

CITY OF SHEFFIELD

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL – 4TH OCTOBER, 2017

COPIES OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS THERETO

Questions

Answers

Questions of Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Julie Dore)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Since the meeting of South Yorkshire leaders to discuss the Devolution deal on Monday 18 th September, 2017, what contact, phone call or emails have you had with the Leader of Rotherham Council? Please list all what was discussed and the outcome? | As I answered last month, I am in regular contact with all South Yorkshire Leaders. I do not hold a record of every single communication. |
| 2. Since the meeting of South Yorkshire leaders to discuss the Devolution deal on Monday 18 th September, 2017, what contact, phone call or emails have you had with the Leader of Barnsley Council? Please list all what was discussed and the outcome? | As I answered last month, I am in regular contact with all South Yorkshire Leaders. I do not hold a record of every single communication. |
| 3. Since the meeting of South Yorkshire leaders to discuss the Devolution deal on Monday 18 th September, 2017, what contact, phone call or emails have you had with the Mayor of Doncaster Council? Please list all what was discussed and the outcome? | As I answered last month, I am in regular contact with all South Yorkshire Leaders. I do not hold a record of every single communication. |
| 4. Could you please explain why you did not take up the request for interviews by BBC Radio Sheffield for the Breakfast Show with Toby Foster on Tuesday 19 th and Wednesday 20 th September to discuss the collapse of the Sheffield City Region Devolution Deal? | I did several media interviews after the meeting on Monday 19 th September, including with BBC Radio Sheffield. |
| 5. Have you had any contact with leaders of Councils within the Yorkshire region in relation to a Yorkshire wide devolution deal? | As I answered to you last month, we have not attended the Yorkshire Devolution meetings because there is no 'Yorkshire-wide deal' to discuss. The Government have been clear |

that the South Yorkshire devolution deal that we have negotiated is the only one on offer. Since then the Secretary of State has made a further intervention to say he will not consider any additional deal that includes any South Yorkshire Council.

Therefore, I have not been in discussions with any Leaders about a Yorkshire wide devolution deal, as there is no Yorkshire wide devolution deal.

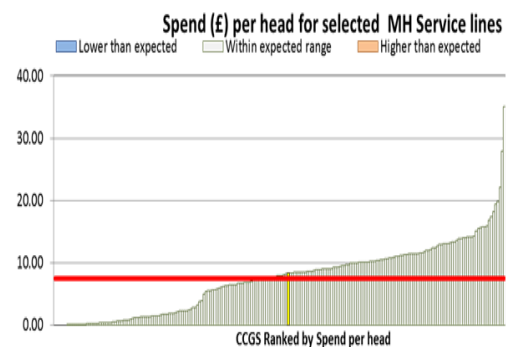
Questions of Councillor Vickie Priestley to Councillor Jackie Drayton (Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families)

1. Are you aware that according to information compiled by the Royal College of Psychiatrists, comparing spend on children and young people's mental health (including eating disorders) by Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) area, Sheffield CCG spends a mere £38.34 per head on CAMHS services (2016/17), compared with Rotherham (£48.76), Doncaster (£52.02), or Barnsley (£86.77), putting Sheffield CCG right at the lower end of amber for spending?

The dataset used by the Royal College of Psychiatrists excludes our spend on children's mental health which is provided by Sheffield Health and Social Care Trust, this includes psychosis services for children and young people aged 14 and above.

The data also excludes our spending on eating disorders and learning disabilities (we report spend on these areas separately). For example, Sheffield has received an additional £1.3m for transformation of children's mental health services; £352,000 of this has been spent on eating disorders, but hasn't been included in the data. We also invest in mental health through services at Sheffield City Council such as the Multi-Agency Support Teams (MAST), this spend is also excluded from this data.

When all our additional spend is taken into account, our spend per head is higher. This is reflected in the below table (published by NHS England) showing that Sheffield's spend on children and young people's mental health is higher than the national average (red line is national average, Sheffield is the yellow bar).



2. If so, will you be making representation to colleagues within the NHS?

I regularly liaise with colleagues within the NHS on children's mental health and will continue to do so. Our investment in children's mental health is a key priority for the Children's Health and Wellbeing Transformation Board, which is jointly led between Sheffield CCG and Sheffield City Council. We also have a joint programme team progressing this work who I regularly work with and request updates from.

