

Council, 10 October 2018

Questions from Councillors

Wards: All

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Report summary

Questions and answers submitted by Councillors, in accordance with the Council and Committee Procedure rule 12, are set out below.

1. Councillor Nicole Griffiths

To: Cabinet Member for Environment and Clean Air, Councillor Claire Holland

Could the cabinet member for Environment and Clean Air please commit to the introduction of NO CAR DROP OFF and PICK UP ZONES (with built in exceptions for those with mobility issues) and all day NO IDLING zones of up to 100 metres around all Lambeth schools to better protect the health of our children and young people?

Party: Green

Answer: Protecting our children from the harmful effects of air pollution is a key manifesto commitment on which this administration was elected.

I am pleased that during this school-year we will trial timed road closures around two schools. If successful, more "school streets" will be proposed next financial year. The engagement between the council and schools is ongoing and we will announce these pilots very soon.

We already have other interventions to protect our children from air pollution. Concerns raised by the school community help us inform where we need to make interventions or change behaviour. Aside from the borough-wide 20pmh speed limit, interventions have included more effective parking restrictions, physical measures to deter dangerous parking, changing the direction of traffic flow and informing the design of neighbourhood enhancement schemes such as Our Streets.

Currently, No-drop-off zones (by which I mean traffic can still drive past a school, but is not allowed to stop) are not planned to be trialled but we are always reviewing what the effectiveness of road safety initiatives. Encouragement is an important component of our road safety toolbox and this year we are producing bespoke park and stride maps for schools where car use is high or where concerns about safety have been raised. These maps show appropriate locations to park away from the school gates and also show 5 minutes walking radius around the schools with messaging to encourage sustainable travel. Additionally, to reduce the numbers of cars arriving at schools, a cycle bus and walking bus have been trialled in 2018 and this work will be developed this academic year.

With regards to engine-idling, we adopt the twin track approach of education and enforcement. On 21st June this year we again held our anti-idling day as part of our very successful Lambeth Clean Air Week. Further, to raise awareness that idling is an offence we have installed anti-idling signs across Vauxhall and will be shortly expanding the initiative in other parts of the borough. If this approach does not achieve the required change in drivers' behaviour then I will consider escalating to penalising them.

We have also worked directly with schools through our Schools Air Quality Programme. Each year we work with 12 schools and:

- i. Monitor air quality with diffusion tubes and go on lichen walks
- ii. Raise awareness and educate in classrooms and assemblies, and also arrange parent coffee mornings. We discuss how to reduce exposure to poor air quality and also how to help reduce air pollution
- iii. Organise car free and walk to school days
- iv. Train selected students to be 'Air Ambassadors' to continue work after we have left
- v. Create clean air walking maps

When we finish working with a school, we offer to create an individual Air Quality Action Plan for the school so children, parents and teachers can continue to work to improve air quality

Until now our Schools Air Quality Programme has only worked with primary schools. But we are now starting work with secondary schools too.

In Round two of our Love Lambeth Air project (October 2017 to May 2018) we offered schools in the borough diffusion tubes to monitor air quality.

-We are currently working together with Lambeth Youth Council to improve air quality: <http://love.lambeth.gov.uk/air-grant-scheme/>

-As part of the Mayor's Air Quality Fund we are working with schools to organise anti-idling events: <https://idlingaction.london/>

We have commenced implementing our manifesto commitment of installing green screens at the schools identified as suffering most from polluted air and work with schools to focus on clean air as part of the installation.

To bring together our multiple initiatives committed to tackling poor air quality, I will shortly be publishing the council's Draft Transport Strategy. It will share that one of my goals is for it to be normal for children from 12 years of age to be making independent journeys by foot and cycle. To help achieve this, the Strategy will launch our Healthy Routes Plan and explain what measures we propose to enable and encourage walking and cycling in a low/no traffic environment, prioritising areas with a high density of schools.

2. Councillor Tim Briggs

To: Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, Councillor Ed Davie

In a recent ruling in a case in the Court of Protection, Labour-Lambeth kept a Colombian lady 'caged' in limbo for years waiting for her case to be resolved rather allowing her to return to her own country, at a cost to residents of £2,000 a week. The Judge found that Labour-Lambeth had made 'misconceived assertions or contentions of fact', that order after order from the court were 'not complied with', that enquiries by Labour-Lambeth were 'ineffectual' and 'amateur', that efforts to return the lady to Columbia were 'unfocused and superficial', and Labour-Lambeth had shown 'disorganised thinking, planning and management'.

