

CITY OF SHEFFIELD

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL – 4TH SEPTEMBER , 2019

COPIES OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS THERETO

Questions

Answers

Questions of Councillor Penny Baker to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Julie Dore)

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| 1. When will the Sheffield Local Plan be published? | A new Local Development Scheme (LDS) (the timetable for the plan) will be published this autumn. |
| 2. When will the Greenbelt Review happen? | See answer above - the LDS will cover the full timetable. |
| 3. How many arms-length management organisations (ALMOs), like Sheffield International Venues (SIV), are there in Sheffield? | SIV is not an ALMO, it is a private limited company which is part of the Sheffield City Trust group. |
| 4. Please provide a list of all of them. | Sheffield no longer has an ALMO. It previously used Sheffield Homes as an ALMO but insourced this, so there is no longer an ALMO in Sheffield. |
| 5. How many may need financial assistance in the near future? | See above |
| 6. Do you work with ALMOs to make sure they are financially stable? | See above |

Questions of Councillor Douglas Johnson to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Julie Dore)

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| 1. An officer of the Council, who had requested a 40-minute session at the Access Liaison Group meeting on 12th June 2019 to discuss the streetlight-dimming trial and the possible effect on people with disabilities, was instructed not to attend on the order of Cabinet. Which Cabinet Member made that decision? | I have been advised that no instruction was given by a Cabinet Member not to attend. |
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2. Although Councillor Dagnall “announced” in June this Council’s commitment to a target of 2030 for Sheffield to be a carbon neutral city, when do you expect to amend this Council’s Green City Strategy to replace “2050” with “2030” and adjust the strategy and actions accordingly?
- In June, 2019 Full Council agreed to bringing forward the Council’s commitment for Sheffield to become zero carbon from 2050 to 2030. Further to this, the Council has committed to holding a Citizens Assembly which will explore how this revised target date can be achieved. It is intended to commence this approach in the autumn, culminating in a revised zero carbon plan for the city which will set out the actions the city will need to take in order to become zero carbon by 2030.
3. Which officers and which Councillors attended the Chinese Delegation Business Round-Table on 13th August 2019?
- Councillor Bob Johnson on behalf of Councillor Mazher Iqbal
 - Dean Hughes, Invest Sheffield, City Growth Department
 - Ben Hui, Business Sheffield, City Growth Department
4. What was discussed?
- Part 1. Why businesses invest in Sheffield, focussing on advanced manufacturing
 - Part 2. A round table with each Sheffield businesses presenting themselves and their interest in working with China.
5. What assets of the Council were under consideration?
- None whatsoever – the meeting was about why Chinese companies might consider locating in Sheffield and how Sheffield companies might trade with China.
6. What carbon offsetting has been applied to flights booked by Sheffield City Council to China, and any other trips taken by Members or officers since May 2016?
- I will provide a written response to this question which will be published on the Council’s website.

Questions of Councillor Alison Teal to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Julie Dore)

1. It was made clear by the “It’s Our City” (IOC) Campaign Group that a referendum was a legally binding inevitable consequence of submitting the petition. What was the rationale for the Cabinet or wider Labour Group to choose to leave IOC to submit the petition and trigger a referendum at the public’s expense, rather than agree to voluntarily change to a Committee system?

As you are aware, at the July Council meeting, Full Council made the decision to undertake a review, before taking further decisions in responding to this petition, as outlined in the minutes.

We are committed to doing everything we can to improve how the Council works and improve engagement with local people. This review will form an important part of this.

2. Ex Deputy Leader Councillor Olivia Blake was quoted in the Star saying, “One of the strengths of an open, transparent and robust democracy is that it allows us to acknowledge mistakes, learn from them, and move on in a better direction.” Do you agree? If yes, will you now support the call for a wide ranging Independent Inquiry to investigate, for example, the unnecessary felling of thousands of healthy mature street trees, and the wrongful arrest of Sheffield residents under anti trade union legislation?

I do of course agree with this statement, as you will be aware we will be meeting with STAG independently facilitated by the Bishop of Sheffield in a similar way to the mediated talks process last year to discuss this.

3. In an article published in the local Nether Edge magazine, The Edge, in February 2017, you are quoted as saying that an independent roadside tree survey completed in 2006-07 reported to the Council that seventy-five percent of trees in Sheffield were approaching the end of their natural lives. Mr Elliott, who conducted the survey and wrote the report has stated that he never said this. Can you tell me where you obtained the information?

I will provide a written response to this question which will be published on the Council’s website.

Questions of Councillor Mohammed Mahroof to Councillor Abtisam Mohamed
(Cabinet Member for Education and Skills)

1. What impact will Brexit have on the Education system in Sheffield?

The Council's Education Services are working as part of the broader Council team to mitigate against the potential impact resulting from Brexit. This work will continue up to and beyond the current Brexit date (see answer to next question).
2. Do we have a plan for a no deal Brexit and its effects on recruiting teachers and general education provision?

