

COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

(ORDINARY MEETING)

25 JULY 2018

RESPONSES TO MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

1. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR DAVID NOAKES

Will the council commit to working with recognised local community groups and community councils to draw up a new borough-wide local list, backed up by a Heritage supplementary planning document (SPD)?

RESPONSE

The Southwark Conversation brought out a number of key priorities for people across the borough, including the importance residents expressed, particularly in the context of a quickly changing borough, of a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood and a sense of attachment to their living environment. The Local List process provides a unique opportunity to better identify sites and structures across the borough that are of historic, environmental and social interest to our residents.

The council are currently preparing an update to the Local Development Scheme for consideration by the cabinet member for growth, development and planning in September 2018 as a cabinet member individual decision making (IDM). This will set out a timeframe for consultation on a Heritage SPD which will include a Local List and adoption by cabinet once consultation responses have been taken into account. We will prepare a consultation plan setting out how we will consult the community that will be considered by cabinet. We are planning to start this work in the new year once the Submission Version of the New Southwark Plan and Old Kent Road AAP are finalised. The Local List policy will need to be reintroduced to the Submission Version of the New Southwark Plan. The process will involve local community groups, community councils and other heritage groups.

2. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR KATH WHITTAM

In November 2017, the leader told us that the council had already hit the ambitious target of helping 5,000 residents into work. Could he update us on what the final number of people helped into work during the last administration was?

RESPONSE

As of 31 March 2018, the council's combined commissioning and partnership work has ensured 5,792 job starts, successfully delivering our ambitious council plan commitment of supporting 5,000 residents into work. This significant achievement demonstrated the transformative role local government can play in shaping economic growth, as well as making a real difference for our residents, changing lives for the better.

In November 2017 the council held an event to celebrate 5,000 residents supported into work and to discuss next steps for local and national government, and employers, with key sector stakeholders. We are committed to maintaining this life changing work

supporting another 5,000 people into work over the coming four years, as part of our commitment to making Southwark a full employment borough.

3. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR ADELE MORRIS

Will the leader confirm the pledge he made at the Southwark Council Leaders Hustings on 24 April 2018, that community infrastructure levy (CIL) projects will be decided and prioritised locally by ward and furthermore procured and delivered by local experienced agencies where they exist?

RESPONSE

The current process is that lists of project ideas, Community Infrastructure Project Lists (CIPL), are proposed by the local community and approved by the relevant community council. Consultation on the CIPLs happens yearly to make sure they are up-to-date and reflect local need.

It was agreed at cabinet on 18 July 2017 that the community councils will then prioritise projects on the CIPL list, taking account of local need and the council's approved capital programme.

Following the prioritisation, a report would then be submitted to cabinet for approval in future capital programme monitoring reports.

Following a question to January 2018 cabinet, we made a commitment to look at these issues raised. Now that we completed the first year of running this process, it is evident that a number of differing approaches have been adopted by the five community councils. This has ranged from the broad consultation on strategic themes prioritised by the Bermondsey and Rotherhithe community council to a more local ward by ward approach by other community councils to local priorities.

I have therefore asked officers to re-look at the process and the information publically available to create a more open and transparent system. I know that they are investigating best practice by looking at how other boroughs are distributing the local CIL funding.

Regarding decisions, constitutionally the community councils have the devolved responsibility for deciding the priorities. Regarding delivery, we see no reason why local agencies could not deliver projects as this already successfully happens with the councils' Cleaner Greener Safer programme.

4. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR SIRAJUL ISLAM

Could the leader update us on what steps the council is taking to secure three new tube stations along the Old Kent Road as part of the Bakerloo Line Extension, including one at the Bricklayers Arms?

RESPONSE

Southwark Council has been campaigning for the Bakerloo line extension for over five years, both to improve transport in the area and to support the delivery of much-needed new homes. The council is taking a number of steps to deliver the Bakerloo Line Extension. We consulted on the latest version of the Old Kent Road Area Action Plan in

December 2017 and this makes clear the council's commitment to three stations on the Old Kent Road.

The council has been lobbying TfL and other key stakeholders directly on the Bakerloo line extension, including the Mayor of London, Deputy Mayors for Transport and Regeneration and Planning, and TfL. We have strongly made the case to TfL for the Bakerloo line extension (BLE) including three stations on the Old Kent Road, both in responses to their formal consultation on the BLE itself and also to the Mayor of London's draft Transport Strategy. Consequently TfL have re-examined the case for a three station option and will be publically reporting on their initial conclusions in late July 2018. I will be meeting with London's deputy mayor for transport Heidi Alexander soon to discuss this issue.

In order to deliver the Bakerloo line extension it is important that the council actively promote the scheme. In order to maximise the case for the extension we are working with London Borough of Lewisham and TfL to develop joint communications to raise the project's public profile. This includes lobbying MPs, London Assembly Members and Government ministers.

The Bakerloo line extension will bring significant benefits to residents and businesses in Southwark, particularly on the Old Kent Road. We have also put forward the case that the Bakerloo line upgrade and extension is a regional transport priority of London wide significance, linking 10 Opportunity Areas, (more than any other rail project) and interchanging with every London underground line (no other underground line does this) whilst delivering significant additional capacity on the Jubilee and Southern rail services by offering passengers an alternative travel option.

In total the Bakerloo line extension will improve connectivity for the people living in the local area and could help to deliver over 100,000 homes and jobs.

5. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR HAMISH MCCALLUM

Will the Leader confirm the commitment he made at the Southwark Council Leaders Hustings on 24 April 2018, that the criteria for allocating the 25% community portion of community infrastructure levy (CIL) will include a very clear link between where the money is raised and where the money is spent? Can the leader further confirm what steps have been taken to establish the criteria for allocating community CIL following the election? And will he commit to meeting with representatives from Bankside Neighbourhood Plan, STAMP and other interested parties to implement a transparent and consistent process for CIL allocation in Southwark?

RESPONSE

Within the Southwark's S106 Planning Obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) the Council has committed to spend 25% of Southwark CIL locally, using the following sequence of areas to identify relevant projects:

- Areas with an adopted neighbourhood plan
- Opportunity areas/action areas
- SPD areas (other than individual sites/buildings)
- Community council areas (for those areas which are not covered by any of the above).

It is also clear from the SPD that funds secured under Southwark's CIL are not required to have a link between the development that provides the funding and the projects being funded. Southwark CIL is to be used for projects that provide infrastructure that supports growth wherever it is needed but with 25% reserved for projects in the local area where funding is raised.

Following a question to January cabinet, we are re-looking at the process and the information publically available as well as investigating best practice to create a more open and transparent system. We are in particular looking at criteria used.

I am happy to meet local representatives to discuss this and could host a meeting to have an open and transparent discussion.

6. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR JASON OCHERE

Before the election, Labour pledged to campaign to re-open Camberwell Train Station. Can the leader tell us what work has been done on this since the election?

RESPONSE

Southwark Council strongly backs the re-opening of Camberwell Station. Re-opening the station would improve transport links in an area that is currently poorly connected and under served by public transport.