Residents will find parallels with previous criticisms by High Court Judges on how Lambeth is run by Labour: the failure to consult meaningfully or listen, a lack of transparency, unfocused and superficial decision-making, disorganised thinking, planning and management.

Conservatives in Lambeth fear that this is part of a campaign against Latin-American residents in Lambeth, in light of the concerns raised about racism in the Labour party, including the charge from the MP for Streatham that the Labour party is institutionally racist, and after Labour party members and councillors in Lambeth organised and attended fundraisers supporting the Socialist Dictatorship in Venezuela which is starving, torturing and killing its own people.

Given the gravity of this court ruling, and the systemic failures highlighted in it, will the cabinet member apologise to the Latin American community in Lambeth by taking responsibility and resigning, rather than trying to of blame others?

Party: Conservative

Answer: I thank Cllr Briggs for his question and have asked officers to offer Cllr Briggs a briefing on this complex case and I hope he is able to take up that up.

Firstly, the responsibility for the care of the Colombian national he refers to in his question, known in court as P, lay with the Lambeth Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) which is an NHS not a council organisation.

In this individual case Lambeth council decided to jointly defend the case with the CCG to save money on legal fees.

The CCG have issued a public statement clarifying the situation. The statement makes it clear that Lambeth council systems and practises are not those that have been subject to scrutiny in relation to the care of 'P'.

A spokesperson from NHS Lambeth CCG said:

"We acknowledge that repatriating this very disabled woman did take an extended period, however this was a complex case and the long-term welfare of the patient was central to any decisions that were made. The CCG was in contact with the Colombian consulate throughout. The Colombian Ambassador has subsequently written to the British Government thanking the NHS for the care she received.

"Her family were also extremely grateful for the care she received, so it is disappointing that the judge in this case has chosen to criticise our conduct.

"Colombia does not have a publicly funded health system and the care she needed is more complex than her family are able to provide. She now resides in a specialist nursing home after strenuous efforts were made to ensure the care she would get in Colombia was suitable and close to her family, as they requested.

"The CCG and council needed to ensure that she was moving to care appropriate to her needs in Colombia.

"Her condition also meant she had to travel in an air ambulance and required a high specification wheelchair. The family was not in a position to fund either, so the CCG took a discretionary decision to source and fund these as P could not go home without them.

"The CCG also sourced and funded health insurance and underwrote the costs of uninsured emergency treatment in case the plane had to land if P deteriorated en route. We took the view that the cost was justified to get the right outcome for P and that this was offset by no longer paying for a high cost residential healthcare placement locally."

The council and the CCG are currently examining what steps can be taken in relation to the judgement.

I would like to pay tribute to the efforts of our NHS and council colleagues who sort to care for a foreign national, who lacked her own resources and who was not supported financially by her own government. P's family and government were publically grateful for the care they received from Lambeth's public services.

Of course there is no 'campaign against the Latin American community in Lambeth' by the council or Lambeth Labour and I ask Cllr Briggs to withdraw that baseless allegation which can only stir up groundless fear and suspicion.

It would be inappropriate for me to resign under these circumstances and I will not be doing so.

3. Councillor Scarlett O'Hara

To: Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Paul Gadsby

Housing

Housing was one of the key issues raised by residents during the recent Coldharbour byelection, especially those living in council accommodation. As a result, can the cabinet member for housing outline the plans to improve and upgrade the standard of housing in Coldharbour during the next 12 months and more widely across the borough?

Party: Labour

Answer: The Council is committed to bringing all its housing stock up to the Lambeth Housing Standard (LHS) and so far has spent £499m on this programme. A further 5,114 properties will have reached the LHS standard by the end of 2018/19.

In the 2018/19 housing capital programme the projects in listed below are in Coldharbour Ward

Projects	Estate/Properties	Works
Central Area - 2018/19 LHS - Door Entry Replacement - Canterbury Gardens Estate	Wincheap Court - 1-8 Chilham Court 1-10 Burgate Court Witchwood House 1-39 Broadoak Court 1-36 Westgate Court 1-46 Northgate Court 1-36	Full replacement of the controlled Door Entry systems including the replacement and or re-condition of the doors and screens.
Central Area -2018/19 LHS - Lift Replacements - Southwyck House Estate.	Southwyck House	The replacement of two lifts serving the block.