The Council initiated planning for Brexit earlier this year in advance of the original Brexit date in March. All Local Authorities have now been asked to identify a Lead Brexit Officer and in Sheffield this is Eugene Walker (Executive Director, Resources). The Council's planning process continues apace ahead of 31st October. Some of the Government's larger spending departments (including the DfE) have issued direct advice to schools and to education services. These were last issued on 19th August and the Council will, with Learn Sheffield, issue these to all schools in the first week of term. This advice relates to staffing, safeguarding processes, pupil admissions and school meals, amongst other things. We will continue to monitor Brexit preparation in schools and we do, of course, have existing business continuity planning systems in place for schools already. The school meals service provided by Taylor Shaw, also has contingency plans in place. At all times, the aim is to mitigate, reduce or remove the impact of Brexit in schools whether it is with or without a deal.
3. In recent years the Education system has changed with more pressures on students to achieve good exam results. Evidence suggests this causes stress and possible long term mental health issues. What provisions are in place to support students?

Through our Local Transformation Plan (LTP) for children and young people's mental health, which is delivered jointly with the Clinical Commissioning Group, a number of initiatives are in place. Sheffield CAMHS have been commissioned to

provide the Healthy Minds framework in all primary and secondary schools. This provides a whole school approach to mental health and supports schools to support the emotional wellbeing of the pupils in a range of areas, including those related to exam pressures. All primary and secondary schools should have received Healthy Minds by June 2021. Through the LTP we have also commissioned the Door 43 Service which provides emotional wellbeing services for 13-25 year olds. We have also commissioned Kooth to provide online support for 11-18 year olds, any Sheffield young person can access this through the Kooth website.

Questions of Councillor Douglas Johnson to Councillor Abtisam Mohamed (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills)

1. How many (a) primary and (b) secondary school pupils in Sheffield attend schools that are not in their own catchment area?

Around 68% of Sheffield children attend their catchment school. That leaves 16,122 primary children and 7,766 secondary children who attend a non-catchment school. It's worth noting that of those 16,122 primary children not attending their catchment school, 12,082 are attending another primary school in their local area (locality).
NB This does not include children that attend schools that do not operate catchments (faith schools and the UTCs).
2. How does this figure compare to other cities?

This data is not available as local areas and individuals schools have different methods of prioritising school places and many areas/schools will not operate a catchment-based system.
3. What assessment has been made of the impact of cross-city school commutes in terms of (a) child welfare, (b) poverty, (c) health and (d) air pollution and climate change?

Whilst no single assessment has been made into these factors as they relate to school travel distances, our policy has for a number of years been to promote and ensure great, local school places are available for every

family. Our school planning policy and the catchment system has always been based around this ambition – seeking to meet need with high quality schools close to where families live, enabling young people to create strong, resilient ties in their communities and reducing travel distances.

Questions of Councillor Paul Turpin to Councillor Abtisam Mohamed (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills)

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| 1. Do you agree that aiming for bronze standard school meals is not good enough for our children? | Bronze is a minimum for the whole Authority but our aspiration is for schools to aim for Silver and Gold. |
| 2. How many schools achieve the bronze standard? | The contractor received full certification for two primary menu cycles based on the 'core' menu and this was granted in May 2019 to the 'test' primary school (Lowfield). All primary schools (100) will receive their certifications by the end of September. The Food For Life compliance team have confirmed that all schools with the same menu and working practices in the kitchen regarding purchasing, preparation, presentation and delivery, will receive their certificate. |
| 3. How often are they assessed on keeping to the bronze standard? | Annually. |
| 4. How many tetrapak cartons of milk are supplied to schools each year in Sheffield through the Hillsborough Dairies contract? | I will provide a written response to this question which will be published on the Councils website. |
| 5. How many schools have signed up to this contract? | I will provide a written response to this question which will be published on the Councils website. |
| 6. How many tetrapaks are supplied with fruit juice in the Taylor Shaw contract to Sheffield schools? | I will provide a written response to this question which will be published on the Councils website |

Questions of Councillor Andrew Sangar to Councillor Paul Wood (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

1. Have you decided whether the Knife Angel will be coming to Sheffield? Is it an Individual Member decision or a Cabinet decision?

Discussions are still ongoing as to whether the Knife Angel will come to Sheffield depending on what local communities want.

It is an individual member decision but discussions on this and other community safety related issues also take place at the Community safety Partnership Board which is chaired by me as the Cabinet Member for Community Safety and the Commander of Police in Sheffield, Chief Superintendent Stuart Barton. Senior Officers from the local authority and South Yorkshire Police (SYP) attend the meeting as well as other statutory agencies that have a responsibility as part of the partnership e.g. Health Services, National Probation Services (NPS), the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC), South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue as well as the representatives from The Police and Crime Commissioner's Office (PCC) and the voluntary sector.

2. What are the costs of bringing the Knife Angel to Sheffield?

There are no costs for the Knife Angel as such, but each local authority that hosts it has to pay to erect it in their area. The local authority host the Knife Angel for 28 days and at the end of that period, the host local authority have to pay to move it to its next destination. The local authority can pay these costs directly themselves or raise sponsorship i.e. by getting a local haulage company who want to support this agenda to move it so they get the media coverage. The British Iron Foundation that own the Knife Angel have an arrangement with a ground works company which can come and site and secure the Knife Angel for any local authority if

they prefer. The cost for this service is approximately £10,000-£15,000. This can be paid for direct from the local authority involved or they can cover it by “sponsorship”.