Last month, together with our two local MPs, the local NHS, UAL and SE5 Forum, I was a joint signatory to a letter of support for the reopening of Camberwell Train Station addressed to Mike Brown at TfL.

The council successfully applied to the GLA Good Growth Fund for a study which will identify the capacity of sites around Camberwell to support further housing and commercial development as well as to develop a framework of public realm improvements that can take place on Camberwell Station Road. This study will shortly be going out to tender and it is anticipated that the findings will inform a more detailed and extensive bid to the Good Growth Fund next year.

We understand from TfL that they will be publishing the Outline Business Case for the reopening of the station shortly.

Our commitment to support the re-opening of Camberwell Station was included in the Council Plan agreed by cabinet in June 2018. We continue to work towards this.

7. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR JANE SALMON

Will the council write to Transport for London (TfL) and commit to pay its share to developing the 40-50 stations required for a Rotherhithe expansion of the Bike Hire Scheme?

RESPONSE

The council has been lobbying Transport for London (TfL) and the Mayor to expand the Santander bike hire scheme further in Southwark including to the Rotherhithe peninsular. TfL support our ambition to expand but have not committed the funding that is required.

The council has been working to try and secure third party funding and has already secured developer contributions for cycle docking stations, in addition to our commitment to contribute £2m to fund the expansion. This does not meet the level needed so we will continue to look for new ways to secure the money needed and will continue to make the case to City Hall for expansion.

Alongside this, we have been looking at other models which will enable access to cycle hire throughout the borough, and particularly our ambition to make cycling more accessible for all – not just those who are already experienced cyclists.

8. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR TOM FLYNN

Can the Leader update us on what work has been done to implement the Homelessness Reduction Act and what initiatives the council are using to reduce homelessness?

RESPONSE

Southwark Council is proud to be leading the way when it comes to tackling homelessness. The council was the only council to be selected as a Trailblazer to implement the new responsibilities under the Homelessness Reduction Act. The council has therefore been operating within the Homelessness Reduction Act framework since October 2016.

Since working within the new framework, the council has reduced the statutorily homeless households by 47% (these are households which meet specific criteria of priority need set out in legislation), down from 943 in 2016/2017 to 505 in 2017/2018. Homelessness preventions have increased by 50% in 2017/2018 and from 1 April 2018 to the end of May 2018, 524 households have been prevented from becoming homeless.

To fund the work, Southwark Council was awarded £615,000 in June 2018 by central government to eliminate rough sleeping. This was the third largest allocation of funding in England. The funding will provide a police officer and a nurse within the rough sleeping team to help and support the multi agency work being carried out as part of the “No First Night Out” initiative.

The council received £790,000 to establish, manage and operate the London Training Academy and this training academy is training over 1,000 officers from every council in London on best practice. Each officer will attend 20 separate training events. During 2017/2018 the council also trained all 326 councils in England and over 700 partner organisations to councils across England on the new responsibilities under the Act.

In addition to this work, the council is working in partnership with London Ventures to develop a Predictive Analytical data initiative that will be used to prevent homelessness. This work will then be utilised by other councils across England.

Solace Women’s Aid and Shelter are also providing independent advice and advocacy within the Housing Solutions service, working on the front line to provide support those in the most desperate situations.

100% of the Discretionary Housing payment funds (£1.3 million) is currently being used to prevent homelessness due to welfare reforms. Evictions from the private rented sector are rising as a result of the introduction of Universal Credit and the freeze on the Local Housing Allowance.

The key problem remains that of funding and the current government policy of setting up funding streams for bids isn't sustainable in the longer term, as the ability to continue to prevent homelessness is dependent on being successful within the bidding cycle.

9. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR DAN WHITEHEAD

How many electric vehicle charging points does the council plan to install over the next 12 months?

RESPONSE

The council is committed to making it easier for people to travel more sustainably by making the switch to electric vehicles. We anticipate installing between 100 and 150 lamp column electric vehicle charging points in the next 12 months. These will primarily be in residential streets and will make it easier than ever for people to make the switch to electric vehicles. These have been funded by a grant received from 'Go-Ultra Low'.

We have also identified two sites on borough land for the installation of TfL's rapid charge points. It is anticipated that these will be delivered in the next 12 months, and we are working with TfL to identify more sites.

The council also anticipates Source London (a private organisation with London-wide concession to install fast charging points) to begin installing their equipment in suitable locations in the next 12 months although we cannot put an exact number on these at the present time.

10. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR SUNIL CHOPRA

Could the leader tell us how the council is listening to and addressing the concerns of local residents over the council's plans for Queens Road 4?

RESPONSE

The council has completed two rounds of consultation relating to the proposed Queens Road 4 development. These two consultation sessions were conducted in January and February 2018 and comments and feedback have been collated and can be viewed on the Queens Road Consultation webpage:

<http://www.southwark.gov.uk/regeneration/regeneration-projects/queens-road-offices-consultation>.

The council has also conducted three drop in sessions with residents relating to the demolition of the Queens Road Day Centre. These sessions provided residents and local business owners with the opportunity to ask questions and raise any concerns they had about the demolition process.

This consultation feedback from local residents along with questions and concerns raised through general enquiries has and continues to inform the design process. The council is working closely with local residents to ensure that the new building enhances and contributes positively to the local environment.

New architects, Allies and Morrison, have been appointed following concerns about the building design from residents and are currently developing new design proposals, building on the important work already undertaken to feed in staff, service user and local

resident requirements. Allies & Morrison are very experienced in this type of development as well as in working with local communities and have been fully informed of and reviewed the consultation feedback. Allies and Morrison have been made well aware of the concerns raised by residents and we are currently making arrangements for a face to face session which will provide Allies and Morrison the opportunity to hear local community concerns first hand. Alongside this we are also working to pull together a number of single topic meetings which will be scheduled over the coming months and cover key themes of the programme. Further information and dates associated with both the resident session with architects and the single topic briefings will follow shortly.

It is currently forecast that the third phase of consultation will take place in autumn/winter 2018. This will provide residents with the opportunity to view and provide feedback on the revised design before the planning application is submitted in early 2019. The council will continue to engage with local residents and businesses throughout the project ensuring that public engagement remains a priority and that the new building enhances and contributes positively to the local environment.

Areas where the council has responded to residents' concerns are:

| Residents' concern | Council responded |
|---|---|
| Roosting bats would be disturbed by the demolition of the former day centre | Bat survey undertaken by ecologists licensed to work with bats. No roosting bats were found on the site. Ecologist employed to provide a watching brief to make sure no mammals or nesting birds are disturbed by the demolition. |
| Noise | The demolition contractor will undertake noise monitoring during the works and they will not exceed the statutory noise limit on the site. Noisy work will only occur in short bursts if they occur at all. |
| Dust | The demolition contractor will be damping down and using mist sprays to contain the dust. This will significantly reduce any visible dust. |
| Design/mass of building | New architects have been appointed to redesign the building. They are currently reviewing the brief for the scheme. |
| Parking | The council is reviewing staff parking including lease cars and this will be announced shortly. We are also investigating using the railway arches to provide parking for pool cars for staff to use. |
| Clientele | This is part of the review into the brief and the wider use of council offices. |

11. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR NICK JOHNSON

What share of Local Full Fibre Networks (LFFN) challenge fund is Southwark – in particular the Rotherhithe peninsula – receiving? What percentage of residents on the peninsula are still without fast broadband?