The indicative 2019/20 programme for Coldharbour Ward is being developed through site validation surveys but is likely to include the following works:

Estate	Works
RAILTON ROAD ESTATE	Externals Roof/Windows/Internals
SOUTHWYCK HOUSE ESTATE	Heat metering
WILTSHIRE ROAD ESTATE	Externals Roof / Windows
ANGELL TOWN ESTATE	Internals Kitchens/Bathrooms/Electrics

LHS 2018/19

The Council is investing £35m in upgrading housing throughout the borough. Works include: Internal works; installing new kitchens, bathrooms/wetrooms, electrical upgrades, heating/Hot water upgrades, lift replacement, watertank and mains renewals

External works include; renewing/refurbishing roofs/windows, external wall surfaces, rerouting gas supplies, cladding removals from a high rise block, installing new Controlled access systems

Fuller details can be found on the councils website-LHS-using the following links ;

<https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/council-tenants-and-homeowners/lambeth-housing-standard/central-area-lhs-programme>

<https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/council-tenants-and-homeowners/lambeth-housing-standard/north-area-lhs-programme>

<https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/council-tenants-and-homeowners/lambeth-housing-standard/south-area-lhs-programme>

LHS 2019/20

The indicative 2019/20 programme will include works similar to the above, including additional fire safety works. This programme is currently being developed based on current Site validation surveys being finalised

4. Councillor Danny Adilypour

To: Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Jonathan Bartley

Comment at last full Council

At the last Full Council meeting, Cllr Ainslie referred to the Labour Party as being “schizophrenic”. Schizophrenia is a serious and often debilitating mental illness that 1 in every 100 people suffer from. Using this illness as a term of political abuse does nothing to help public perceptions of the illness. As Rethink Mental Illness have said, “Schizophrenia is still used as a term of abuse. We wouldn’t use cancer as an insult; it is just not acceptable to use illness as abuse. Think of the harm that does to people who are just trying to get better. This prejudice adds to the feelings of isolation which are also symptomatic of the illness. There

should be no place for using mental health as a term of abuse in this council chamber. Would Cllr Bartley therefore take this opportunity to apologise on behalf of Cllr Ainslie and the Green group and confirm that equalities training will be given to Green councillors who require it?

Party: Labour

Answer: As a Green Group, we are committed to understanding mental illness and supporting those who experience mental health problems. As councillors we believe it is important to admit where we get things wrong. I have spoken to Cllr Ainslie and he would like me to convey his sincere apologies for the word used at the last meeting of Full Council.

With a quick search of social media I did however also find a wide range of inappropriate language being used around mental health by some Council Cabinet members. I do not wish to list them here as I do not believe it is right to use mental health to score political points, or try to embarrass anyone publicly, but I would be happy to provide you with examples.

As 10th October 2018 is World Mental Health Day, I would like to reaffirm the Green Party's commitment to take action on the UK's mental health crisis. We signed the Time to Change organisational pledge in 2013 as a commitment to promote a better understanding of mental health problems and have worked since then to offer support and advice to our staff and members; one in four of us will experience a mental health problem each year and it is unacceptable that many will suffer alone. I invite all Members to join me in acknowledging our collective responsibility to challenge attitudes and tackle discrimination against those suffering from mental illness. The Green Group are also calling on Lambeth Council to sign up to the Time to Change Employer pledge (which at the time of writing it has not done) as Croydon, Tower Hamlets and several other councils across London have already done, and put in place a workplan to fulfil it.

I would urge all of us to reflect on our language and to work to improve these in order to ensure we are representing all of Lambeth's residents to the best of our ability. I would invite all members to attend and take part in the Mental Health Awareness workshop currently being arranged for all Councillors.

5. Councillor Donatus Anyanwu

To: Cabinet member for Planning, Investment and New Homes, Councillor Matthew Bennett

Affordable workspace at International House

Can the Cabinet member for Planning, Investment and New Homes provide an update on plans for affordable workspace at International House in Brixton?

Party: Labour

Answer: International House is a really exciting project as part of the council's award-winning Lambeth Works programme to provide affordable workspace for local businesses.

In July 2018, after an open and competitive procurement process, the Council appointed 3Space to operate International House as an affordable workspace hub for five years. The Lease and Service Level Agreement (SLA) were signed on 3rd of September and the first tenants have already moved in. The project will provide space for new and growing businesses, social enterprises and charities, with a focus on design, creativity, and innovation. Full occupation is expected by September 2019 when the project is estimated to have created space for 850 jobs in the heart of Brixton.