3. Which City Council officers or Councillors were forewarned by South Yorkshire Police before or during trials of facial recognition at Meadowhall during 2018?
Chief Supt Barton has confirmed that there was no requirement for Council Officers or Members to be contacted in advance of facial recognition trials and no one had been contacted.
4. Which City Council officers or Councillors were forewarned by British Land before or during trials of facial recognition at Meadowhall during 2018?
See above.
5. Did City Council officers or Councillors know about the concerns of the Information Commissioner’s Office before or during trials of facial recognition at Meadowhall during 2018?
This has been responded to by Chief Superintendent Stuart Barton.
6. What steps has the City Council taken to ensure that all data gathered during this trial of facial recognition software at Meadowhall during 2018 has been properly destroyed?
This has been responded to by Chief Superintendent Stuart Barton. The Council does not hold this data.
7. Is the City Council aware of any other trials of facial recognition software by South Yorkshire Police or any other organisation in Sheffield within the last five years?
This has been responded to by Chief Superintendent Stuart Barton.
8. Is the City Council aware of any proposed trials of facial recognition software by South Yorkshire Police or any other organisation in Sheffield in the next 3 years?
This has been responded to by Chief Superintendent Stuart Barton. The Council is not aware but will be in regular dialogue with SYP on this issue.

Questions of Councillor Alison Teal to Councillor Paul Wood (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

1. What guiding principles did you apply in making the decision to prevent delegated substitutes to attend GV Master Plan meetings? Why are community groups free to substitute
The agreed principles for the management of the Gleadless Valley Masterplan meetings have been clear. The stakeholder meetings (that was the case on this occasion)

attendees, but not elected Councillors? Cancelling the meeting caused inconvenience to approximately 20 people. Are you able to identify a point in the council constitution to justify the decision you made to inconvenience so many people?

should be attended by stakeholders who live or actively deliver key services in the Gleadless Valley area. This was a stakeholder meeting for key stakeholders. There had been other local councillors that could not attend the meeting and no deputies attended. I appreciate that the timing of this matter was unfortunate and we have apologised for the inconvenience to stakeholders and are re-convening the stakeholder meeting at the earliest opportunity.

2. What progress has been made to streamline the application process for Play Street activities as promised by the Administration after the Greens introduced a motion on 6th December 2017? In December 2017 the Administration stated there would be a one year trial period for the Play Streets scheme and that the Administration was “already designing a transparent policy on street play events”. Is the policy now available? When is the trial period due to commence?

Councillor Bob Johnson will provide you with a written response to this question and publish on the Council website

Questions of Councillor Paul Turpin to Councillor Paul Wood (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

1. How many garages are currently due for demolition (a) in the Gleadless Valley Ward and (b) citywide?

There are approximately 1,140 garages to demolish city wide including Gleadless.

There are approximately 131 garages to be demolished in Gleadless Valley. These are estimates and may go up or down slightly.

2. Will an in-house tender be invited for the contract?

The Council seeks tenders for this work in line with the Council’s approved procurement practices. Presently, the Housing Repairs Service does not have the capacity or requirements to deliver this work. However, as it re-designs this service then they will be encouraged to tender for the work in future.

Questions of Councillor Kaltum Rivers to Councillor Paul Wood (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

1. What is the estimate of the number of cases referred by the Private Sector Housing Team to the UK Border Agency (UKBA) or Home Office on immigration matters in each of the last three years?

The Council's Private Sector Housing Team does not have a direct relationship with the UK Border Agency. However, if during their work they find any individual that is living in the UK without permission and in a vulnerable situation, then they will work with all key statutory agencies to support this vulnerable individual and to ensure that they are not being illegally exploited. In the last 12 months, there have been two referrals to statutory agencies.
2. How is this information recorded and monitored?

The Council does retain this information and strictly complies with GDPR regulations. Our primary role is to ensure vulnerable people are safe, free from harm and to address any illegal activity taking place in private sector housing.
3. What assessment has been made of the race impact on communities of this activity?

The Council works closely with local communities to address any cohesion issues. The priority for the Council is to ensure that vulnerable people are safe, not being exploited or at risk.

Questions of Councillor Martin Phipps to Councillor Paul Wood (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

1. What has Sheffield City Council done to tackle discriminatory practices of landlords refusing to let to people in receipt of housing benefits?

Private Sector Landlords are responsible for their own letting policies as long as they fully comply with legislation. The Council works with a large number of landlords that allow people on benefits to rent their homes. There are no enforcement powers that enable the Local Authority to stop landlords refusing to let to people in receipt of housing benefits.
2. What is the current average shortfall between rent charged and housing benefit awarded for occupiers in each different size of property?

Without something more specific about a particular household we can only provide city averages for a Council/ Private Rented Accommodation as there are too

many variables (rents, service charges, occupiers, benefits, under-occupancy etc). The following table provides a city average for typical bedroom sized property, set against averaged Housing Benefit award to provide an average shortfall as a result of those benefits by bed size. If this doesn't work for you, if you would like to send us details of any 'specific cases we can of course provide a more detailed response.

Property Size	Average weekly rent	Average weekly HB award	Weekly shortfall (Average)
1 bed	£90.16	£76.87	£13.29
2 bed	£91.65	£72.03	£19.62
3 bed	£99.68	£76.31	£23.37
4 bed	£117.61	£91.96	£25.65
5 bed	£135.67	£97.95	£37.72
6 bed	£136.61	£95.07	£41.54

Questions of Councillor Martin Smith to the Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Governance

1. In the last year, what was the total value of Business Rate Relief granted by the Council under the following schemes, how many applications were received and how many of those applications were successful?