Questions of Councillor Penny Baker to Councillor Jayne Dunn (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

Regarding Hanover tower block:

- | | |
|---|--|
| (1) when will the decision be made regarding what will be made to replace the cladding? | The Council will not make a final decision until the outcome of the Grenfell Public Inquiry and recommendations from the Government's new Expert Panel is reported to the Council. After this we will agree the preferred options with tenants and leaseholders and commence procurement. |
| (2) what consultation will take place? | The Director of Housing has set up a Hanover project group to work through the cladding options with tenants and leaseholders living in the tower block. It has held one meeting and plans to meet again soon. This group will continue to meet until the cladding has been chosen and new cladding has been fitted. |

Questions of Councillor Richard Shaw to Councillor Jayne Dunn (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. What measures has the Council taken to tackle anti-social behaviour at the Jordanthorpe shopping precinct? | We are aware of incidents of ASB happening around the Jordanthorpe Shopping Precinct. Council Community Safety Street Response Officers are working together with Council Housing Neighbourhood Staff and Police to address this issue.

We are also currently supporting the police to re-introduce a neighbourhood policing and local problem solving structure which should increase visibility on the streets, opening-up another important route for community engagement, increasing public safety and reducing incidents of crime and disorder. |
| 2. As of 1st September 2017, how many Council-owned garages were: | There are two types of garages, a Garage Site (GS) - SCC own the land and the tenant erects their own |

structure. A Garage Plot SCC own the garage and the land.

We are mid-way through a demolition programme of garages where there is no demand for them. We will start a programme of garage investment very shortly and this will reduce the number of empty garages that are not currently fit to let.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (a) let? | GS 484 GP 2112 = Total 2596 |
| (b) not in a let-able condition? | GS 626 GP 694 = Total 1320 |
| (c) otherwise vacant? | GS 220 GP 1035 = Total 1255 |
3. As of 1st September 2016, how many Council-owned garages were:
- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| (a) let? | GS 242 GP 2231 = Total 2473 |
| (b) not in a let-able condition? | We did not collect this information in this way in 2016 so a figure can't be provided. |
| (c) otherwise vacant? | We did not collect this information in this way in 2016 so a figure can't be provided. |
4. For each municipal year 2016/17, 2017/18, how many Council-owned garages have been:
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| (a) demolished and plots left vacant? | 16/17 44 garages were demolished - 17/18 234 garages have been Demolished. |
| (b) demolished and rebuilt? | None. |
| (c) otherwise brought back into use? | None of the sites that been demolished have been brought back into use, they have been made safe. |

Questions of Councillor Robert Murphy to Councillor Jayne Dunn (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

1. At the Full Council meeting of 5th July, Council requested a report to the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee setting out:-
- (i) the reasons why the Hanover Tower Block came to fail fire safety tests;

- (ii) the cause of the failures; and
- (iii) the implications for other work carried out under the Decent Homes improvement scheme and for any other buildings in Sheffield.

When will a report including these answers be presented?	By the end of the calendar year.
2. When will the removal of the cladding be completed?	It is now completed, the contractor is undertaking minor works and will then leave the site.
3. What is the current estimated cost of the removal and reinstatement?	£425k
4. Who will pay this cost?	HRA – although we are trying to seek funding from the Government.

Question of Councillor Magid Magid to Councillor Jayne Dunn (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

With the dire state of drugs, gangs, violence and vulnerable people among a lot of other incidents, residents have got in touch with me on, for example, finding a 12 inch knife in the park, constant groups of people fighting and gun shots going off. Many residents are worried for their children and are worried that the Council and police will only take notice once there is a fatality. What is the Council doing to tackle these issues and support the residents of Broomhall?

We have taken great strides in Broomhall to engage with members of the community in the area, including organising days of action under Operation Duxford and the 'Broomhall Together Week of Action,' in addition to daily partnership working.

We recognise that raising community confidence is key and the council, together with its partners, continue to deploy resources into the area to encourage members of the public to report issues. This includes workers from youth organisations who continue to successfully engage with young people.

We are currently supporting the police to re-introduce a neighbourhood policing and local problem solving structure which should increase visibility on the streets, opening-up another important

route for community engagement, increasing public safety and reducing incidents of crime and disorder.

Question of Councillor Alison Teal to Councillor Jayne Dunn (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

There are persistent problems on the Lansdowne estate with dampness. The issue is causing problems for many residents. It seems the cladding may be responsible. What investigations have been done on the estate overall to ascertain the cause of this widespread issue?

We have arranged for a surveyor to inspect the properties.

Question of Councillor Douglas Johnson to Councillor Mazher Iqbal (Cabinet Member for Business and Investment)

Kollider has been engaged to move the Castlegate project forward. What progress has been made on the process of due diligence regarding Kollider?

It is in progress.