RESPONSE

We are committed to making Southwark a connected borough, where no-one is digitally excluded. That is why last year we put in place an ambitious Digital Infrastructure Strategy to improve high speed internet connections for residents across our borough.

Our strategy sets out how we will work with providers - and make best use of our land, buildings and local authority powers - to roll out faster broadband, Wi-Fi and mobile connections.

As part of that strategy we have already taken action to improve the unacceptably slow internet speeds on the Rotherhithe peninsula. The average broadband download speed on the Rotherhithe peninsula, largely comprising the Surrey Docks ward, was reported as 12.9Mbps in Ofcom's Connected Nations 2017 report. This was within the 10-23Mbit/s rate defined by the UK government as 'standard broadband', but fell short of the connections of 24-100Mbit/s defined by the UK government as 'superfast'. That is why at the end of 2017 we signed lease agreements to install wireless broadband (Wi-Fi) aerials on the rooftops of a selection of the council's social housing blocks. Operated by broadband provider Relish, and capable of delivering superfast speeds, many of these blocks are now live and providing broadband to the local area. In particular, two of these blocks are located in Rotherhithe. We are currently in the process of analysing data from the spring 2018 update provided by Ofcom, and will provide councillors with an updated figure following this improved provision as soon as possible – including what percentage of individuals have access to connections at 'superfast' speeds.

Over the next four years we will go further, improving high speed internet access on the Rotherhithe peninsula and across the borough and putting free ultrafast broadband in every community hall. This work has already started. The council recently signed a non-exclusive agreement with two full-fibre broadband providers who are rolling-out ultrafast full-fibre broadband across our council-owned properties. This will connect thousands of council properties over the next year. In addition, we hope that this will also increase the connectivity options available to residents across the borough, as this infrastructure will bring many more properties into range of ultrafast full-fibre broadband. We are also exploring work with Relish and other providers to extend the coverage of around Wi-Fi aerials. Over the longer-term, the council is also exploring the potential of innovative technologies in tackling connectivity and other priorities. This includes technology such as 5G, the next generation of connectivity, which may – once developed further – offer solutions regarding broadband connectivity.

With regard to the Local Full Fibre Networks (LFFN) challenge fund, a pan-London application to this was coordinated by the Greater London Authority (GLA) and Transport for London (TfL) last year. The bid comprised a number of areas; nine local authorities and public bodies were represented by this bid. The Chancellor announced in the 2018 Spring Statement that this bid was successful, and that London would receive £8.5m to roll out full fibre networks. The exact breakdown of the funding across the above local authorities and public bodies is in the process of being agreed. We are working closely with the GLA, and hope that this work will move forward in autumn 2018.

12. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR VICTOR CHAMBERLAIN

Will the council conduct an audit of empty homes in the borough – given the shortcomings in council tax data following changes to council tax exemptions, and likely underreporting?

RESPONSE

Southwark Council is committed to tackling empty homes in our borough and we were one of the first councils to set a higher rate of council tax for long-term empty homes. We have been calling for greater powers for local authorities to tackle empty homes, so I welcome the announcement from the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and

Local Government last week that councils will be able to charge additional council tax premiums on long-term empty homes from April 2019.

The council reports annually to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, as part of our council tax base returns to government, figures for empty homes in the borough, broken down by type and short term/long term vacant homes. We collect this data in a method prescribed by national government, in the same way as every local authority in the country, and the figures are published on an annual basis. Government investment in tackling empty properties has fallen significantly since the ending of dedicated empty homes funding programmes in March 2015.

The empty homes team seeks to work in partnership with empty home owners to bring their properties back into use, providing a range of services which include support, information and a range of grants and loans. This year the council will also be reviewing the empty homes strategy to see if the current offer of grants and loans can be improved upon.

Whilst the council seeks to work with home owners as far as possible to bring empty homes back into use, we have other methods we use such as compulsory purchase orders (CPOs) to bring very long term problematic empty properties back into use.

We are also committed to bringing empty council homes back into use more quickly to allow new families to move in. We will continue to work to reduce the number of long term empty homes in the borough.

13. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR MARIA LINFORTH-HALL

How many major planning applications Southwark has received since 2010?

RESPONSE

Since 2010, Southwark Council has received 710 major planning applications.

A 'major application' is defined as one involving 10 or more residential units or its equivalent in other land uses. 147 of these applications can be described as large scale major applications involving 50 or more residential units or its equivalent in other land uses. The remaining 563 are small scale – i.e. between 10 and 50 units (or equivalent).

14. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR HUMAIRA ALI

Given the sharp rise in crime across Southwark over recent years, why has the council refused to take advantage of the Metropolitan Police Service policy of match-funding new police officers on a two-for-one offer, as other borough councils such as Hounslow and Tower Hamlets have?

RESPONSE

Southwark Council does currently make use of this scheme.

Under this scheme, Met Patrol Plus, the local authority can finance additional police resources from the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) for a minimum three year term, and the MPS will provide an extra officer for every one provided. The scheme locally requires the support of the Borough Commander and the Deputy Assistant

Commissioner at the MPS. The aim of the scheme is to increase police visibility and tackle local concerns around crime and anti social behaviour.

There are currently three schemes operating in the borough, two of which include the local authority working with partner organisations. There is also a scheme in development through a successful bid submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government for a Rough Sleeping Initiative.

Through the Met Patrol Plus Scheme, the council currently fund a Joint Enforcement Team focusing on the night time economy. This agreement includes a total of six police officers working alongside council enforcement officers providing a hands-on response in delivering shared safety priorities. Team London Bridge Business Improvement District also contributes to this policing partnership. This arrangement is in place until 31 March 2019.

A number of local authorities and partner organisations including Tower Hamlets are using the Met Patrol Plus Scheme to fund additional uniformed officers. These schemes are still in their early days and the success of these arrangements is still to be determined. We are currently discussing police resources with the Borough Commander, along with reviewing the benefits and impact of our local schemes and other options for purchasing officers.

15. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND BREXIT FROM COUNCILLOR DAMIAN O'BRIEN

What has the council done to make the financial case to Transport for London (TfL) on Bricklayers Arms? Has it provided information on land use and costs from Bermondsey or other new stations in Southwark?

RESPONSE

The council is committed to continuing to campaign for three new tube stations on the Old Kent Road including the proposed station at Bricklayers Arms. We have explored the potential of redevelopment of the Bricklayers Arms with TfL. They have undertaken additional cost benefit analysis work that they will be sharing with us in detail in late July 2018.

At that point we will look to examine their work in detail to make sure that their plans for developing the site benefit the existing local community and meet the requirements of our own plan policies.

16. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND BREXIT FROM COUNCILLOR LORRAINE LAUDER

Could the cabinet member update us on what progress has been made towards bringing housing repairs in-house?