- a. Hardship Rate Relief
- b. Discretionary Rate Relief
- c. Rural Rate Relief
- d. Living Wage Relief

2. If a business is placed under severe financial hardship through the direct action or inaction of the City Council, does this make them eligible for discretionary relief under the existing Council policy? If not, why not?

Due to the fact that the Finance, Resources and Governance portfolio has been vacant for the past week, written responses will be provided by the incoming Cabinet Member and published on the Council website.

Question of Councillor Mohammed Mahroof to the Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Governance

How many external consultants have the City Council appointed in the last three years and at what cost?

Due to the fact that the Finance, Resources and Governance portfolio has been vacant for the past week, written responses will be provided by the incoming Cabinet Member and published on the Council website.

Questions of Councillor Douglas Johnson to the Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Governance

1. How much has the Council spent on external legal costs in each of the last three years?

Due to the fact that the Finance, Resources and Governance portfolio has been vacant for the past week, written responses will be provided by the incoming Cabinet Member and published on the Council website.

2. Do you agree that it is very strongly in the public interest for information about the management of Sheffield City Trust to be made public when it requires the Council to divert £1 million away from other essential spending?

Questions of Councillor Tim Huggan Councillor Mark Jones (Cabinet Member for Environment, Streetscene and Climate Change)

1. What is Sheffield City Council's policy on badger culling?

The following (06/02/2013) remains the Council's latest position on badger culling.

"RESOLVED: On the Motion of Councillor John Robson, seconded by Councillor Harry Harpham, that this Council:-

(a) opposes the Government's decision to cull badgers in England;
(b) is aware of strong objections to badger culling in the UK which resulted in a petition of over 150,000 people;

(c) notes that Parliament voted against the cull in October 2012 with a huge majority of 147 votes to 28;

(d) regrets the u-turn taken by Government to cull between 70-95% of the country's badgers with over 7,500 condemned in pilot studies in West Gloucestershire and West Somerset set to go ahead this summer;

(e) acknowledges that despite contradicting statements there is strong scientific evidence that culling badgers will not make a difference to the numbers of bovine TB;

(f) notes that leading scientists in this field agree that a cull will make little or no difference and that free shooting has not been scientifically tested anywhere and could even spread bovine TB in the short term as badgers move around more;

(g) reminds the Government that badgers are a legally protected species and to kill them without knowing the full facts is a disgrace;

(h) will not voluntarily allow badger culling on land in its ownership if the cull is extended after the pilot scheme; and

(i) urges the Government to reconsider the decision as there is no scientific, economic or moral basis for culling."

2. Do you agree that there is no scientific, economic or moral basis for badger culling?

I can only assume that you are asking this question in relation to bTB (Bovine Tuberculosis). I'm sorry if I have misunderstood your question.

There is contradictory evidence, from scientific studies, that Badger culling could result in a decrease in bTB within herds.

I do not believe that there is sufficient evidence to support the culling of badgers to reduce bTB or that this is the best way forward.

I feel that culling of badgers is not the answer to addressing bTB, nor any other issue.

I do not believe there is any moral basis for the culling of badgers.

3. Do you agree that vaccinating badgers is by far the better and more human way to tackle bovine tuberculosis?

If it is a choice between culling badgers or immunising badgers, I would choose immunisation.

However, I am not convinced that the scientific evidence is that immunising wild badgers is the only, or the most efficient way to address bTB within our bovine herds.

It is easier to immunise cows than immunising wild badgers. Capturing and immunising badgers is likely to cause badgers distress. Scientific evidence suggests that 95% of a given population would need to be immunised to provide 'herd immunity' to a given disease. Immunising 95% of a wild population may not be possible.

However, EU regulations currently mean that farmed products from immunised cows cannot be sold in the EU. So, this barrier to commerce is the reason that we are exploring the immunisation of badgers over

cows against bTB. This is the published government reason given by the coalition Government to protect, as of then an estimated £2.2bn of trade.

(Published 21 October 2012

From: Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs)

One worrying element of all this approach to tackling bTB, is that I have a significant concern regarding the efficacy of bTB vaccinations, which may only be in the region of 50% – 70%.

The Ecology Unit would in principle, depending exactly on what the nature of the support needed was.

I wish Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust every luck in their endeavour to address badger transmission of bTB. Any endeavour that decreases the killing of badgers is to be welcomed.

4. Will Sheffield City Council support the work of Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust, and Derbyshire Wildlife Trust in vaccinating badgers against bovine tuberculosis?

4. How many schools make use of recycling services through the Council. How many make their own arrangements?

24

We don't hold any data on this. With devolved budgets, it is down to each school to make arrangements for their waste.

5. How many schools are currently able to recycle plastic waste, including bottles and food containers?

As above, we don't hold any data on this.

6. When will the Council's Waste Management Services be able to offer plastic recycling to schools and at what cost to the school?

During this financial year we are reviewing the waste and recycling services provided to Council buildings through the contract with Veolia in terms of value for money and recycling offer. Therefore, later in the year we may have a new solution that schools could choose to use.

Question of Councillor Alison Teal to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Streetscene and Climate Change

What are the current plans to reinvigorate Clean Sheffield to tackle the significant problem of litter across the city?

We continue to engage with and provide support to a number of community litter picking groups, and now have a significant number of groups (over 1,000) contributing to making their communities cleaner, most notably via the Sheffield Litter Pickers Facebook groups. This was one of the main objectives of the scheme, and these groups all deserve recognition for the great work they do across the city.

