

Council Questions – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012

NOS.	FROM COUNCILLOR	CABINET MEMBER	SUBJECT
<b>Rule 10.1</b>	<b><u>Written Questions</u></b>		
8.	Taylor	Children and Young People	Commitment to school spending.
9.	Emment	Community Safety	Complaints to LGA Ombudsman.
10.	Millican	Finance & Performance	Allocation of London Borough Grant Scheme.
11.	Costello	Finance & Performance	Deficit of Ealing Council Pension Fund.
12.	Taylor	Finance & Performance	Budget Strategy Savings – Shared Services and Collaboration.
13.	Stacey	Finance & Performance	Council accounts held abroad.
14.	Costello	Housing	Housing Forum Meetings.
15.	Taylor	Housing	Council's 'Housing Commission.'
16.	Millican	Housing	Use of the Localism Act to alleviate Housing issues
17.	Costello	Leader	Voting at Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings.
18.	Ball	Leader	Ealing Cinema Site - CPO.
19.	Stacey	Leader	Meeting with Tesco to discuss proposed redevelopment of Greenford Broadway.
20.	Sumner	Transport and Environment	Purchase of Allotment land in Acton.

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NOS.	FROM COUNCILLOR	CABINET MEMBER	SUBJECT
<b>Rule 10.1</b>			
21.	Ball	Transport and Environment	Update on Funding Bids for Gunnersbury Park Regeneration.
22.	Young	Transport and Environment	'Pay and display' Sites.
23.	Costello	Transport and Environment	Park Volunteers.
24.	Taylor	Transport and Environment	Cost of repaving Southall Broadway.
25.	Taylor	Transport and Environment	Hamborough Road Car Park – Expenditure/Takings.
26.	Millican	Transport and Environment	Government's scheme to apply a daily charge for street works obstructing traffic.
27.	Stacey	Transport and Environment	Meetings with the Department of Transport to discuss HS2.
28.	Stacey	Transport and Environment	Pilot of 20mph speed limit along Greenford Road.

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

**QUESTION NO. 8**

**COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012**

**QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Phil Taylor  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)**

**TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR – Children and Young People**

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### QUESTION

Please give the total new project commitment to school building, maintenance and refurbishment during the four years 2007 to 2011 when the Conservative administration set this budget. Please give the total contribution in grants from central government to these projects in the same period.

Please give the total new project commitment to school building, maintenance and refurbishment during the four years 2011 to 2015 now that a Labour administration sets this budget. Please give the total contribution in grants from central government to these projects in the same period.

Please list projects and sources of capital for each.

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### **ANSWER**

Total actual schools capital spend from 2007/08 to 2010/11 was £105.5m, £68m of which was funded from grant.

Budgeted schools capital spend from 2011/12 to 2014/15 is estimated at £269.3m. The budget requires a grant contribution from government of £169.9m which has not been agreed at this stage. The Council will be lobbying central government to press its case for more grant and I would welcome the support from all parties in achieving the funding the Council needs.

The projects are listed on the attached spreadsheet.

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

### QUESTION NO. 9

COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012

QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Sue Emmet  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)

TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR – Community Services,  
Safety

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### QUESTION

In terms of number of complaints to the Local Government Ombudsmen for 2010/11, please can you provide the following?

- 1) What position Ealing ranked when compared to other London Boroughs?
- 2) A breakdown down of the complaints by directorates

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### **ANSWER**

In 2010/11 Ealing was ranked the 29<sup>th</sup> borough out of 33 London boroughs and The Greater London Authority. As London's third largest borough, with a population greater than many cities, we would expect more complaints than smaller areas, but are pleased the number has dropped consistently since 2010. Last year the council watchdog, the Local Government Ombudsman, upheld less than a third of cases.

The Local Government Ombudsman Annual review letter to Ealing stated that the average response time resulting from formal enquiries was 26.4 days. This was an improvement on last year and within their requested timescale of 28 days.

