets in the changing room block are opened to all park users at the weekend.
- A substantial number of portaloos have been installed on the common.
- New signage has been installed across the common directing users to toilet facilities.
- The ice-cream van on the common has now been converted to run off the mains and is using the electric connection provided. There may be instances when power fails, if so, a diesel unit will be used for short periods as back-up.
- Seasonal litter-picking teams are in place across the common at weekends and for 2021. In addition, we have added a late shift.
- Since April a team of six Civil Enforcement Officers have been patrolling Clapham Common at weekends, with over 70 Fixed Penalty Notices for littering issued to date.
- Public Protection officers patrol the Common each weekend, for example proactive tasking took place last Saturday. Currently this focuses on Covid breaches, but the team will be able to tackle persistent anti-social behaviour issues and byelaw breaches once restrictions are fully lifted. Enforcement tasking is based on reports of anti-social behaviour, so we would encourage users of Clapham Common to report ASB online via Lambeth's website.
- Officers are currently in the process of leasing a small additional refuse vehicle for the common, which will ensure all bulk bins can be emptied far more regularly over the weekend and other peak usage periods.

A full bin review is planned to make sure they are located in the most effective positions.

20. Councillor Jane Pickard

**To: Cabinet Member for Sustainable Transport, Environment & Clean Air (job-share),
Councillors Danny Adilypour and Cllr Mahamed Hashi**

Highway improvements in Knight's Hill

In the light of the council's wish to encourage people to get out of their cars and walk or cycle, can the Cabinet Member please inform residents of Knight's Hill whether there are plans to replace any pavements in the ward either in this financial year or next (2022-23)? And could you assure ward councillors that they will be involved in decisions about which footways are most in need of improvement and about how these will be prioritised in the work programme?

The ward has numerous streets which are still paved with tarmac which is in extremely poor condition. Many have been extensively patched which can make them hard to navigate for people with mobility problems and those using wheelchairs or buggies. Despite this, there were no footways replaced in the previous financial year in Knight's Hill.

Streets which have been the subject of resident complaints include: Knight's Hill (between Cheviot Road and Wolfington Road); Selsdon Road; Hainthorpe Road; Dodbrooke Road; Uffington Road; St Julian's Farm Road and Pymont Grove

Party: Labour

Answer:

After over a decade of Tory-led austerity and cuts to Lambeth's budget, we now have far less to spend on improving our footways and making them safer and more accessible than previously. What we need is a national Labour government that invests in and properly funds local authorities like Lambeth to improve the lives of our residents.

The process of profiling the footways a pavements improvement programme in Lambeth is based on a number of factors. There are over 1,000 roads in Lambeth that are surveyed on an annual basis so choosing roads to invest in every year needs thorough consideration in an engineering, location and usage sense. As such we have a risk-based approach for our Highway Improvement Programme (HIP) and we look to prioritise those which support local infrastructure and suffer from heavy usage. Our risk-based approach measures the existing conditions and considers the likelihood and consequences of the road failing further. We use the below factors to prioritise investments.

- Condition grade
- Scheme size
- Highway classification
- Amenities
- Reactive maintenance history
- Sustainable travel & current usage volume

Each factor above has a risk rating value with each value worth a set number of points. Highways with the highest number of points are given greater priority. Before the list is finalised, we also need to ensure that factors such as utilities and development related works are not taking place on any of the roads on the programme. As such officers in the capital studio are currently in the process of reviewing the prioritisation data for the HIP footways programme including checking that roads will not be subject to any other programmed works. As such we do not have confirmation of the programme at this point, but we are aiming to have this work completed in the next month.