Questions of Councillor Peter Garbutt to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Streetscene and Climate Change

1. Are there any plans for a car-free day in Sheffield, as many other cities, including London, are doing, in order to encourage a move away from car use to reduce air pollution and carbon emissions?

Car Free Day is on 22nd September and this aligns with the Sheffield 10k race which will involve a number of road closures across the city. This is also the weekend that students return to Sheffield for the start of term.

We are committed to doing a car free day and are in discussions about doing this on an alternate date. Alternatives are currently been worked on.

2. Given the urgency of the climate situation, can you inform us of any opportunities, beyond the dimming of street lights, that have been identified for reducing Sheffield's carbon emissions to meet this year's 14% target?

The Council is exploring opportunities to reduce its own direct carbon emissions. It will be using the Climate Citizens Assembly to work with people from across the city to develop approaches to reduce city-wide emissions, as the Tyndall Centre report noted that reductions are required from across all sectors of our city in order to achieve our 2030 zero carbon city goal.

One real and 'now' action is the repowering of waste collection vehicles. MAGTEC are a Sheffield company that is leading the world in renewing and repowering old vehicles into clean electric vehicles.

Question of Councillor Angela Argenzio to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Streetscene and Climate Change

What plans are there to ensure that Sheffield Rail Station is well protected against floods?

A Masterplan for Sheffield Midland Station is currently being developed, which includes consideration of flood issues.

Question of Councillor Paul Turpin to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Streetscene and Climate Change

How much has the Council spent clearing fly tipping from (a) private land behind Newfield Green shops, (b) Gleadless Valley ward (c) citywide?

I will write to you with this information and publish the answer on the council website.

Questions of Councillor Ruth Mersereau to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Streetscene and Climate Change

1. What practical steps has the Council taken to cut carbon emissions since the last full Council meeting, in order to get closer to meeting its target of being carbon neutral by 2030?

The Council is exploring opportunities to reduce its own direct carbon emissions. The Council already purchases its electricity from 100% renewable sources. It will be using the Climate Citizens Assembly to work with people from across the city to develop approaches to reduce city-wide emissions, as the Tyndall Centre report noted that reductions are required from across all sectors of our city in order to achieve our 2030 zero carbon city goal.

2. How frequently are public dustbins emptied (a) on streets, (b) in parks, and what criteria are used to determine these frequencies? How frequently are streets cleaned and what criteria are used to determine these frequencies?

Public litter bins on the highway are emptied on a variety of frequencies, ranging from hourly in the city centre to less frequently in rural locations. Much emptying happens overnight and out of hours to reduce the impact of our operations in busy area.

Frequency of attendance is based on a number of factors including footfall of the area, prevailing litter levels, whether it is a route to school, shop site or the number of takeaway premises in the vicinity.

Bin sensors are in the process of being installed across all highway litter bins to provide dynamic monitoring of fill levels and pattern analysis to further refine the routing of emptying teams.

Bins in parks are emptied depending on the footfall for the site.

3. A tiny 0.8% of journeys in Sheffield are currently made by cycle and 7.2% walking. Given that this Council has declared a Climate Emergency, what plans do you have to reduce the number of journeys made by car/van, which currently amounts to 64% of all journeys?

The Council position is set out in the Sheffield Transport Strategy, adopted by Cabinet in March 2019.

The afore-mentioned strategy notes that, given work undertaken by other local authorities, we anticipate the Climate Emergency is likely to fundamentally challenge the degree to which we can facilitate travel as we have become accustomed to – it is not simply a matter of modal shift.

This further work will need to be undertaken as the Council's wider policies, in particular in respect of the economy and of land use planning, are reviewed in light of climate emergency. This will need to be an iterative process – land-use and economic policy are drivers for transport demand that transport strategy must respond to; however, these will also be constrained by what is possible in respect of transport in a decarbonisation scenario.

Questions of Councillor Martin Smith to Councillor Mazher Iqbal (Cabinet Member for Business and Investment)

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| 1. Under which legislation has the Council taken enforcement action on the scaffolding on Chapel Walk and Fargate? | Section 143 of the Highways Act 1980 (Power to remove structures from highways). |
| 2. With regards to the HOC2, how much interest has been paid or accrued to date on the money the Council is borrowing to fund the project? | I will provide you with a written response and publish the answer on the Council's website. |

Question of Councillor Cliff Woodcraft to Councillor Bob Johnson (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

It is now nearly three years since a teenage child was involved in a road traffic accident while crossing Hangingwater Road on the way to school. This resulted in a fractured arm and leg with many weeks lost schooling. The junction with Whiteley Road on Hangingwater Road is the only place that pedestrians can cross and is notoriously difficult. Tens of school children make this crossing every day and the Council have informed parents that it is too dangerous to provide a crossing warden. Please can you let me know when works to make a safer crossing place will take place?

A list of assessed pedestrian crossing sites is being drawn up for a decision as to which ones and how many it is possible to take forward in 2019/20 and 2020/21 - Hangingwater is one of these locations under consideration.

Question of Councillor Sue Auckland to Councillor Bob Johnson (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

Following the intended withdrawal of First bus service 19, did you make any representations concerning this further reduction in services to residents of Graves Park Ward and other parts of the city?

The decision to reduce bus services across the city was a commercial one made by First and was not subject to consultation with Members or the public.