RESPONSE

The work to bring the housing repairs service in-house is well underway across all relevant parts of the council and is on-track to ensure a smooth handover of the service from 1 October 2018.

A board of senior officers including strategic directors meets fortnightly, and cabinet members and board members meet once a month. Work is ongoing across a number of work streams and progress is assessed at each meeting.

A delivery team has also been established, with directors from environment and social regeneration and housing and modernisation leading the cross-departmental work. This team also meets fortnightly (in the weeks when the board is not meeting) to closely monitor a detailed risk register and programme tracker to ensure the services are ready to go live on 1 October 2018.

In-house project work streams are:

Business Case – Assessing the financial impact of this project to enable the total costs of the new service to be established.

HR/TUPE – Undertaking the necessary preparation work to manage the smooth transition of Mears staff, together with the management of their physical transfer to Southwark.

In-House Service – Developing a new delivery model, being ‘Price per Property’ (PPP) and ‘Price per Void’ (PPV).

Contracts/Procurement – Managing contracts and procurements and overseeing any tendering process for works outside the proposed in-house service level agreement (SLA) such as Communal repairs, Roofing & Rainwater, Metal Work, and Fire Protection.

Material, Equipment and Stores – Overseeing the material and equipment requirements that the new service will need, reviewing current usage and the predicted requirements.

Vehicles – Ensuring that all additional vehicle requirements are ordered and delivered, being in place at the depot site ready for the new service delivery commencement in October.

Workplace – Managing the additional office space that will be needed at Frensham Street to accommodate the Mears TUPE staff through the relocating of some staff to Tooley Street.

IT – Planning for the IT equipment that will be required by Mears staff, together with ensuring IT systems (Northgate and Impact Response) are configured to deliver the new service in time for the October start date.

Contact Centre – Preparing the Contact Centre for the new service, together with ensuring that the customer experience is maintained.

Resident Engagement – Ensuring that residents are informed of the new service proposals, with early and scheduled engagement in place.

Organisation Development – The introduction of a new service delivery model will bring culture and behaviour changes to the business.

Implementation – Overseeing all work stream activities to ensure they align and there is a smooth transition without disruption to the residents.

17. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND BREXIT FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES COLDWELL

Recent reports have discovered some London councils failing to ensure payment of the London Living Wage to sub-contracted staff, despite being Living Wage-accredited boroughs. Can you confirm that Southwark meets its London Living Wage commitments, including ensuring contractors are paid the London Living Wage as a minimum?

RESPONSE

This Labour council introduced the London Living Wage (LLW) in 2012 after years of inaction by the previous coalition administration. We introduced it for directly employed staff and I am proud that we were the first in London to do so for those employed under council contracts.

For contractors, London Living Wage conditions have been introduced over time as contracts were extended or retendered. Against a policy of Liberal Democrat and Conservative coalition austerity, we increased necessary budgets to ensure that we could pay LLW. Contract managers are responsible for ensuring that contractors comply with these conditions of contract that may only be varied by joint agreement (e.g. apprentices; staff working permanently outside of London – national living wage would apply in these cases; self employed sub contractors; etc.). I have asked officers to ensure that these tests are made more robust and that they undertake an audit to ensure all council contracts are on our Contracts Register and that full details of the payment of LLW for all staff is included.

As well as ensuring compliance with our own contracts, cabinet recently agreed a draft council plan which promotes LLW with all employers within Southwark and will double the number of LLW employers in Southwark during this administration. We will be seeking to introduce LLW zones within Canada Water and the Old Kent Road.

In addition, this administration will introduce a Southwark Good Work Standard and only work with companies that will recognise trade unions, pay the LLW and do not use harmful zero hours contracts.

Our hard work is being recognised, as we were recently shortlisted in the Local Authority Leadership category at the Living Wage Champion Awards 2018. We will continue to promote the LLW both within the council and across the borough so more people are paid fairly for the work they do.

18. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND BREXIT FROM COUNCILLOR JAMES MCASH

Following the publication of the “Safe as Houses” report, and the worrying picture that revealed for Universal Credit recipients, could the cabinet member tell us what more the council is doing to draw attention to this concerning issue?

RESPONSE

Southwark was one of the first places anywhere in UK to see Universal Credit (UC) full service roll-out and our residents have faced the full consequences of issues with UC policy and design, which were identified in the Safe As Houses report the council commissioned from the Smith Institute. These issues were also highlighted more recently in the damning findings of an investigation by Parliament’s independent public spending watchdog, the National Audit Office.

The council has provided evidence to government, as well as the House of Commons Work and Pensions Committee, on the impacts of UC, including rent arrears, debt and distress among claimants. We have called for urgent changes to Universal Credit, citing the evidence gathered through Safe as Houses to demonstrate the significant negative impact the policy is having on Southwark residents. We took some comfort from the fact that government announced plans to implement some – though not all – of the changes we had been calling for in the autumn Budget last year. Those changes have just recently taken effect and it is still too early to assess what difference they are making, though we are monitoring the position closely.

The council has also commissioned a second wave of Safe As Houses research into impacts of UC for the six thousand of the council's own tenants who have been affected by UC and initial findings will be available in the autumn. Where the evidence supports it we will press the government for further changes to UC and plans for roll-out in Southwark. The council continues to fund support for UC claimants available at jobcentres and the council's emergency support scheme (SESS) is also providing a lifeline for residents affected by UC.

19. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND BREXIT FROM COUNCILLOR RENATA HAMVAS

Could the cabinet member explain what the 2017/18 budget outturn report tells us about the council's current financial position and future financial sustainability?

RESPONSE

The council ended 2017/18 with a balanced outturn position after planned movements to/from reserves. I am pleased to say that our budget recovery work in children's and adults has been effective with adults staying within budget and children's services overspend limited to £2m in the face of continuing demand and cost pressures. The budget for 2018/19 is balanced and was agreed by council assembly in February 2018.

However, there remains other areas of significant budget pressure. The 2017/18 outturn highlights significant cost pressures within education, particularly for high needs services. The Dedicated Schools Grant was £4m in deficit at the year end, with the deficit set to increase further in 2018/19. There is also continuing pressures on No Recourse to Public Funds and temporary accommodation budgets as well as pressures arising from welfare reform.

Despite these spending pressures, strong financial management during the year enabled the councils overall financial standing, as measured by its usable reserves, to improve by £10.9m, compared to a reduction of £27.4m in 2016-17. Whilst this improvement in financial resilience at the end of 2017/18 is good news, the relative level of financial reserves held by the council remains low given the financial risks faced by the authority and when compared to similar councils across London. The council's General Fund Reserves at 31 March 2018 were £85.3m. Of this £66.5m is earmarked for capital investment, corporate and departmental projects and to manage specific financial risks, e.g. self insurance. The uncommitted general fund reserve is £18.8m, representing just 2.6% of annual net general fund expenditure (approximately 1% of the council's total turnover). This means we are bottom quartile for the relative size of reserves in London.

As well as ongoing reductions in government funding, growth in demand for services and other spending pressures, the future funding of local government is to be fundamentally

reformed from April 2020. The outlook and future sustainability of local government finance can therefore only be described as 'uncertain'.