Ealing received 129 Ombudsman complaints in 2010/11 none were found to have caused maladministration or injustice:

- Adult Care Services – 9 complaints
- Benefits & Tax – 7 complaints
- Corporate & Other Services – 2 complaints
- Education & Children Services – 17 complaints
- Environmental Services & Public Protection & Regulations – 13 complaints
- Highways & Transport - 20 complaints
- Housing – 34 complaints

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Other – 3 complaints

Planning & Development – 13 complaints

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

**QUESTION NO. 10**

**COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012**

**QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – David Millican  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)**

**TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR – Finance and Performance**

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### QUESTION

How much of repatriated settlement from the London Borough Grant Scheme will be allocated to the voluntary sector in the Borough this year and next financial year?

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### **ANSWER**

At its meeting in January 2011 Cabinet agreed that the anticipated reduction of £527k in Ealing's contribution to the London Borough Grants Scheme (LBGS) would be ring fenced for the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in 2011/12 only. To facilitate local transitional funding arrangements for the VCS for 2011/12. The actual funds repatriated in 2011/12 were slightly less as a result of changes following the judicial review, c.£497k, this amount has been allocated to the VCS through the Community Grants budget.

At its meeting in April 2011 Cabinet further approved that from 2012/13 £200k of the returned London Councils funding (LBGS) be permanently added to the Community Grants budget. From 2012/13 the £200k has been added to the Community Grants budget."

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

QUESTION NO. 11

COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012

QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Colm Costello  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)

TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR – Finance and Performance

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### QUESTION

How many millions is the Ealing Council pension fund in deficit?

How much has the council paid into the councils pension scheme in each of the last 3 years including the current year, not including staff contributions? Total figure please, not percentage.

How much has staff paid into the pension scheme in each of the last 3 financial years, including this year? Total figure paid in by all staff combined, not percentage please.

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### **ANSWER**

At the last triennial valuation (2010) London Borough of Ealing Pension Fund had a deficit of £258m (a funding level of 70%). Employer contribution breakdown:

	<b>2009-10 (£m)</b>	<b>2010-11 (£m)</b>	<b>2011- 2012 (£m - forecast)</b>
<b>Employer Contributions</b>			
Ealing Council*	23.6	21.9	22.7

Employee contribution breakdown:

	<b>2009-10 (£m)</b>	<b>2010-11 (£m)</b>	<b>2011- 2012 (£m - forecast)</b>
<b>Employee Contributions</b>			
Ealing Council*	7.9	7.7	7.7

\*Includes schools that use Ealing's payroll system.

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

QUESTION NO. 12

COUNCIL MEETING – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012

QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Phil Taylor  
 UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
 PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)

TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR – Finance and Performance

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### QUESTION

The Budget Strategy 2011/12 report considered on 24<sup>th</sup> January listed £3,118K of savings due to shared services and collaboration. Could the portfolio give a breakdown of where this number comes from? A list of projects and the value of each one with weightings, etc where appropriate.

### ANSWER

Dept	Description of Saving	2012/13 £'000	2013/14 £'000	2014/15 £'000	Total £'000
Children's	<b>SEN Home to Schools Transport</b> - To achieve savings of £910k through cross borough sharing of transport routes as part of the WLA Transport Efficiency Programme. This work is commencing in September 2011.	77	833		<b>910</b>
Children's	<b>Efficiencies in LAC and Care Leaver placements and in SEN boarding and day schools placements</b> - working across the WLA on two key priority areas, to improve and rationalise procurement for Looked After Children and Care Leavers placements and Special Educational Needs placements.		1,050		<b>1,050</b>