Questions of Councillor Ian Auckland to Councillor Bob Johnson (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

1. The web page concerning the Emerging Draft Sheffield Plan states as follows - "Consultation on the Draft Policies and Site Options document (under Regulation 18) will now take place in 2019. The overall timetable is currently being reviewed." What degree of assurance do you place on the words "will now take place in 2019"?
2. Are you able to give any further detail regarding "overall timetable is currently being reviewed"?
3. At the July Council meeting, I asked about major bus service changes and (in part) your reply was "If changes

A new Local Development Scheme (the timetable for the plan) will be published this autumn.

See answer above

We do not support the current changes.

were proposed which we did not support we would consider our options. We could consider withdrawing from the partnership if we believed it would help to provide a better bus service until franchising can be implemented, which I think everyone agrees is the right way forward in the long term". I am assuming "changes were proposed which we did not support" so what consideration of options has/is taken place?

We are currently considering our options and I hope to provide a more detailed update shortly

4. Please confirm that the priorities of Parking Services for enforcement remain as follows:-
(The list is from Dec 2009)

Priority Type of Restriction

- 1 Bus lanes and bus stops/bays
- 2 Peak period waiting and loading
- 3 Single/double yellow on strategic routes
- 4 School zigzags – included on TRO's
- 5 Residents' permit spaces
- 6 Pedestrianised Areas waiting/loading
- 7 Pedestrianised Areas taxi ranks, blue badge
- 8 Pay and Display.
- 9 Road junctions – where restrictions exist.
- 10 District shopping areas – any restrictions
- 11 Double yellow on non-strategic routes
- 12 Environmental
- 13 All others

This list is contained in the parking enforcement policy which was published in 2009. The policy is being reviewed and will be published later this year. This gives the opportunity to confirm our priorities for enforcement going forward.

Changes to enforcement powers and technology since 2009 allows enforcement resources to be deployed more efficiently now and resources would cover more than one priority listed above. For example, the CCTV camera car would cover Bus Stops and Bus Lanes on the way to and on the way back from doing School Keep Clear enforcement.

Generally, we will use our enforcement resources for the highest ranking restrictions. We will also, wherever possible, be guided by requests from members of the public for attention at certain locations. However, we will prioritise those requests.

Deployment priorities always include schools, bus lanes, bus stops, arterial routes in peak periods, resident permit zones and the city centre.

5. Do Parking Services exercise powers of "clamping" and "towing away"? If so, how are these powers exercised? If records are available, how often have

Parking Services use powers to remove vehicles mainly to support Streets Ahead roadworks. Vehicles are removed to a secure compound

these powers been used in the last 12 months? And the last 5 years?

until the owner returns to collect the vehicle. In the last 12 months, 108 vehicles have been removed. In total in the last 5 years 1,481 have been removed.

We do not use clamping.

6. What additional measures, if any, are taken against “repeat offenders” who, for example, simply ignore restrictions such as bus lanes?

Legislation doesn’t allow for any additional measures for repeat offenders. The value of fines Parking Services can impose are set by national legislation. We will pursue the PCN through various levels of increased costs, before passing to Enforcement Agents to settle if the registered keeper has not either paid the PCN or appealed it.

Questions of Councillor Martin Smith to Councillor Bob Johnson (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

1. Will the installation of signage for new HGV restrictions across the city take place in September as previously stated?

Officers have reported a small delay in securing all the necessary internal permissions. However, the detailed design of the schemes has now been completed and approved. A construction task order was issued to Amey to erect signing on 30th August. It is now expected that signs will start to appear in October this year. Once complete, this will introduce four 7.5 tonne environmental weight restrictions around the City to protect residential areas from HGV nuisance.

2. Does the Council have an estimate of how many vehicle movements are expected to re-route to avoid the proposed Clean Air Zone once charging is in place and, if so, what is it?

An appraisal of the potential number of trips that reroute as a result of CAZ proposals has been assessed through the feasibility study.

This indicates that for our Preferred Option of a CAZ C+ proposal that approximately 3,500 trips may re-route and that for a CAZ D approximately 17,000 trips could re-route.

3. Why does the Council not publish the

As the question suggests, pre-

results of a pre-planning application alongside any subsequent full planning application?

application enquires are treated as confidential and, whilst a summary of these discussions can at times accompany the supporting information submitted with an application, or may even be summarised in an officer report, they are not made available for public viewing as standard practice.

As the scheme applied for is often a reflection of the pre-application discussions, it is not felt there is a need to make all this information available.

If a scheme does not reflect the pre-application discussions it would either:

- be resisted and clear reasons for this will be set out in the public domain at this time.
- be subject of further discussions, which again this would be available for public viewing via the on-line planning pages at this time.

4. Once a planning application has been submitted, and the existence of pre-planning advice has been made public, can residents obtain the contents of that advice under FOI or EOI legislation?

Yes, assuming the information requested complies with the relevant guidance associated with this legislation.

Question of Councillor Mike Levery to Councillor Bob Johnson (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

The recently published bus timetable from September 2019 has drastically reduced services in the North of Sheffield, doubling the waiting time and removing completely services 35 and 1a. Buses to Hillsborough and Sheffield from Grenoside are now hourly and have been re-routed away from the main shopping areas in Hillsborough. This has a significant effect on pensioners reliant on bus services for shopping and appointments. Which other communities in Sheffield have

The decision to reduce bus services across the city was a commercial one made by First and was not subject to consultation with Members or the public.

seen bus waiting times double, and which communities only have hourly services to their nearest shopping centre or the city centre?