We have insured, as part of our long-standing commitment to the London Living Wage that all employees working in International House will be paid at least the London Living Wage and that businesses working there will need to become fully accredited Living Wage Employers within a year of taking a tenancy.

3Space are implementing a “BuyGiveWork” model, which provides space for commercial businesses at an affordable rate, alongside giving space away for social enterprises, charities and the arts, on a free or service charge only basis. The property is divided into five ‘Commercial floors’, and four, themed ‘Give floors’ – Youth, Experiments, Community and Studios. All occupiers will be expected to make a ‘community giveback’ contribution to Brixton’s vibrant community, and ‘Give floors’ in particular will be expected to deliver significant benefits for the local area and for local people.

We have also opened a new affordable workspace, Tripod, in the Town Hall basement, which is fully let and work is underway on LJ Works in Loughborough Junction and Waterloo Works. Through this programme the council is becoming one of the largest providers of affordable workspace in the borough and is using this to extend the London Living Wage to hundreds of workers.

6. Councillor Liz Atkins

To: Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, Councillor Ed Davie

Gambling policy

I am extremely disappointed by recent reports that the government has capitulated to pressure from bookmakers and agreed to a two-year delay before slashing the maximum stake on fixed-odds betting terminals to £2. A delay will mean hundreds more vulnerable people and their families in Lambeth will experience misery from gambling addiction. What changes will you be making to Lambeth’s policy on gambling to ensure that gambling premises meet their responsibilities in relation to problem gamblers and the local community?

Party: Labour

Answer: I am also disappointed that the government has delayed on changing the law from pressure from bookmakers.

Lambeth has over 50 betting shops and over 200 FOBTs in the borough, the bulk of which are clustered in areas of deprivation. The 2014 Lambeth Healthy High Streets Commission

used research by Landman Economics to estimate that each betting shop in Lambeth with FOBTs creates a net loss of 2.5 jobs.

Earlier this year, along with the Local Government Association, campaign groups, 93 other local authorities and a cross-party group of MPs, Lambeth Council urged the Government to cut the maximum stake to no more than £2. It is local authorities, who are closest to the problem and have a better understanding of the needs of their local communities, who are best placed to act, which is why Lambeth urged the Government to change the law to empower councils to respond decisively.

The Gambling regime under the Gambling Act 2005 identifies three licensing objectives which the Council, as the licensing authority, must promote and enforce and gambling establishments must adhere to. These are:

- (a) preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime,
- (b) ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way, and
- (c) protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

New applicants and existing gambling licence holders are therefore already obliged to demonstrate appropriate measures that they have or intend to put in place to combat problem gambling under the current Policy. These measures may include supervision of gaming machines areas, self-exclusion schemes, provision of information leaflets and providing helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare. It is also a condition on all applicable licences that operators are to adhere to social responsibility provisions under the Gambling Code of Practice. Any breach of the Code by an operator may lead the Gambling Commission to review the operator's licence with a view to suspension, revocation or the imposition of a financial penalty and would also expose the operator to the risk of prosecution. The licensing service ensures compliance with the codes of practice during enforcement visits to gambling premises, and may also take a premises to review where there are compelling reasons for doing so with reference to the licensing objectives.

Licensees are required to put into effect policies and procedures for customer interaction where they have concerns that a customer's behaviour may indicate problem gambling. With regard to fixed odds betting terminals, licensees must ensure that any machines that they make available for use require customers to make an active choice as to whether they set time and monetary thresholds. Where these are reached, an alert would appear on staff systems within the betting shop. It is worth noting that this measure is optional and down to the customer.

The Gambling Act 2005 is very specific about the application of the Act and also the format of any Gambling Policy document and as such the local authority is somewhat constrained in the wording and content of its policy and approach to gambling premises in the borough and the presence of fixed odds betting terminal machines. In the new Gambling Policy due to be published early next year we will reiterate the existing expectations in the current policy that applicants have in place appropriate measures to combat problem gambling in line with the social responsibility code for betting shops.

7. Councillor Malcolm Clark

To: Cabinet Member for Environment and Clean Air, Councillor Claire Holland

Thames Water compensation for residents

What steps is Lambeth Council taking to support Streatham residents (including on our Estates) seeking their rightful compensation from Thames Water for being without water for up to 4 days in March? And has the Council seen any progress from Thames Water in working with them to prevent the same mistakes on leaks, emergency bottled water supply and compensation claims?

Party: Labour

Answer: In March, the council and community came together to respond to the Thames Water failure. Councillors and volunteers went door to door delivering water to vulnerable relatives and set up depots.