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Adults	<b>Transport Contract Re provision</b> - New contract arrangements to be established across WLA authorities. Efficiencies to be achieved through re-design and re-commissioning of services on more collaborative basis	100			<b>100</b>
Customer Services	<b>Customer Service Operations</b> - Explore opportunities for outsourcing contact services.			250	<b>250</b>
Customer Services	<b>Leisure and libraries procurement</b> - Options for the future delivery of the leisure and libraries services (subject to approval at December cabinet). Linked to Environment & Leisure saving ref 14.		233		<b>233</b>
Environm't & Leisure	<b>Leisure and libraries procurement</b> - Options for the future delivery of the leisure and libraries services (subject to approval at December cabinet). Linked to Customer Services saving ref 6.		250		<b>250</b>
Parking	<b>Back office / BPU</b> - Review potential areas of back office & document management processes that can be market tested & assessed for potential out-sourcing.		250		<b>250</b>
Business Services	<b>One Agresso</b> - hosted service. Reduction in Serco Support costs.			75	<b>75</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>Shared Services &amp; Collaboration</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>2,616</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>3,118</b>

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

**QUESTION NO. 13**

**COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012**

**QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Jason Stacey**  
**UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE**  
**PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)**

**TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR – Finance and Performance**

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### QUESTION

Would the Cabinet Member for Finance tell us the total amount the Council hold in accounts in other countries as at 31 January 2012? Could she please list the countries including the amount held in accounts in each of the countries?

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### **ANSWER**

The Council does not hold any accounts/investments in other countries as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012 with the exception of the £2m in Iceland, which is being returned shortly.

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

**QUESTION NO. 14**

**COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012**

**QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Colm Costello**  
**UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE**  
**PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)**

**TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR – Housing**

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### QUESTION

How many housing forum meetings have been held in 2011/12?

Does this forum keep minutes and if yes, where are the minutes published and when were they first published?

Are housing forum meetings held in public? If yes, can member of the public attend and where are the meeting noticed published?

What is the membership of the housing forum and how was it decided?

Where is the term of reference fro the housing forum?

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### **ANSWER**

The Cabinet Member for Housing is responsible to Council for the performance of the Housing service. It is the responsibility of the opposition for holding the administration to account. At the December council meeting there was not one question from the opposition about housing. The Housing Forum is not a replacement for that scrutiny.

I am committed to putting tenants and residents at the heart of driving the performance of the new housing service and to see greater engagement from sections of the borough that have been underrepresented in the past.

I would like to thank all the Housing Forum members for their hard work over the last 12 months on ensuring that the housing service performance has been maintained during a time of significant change.

The group is comprised of six independent resident Scrutiny Panel Chairs (tenants and leaseholders), Cllr Wendy Langan and an independent member with specific skills in the housing field.

## Council Questions – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012

The Housing Forum was set up to monitor service delivery during the re-integration of Ealing Homes has rapidly established itself as a key sounding board for the Cabinet Member for Housing to ensure that the service is moving in the right direction . The group does not have any formal decision making powers nor does it make any formal recommendations.

The Forum has met three times since April 2011, although not a public group yet, the group operates within an agreed terms of reference and each meeting has an agenda and minutes that act as an aide for the chair and the group to stimulate discussion and focus. Their focus over the next 12 months is to ensure that the wider resident body is able to access and share the information of how their service operates and performs. This is likely to include formal minutes of the forum meetings and performance data from across the housing service.

In the longer term the ambition is for resident engagement to be wider and for this group to evolve into a public body. We are looking to develop models involving residents from across the wide spectrum of housing tenures and all areas of the borough.

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

**QUESTION NO. 15**

**COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012**

**QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Phil Taylor  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)**

**TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR – Housing**

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### QUESTION

On 14<sup>th</sup> June last year I asked some questions on the council's housing commission. Since then the public has not heard one word on the housing commission. Its final report was due at the end of last year. Where is it? We were promised an "appropriate public forum to review the commission's recommendations and conclusions". What happened to that? How much of the commission's £25K budget has been spent and what on?

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### **ANSWER**

I would like to record my thanks to the Housing Commission Members who gave up their time to take part in the Commission. This was a good initiative on the part of the Administration to reflect on the changes in housing and the impact they would have upon Ealing.