Questions of Councillor Richard Shaw to Councillor Mary Lea (Cabinet Member for Culture, Parks and Leisure)

1. What progress has been made by the Council in repairing the heating system at Jordanthorpe Library? When is this due to be completed?
Sheffield City Council replaced the boiler in August 2017.
2. What measures has the Council taken, or will be taking, to improve security at Jordanthorpe Library following its windows being damaged? When is this due to be completed?
Jordanthorpe Library is run by South Sheffield Community Initiatives Ltd (a volunteer run organisation) and the broken windows were replaced by them on 12th September. Regarding future security, Sheffield City Council is considering the installation of security shutters for the building and a quotation has been requested.

Questions of Councillor Roger Davison to Councillor Mary Lea (Cabinet Member for Culture, Parks and Leisure)

1. How much of the cultural consortium grant has been spent?
The Consortium don't get any funding from Sheffield City Council, they don't administer any grants. They only receive Officer time.
2. How many different categories are listed as recipients?
3. What are those categories or organisations?

Questions of Councillor Magid Magid to Councillor Mary Lea (Cabinet Member for Culture, Parks and Leisure)

1. Do library staff/volunteers have discretion to override the two hour limit on library PC use if library PCs are available, if, for example, a library user needs more time to complete a job application?
Yes, staff/volunteers do have the ability to override the time limit providing no one is booked in to use the PC. We will always try to give people more time when we can. The volunteer libraries had guidance about our two hour per day time limits when they took on the running of their libraries. These were not binding and some of the volunteer libraries may offer more time to their customers depending on demand. We generally stick to the two hour limit in Central

Library because of the very high levels of demand for the computers in this library. We try to provide a balance between giving a reasonable time for each customer whilst ensuring as many people as possible can actually get on a computer when they come to the library.

2. Are alternative PCs available specifically for people completing job/benefit applications in addition to their two hours per day library PC time? If not, could this please be introduced?

There are four computers located in the Business and Intellectual Property Centre area in Central Library that are prioritised for job searching and staff will attempt to give more time if it is available. In our other libraries there aren't any separate computers set aside for this purpose, mainly because we only have a limited number of PCs in each library which is dictated by available space and resources. In the last two years we have introduced public wi-fi into all of our libraries which enables those people with their own devices to access the internet without any time limits which in turn makes more time available on our computers for those who do not have a wi-fi device.

3. What are the library regulations regarding limits to library PC time?

There are no national regulations regarding limits to library PC time. In Sheffield City Council libraries customers are allowed two hours per day as a basic allowance. As stated in the answer above staff/volunteers do have the ability to override the time limit providing no one is booked in to use the PC.

Questions of Councillor Adam Hanrahan to Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for the Environment and Streetscene)

1. Since the last Council meeting, what meetings have you had regarding Western Road trees?

A Cabinet meeting was held on 20 October where a response was given to the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group recommendations. Cabinet also resolved to commission work to provide an estimate of costs to retain trees on memorial streets.

2. At the last full Council meeting, Councillor Gail Smith submitted the following question to you:

“Which officer advised you that Clause 19.2.1 of the Streets Ahead Contract was superseded by other clauses? What department is that officer based in”

To which you answered:

“No officer has provided that advice”

And your answer at the Council meeting of Wednesday 5th April, 2017 to Question 6 of my questions to you:

“In response to a public question at the last full council meeting, you said that Clause 19.2.1 was not applicable to the current situation the Council finds itself in as it is superseded by a different clause within the contract which does make the Council financially accountable to Amey due to protest induced delays. Can you inform me as to which clause you were referring to.”

To which you answered:

“I was briefed by officers who advised me of the position”

- (a) Can you please explain the discrepancy in these answers?

- (a) The reason for the first answer is that no officer has suggested that Clause 19.2.1 has been superseded and the second different question is answered by saying that I have been

briefed about the financial aspects of the situation and so there is no discrepancy.

(b) Additionally, providing details of:

- | | |
|--|--|
| (i) which officers you were referring to on 5th April, 2017 | (i) Officers from Streets Ahead have provided the advice. |
| (ii) what you were briefed on with regard to the answer you provided on the 5th April, 2017 | (ii) I was briefed as part of a general briefing regarding Streets Ahead |
| (iii) what specific advice you were provided regarding Clause 19.2.1 or have been provided regarding that clause at any point. | (iii) I have already answered the specific question asked to me by Councillor Smith as you have listed, you would need to provide more context than to ask what advice I have been provided about a specific clause of the contract since I became the Cabinet Member, without referring to a specific issue or point. |

Questions of Councillor Gail Smith to Councillor Bryan Lodge (Cabinet Member for the Environment and Streetscene)

1. As the National Labour Party is now bringing PFI contracts in-house when will the Council bring the Amy PFI in house?

We fully welcome Labour's announcement around PFI contracts.