Cabinet will be receiving detailed reports in July 2018 on capital and revenue outturn for 2017-18. A financial remit report, setting out the predicted budget gap for the 2019/20 financial year will be received by cabinet in September 2018.

20. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND BREXIT FROM COUNCILLOR ALICE MACDONALD

Since being appointed the cabinet member for Brexit, what work has the cabinet member done on this issue?

RESPONSE

Since the referendum in 2016, the council has been concerned about the lack of clarity from central government as to the potential impact of Brexit on local businesses, on public services delivered by the council and other organisations and the 45,000 EU citizens living in Southwark who make vital contributions to our economy, communities and the health service in particular.

Following my appointment as cabinet member for finance, performance and Brexit in June, I have asked every council department to identify how changes to regulations, rights and resources may be affected by Brexit. I have also initiated the establishment of a cross party Southwark Brexit Panel to take evidence from businesses and trade unions, community organisations and public service providers including those working in health, education and social care. The Panel held its first evidence gathering session on 17 July 2018, and a second is scheduled for September 2018. In October, the Panel will host a Regional Sounding Board on Brexit in collaboration with the Local Government Association which will present directly to representatives of Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).

Within the council we are making plans to provide assistance to employees, should they need it, with evidence of their employment and presence in the country. The council does not hold nationality information about employees. After the referendum, the Local Government Association (LGA) issued advice to the effect that those authorities who did not already capture and report on nationality data should not ask their workforce to provide that data due to uncertainty and sensitivity for those groups of staff.

21. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH FROM COUNCILLOR CHARLIE SMITH

Can the cabinet member update us on plans to improve the uptake of the NHS Health Checks that will be carried out in Southwark?

RESPONSE

Health inequality in Southwark is still too great. Since public health responsibility moved from the NHS to councils, we have been working hard to close that gap. We were concerned that the number of people making use of NHS health checks was too low, and so set the ambitious target of doubling it.

We exceeded our commitment, increasing health checks from 14,000 between 2009-2013 to 34,628 in the last four years. Over this time, the health check programme has identified people with higher risk for cardiovascular diseases as well as detected people

with existing untreated health conditions so that they can receive the care and support they need, including support for healthier lifestyles and where appropriate, clinical management.

We are continuing to improve the uptake of health checks by making it easier for people to have their health checked. Currently the checks are carried out face to face at GP practices and at pharmacies. We are developing and will pilot this year a Digital Health Check which will make the service more accessible and convenient. The new digital service will target people who have been invited for a health check but have not responded. If a person is identified through the digital service to have an increased cardiovascular risk, they will be prompted to contact their GP and will be followed up to make an appointment for a face to face check.

Alongside the pilot, we will also be testing ways to use behavioural insights to increase the effectiveness of our digital messaging and SMS.

To make face to face checks more convenient and accessible, in addition to all GPs, we will be supporting more pharmacists to offer health checks so that there is a good spread of community venues with a wider choice of appointment times close to where people live or work.

22. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH FROM COUNCILLOR LEANNE WERNER

Could the cabinet member tell us what steps the council is taking to respond to the recent and very worrying incidents of violent crime in our borough?

RESPONSE

Tackling the recent incidences of serious violence in the borough is a high priority for me and the whole Council. We are working hard to reassure communities and keep our residents safe.

Our approach is based on the understanding that a police response alone can not resolve the issue and that a joint partnership approach is required. This includes engagement and close collaboration with our communities to empower them to find local solutions that help young people stay away from the life of crime.

Work led by the council working with partner agencies is based on three strands; prevention, intervention and enforcement. This includes an operational response; activity by the Police and Joint Enforcement Team along with more intervention/prevention based initiatives such as Southwark Anti Violence Unit (SAVU), Youth Integrated Offender Management, Peer Navigators, Young Advisors, and Knife Crime workshops. The multi agency Knife Crime and Knife Carrying Action Plan provides a strategic direction for activity. A list of key current initiatives is covered later in my answer.

Whilst there is a great deal of activity being undertaken to address violence in the borough, there is still a lot more to be achieved, in the short, medium and long term.

On 27 June 2018, the Mayor of London announced the requirement for statutory Community Safety Partnerships, (joint led by the council and Metropolitan Police Service) to refresh their local knife crime action plans to incorporate serious violence. We will be using this process to review our current efforts to tackle violence and to identify areas for further development.

Prevention

- *Knife Crime Workshops* – delivered by the Youth Offending Service (YOS) in secondary schools and local referral units in areas with higher prevalence of knife crime.
- *Council Youth Provision* – including youth club provision, detached youth work and gang and knife crime workshops.
- *Southwark Young Advisors* – The advisors engage with young people to divert them away from knife crime and other criminality.
- *Youth led event* – ‘Youth Speaks’ for year 9 students planned for 17 July 2018. The event will give young people the opportunity to engage with key stakeholders to discuss how to ‘keep safe’.

Intervention

- *Southwark Anti Violence Unit (SAVU)* - multi-agency response to working with young people (16 to 24 years) at risk of serious youth violence.
- *Peer Navigators* – Trauma informed approach whereby individuals with lived experience of knife crime support other young people to take a positive path.
- *Youth Integrated Offender Management (IOM)* - led by Youth Offending Service (YOS). Top 12 identified serious offending young people receive intensive support/ surveillance through Youth IOM.
- *Risk management panel* – led by YOS. Monthly multi-agency panel for most serious offending young people.
- *Serious incident strategy group* – Led by YOS. Group convened following a serious incident includes representatives from education, Police, health, adult probation to determine actions to safeguard those concerned and the local community.
- *Call in* - Community Safety is working with the Police, Youth Offending Service, and Regulatory Services to develop a process entitled ‘Call-in’. This will focus on individuals presenting risk to themselves and others and their parents when appropriate. An offer of support will be provided to move forward positively with a clear message that their conduct is under scrutiny and likely to result in police and other sanctions. This is due to be piloted and will be monitored closely including its impact.

Enforcement

- *Operation Sceptre* - is a national police led initiative that places a regular focus on tackling knife crime and carrying. Locally this work is supported by the JET (see below).
- *Joint Enforcement Team (JET)* - consisting of Police Officers and Council Community Wardens. This team work across the borough to tackle local crime and anti social behaviour. This includes conducting weapons sweeps and undertaking specific patrols and tasking’s directed at hotspots, as tasked via the Council and Police led Partnership Tasking Group.
- *Operation Hamrow* - Police led multi agency programme to identify and take enforcement action against individuals or groups involved in serious violence.
- *Criminal Behaviour Orders* - the council’s anti-social behaviour team works closely with the Police in securing these orders on conviction for moped theft moped enabled crime and gang related crimes.

23. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH FROM COUNCILLOR BARRIE HARGROVE

Safer Neighbourhood Teams are being asked to follow up on burglary investigations. Is the cabinet member aware of this practice, how widespread is it and does she think this type of duty is consistent with the concept and the purpose of neighbourhood policing?

RESPONSE

Thank you for bringing this issue to my attention; it was not a practice of which I was aware.