The final meeting of Ealing's Housing Commission was held on 19 January 2012. This meeting reviewed the draft report of the commission and discussed the key recommendations.

A final draft of the report, reflecting the agreed recommendations of the commission, is currently being prepared and is expected to be complete before the end of February.

Once the report is complete the commission's recommendations and an action plan for implementation will be presented to Scrutiny for comment prior to going to Cabinet.

However, a number of actions that the commission has supported are already underway:

- The Council is reviewing its allocations policy so that those who are in employment or volunteer can get higher priority, so that we reward people who contribute to Ealing.
- A council led regeneration option is being explored for Copley Close
- The Council has consulted on its tenancy and rents strategy, which has been informed by the Housing Commission

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The Housing Commission will cost £25K in total and we are on target to meet this budget. This includes the cost of:

- Secretariat for the Commission including minute taking, background papers, preparation of presentations
- Specifically commissioned research papers to support the work of the Commission
- No expenses are being paid to commissioners
- Writing of final report

The Housing Commission was set up to look at the key issues in Housing Policy at the moment. The Coalition government is embarking on some of the most radical changes to housing policy in recent history. At the same time it has cut capital funding for housing and regeneration by 75%. Therefore, the Council has decided to review its options so that it can continue to meet the needs of Ealing Residents.

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

**QUESTION NO. 16**

**COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012**

**QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – David Millican  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)**

**TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR – Housing**

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### QUESTION

What plans does the Council have to use the terms of the Localism Act to help alleviate housing issues in the borough?

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### **ANSWER**

The Council has set out its clear response to the challenges of the Localism Act in a report to Cabinet, 10 January 2012. This shows that in Housing we intend to revise our Allocations Policy and will also be bringing a Tenancy Strategy to Cabinet for approval.

Far from alleviating housing issues in the borough, the Localism Bill and welfare reform proposals presents the council with several challenges to its services.

The predominant concern remains the introduction of Universal Credit and the blanket capping of overall benefit at £500 per week. This will affect nearly 4,000 households in the borough; some will be over £550 per week worse off.

This has placed unneeded pressure on Housing and Benefit teams resources with staff directed to work to help those likely to be worse off under the new regime. The Council is visiting all households most affected by the cuts and holding workshops for other households significantly affected.

In addition, the Council expects to see increased numbers of people presenting as homeless, potentially higher numbers of families placed in temporary accommodation and as many as 100 families having to move outside of the borough.

**Summary of actions in relation to the localism bill**

- Implementing HRA reforms to establish a self financing through agreeing a medium term HRA financial strategy (MTFS) for 2012 to 2014 and revising the 30-year business model
- consulting on and agreeing a revised allocations policy. The Localism act provides local authorities now have greater freedom to set their own policies about who should qualify, who has priority and should go on their waiting list.
- responding to the various consultation papers connected to the Localism Act
- Looking to discharge duty in the PRS to approved properties, where a person does not have a long-term vulnerability.
- consulting on and agreeing a Tenancy Strategy to set out a framework as to what types of tenancy and rent levels should be offered in the borough by social housing providers, and in what circumstances.

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

**QUESTION NO. 17**

**COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012**

**QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Colm Costello  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)**

**TO – Leader**

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### QUESTION

Will the Leader please detail his understanding of the process that Members of Overview and Scrutiny must follow if they want an issue to be put to a vote during an overview and scrutiny committee meeting?

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### **ANSWER**

The procedures for OSC are set out in the Scrutiny Procedure Rules ([http://www2.ealing.gov.uk/ealing3/export/sites/ealingweb/services/council/council\\_constitutions/docs/part4scrutprocedurerules.doc](http://www2.ealing.gov.uk/ealing3/export/sites/ealingweb/services/council/council_constitutions/docs/part4scrutprocedurerules.doc)) and in the Council and Committee Procedure Rules ([http://www2.ealing.gov.uk/ealing3/export/sites/ealingweb/services/council/council\\_constitutions/docs/part4council\\_and\\_committee\\_procedures.doc](http://www2.ealing.gov.uk/ealing3/export/sites/ealingweb/services/council/council_constitutions/docs/part4council_and_committee_procedures.doc)).