Thames Water failed in the most basic duty of a water company, to provide water to people's homes. And when the water failed, their response was shambolic – information was not shared and their depots, when eventually created in response to pleas from councillors and residents, were grossly insufficient to meet the community's needs with many residents needing to walk two miles just to collect drinking water in freezing temperatures.

Lambeth's Scrutiny committee called Thames Water officials and condemned the company's handling of the crisis.

A number of letters have been distributed by Thames Water to affected residents who can claim up to £150 compensation. If any resident is still awaiting compensation they should take this up direct with Thames Water. I know the ward councillors have been working hard to support residents in their legitimate claims and I am extremely disappointed to hear that Thames Water have apparently ceased to engage with councillors in support of residents. To support the residents and ward councillors I am writing to Thames Water to express my concern and urge them to listen to residents and engage with councillors.

In terms of progress to minimise future problems, following the Freeze-thaw event in March 2018 which affected many Streatham residents, a multi-agency desktop exercise was held to look at how vulnerable people could be identified during a water supply outage, to identify the information sharing process and to examine multi-agency resourcing a response with a view to reducing the risk of duplicating or missing contacts.

The exercise demonstrated the value of early and open communications between water providers and local authority emergency responders. It also highlighted that a number of obstacles to identifying the vulnerable including the limitations of the water company Priority Services Database which relies on self-registration, and the fact that the local authority in itself has a number of different 'vulnerable lists' all held in different databases and in different formats.

A number of actions were identified by the Council and Thames Water which both felt would improve the response to future outages:

- a) Identify whether a Council wide data sharing platform could be set up with the aim of facilitating better information sharing across different departments
- b) Work with Thames Water to identify opportunities to promote the Priority Services Scheme to individual householders who qualify
- c) Ensure that Thames Water Operations have access to the Council's 24/7 contact information and make early notification to the Council during supply outages / issues
- d) Ensure that non-domestic customers who qualify for 'Sensitive' customer status understand why they should register for this with their water providers
- e) Explore use of Resilience Direct mapping as a way of working together to maximise the opportunity of multi-agency working with regard to logistics
- f) Council staff (eg outreach teams) may be able to carry / distribute some bottled water during water supply outages to vulnerable people who are found not to be on any register. Council to identify bottled water drop off points for this activity and share this information with Thames Water
- g) Identify community leaders / groups (including faith groups) who would be able to assist with communications particularly to international communities, and with the identification of suitable community water distribution points. Establish (and maintain) key contacts list.
- h) It was agreed that if a multi-agency response was triggered, then there would be a requirement for Thames Water staff (logistics and event response team member) to co-locate with Lambeth team in order to facilitate co-ordinated action and communications. This action needs to be established and resourced as part of the Thames Water event response procedures.
- i) During 'smaller' events when the customer facing response is wholly Thames Water managed, early notification to the Council's Emergency Planning Team will still be required to ensure that communications are co-ordinated and that 'vulnerable' people who may fall outside of the system are identified and catered for appropriately. This is part of an ongoing update to Thames Water event communications.
- j) The Council require a data sharing agreement between themselves and Thames Water to be signed in advance of an event to ensure that data shared 'in an emergency' is adequately protected (ie there is an adequate data control / destruction process in place). Since Thames Water have 96 local authorities in their service area they will lead on this.

These actions points are currently being addressed and the Council's Emergency Planning Team Manager has confirmed that following the desk top exercise there has been an improvement in engagement and communication on subsequent problems including proactive / pre-emptive bottled water drops.

We are committed to doing we do all we can as a Council to ensure this crisis does not happen again.

8. Councillor Lucy Caldicott

To: Cabinet member for Planning, Investment and New Homes, Councillor Matthew Bennett

Market at Binfield Road

Following the reconfiguration work of the road junction at Stockwell Cross and improvements to the public realm, plans were agreed to begin a regular market at Binfield Road. Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on when these plans might be implemented?

Party: Labour

Answer: A budget of £30k for the market infrastructure at Binfield Road has been secured through CIL funding. The N&G restructure went live on the 17th September 2018. We are now recruiting to a market manager post. It is anticipated the role will be filled by January 2019 at which point consultation with local residents will be undertaken to identify and accommodate local requirements in relation to the market.

It is expected that should consultation show a positive requirement for the market an operator will be selected and a new market will be delivered in Spring 2019.