Questions of Councillor Richard Shaw to Councillor Bob Johnson (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

1. According to a Judgment made by the Court of Appeal in the case of R v Cambridge City Council ex parte Lane (1999), pedicabs outside of London fall under the definition of a Hackney Carriage under the [Town Police Clauses Act 1847](#) and must be licensed as Hackney Carriages. Does Sheffield City Council permit pedicabs to be licensed to operate in Sheffield as Hackney Carriages?

Applications are dealt with on their own individual merits. Strictly they would not comply with current vehicle specification but any applications would be dealt with individually without any pre determination. We are open to applications being made.
2. If yes, how many pedicabs have been licensed by Sheffield City Council in each of the past 5 municipal years?

None
3. There have been more than 600 reported incidents of people crashing or being injured while cycling along or crossing the Sheffield tram network since January 2015. What will you be doing to reduce the number of cycle crashes and injuries on the Sheffield tram network?

Following a review of the reported locations where cyclists were having accidents, we installed a number of signs warning that cyclists could trip or slip on tram rails. Our approach has been to consider improvements to parallel routes, making these more attractive and legible for cyclists. The main scheme we have implemented is the Portobello cycle route which has seen a high quality cycle route implemented parallel to West Street. This scheme will be extended into the city via Trippett Lane over the next year.

Further to the Portobello scheme our ask of Government through the Transforming Cities Fund
4. Do you have a target goal for reduction of the number of incidents?

We do have targets to reduce accidents that result in fatalities, serious and slight injuries accidents but not a separate and specific

reduction target related to the tram related incidents.

Questions of Councillor Angela Argenzio to Councillor Bob Johnson (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

1. What feasibility study, if any, has been undertaken to assess the impact of the proposed Clean Air Zone (CAZ) on areas just outside it that already experience a very high air pollution index?

The feasibility study for CAZ has considered the whole area of Sheffield and Rotherham.

Whilst the zone itself is around the City Centre the benefits associated with it, and upgrading the vehicles that our class C+ CAZ, will have air quality benefits beyond the City Centre and will achieve compliance to EU threshold levels across the whole of Sheffield.
2. How will the Cabinet address the impact that air pollution is having on the health of citizens in areas just outside the CAZ, especially young children and the elderly, and what will be done to mitigate the damage to people's health caused by high concentration of harmful gases?

The CAZ is required to implement improvements to air quality related to road transport in the shortest possible time to meet the compliant levels of air quality we need to deliver. Our Clean Air Strategy set out ambitions for ongoing improvement in air quality. Further proposals will be brought forward aligned to transport and other investment programmes and this will also align to the work to define the response to the Climate Change Emergency.

Questions of Councillor Douglas Johnson to Councillor Bob Johnson (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

1. How many job losses are envisaged in the Planning Department restructure?

A review of the Planning Service was launched for consultation with staff and unions on 1st August. A collective dispute has since been lodged which effectively pauses the process until the dispute has been considered by Members. In the circumstances it would be inappropriate to provide details of the proposals at this stage.
 2. Will you assure me that the full expertise of officers in the Urban Design, Conservation and Access for
- As 1 above.

disabled people will be maintained?

3. What equality assessment has been made in respect of the proposal regarding the Access officers? As 1 above.
4. What steps have been taken to ensure that the Council complies with the public sector equality duty? As 1 above.
5. What is the current proposal to support the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service? As 1 above.
6. Has the Administration considered raising the amounts charged to large property developers for pre-application advice, as suggested in the Green Councillors' 2019 budget proposal?

The pre-application process can only lawfully be run on a cost recovery basis. It is not a route for additional revenue generation.

Recently we have been assessing the charges set to ensure the cost recovery levels are fit for purpose and we do feel this needs to be revisited as there is a degree of undercharging. This will be addressed as part of a wider review of the pre-application offer.

More work will be done on this over the coming months. However, the difference in respect of cost recovery is not anticipated as being significant.
7. Will you honour the request made by the Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee in January 2019, in relation to the Inner Ring Road widening, that the Cabinet Member for Transport and Development “supply the Air Quality modelling to the Committee once it has been certified accurate by Government; produces scheme outcome monitoring information on this scheme and presents it to the Committee, as well as make available to the Committee on an annual basis, monitoring and evaluation for all transport infrastructure schemes.”?

I will ask officers to provide details of the Air Quality analysis for the Inner Ring Road scheme to Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee, and also to provide an update to committee on scheme outcome monitoring.

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| 8. Will you honour the commitment of your predecessor, at the same meeting, to “provide an updated note on the issues that had been raised, and items of interest [about widening the Inner Ring Road] and would make sure that the note was available in the public domain.”? | Again I will raise this with officers to ensure that a note is provided on any outstanding matters raised at Scrutiny Committee. I will also ask for this to be made publicly available. |
| 9. How many homes were approved for planning permission in each of 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 to date? | I will provide a written response to this question which will be published on the Councils website |
| 10. Of these, for each year, how many met the Government's affordable housing definition? | I will provide a written response to this question which will be published on the Councils website |

Questions of Councillor Paul Turpin to Councillor Bob Johnson (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

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| 1. What environmental assessment was made of building on greenfield sites on the Owlthorpe development? | <p>The principle of new housing at the Moorthorpe Way sites at Owlthorpe has long been established and the sites were subsequently allocated for housing in the Unitary Development Plan adopted in 1998.</p> <p>A Planning and Design Brief for the sites was approved by the Council's Planning and Highways Committee in July 2014 following extensive public consultation with the local community, including groups such as the Owlthorpe Community Forum.</p> <p>Technical appraisal was undertaken as part of the work on this Planning and Design Brief which highlighted all relevant issues including open space assessment, environmental projects such as the Owlthorpe Heritage and Nature Trail, archaeology, noise, contaminated land, landscape character and ecology, trees and ancient woodland, access and movement and sustainable urban drainage systems.</p> |
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2. Has the planning application for this green belt land been withdrawn, as it no longer appears on the planning portal?