It is for the chair of a meeting to interpret the procedure rules as they are to be applied at that meeting, although s/he will be given advice from officers where appropriate. This is particularly important, as no set of rules can cover all eventualities.

Whether or not it is appropriate for an issue to be put to a vote will usually be a matter for the chair to determine. For example, if a matter is not already on the agenda then there are procedures (see in particular rule 8 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules) by which it can be added to the agenda – provided appropriate notice has been given to enable a report to be published in the usual way. If the point on which a vote is sought already forms a recommendation within a report on the agenda then that recommendation should normally be considered and voted upon by the committee, unless it has been withdrawn by the report author.

## EALING COUNCIL WRITTEN QUESTION

### QUESTION 18

COUNCIL MEETING – 31 Jan 2012

QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Jon Ball  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)

TO – LEADER

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### QUESTION

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Will the Leader please advise the timeline for Compulsory Purchase of the Ealing Cinema site in light of Empire's continued failure to develop it and refusal to come before OSC to explain reasons for the delay?

The process would take a minimum of 6 months but possibly more than a year from the date on which a decision to make an order is made depending on the nature of any objections and in particular whether an inquiry is held.

The timeline for the CPO process will depend on a number of factors including whether a public inquiry is required or not and which particular procedure is followed once an order is confirmed.

Below is the following table, which give a broad indication of minimum timescales for CPOs generally where a General Vesting Declaration is made. Attached link to the relevant government guidance of the CPO process, which includes timescales.

CPO PROCEDURE - LIST OF STEPS WITH MINIMUM TIMESCALES  
GVD ROUTE

	<b>Step</b>	<b>Period Required</b>
1	"Referencing" letters go out to establish the identity of all leaseholders, tenants, occupiers and mortgagees.	Allow up to 1-4 months to allow for slow or inaccurate responses depending on scale of CPO and complexity of title.
2	Draft, Order, Statement of Reasons and draw Order Map	In parallel with referencing
3	"Make" (i.e. seal and date) Compulsory Purchase Order	Can be done as soon as steps 1 and 2 are completed.
4	Publish in two successive weeks in the local newspaper a notice stating that the order has been made and affix similar notice to the premises.	Initial ad can be placed within, say, 10 days of making the order

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5	Serve similar notice on qualifying persons together with a copy of the statement of reasons	To be done as soon as possible after making the order
6	Submit CPO to the Secretary of State for confirmation once the period for objections has expired (NB the objection period must be not less than 21 days).	Min.3 weeks after completing step 5.
7.	If there are relevant objections (not withdrawn or disregarded) the Secretary of State may require a public inquiry or	Allow minimum of 6 months
8.	Confirmation of Order (assuming no public inquiry)	Allow 2 months
9.	On confirmation of the order, publish affix and serve further statutory notices. The order will come into operation when the first press notice appears	Ad can be placed within, say, 10 days of making the order
10.	The validity of a CPO can be questioned in the High Court for six weeks from the day on which it comes into operation on the ground that it is ultra vires or that the procedure has been faulty	CPO process can be continued during the 6 week period, assuming no challenge.
11.	Non-statutory step - write to the leaseholders and occupiers before following the GVD procedure notifying them of the Council's intention and outlining the procedure.	Can be done once Order is confirmed.
12.	Publish and serve "Notice of Intention" (to execute a General Vesting Declaration)	Ditto
13.	Register the Notice of Intention as a local Land Charge	As soon as the notice is served/published
14.	Execute GVD not less than two months after the publication/service of the Notice of Intention).	Min 2 months after step 12.
15.	Once the GVD has been executed serve notice confirming this.	Can be done more or less immediately
16.	GVD takes effect on a the expiry of a period of 28 days or more (which is specified in the GVD) after the date on which the notice described in 15 is served.	Min. 28 days after 14
17	Serve 14 day Notices of Entry on remaining leaseholders/occupiers	Any time after completion of step 16
18	Serve notice to treat and 14 days notice of entry on any tenants under a 'minor' tenancies' or 'long tenancies about to expire'	Any time after completion of step 16
19.	Obtain possession (with aid of High Court enforcement officers if necessary)	After 14 day notice of entry has expired (and reasonable final warning)
20.	Misc. tidying up - redeeming mortgages, making compensation payments, arranging closure of leasehold titles, Lands Tribunal hearings to settle compensation etc.	