9. Councillor Becca Thackray

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

Revision of Culture 2020 policy

In this National Libraries Week, is the Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture prepared to revise a policy which has failed (namely Culture 2020) in order to bring library buildings back under Lambeth Council control, which would be cheaper than the current and proposed arrangements with Oasis (Waterloo), CCT (Carnegie) and UNLT (Upper Norwood)?

Party: Green

Answer: This National Libraries Week there are events going on across Lambeth's 10 libraries. There are 10 libraries now and we have committed to delivering 10 libraries in the future. The implementation of the culture 2020 programme is well advanced and has been highly successful to date. There are no plans to withdraw this programme.

While councils elsewhere have simply shut down their libraries, we have changed the way ours operate to make them sustainable for the next generation. This has not been an easy process and the proposals have generated a huge amount of concern. However, with deep central government cuts to our budget, we have had to look at every single service we deliver and doing nothing was simply not an option. These changes have allowed us to make the required savings while, still providing an excellent library service in every part of our borough.

Here is what is happening in each of our libraries:

Brixton – fully maintained service with existing opening hours.

Streatham – newly expanded and refurbished in 2014, will maintain full service with existing opening hours.

West Norwood – current building will maintain full service with existing opening hours. Work has begun on a brand new library at Nettlefold Hall, with a full and comprehensive service, alongside a new cinema, opening in 2018.

Clapham – brand new library opened in 2012, will maintain full service with existing opening hours.

Tate South Lambeth – fully maintained service, currently with existing opening hours.

Durning – fully maintained service, currently with existing opening hours.

*Both Durning and Tate South Lambeth are to remain open while plans for a new North Lambeth town centre library are developed.

Upper Norwood – funded by Lambeth and Croydon councils, the building is run as a community space by Upper Norwood Library Trust, with a neighbourhood library service managed by the Council, including 35 hours a week of library staff.

Waterloo – has moved from current building to the Oasis Centre at 1 Kennington Road, with longer opening hours and a full stock of books.

Carnegie – temporarily closed from April 2016, the current level of community space will remain, including a neighbourhood library service with librarians on site regularly to lead activities and to ensure that stock is up to date. The council has also partnered with Greenwich Leisure Limited, a social enterprise, who will provide health and fitness facilities in the basement of the building. the library was reopened in February 2018.

Minet – open as a Neighbourhood Library for 34 hours a week

10. Councillor Jessica Leigh

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

Fee for applying for citizenship

The Home Office charges a disproportionate fee for children applying to citizenship. Is the Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture aware of this and has she done anything to pressure the government about this injustice?

Party: Labour

Answer: The Citizenship fees are set and regulated by the Home Office. They rise every April, and, as such, we expect another rise to come in April 19. I agree that they are disproportionate, the whole process is very expensive and complex with many different fees and combinations of circumstances.

Currently the fee for a young person to apply to become a citizen is £1012. There have been reports of young people who have lived in the UK for most or all of their lives forced into an impossible position to pay the fee or continue to be unable to access healthcare and university. In addition, local authorities must pay for the applications of children in their care despite cuts to local authority budgets, and the councillors are urging the Home Office to waive the fee completely for looked after children.

There has been mounting pressure from campaign groups including Citizens UK who are leading the online movement #ChildrensIntoCitizens urging the government to end the practice of charging the high cost for citizenship.

I am pleased that Lambeth has joined this campaign. Jointly with representatives from other South London councils, Cllr Rebecca Lury, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure, Equalities and Communities of Southwark Council, and Cllr Kelly Braund Merton, Cabinet Member for Children's Services of Merton Council, I wrote to Rt Hon Caroline Nokes MP, Minister of State for Immigration urging the Home Office to stop this shameful practice.

11. Councillor Scott Ainslie

**To: Cabinet Member for the Voluntary Sector, Partnerships and Community Safety,
Councillor Mohammed Seedat**

Reinstatement of the Statutory noise nuisance

I am sure I am not alone in having receiving complaints and repeated concerns from residents in my ward about the council's response to reports of noise nuisance. Will the cabinet member reinstate a full noise nuisance service, reversing the cuts and other changes that have been made, and if so, by when?