I share your concerns, as this is not what community policing is about. I understand that the police are also constrained by tight resources, but this is not what our residents expect of their Safer Neighbourhood Teams, and I will be raising my concerns when I next meet with the Borough Commander. I have asked that they ensure that Safer Neighbourhood Teams are not being used to fill gaps, unless absolutely necessary.

I understand from the police that in Southwark, they have made a decision to use Safer Neighbourhood Teams follow up on non complex burglary investigations. These officers are closest to the community that are impacted; know the geography of the area along, the local people and offenders. Safer Neighbourhood Teams are the eyes and ears of the community and this approach provides continuity to the victims of crime. Through, the roll out of portable electronic devices for police officers, this also ensures that officers can work as efficiently as possible on follow up activity.

In terms of local policing teams, Southwark currently has a committed neighbourhood policing compliment of two dedicated ward officers and one community support officer for each ward. There are currently two ward officer and three support officer vacancies in the borough. Some pro-activity is provided by uniformed police through a tasking team whose work includes, for example, executing warrants and complex mental health assessment requiring police resource.

More complex burglary investigations are led by local criminal investigation department (CID).

24. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH FROM COUNCILLOR SANDRA RHULE

Can the cabinet member update us on how the council is currently working with out local faith communities to improve health and wellbeing across the borough?

RESPONSE

There are over 300 faith communities in Southwark, many already providing much social and practical support including for health and wellbeing. We have been looking at how we can work more closely with faith communities to promote the health and wellbeing of both their congregations and the wider community. This sits alongside a broader faith strategy that we are currently developing.

Two exploration events were held in March and April 2018 to learn from national experts, leaders from a variety of local faith communities and also local professionals who support health and wellbeing. Broadly there are three things we think we can achieve better together:

- Activating local residents and communities on health
- Making healthier choices easier and the default
- Helping people to engage and seek help early from a range of services.

We have commissioned Community Southwark to manage a challenge grant fund over the summer to encourage those with an interest to demonstrate ways to strengthen relationships between faith and health and wellbeing organisations and to look at ways to share learning about what works well. There are 10 grants of £500 available. The deadline for online applications at <https://communitysouthwark.org/news-jobs/news/working-faith-communities-improve-health-and-wellbeing-southwark> is 25 July 2018 at 12pm.

Faith and Health Challenge Grant funding will be announced on 10 August 2018 and projects will run to the end of September. In the autumn there will be an evaluation of the programme and a set of resources that can be shared to support continued work on this front.

25. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH FROM COUNCILLOR HELEN DENNIS

Can the cabinet member describe the work the council is doing to improve services provided for the treatment and rehabilitation of drug and alcohol addiction in the borough?

RESPONSE

Following the statutory transfer of responsibilities from the NHS 2013, we have embarked on an ambitious commissioning programme to ensure the provision of a balanced drug and alcohol treatment system that is tailored to the needs of the local population and that ensures drug and alcohol users have access to a full range of services locally.

We have since transformed the provision into a system that is recovery and outcomes focused, and informed by the views and voices of service users. We place a high degree of importance on the experience of service users in the development of treatment systems and have invested in an independent service user involvement contract to offer invaluable feedback to drive improvement.

A range of mechanisms are utilised by the council to drive continuous improvement including formal contract review, data and performance analysis and stakeholder feedback. Being able to demonstrate quality assurance and service improvement mechanics as is a requirement of all substance misuse council contracts, both at tender stage and during the contractual term.

There have been a range of improvements throughout our treatment system over the past year following a time of significant transitional change in Southwark. Our former contracted provider, Lifeline, became insolvent in June 2017 and the service has since been taken over by CGL. In addition, new service provision has been commissioned with new providers delivering services in the borough as a result.

For the first time in the borough, we are now able to ensure that all primary alcohol users are offered the same level of treatment as for drug users and we closely monitor a range of outcomes and benefits that our treatment system delivers for individuals, families and children.

In line with the Government's 2017 Drug Strategy, we work in partnership with a range of organisations, individuals and partner agencies to tackle substance misuse and its issues within local areas and to improve integrated care pathways and treatment experience. An example of this is the current work programme with NHS Southwark clinical commissioning group (CCG) to drive improvements in the dual diagnosis (substance misuse and mental health) care pathway which is being delivered at both a service and strategic commissioning level.

There are changes to the demographics and patterns of drug and alcohol use in the borough and the council is on the look out for emerging trends such as the use of club drugs and misuse of prescription drugs. Whilst a focus will be maintained on improving services for residents already in treatment, there is also an acknowledgement that the treatment system will need to evolve over time to account for new challenges and this will be included in future commissioning plans.

26. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH FROM COUNCILLOR RADHA BURGESS

Can the cabinet member provide an update on the progress being made towards a London e-service for sexually transmitted infections (STI) screening and treatment and when we anticipate local residents will be able to take advantage of this service?

RESPONSE

Southwark and Lambeth Councils have commissioned a local sexual health e-service (provided by SH:24) since 2016 to provide residents with an online alternative to sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing. Having a sexual health e-service means that we have been able to offer patients attending local sexual health clinics who are not showing symptoms the option of self-testing using an online portal.

Online services are popular and have been shown as an important way to meet demand for sexual health services.

From 1 July 2018, Lambeth, Southwark, Lewisham, Bexley and Bromley (LSLBB) residents will be able to access a new pan-London sexual health e-service - Sexual Health London (SHL), which offers a single, online STI self-sampling, testing and results management service provided by Preventx. SHL will transform the way that sexual health services are accessed across the capital, improving access to testing. This service is commissioned by the City of London on behalf of 27 London boroughs.

SHL is for residents of participating boroughs aged 16 and above who would like to test for STIs but do not report any symptoms. The self-sampling kit consists of tests for chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis and HIV. If clinically indicated, the test kit will also ask for samples to test for hepatitis B and C.

One of the main benefits of LSLBB joining the new London e-service is that LSLBB residents will now be able to access take-home STI self-sampling kits from most other sexual health clinics across London, not just those locally.

27. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH FROM COUNCILLOR MARGY NEWENS

Can the cabinet member update us on the recent trends in childhood obesity in the borough and what new initiatives are being planned or considered to strengthen our approach in the year ahead?

RESPONSE

Reducing childhood obesity is one of my top health priorities as cabinet member. Extra weight and obesity in youngsters are amongst the greatest risks to a child's long- and short-term health. Overweight children are prone to becoming overweight adults, and therefore also more prone to heart diseases, cancer, diabetes, stroke, and osteoarthritis. The teasing, discrimination and stigma encountered by children who are overweight or obese is socially destructive and can lead to poor mental health.

Over the last five years, childhood obesity rates have declined. Southwark had the highest obesity rates in London for Reception and Year 6 children under the previous administration in 2007-8; this has fallen to second and fifth – so, an improvement but still too high.

The council cannot tackle obesity on its own. It requires a range of partners working together to tackle the various factors that lead to obesity. Our healthy weight strategy, Everybody's Business, sets out the Southwark approach. National and regional experts and local partners were involved in the development of the strategy. National and local evidence and data including findings from local ethnographic research and community workshops helped shape the programmes of work to tackle the multi factorial influences on unhealthy weight.