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/147639.pdf>

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

**QUESTION NO 19**

**COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012**

**QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Jason Stacey**  
**UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE**  
**PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)**

**TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR – Leader**

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### QUESTION

How times since May 2010 has the Leader met with representative from Tesco to discuss their proposed redevelopment at Greenford Broadway?

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### **ANSWER**

There were no meetings arranged between the Leader and Tesco, but can confirm meetings were arranged and attended by council officers on the dates above. Legal documentation has been agreed in principal,

- . 11th May 2010
- . 9th November 2010
- . 30th November 2010
- . 18th January 2011
- . 26th January 2011
- . 2nd March 2011
- . 5th April 2011
- . 3rd May 2011
- . 7th June 2011
- . 13th July 2011

All the legal issues have now been resolved after the cabinet threatened to use its CPO powers and we are now waiting for the final sign off from the Tesco board following which we will have an announcement in a few weeks times on the specific timetable going forward towards completion.

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

QUESTION NO 20

COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012

QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Nigel Summer  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)

TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR – Transport and Environment

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### QUESTION

**Given the very great shortage of allotment land in Acton, is the Portfolio Holder aware that an important piece of private allotment land in Acton comes to auction on the 16<sup>th</sup> February? The guide price is £25k. Will the Council consider this purchase? Will the S106 (£50k) from the Park Club be a suitable vehicle to effect this purchase?**

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### **ANSWER**

The allotment in question is one of a parcel of privately-owned allotments in Acton, originally owned by the Goldsmiths' Company and sold to the Park Club a decade or so ago. Some of the land, including Goldsmiths Allotments, was subsequently sold on.

The land is currently administered by the Acton Gardening Association and provides around 12 small plots, which are fully utilised. Purchasing the land would not alter the amount of allotment land available within the borough, though it would offer security against alternative use. It is likely the Council would be obliged to accept all the current tenants.

There is Section 106 money available (from the Park Club) for the provision of allotments in Acton. This is being used to develop a new site, Popefield, on the boundary of Acton and Ealing, and is estimated to provide around 40 plots. This is likely to yield a rather better return from the investment, in that the development costs do not include the acquisition of land. There will be a surplus, but this might profitably be used to improve access to Acton's largest allotment site, Great Western.

## EALING COUNCIL WRITTEN QUESTION

### QUESTION 21

COUNCIL MEETING – 31 Jan 2012

QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – **Jon Ball**  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)

TO – LEADER

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#### QUESTION

Will the Portfolio Holder please provide an update on funding bids for Gunnersbury Park regeneration?

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The Heritage Grant application, total project cost £10.4m HLF grant requested £4.8m, will focus on:

- an enhanced museum which allows its rich collections to inspire learning and creativity and engages with a diverse range of audiences across both boroughs
- Developing an exciting museum that enables a wide range of people to learn about their heritage and improving access to and conservation of the collections.
- Caring and conserving the significant heritage assets in Gunnersbury Park through providing sufficient income/resources to ensure the heritage assets remain adequately maintained. Ensuring suitable experience and expertise is available to care for the built heritage
- Creating employment and training opportunities by employing local people in the conservation of heritage assets, providing training opportunities during the conservation process and providing on-going employment, training and education opportunities once the project is complete
- Ensuring that Gunnersbury Park is accessible to (and used by) local residents and visitors to the area by providing assets which engage with the local community and ensuring that local organisations and businesses can be linked to the Park's assets

The Parks for People application, total project cost £8m with a HLF grant application of £4.7m, will focus on the 'core' heritage landscape of the park. It will:

- Restore the 'core' heritage landscape of the park and enhance the setting of Key heritage assets such as the Large Mansion, Temple and Orangery. This will include signage and interpretation.