Party: Green

Answer: For the last 12 months the Council has been conducting a review of the noise service, particularly around its effectiveness and the customer experience. Part of this review involved benchmarking with other similar authorities, looking at satisfaction levels, assessing the current service offer, assessing new IT systems and identifying all noise related issues managed by the Council. During that review it became clear that there were opportunities to improve the Noise Service offer to residents using the statutory duties under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

From the end of this year, the council plans to extend the night time noise service offering from Thursday to Saturday (including the early hours of Sunday morning). The most serious complaints will be given priority. The service will include an out-of-hours line, between 9pm and 5am Thursday to Saturday, and a daytime responsive service between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

There will be a single point of contact for all noise-related queries, to include complaints from the public highway, housing estates and planning-related queries. An update on the actions the council will take will be provided, on the same evening, to residents who make complaints.

We are committed to taking tougher action on persistent anti-social behaviour and noise nuisance. This service will provide stronger enforcement and swifter responses for residents whose quality of life is diminished by noise nuisance.

The service will include additional resources in community safety to fund additional officers for this service and the purchase of additional council-funded Police officers to complement the work of the Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG), Violence Reduction Unit & ASB teams.

We envisage that the new service will be operational and delivered by the end of the calendar year.

12. Councillor Tim Windle

To: Cabinet member for Planning, Investment and New Homes, Councillor Matthew Bennett

Fenwick Estate

Could the Cabinet Member for Planning, Investment and New Homes confirm that on completion of the 100% Council rent properties in Fenwick South that tenants on the existing Fenwick Estate will be first priority and first to move into the new homes once they are completed?

Party: Labour

Answer: The Council is finalising the terms of the development agreement with Transport for London and their contractor Mullalley and expect construction of the 46 new homes, all at council rent, to start on the Fenwick South site towards the end of 2018/19 and complete late in 2020.

These homes will be the first new homes built on the Fenwick estate as part of the estate being fully rebuilt through the council's estate regeneration programme to build more and better homes for local people. As such it's absolutely right that tenants on the Fenwick estate should be first priority for these new homes and I can confirm that all 46 homes will be offered to existing tenants living on the Fenwick estate.

This is part of our ambitious programme to build a new generation of the highest quality new social housing across the borough. 70 new homes for council rent are nearly finished on Lollard street in Kennington and work will soon start on estate regeneration schemes at Westbury, South Lambeth and Knights Walk to build even more homes for local people.

13. Councillor Jackie Meldrum

To: Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Paul Gadsby

Macintosh Court

Macintosh Court, recently named after its architect Kate Macintosh, is the last of Lambeth's sheltered housing schemes to be upgraded to Lambeth's Housing standard. Works started months ago and has been complicated by a number of factors including its Grade II conservation listing. Will the cabinet member please provide an update on the outstanding works and the latest expected date for completion?

Party: Labour

Answer: It is correct that there have been a number of issues at Macintosh Court, not least as its Grade II listing does make the project more complex. However, Lambeth is currently in the process of issuing an Early Warning Notice to contractors for mistakes related to regarding the installation of a new hot water piping system, which does not conform to planning requirements that do not in their aesthetic design conform to planning regulations and we will be examining considering rectification works on this system following feedback from Ms Macintosh and residents. I have visited the area twice in the past month to speak to residents, apologise to them for the errors made and ensure that we are progressing in the right fashion way going forward on this and other issues that have been flagged up during this process. I would like to thank Cllr Meldrum and the Knights Hill councillors for their input into the issues and to residents, as well Ms Macintosh for their help.

More positively, overall the council will invest £2.5 million overall on upgrading the building and ensuring the 45 flats are brought up to the LHS standard. This includes news bathrooms and kitchens, as well as other works to the structure of the property. A number of residents have expressed satisfaction with the works so far, especially the work on the new bathrooms and kitchens. The programme of works will not formally be handed over as fully complete until the council and residents are satisfied that works to required quality and planning standards have been met.

Works have included the following;

Works	Start	Finish
Communal Central Heating and Hot water upgrades	May 2018	All internal CH /HW installations - September 2018
Roofing Refurbishment	November 2017	Partial completion – subject to defects September 2018
Window replacement	November 2017	Partial completion – subject to additional works June 2018

38-New Kitchens	June 2018	October 2018
38-New wet rooms /specialised baths	June 2018	October 2018

14. Councillor Pete Elliott

To: Cabinet Member for Environment and Clean Air, Councillor Claire Holland

Air pollution monitoring stations

Lambeth's three air pollution monitoring stations provide invaluable real-time information - far more accurate and useful than diffusion tubes - to residents about poor air quality, which is prematurely ending the lives of many Lambeth residents every year. Could the Cabinet Member for Environment and Clean Air provide a fourth monitoring station in West Norwood, where, at peak hours there are continual lines of traffic which are often stationary, explain why Brixton Road's air quality monitoring station has been offline for the last 20 days (which will once again skew the annual statistics where already in 2018 legal limits for Nitrogen Dioxide have been exceeded on 83 occasions), and ensure that Lambeth's monitoring stations are capturing data for over 90% of the year?