Across the council, together with the NHS and voluntary organisations, actions have been taken to tackle the obesity. They include in the New Southwark Plan, creating an urban environment that promotes every day physical activity, improvements to green spaces and parks and opportunities for growing; supporting active travel – walking and cycling – through improving the infrastructure as well as providing cycle training and bike loans; restrictions on hot food take away and working with existing businesses to improve their catering offer.

There is a wide range of health improvement support for people of unhealthy weight across their life course: breast feeding and healthy weaning, healthy eating and cooking on a budget in early years settings, a specialist school nurse working with schools to refer to the children and family weight management service; and a range of services for adults too as we know that parents, carers and relatives have an important influence on children. The adult services include exercise on referral, weight management and other health improvement services such as diabetes prevention. The council's Free Swimming and Gym offer also helps people to be more active and healthier.

Going forward, we want to build on the work we have started. This includes:

- Promoting healthier hydration – supporting access to drinking water through the London Water Refill scheme and promoting existing and new water fountains; building on the success of the Fizz Free February 2018 campaign to encourage water and sugar free drinks.
- Building on the success of the free healthy school meals provided in our primary schools by extending the offer to school nurseries.
- Supporting children to be more active in all schools through our 'daily mile' and related physical activities.
- Working with Guys and St Thomas Charitable Trust to develop, pilot and test innovative and challenging approaches to tackling obesity. We will implement a multi-layered programme for the geographical areas with the highest rates of child obesity taking a home, schools and high street approach.

- We are reviewing how we communicate unhealthy weight messages as parents often do not recognise when their children are overweight or obese. We will be piloting with the school nursing service how this can be done differently.
- We are using the data we now have for individual schools to develop a package of support for the schools with the highest obesity rates. The offer will include enhanced healthy eating, physical activity and school nursing. There will be an opportunity for schools to test innovative models for delivering this offer.
- Alongside the work with schools, we are leading the work with Public Health England and London Councils to co-design and implement 'superzones' around schools. A 'superzone' extends the 'healthy school' approach to beyond the school gates so that the 400m environment (approximately 10 minutes walk) that pupils walk, play and live in are healthier.
- Over summer, we will be launching our digital healthy weight training programme which will support a borough wide approach to 'making every contact count'. The programme provides health care professionals and non health care professionals with systematic training on brief advice and sign posting. The aim is to make healthy weight everybody's business.
- We have already embarked on making our health and early years settings 'Baby Friendly' – that is to meet UNICEF standards. We want to take this further to include local businesses such as cafes and community and leisure provision such libraries, leisure centres and the voluntary sector. This autumn, we will be launching the 'Breastfeeding is Welcome' programme.

28. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND ADULT CARE FROM COUNCILLOR NICK DOLEZAL

Harris Academy Peckham are consulting on closing their sixth form. Could the cabinet member provide an update on what impact this is likely to have on sixth form provision in Southwark?

RESPONSE

Harris Peckham is consistently undersubscribed. Last year just one in four places were filled by Southwark parents who put Harris as their first choice. The Leader of the Council, our local MP and I are all concerned that parents are increasingly choosing not to send their children to this school and want to work with the school to improve its reputation and deliver the school that local parents and the community demand.

Harris Academy Peckham is consulting on closing their Sixth Form from September 2018. In a statement issued by the school on 4 June 2018, the school said it had begun a consultation with students, parents and the wider community to discuss whether their sixth form should shut down.

Presently, Harris Peckham's sixth form is one of Southwark's smallest (119 pupils at the January 2018 census). There are around 2,500 pupils attending school-based post 16 courses in Southwark, so the loss of 120 places would mean a net reduction of 4.8% of sixth form places in the borough.

Yet the impact for Southwark residents is that the school runs a number of vocational courses as well as academic. The closure of this sixth form could reduce the breadth of the post-16 offer in Southwark and mean that children wanting to study courses including hair and beauty or motor vehicle maintenance, would need to travel further afield to Further Education colleges or school sixth forms in adjacent boroughs rather than remain in borough, as there is no other in borough provision for this type of course.

The council is preparing a response to the consultation outlining our view that this post-16 provision at Harris Peckham should continue. However, as an Academy, it is their governing body's decision (and the Regional Schools Commissioner's) to take, not the council's.

We are concerned that many local parent and pupils are worried about this decision. Despite requests in the past to discuss our concerns about the school, Lord Harris has never met with us. I therefore welcome that Lord Harris has now reached out to the council and has spoken to our leader about what might be done to help the school. The local MP Harriet Harman and I met with the Head on 17 July 2018, where we discussed this further and put across the interests of the local community.

29. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND ADULT CARE FROM COUNCILLOR MARTIN SEATON

Could the cabinet member explain what work Southwark Council is doing to improve hospital discharge rates?

RESPONSE

Since coming to power in 2010, Labour has worked with the council and its partners to improve the lives residents requiring our services. We have worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for our residents. Southwark Social Care is now one of the best performing Local Authority teams in London, and the country, in performance on delayed transfer of care (DToCs). We work with NHS colleagues to help them improve their discharge performance, and together will continue on our journey to ensure we are always acting in the best interests of our local residents.

Southwark Social Care has consistently low DToCs, with significant improvement shown over the last 12 months. Our performance delivers consistently below the maximum targets set by the Better Care Fund (BCF). For example, Southwark had a total of 57 delays in April 2018, where the maximum target set by BCF was 196.

There is a dedicated Social Care Hospital Discharge Team that coordinates the transfer of care from hospital for Southwark residents. This team operates a 7 day service with social workers working over the weekend to facilitate timely discharges.

Southwark Social Care operates 'Trusted Restarts' for packages of care with the local Kings College and Guys and St Thomas' Hospitals. This means that if a person's level of need has not changed, they can be discharged with a restart of their current package of care, removing any delays caused by completing unnecessary assessments. There are also reciprocal agreements in place with other boroughs to facilitate discharges from other hospitals.

There are identified 'Trusted Assessors' based within Accident and Emergency departments who work to divert people away from an acute setting when an admission to hospital is not necessary. We have community admission avoidance services, the Urgent Response Team which is an integrated Health and Social Care Team that work together to avoid people being admitted into hospital and help to keep them safe in the community. Urgent Response is one part of the integrated Intermediate Care Southwark service; the other part is the Rehabilitation and Reablement Team, which aims to maximise a person's independence and reduce readmissions once a person is discharged from hospital.

Southwark Social Care has step down flats in an extra care housing scheme, and three in a physical disabilities setting, that enable people who are considered medically fit for discharge to be moved out of an acute setting. Social Care is also working with colleagues in Southwark Housing to facilitate people being discharged into Extra Care Housing, such as Tayo Situ House, Cator Street, rather than the person being placed in a long term residential care setting.

30. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND ADULT CARE FROM COUNCILLOR JON HARTLEY

Could the cabinet member update us on when the outcome of the OFSTED inspection of the council's special educational needs and disability (SEND) provision will be known?

RESPONSE

The Ofsted inspection letter is expected to be published by end of August 2018.

31. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT AND AIR QUALITY FROM COUNCILLOR GRAHAM NEALE

How much money did Southwark Council spend on road and pavement works, by ward, in the 12 months leading up to 3 May 2018?

RESPONSE

The revenue and capital maintenance spend per ward (pre-May 2018 ward boundaries) for the 12 months leading up to 3 May 2018 is shown in the table below. These figures include planned maintenance such as road resurfacing and pavement repaving as well as reactive maintenance such as repairing pot holes. The figures do not include capital improvement projects such as quietways, road safety projects, junction improvements, s106 works etc. as these are not captured by ward.

These figures are based on works completed and committed in the council's works ordering system and are not based on actual payments made to the contractor. The figures are for contractor costs only and do not include design, project management or other third party costs.

| Capital and Revenue Expenditure Total | | |
|--|----------------|--------------------|
| Ward (pre-May 2018) | Footway | Carriageway |
| Brunswick Park | £125,887.76 | £146,374.05 |
| Camberwell Green | £95,468.56 | £19,617.42 |
| Cathedrals | £80,907.27 | £124,154.68 |
| Chaucer | £149,295.31 | £94,262.14 |
| College | £178,896.08 | £109,810.45 |
| East Dulwich | £146,827.59 | £280,626.99 |
| East Walworth | £33,427.10 | £82,797.12 |
| Faraday | £68,559.09 | £69,398.95 |
| Grange | £58,390.73 | £73,581.14 |
| Livesey | £95,252.22 | £114,107.62 |
| Newington | £132,443.25 | £91,103.07 |

| Capital and Revenue Expenditure Total | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|
| Ward (pre-May 2018) | Footway | Carriageway |
| Nunhead | £173,861.07 | £139,815.23 |
| Peckham | £41,376.55 | £10,987.87 |
| Peckham Rye | £135,209.45 | £80,113.94 |
| Riverside | £29,152.39 | £210,684.81 |
| Rotherhithe | £42,760.17 | £23,336.04 |
| South Bermondsey | £32,349.03 | £126,479.64 |
| South Camberwell | £67,378.31 | £120,659.16 |
| Surrey Docks | £65,575.01 | £16,365.44 |
| The Lane | £221,204.28 | £177,153.33 |
| Village | £158,775.13 | £145,659.60 |
| | | |
| Sub Total | £2,132,996.35 | £2,257,088.69 |
| | | |
| Total | £4,390,085.04 | |

32. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT AND AIR QUALITY FROM COUNCILLOR ANOOD AL-SAMERAI

Will the council create a third PM2.5 monitoring station on Jamaica Road?

RESPONSE

We currently have two permanent Air Quality Monitoring Stations (AQMS), one located at Elephant & Castle and one on the Old Kent Road. These both monitor PM10, as until recently there were technical difficulties with reliably measuring particles as small as PM2.5.

The council's published Air Quality Improvement Plan commits the council to introducing a third and potentially a fourth AQMS and several potential locations are under consideration.

PM2.5 is assessed nationally by the government using computer modelling rather than by actual data. As part of the review of our air quality monitoring we are also considering commencing monitoring PM2.5 in Southwark at all our AQMS to ensure the government's PM2.5 modelling data is estimating local levels correctly.

We will be upgrading our current monitoring equipment in 2018 and will start the necessary planning processes to install the two new stations later this year. The total cost of this programme to improve air quality monitoring will be in the region of £150,000. The new AQMSs will be strategically sited to provide the most useful information to inform our air quality improvement work.

I am mindful of the air quality issues at Jamaica Road, and how these have been exacerbated by the traffic problems there relating to the Rotherhithe Tunnel. I have already brought up my concerns relating to this in my first meeting with Heidi Alexander, London's new Deputy Mayor for Transport.

Therefore, whilst we can't yet say for certain whether the eventual location of this new monitoring station will be Jamaica Road (as we have not yet completed the necessary assessment to identify the area that would most benefit from the third station), I am of the view that there is a strong case for this. I will ensure officers will fully consider this location in this work.

A new air quality monitoring station costs approximately £25,000 to install and the ongoing maintenance, servicing and regular calibration amount to approximately £7,000 per year. Funding for this is available.

33. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT AND AIR QUALITY FROM COUNCILLOR ELIZA MANN

Will the council formally investigate the costs and feasibility of deploying a 'smog sign' – an electronic display showing live pollution levels – on Jamaica Road?

RESPONSE

We estimate that a smog sign would cost £40,000 – £50,000 but this could vary depending on the location size and design of any sign. Costs would include monitoring equipment, a suitable housing, the sign itself, access to power, planning permission, installation, connections to telematics/internet, etc. There would also be ongoing servicing, maintenance and calibration costs in the region of £10,000/year.

Whilst this may seem like a good idea in principle, the reality is that placing signs showing current levels of 'smog' or air pollution levels on main roads will raise public awareness but it will not change behaviour so will not actually reduce pollution levels or help those most affected by poor air quality.

A more effective way to ensure the public are safe from poor air quality is through the excellent sources of public information that residents can already access at home or on their mobile devices.

For example, the Mayor of London has initiated a system of Air Quality Alerts. When air quality is found to be poor, information is quickly released to London press and media (newspapers, radio & TV) urging people to be aware, to not take unnecessary journeys and to protect themselves if they are in vulnerable health. Information is also displayed in the TfL bus stops that have electronic signs.

Southwark Council also has a 'poor air quality information cascade' in place that ensures the staff who care for our most vulnerable residents, in schools and care homes, are made aware of poor air quality events and can make arrangements to mitigate the impact of poor air quality on the health of those in their care.

In addition to these, London has live air quality information available on three public access websites (see links below), accessible to anyone with a mobile device or an internet connection.

Modelling, similar to that used for weather forecasting, gives air quality forecasts which are then backed up by the London Boroughs live air quality data to ensure the information is current and accurate. All three websites indicate pollutant levels in a map based format and are therefore extremely useful to residents seeking to find out what is expected on any particular street. Airtext also has an app that can be downloaded that gives residents daily air quality, pollen, temperature and UV information updates.

The websites are:

London Air Quality Network -
<https://www.londonair.org.uk/london/asp/publicbulletin.asp>

Airtext - <http://www.airtext.info/london>

UK Air – Defra - <https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/forecasting/>

34. QUESTION TO THE CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING FROM COUNCILLOR WILLIAM HOUNGBO

Was Southwark Council notified that More London planned to brick-up the water feature at More London by London Bridge before works went ahead?

RESPONSE

The water feature at More London is called a 'rill'. Planning permission is needed to fill this in. More London submitted a planning application to fill in the rill on 22 May 2018, but it was not valid as no fee was paid. The council has therefore not given permission for this work to take place.

However, St Martin's Property Company, who own and manage More London, have filled in the "rill" water feature which was installed at the time of the development of More London citing immediate health and safety concerns.

Now that an application has been received, the council is considering this as is our duty. However, officers are also seeking to negotiate with the owners to ensure that a water feature is re-provided in a format that resolves health and safety issues and means that people can continue to enjoy the rill.