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- Conserve and enhance existing facilities, including the boating lake and café, and facilitate an excellent range of visitor attractions and activities appropriate for its role as a West London 'destination' park.
- Strengthen partnerships with stakeholders including Capel Manor Horticultural College, to improve the management of the park and develop strong education, activity and volunteering links between the park, the museum and the wider community.

The Parks for People bid should be determined - June 2012 and The Heritage Grant bid in - July 2012

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

### QUESTION NO 22

COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012

QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Anthony Young  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)

TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR –Transport and Environment

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### QUESTION

Please could you list the pay-and-display sites being considered for extended parking. Will the sites have to be approved by Ward Forums before they are finally agreed?

Please could you list the sites being considered for day-long pay-by-phone parking. Will the sites have to be approved by Ward Forums before they are finally agreed?

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### **ANSWER**

The proposal was to focus on high volume locations and the initial batch includes the following locations:

Lady Margaret Road, Greenford (O/S No. 462), on slip road  
The Uxbridge Road (Nr Ealing Common Station)  
Pitshanger Lane, W5  
Lady Margaret Road, Greenford (O/S No. 462), on highway  
Singapore Road  
The Broadway, Southall (O/S Lidl)  
The Broadway, Southall (O/S Lidl)  
Crown Street, Acton  
Horn Lane, Acton (Opposite Stuart Road)  
Leeland Terrace  
Alfred Road, Acton  
Ruislip Road, Greenford (O/S No.3)

There are a number of sites identified where there are currently restrictions, or limited restrictions in place but that are already being used for commuter parking. The first batch of sites we were intended to review are:

## Council Questions – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012

Mattock Lane - alongside Walpole Park

Greenford Road - outside the Retail Park

Park Royal (Coronation Road, East Acton Lane, Park Royal Road, Bethune Road, School Road & St. Leonards Road)

Warwick Road - running through the Common

**In both instances the intention would be to work with and involve the Ward Forums in relation to each of the sites to ensure that they understand the reason why the changes are being made and are given the opportunity to raise any concerns or make any suggestions that may improve the schemes implementation.**

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

**QUESTION NO 23**

**COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012**

**QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Colm Costello  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)**

**TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR –Transport and Environment**

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### QUESTION

How many volunteers volunteered in our parks last year?

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### **ANSWER**

In 2011 there were 1,155 volunteer hours undertaken in parks and open spaces. In addition to this in Walpole Park as part of the HLF project there were 323 volunteer hours undertaken.

Anyone wishing to volunteer in parks and open spaces should contact the Park Rangers:

East of the borough (Acton, Ealing, Hanwell and Park Royal): 020 8740 1855 or parks@ealing.gov.uk

West of the borough (Greenford, Northolt, Perivale and Southall): 020 8813 9232 or parks@ealing.gov.uk

Walpole Park HLF project: Florence Andrews – 020 8825 6742 or pmgwalpole@ealing.gov.uk

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

**QUESTION NO 24**

**COUNCIL MEETING – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012**

**QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Phil Taylor  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)**

**TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR – Transport and Environment**

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### QUESTION

The council recently decided to repave Southall Broadway. The footway here was recently repaved with high quality granite slabs with a decorative design used at regular intervals. Can the portfolio holder confirm when this work was done and how much it cost?