Party: Green

Answer: Improving air quality is a key priority for this administration. A key way to measure our progress is to maximise the amount of air quality data throughout the year.

Rather than investing in a traditional air quality monitoring station at a cost of £40,000, the Council are about to trial two smaller air quality monitoring devices that costs £5,000 each. If that trial proves a success, we plan to install them throughout the borough including in West Norwood.

As soon as an air quality monitoring station develops a fault, it is prioritised for repair. The Brixton Road station has been temporarily closed because the monitoring equipment was damaged by water ingress caused by the enclosure containing the equipment being damaged; a replacement, waterproof, enclosure is on order.

We are also working directly with schools to monitor air quality. In Round two of our Love Lambeth Air project (October 2017 to May 2018) we offered schools in the borough diffusion tubes to monitor air quality. As part of this work each year we work with 12 schools and amongst other initiatives they monitor air quality with the diffusion tubes and go on lichen walks.

15. Councillor Clair Wilcox

To: Cabinet Member for Environment and Clean Air, Councillor Claire Holland

Road safety around schools

With three primary schools and a new secondary school in my ward of Streatham South I am all too aware of - and share - the concerns that residents and schools have in relation to road safety in the immediate vicinity of schools. In some locations some welcome traffic-calming has been introduced but can the Cabinet Member update us on any borough-wide strategies to address the serious issue of road safety around schools?

Party: Labour

Answer: Ensuring the safety of our children is a key responsibility of the council and community.

I will shortly be publishing the council's Draft Transport Strategy. It will share that one of my goals is for it to be normal for children from 12 years of age to be making independent journeys by foot and cycle. To help achieve this, the Strategy will launch our Healthy Routes Plan and explain what measures I propose to enable and encourage walking and cycling in a low/no traffic environment, prioritising areas with a high density of schools.

Whilst traffic collisions resulting in children being injured are rare, we prioritise addressing any issues that may have contributed to those that occurred close to schools. Nonetheless, because injuries are rare, we also use perceived safety concerns raised by the school community to inform where we need to make interventions or change behaviour. Aside from the 20mph borough-wide speed limit, interventions have included more effective parking restrictions, physical measures to deter dangerous parking, changing the direction of traffic flow and using safety concerns raised by school communities to inform neighbourhood enhancement schemes such as Our Streets. During this school-year we will trial timed road closures around two schools. If successful, more "school streets" will be proposed next financial year

But reducing road danger in the vicinity of schools involves much more than engineering "fixes". Lambeth leads the way in combining these with enforcement, education and encouragement to put the needs of children at the centre of what we do. For instance, we work with the police and our parking enforcement contractor to run joint enforcement sessions at schools where the community has raised safety concerns. We have also been working with the police and all primary schools that are on or close to busy roads in providing Community Roadwatch sessions and we are shortly to begin rolling out Junior Roadwatch sessions with those schools. We also work with the police on our monthly Bus Days; over 750 vulnerable young people, of school or college age, have taken part in a Lambeth Bus Day session in the last two years. The Bus Day is a joint initiative between the Council, Transport for London, the Met's Safer Transport Team and the bus company Arriva. These sessions are for vulnerable students who might need more skills or confidence to enable them to start to travel independently and cover road safety and personal safety.

Encouragement is an important component of our road safety toolbox and this year we are producing bespoke park and stride maps for schools where car use is high or where concerns about safety have been raised. These maps show appropriate locations to park away from the school gates and also show 5 minutes walking radius around the schools with messaging to encourage sustainable travel. Additionally, to reduce the numbers of cars arriving at schools, a cycle bus and walking bus have been trialled in 2018 and this work will be developed this academic year.

Lastly, we provide an excellent education programme to equip young people with the skills to travel confidently and safely around the borough. All schools are offered cycle training and all primary schools scooter training; over 30 schools received a days' scooter training for their KS1 pupils (around 2,000 children) this summer. All primary schools are offered pedestrian training and this was received by over 2,000 7 and 8 year olds in the borough last academic year. In the same period we supplemented this with 35 in-school theatre performances to Key Stage 1 pupils, Year 3/4s, Year 6s and Year 7s, reaching 3,500 children and young people with messaging about safe behaviours on the road, as well as the benefits of active travel.