All the relevant issues will be considered carefully as part of a planning application and the public will have the opportunity to comment at that stage too.

This site is not within the Green Belt.

An application is with us covering Site E and is currently invalid whilst we await additional information. Once received the application will be available to view.

3 Bearing in mind the study by Bristol City Council into the Clean Air Zone (CAZ) that Euro 6 vehicles fail real life tests and that the Class C CAZ will fail to meet targets, will Sheffield City Council consider a Class D CAZ?

We are aware of issues related to the performance of engine technology and part of our CAZ C+ proposals relate to setting higher standards for Hackney Black Cabs as a result of this.

Our modelling and emissions assumptions have to meet Government requirements for appraisal and we are taking our scheme forward on this basis.

4. Can sufficient EV charging points be added to the plan to encourage people to switch their vehicles? 22 new points in taxi ranks is not as good as the 200 being planned in Nottingham.

A number of the electric vehicle charging points are being funded specifically to enable taxis to upgrade to electric vehicles.

We will be seeking funding for additional electric vehicles charge points from Government and also through developments within the city.

5. Do you agree that 0.2% of the target CO2 reductions, as stated by the Tyndall Centre, which is projected to be achieved by dimming street lights once the trial is rolled out across the whole city, is woefully inadequate to tackle the climate crisis and shouldn't be promoted as a major policy to do so?

Clearly in responding to the urgent issues related to Climate Change, significantly more will need to be done, but there are CO2 reduction benefits arising from this initiative, which it is appropriate to highlight as one of the outcomes from it.

6. What overtures have you made to Mayor Dan Jarvis regarding bringing the

We have been invited to submit evidence to the Sheffield City Region

buses back into public ownership?

Mayor's Bus Review setting out how buses in Sheffield need to operate to provide the best service to people in Sheffield.

The Transport Act 2017 specifically precludes direct public control over the operation of bus services by a local authority (e.g. a Council owned company running bus services). We have passed motions in this chamber stating our opposition to this and believe that publically owned bus companies should be allowed.

Question of Councillor Sue Auckland to Councillor Mary Lea (Cabinet Member for Culture, Parks and Leisure)

Have officers in the Library Service made any written/formal/verbal representation to the Woodseats Doctors practice, owners of the Woodseats Library building, to make arrangements for the prompt removal of the graffiti from the external walls of the library building, either by the practice directly or by the Library Service?

Yes. Woodseats Medical Centre have confirmed that the building owners are exploring a number of specialist options regarding the removal of the graffiti. They will keep the Library and local MP informed.

Questions of Councillor Martin Phipps to Councillor George Lindars-Hammond
(Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care)

1. Are you aware that GPs are concerned about lack of contact and updates after referring patients to mental health treatment?

These questions relate in the main to clinical mental health services which are primarily commissioned and delivered by the NHS. These services are under huge pressure from this Government's austerity programme and the national funding for mental health services is nothing short of a scandal.

However, as a Council we are increasingly working more closely with our colleagues in the NHS regarding mental health and other services, and will continue to do so. I have been able to raise the points you have made with them, particularly with Sheffield Health and Social Care Trust.

2. Are you aware that the Single Point of Access for mental health referrals in Sheffield currently has only stand-in psychiatrists? What is being done by the Council to help improve this situation for the staff psychiatrists and referrers?

We all want people who are experiencing a mental health crisis to get a timely and appropriate response. Over the summer, in response to the increased pressure, there has been a significant increase in staffing across community mental health services, including the single point of access, in order to better meet the increased demand and referrals. I understand that the Single Point of Access now has a substantive consultant psychiatrist in post. All referrals to the single point of access are triaged by experienced and qualified mental health professionals, taking into account clinical risk factors and patient history.

3. Are you aware that GPs have contacted crisis care to be told they will receive a call back within 24 hours? Do you believe this is acceptable given at this point a person may be suicidal and their life may be at risk? Do you think this is acceptable and in line with Sheffield

There are emergency slots available every day if necessary. Since the Spring, a new psychiatric assessment facility has been opened at the Northern General Hospital close to the Emergency Department, where patients can be taken for

suicide prevention strategies?

assessment, observation or treatment out of hours.

4. Are you aware that following the transition of crisis care management the phone system no longer records how many calls go unanswered?

I am informed that the telephone system within the single point of access is being upgraded to allow it to better manage the high level of contacts it is now getting, and dedicated call handlers are being recruited to improve the situation.

5. Are you aware that at last year's "Suicide Prevention: A Big Conversation" meeting people of Sheffield voiced that they felt overwhelmingly interactions with crisis care had been negative and that people at the brink had been told to "eat an apple"?

This is clearly not in line with the support I would expect any citizen to receive from the NHS or other services. I have not been able to find further details of this so I am happy to pick this up with you to properly investigate.