

WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

The following questions have been received from Councillors and will be taken as read along with the written answer which will be included in an addendum that will be circulated at the meeting:

(1) Councillor C. Theobald

I have repeatedly drawn to the attention of the Administration the disgusting condition of the Princes Place toilets adjacent to the Royal Pavilion Gardens. I asked an oral question at the Council Meeting on July 20th asking when the toilets would be put in a clean and tidy condition fit for residents and visitors to use. Councillor Mitchell stated to Members that she had, that day, instructed the Assistant Director for City Clean to, "...pay particular attention to those Pavilion Garden toilets."

Councillor Mitchell claims she received assurances on this matter, and yet more than 4 months have now passed and they are still in a disgraceful condition. So I ask yet again, will Councillor Mitchell, as a matter of urgency, have these toilets put in a decent state so that the general public can safely use them?

Reply from Councillor Mitchell – Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee**(2) Councillor Littman**

Thank you for having answered my oral question regarding recycling at the last meeting of Full Council. I have a number of supplementary questions resulting from your response.

In your response; you said: "I am pretty proud to have raised our recycling levels to the highest rate ever from the 24% under your administration to the 29.1% now"

According to the publicly available figures for CityClean performance (<http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/environment/recycling-rubbish-and-street-cleaning/cityclean-performance>); the rate under the Greens ranged between 25.2% to 28.8%. Could you please explain which year you were referring to?

Similarly, according to the same publicly available figures; the rate in 2008/9 was 29.5%. Can you please explain how 29.1% is 'the highest ever'?

As I said in my question; 'Recycling rates in the city have been below 30% every year for the last 11 years, a time period covered by administrations of all three colours.' 29.1% is nothing to be proud of. Following the successful introduction of Green initiatives; including communal recycling, and green waste collection, can you outline your plans to raise recycling rates past those of 2008/9 and towards the 50%+ achieved by many other Local Authorities?

Finally, my supplementary question asked what work was on-going regarding collaboration with other Local Authorities, which recycle a greater range of plastics than we do. This element of the question was not answered. Given the clear support both from Councillors of all Parties, and the general public, for the

safe removal of plastics from our environment; please can you tell me what you are doing about collecting plastics which we ourselves cannot recycle, for recycling by any of those Local Authorities which can?

Reply from Councillor Mitchell – Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

(3) Councillor Sykes

Please can Cllr Mitchell provide quarterly figures for B&H domestic waste (not recycling) arising (kg per household) over the past five years?

Reply from Councillor Mitchell – Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

(4) Councillor Gibson

a) Hanover and Elm Grove CPZ

Please can you provide as of the 1st of December:

- 1) The total number of permits issued for zones V and zone S?
 - 2) The numbers of annual and of 3 month permits issued for each of zones v and S?
 - 3) The total permit income paid to the council from permit fees for zones V and S up until 1st of December?
 - 4) The total capital expenditure incurred on markings, signage and other works needed for implementation of the CPZ in zones V and S?
 - 5) The total capital expenditure from other budgets headings spent at the same time as the CPZ (ie cycle racks)
- b) If community groups and local residents are able to fundraise the money needed for a covered cycle storage facility (at no cost to the council) and have identified a suitable location, can you confirm that, in the interests of supporting cycling with all the associated health benefits, the council will give the necessary permission to enable the facility to be installed? (subject to any consultation + planning that may be needed).

Reply from Councillor Mitchell – Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee

(5) Councillor Gibson

a) Payments for emergency and temporary accommodation

For 2016/17, please can you provide the total annual cost payable for emergency and temporary accommodation to:

- i) Helgor Trading
- ii) Baron Homes

Along with the number of households that were housed by each provider

b) Financial modelling of new council homes

Please can you provide the figures for the estimated surplus/deficit over the 60 year financial modelling period (currently used-indicating for each scheme whether the most current assumptions have been made or those used previously) for:

- Aldwick Mews
- Brook Mead
- Darwell Court
- Flint Close
- Hobby Place
- Kite Place
- Pierre Close
- Preston Rd
- Robert Lodge (N)
- Robert Lodge (S)
- Lynchet Close
- Kensington St

Reply from Councillor Meadows – Chair of the Housing & New Homes Committee

(6) Councillor Taylor

In my previous oral question I asked the Administration what it planned to do should we have a similar situation for 2018/19 admissions in the Dorothy Stringer Varndean catchment to which I did not receive a satisfactory response.

Since then the two schools concerned have written to the Council expressing an interest in expansion of their PAN on a temporary basis but last year were not asked by the Council to accommodate additional numbers.

Therefore can Councillor Chapman please indicate how many pupils are expected to not be offered one of their catchment schools and if this is the case can he confirm that the Administration will work with the two schools to limit the impact on local residents?

Reply from Councillor Chapman – Chair of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee

(7) Councillor Wares

No.56 Subsidised Bus Route

Councillor Mitchell advised at full Council on the 2nd November, that officers had had meetings with The Big Lemon bus company about 50% reduction in the No.56 bus route link around Patcham and Hollingbury and that officers would be in touch with us to reassure residents. Some six weeks later we have still not had any communication, the link remains reduced by 50% and the life line this service provides remains severed. Please could Councillor Mitchell advise what precisely has taken place, what the discussions have been, what is proposed and when the service will be reinstated to the levels it was before?

Reply from Councillor Mitchell – Chair of the Environment, transport & Sustainability Committee

(8) Councillor Wares
Street Tree Planting

Subsequent to the revelation at ETS Committee on 28th November that officers are implanting street tree planting in the East of the City and working West, we have subsequently learnt that Councillor Mitchell agreed it will be carried out in zones over a four-year period. It appears this was a unilateral decision by Councillor Mitchell that had no consultation at Ward or Committee level, has no future funding plan and affects everybody in the City. Further, it appears that officers have been delegated authority to decide what the zones are and what will happen in them. Please could Councillor Mitchell advise how, when and why this key strategic decision was taken and in detail, precisely what the four year plan is?

Reply from Councillor Mitchell – Chair of the Environment, transport & Sustainability Committee