Labour has committed to signing no new PFI deals, to look to bring existing contracts back in-house and to develop alternative public sector models for funding infrastructure, saving the public money and improving services and working conditions.

When in government Labour will review all PFI contracts and, if necessary, take over outstanding contracts and bring them back in-house, while ensuring councils do not lose out, and there is no detriment to services or staff.

We welcome this announcement and I hope you will join me in campaigning for a Labour Government to do this.

2. If the Council was to bring its PFI contracts in-house, would it be cost neutral to do so?

See above, Labour has committed that councils would not lose out were this to happen.

Questions of Councillor Steve Ayris to Councillor Cate McDonald (Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care)

1. Do you agree that there are serious issues in Sheffield around the quality of homecare, the quality of social work and the quality of financial assessments that need to be addressed?

There is a lot of good practice in Sheffield and dedicated staff working in adult social care services. Comments like this do not enhance the morale of care workers.

Austerity, started under the Coalition and continued under the Tories, has put pressure on all social care provision. This Administration is committed to ensuring that we deliver high quality social care. A number of significant developments have taken place over the past year which will improve the way we engage with service users and also outcomes. These include:

- Improving the way we respond when people initially access our services;
- Revamping the way we specify and commission home care services;
- Reorganising our social work teams to provide a more responsive service.
- Joint work with the NHS to reduce delayed transfers of care from hospital.
- Improving the transition from children's to adult services by establishing a new team for disabled children/ young people aged 0-25

2. The report on the Social Care Recovery and Improvement Plans that Cabinet considered on 20th September 2017 highlighted "considerably lower levels of customer satisfaction than those in average comparator authorities" among older people and, similarly, lower satisfaction rates among adults of working age, concluding that "low customer satisfaction cannot be attributed to insufficient resources". Do

See above

you agree that Current approaches in Sheffield are demonstrably failing older people and adults of working age with learning or physical disabilities or with mental health problems from achieving independence?

Question of Councillor Cliff Woodcraft to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Transport and Sustainability)

Last month you told us that you had no plan to implement road safety measures by way of enabling the pedestrian crossing point to be moved on Hangingwater Road away from the Whiteley Wood Road junction this coming year. Please could you let me know if you would be willing to meet with Councillors and parents to look at the pedestrian risk at a time when children are walking to school. Further, could you give an indication of when you think the proposed safety measures are likely to be implemented.

Of course, I am always happy to meet Councillors and residents to discuss such matters.

On the second question, the process for prioritising requests after the end of the Streets Ahead Core Investment Period has not been agreed yet, so I cannot state with certainty when any improvements might be implemented.

Questions of Councillor Ian Auckland to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Transport and Sustainability)

1. Will you review the decision to make School Road Safety Training a "paid for by schools" subscription service?

There are no plans to review this change, agreed by Full Council (including you) in March 2017

2. If the service becomes "Traded":-
(a) what revenue saving is planned (full year effect) as a result?
(b) what budgeted income is planned (full year effect) as a result?

These are matters for the 2018/19 budget.
These are matters for the 2018/19 budget.

3. Did the Council participate in a funding bid to the Department of Transport under the "Low Emission Bus Scheme"? (Results announced August 2017)

Yes, as part of a wider integrated bid

4. A further funding round is due under the above scheme, would you support Council participation in a future bid?

Work for this is already underway.

Question of Councillor Magid Magid to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Transport and Sustainability)

With many residents still suffering from the "cut through" being closed in Broomhall which provided access for many elderly people, what is the current update on it?

There are many 'cut throughs' in Broomhall. A more specific location is required if you wish for this question to be answered.

Questions of Councillor Adam Hanrahan to Councillor Olivia Blake (Cabinet Member for Finance)

1. How much is spent per year on officers within the Council who are involved in communications?

It has not been possible to get this information in the timeframe. I will provide you with a written response as soon as possible

2. How much officer time has been spent on changes to Council meetings and what is the commensurate cost?

We have not recorded the amount of time spent and therefore cannot provide accurate figures.

3. How much officer time was spent on attempting to find an alternative seating configuration for full Council and what is the commensurate cost?

We have not recorded exactly the amount of time spent and therefore cannot provide accurate figures.

All work was done in normal operating hours, so there was no additional cost.

Question of Councillor Douglas Johnson to Councillor Ben Curran (Cabinet Member for Planning and Development)

Both the Architectural Heritage Fund and Historic England have the potential to offer grants and substantial funding support. Have you been in discussion with either of these organisations to restore the Central Library, and/or the Old Town Hall?

We are aware of those funding opportunities. Officers do not believe that either would be suitable to fund the central library. However, they might be suitable for the Old Town Hall.

This page is intentionally left blank