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### **ANSWER**

The Council's Transport Planning Service outlined in a paper to Cabinet in January 2012 proposals for the Southall Broadway Urban Realm scheme

This will entail widening of footways and an enhanced streetscape to make the area more attractive to visit

As stated in paragraph 2.7 of the report "The project builds upon earlier public realm improvement works undertaken in 2010 that improved stretches of the Broadway in the vicinity of the Town Hall junction. Some changes to this earlier work are inevitable but materials previously introduced will be recycled to minimise costs".

The total cost of the works undertaken in 2010 was £1,303,243.

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

**QUESTION NO 25**

**COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012**

**QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Phil Taylor  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)**

**TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR – Transport and Environment**

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### QUESTION

The new Hamborough Road car park has now been open for two whole months. Please detail the takings for each month.

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### **ANSWER**

Hambrough Road opened to the public on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011.

Based on the fact this site has been operating for such a short period and that it has been involved in the council's free car parking at weekends initiative it is not possible to provide any meaningful data about usage. Officers will keep the sites usage under review and report in due course. We anticipate increased usage as people become more aware of the site and the service available.

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

**QUESTION NO 26**

**COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012**

**QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – David Millican  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)**

**TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR – Transport and Environment**

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### QUESTION

Will Ealing Council apply to take part in the Government's pioneer scheme to apply a daily charge where street works obstruct traffic at the busiest times, providing a clear financial incentive for works to be carried out in less disruptive ways?

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### **ANSWER**

Government confirmed that legislation for a lane rental scheme will be laid in front of Parliament later this year, however in order to gather evidence on the effectiveness of lane rental, the Department for Transport has proposed that schemes should initially be trialled in three pilot authorities – one metropolitan area and two rural areas.

Transport for London has been appointed as the metropolitan authority for the pilot scheme

As of yet it has not been agreed what the duration period of the pilot schemes will be. However, if the pilot schemes are found to be successful Ealing will then make an evaluation as to whether it would be beneficial to join the Lane Rental Scheme.

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

**QUESTION NO 27**

**COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012**

**QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Jason Stacey**  
**UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE**  
**PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)**

**TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR –Transport and Environment**

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### QUESTION

How meetings have the Portfolio Holder personally had or attended with officials from the Department of Transport to discuss the proposed HS2 since July 2011.

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### **ANSWER**

The Council has held four meetings with representatives of HS2 since last July

One of these involved Department for Transport officials. The meeting was held on the afternoon of Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2011. The Portfolio Holder was unable to attend this due to work commitments and the Assistant Director of Strategic Transport represented Ealing

A full debrief was held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

# EALING COUNCIL

## WRITTEN QUESTION

### QUESTION NO 28

COUNCIL MEETING – 31st January 2012

QUESTION BY COUNCILLOR – Jason Stacey  
UNDER COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE  
PROCEDURE RULE 10(1)

TO - CABINET MEMBER FOR –Transport and Environment

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### QUESTION

Does the Portfolio Holder support the piloting of a 20mph speed limit along the streets of Greenford Road between the Greenford roundabout and Rockford Avenue?

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### ANSWER

Greenford Road (A4217) is a major through road to traffic with over 30,000 vehicles per day travelling along this road, with approximately 11% of these being HGVs. Introducing a 20mph speed limit is not seen as the most appropriate option in this area as:

1. Ealing Council typically introduces 20mph limits where there is clear evidence of unacceptable numbers of speed related reported personal injury. The accident record along this stretch shows that within the last three years whilst there have been 15 accidents, there is no evidence to suggest how many of these were speed related and this rate is lower than other similar areas in the borough.
2. Enforcement of such a limit could only be realistically achieved through physical traffic calming measures. These have been previously explored by officers but discounted due to complexities with levels and land, the volume and type of traffic and potential negative environmental impacts to residents in this area (e.g. noise and vibration from the high volume of HGVs).
3. The section of road between Greenford Roundabout and Rockware Avenue is served by three bus routes (92, 105, E6), which may be negatively impacted upon operationally through potential traffic calming measures and worsened journey time reliability.

Officers are however continuing to explore alternative measures to improve safety in this area.