



**Derby City Council**

**Council Meeting  
Wednesday 26 November 2014**

**Public and Member Questions  
and Responses**



**COUNCIL – 26 November 2014**  
**PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

<b>Questioner</b>	<b>Respondent</b>	<b>Subject</b>
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**Public Questions**

<b>A</b>	Dorothy Skrytek	Councillor Afzal	Recycling Revenue Loss
<b>B</b>	David Culm	Councillor Rawson	Heritage Preservation
<b>C</b>	Arron Marsden	Councillor Afzal	City Point Street Adoption
<b>D</b>	Kirk Kus	Councillor Afzal	Derwent Neighbourhood Working
<b>E</b>	Simon Bacon	Councillor Banwait	Normanton Empowerment Team
<b>F</b>	Peter Robinson	Councillor Russell	Fossil Fuel Investments
<b>G</b>	Dorothy Skrytek	Councillor Afzal	Environmental Contamination
<b>H</b>	David Culm	Councillor Rawson	Friar Gate Bridge
<b>I</b>	Arron Marsden	Councillor Banwait	Council Cabinet Webcasting
<b>J</b>	Simon Bacon	Councillor Afzal	Garden Waste Cost Savings

**Councillor Questions**

<b>K</b>	Councillor Barker	Councillor Rawson	Market Stall Holders
<b>L</b>	Councillor Davis	Councillor Banwait	Sickness Absence
<b>M</b>	Councillor Harwood	Councillor Russell	Derby City Council Debt
<b>N</b>	Councillor Holmes	Councillor Martin	Derby Arena Events
<b>O</b>	Councillor Keith	Councillor Afzal	Tree Policy
<b>P</b>	Councillor Poulter	Councillor Afzal	COPs Data
<b>Q</b>	Councillor Barker	Councillor Rawson	Market Consultants
<b>R</b>	Councillor Davis	Councillor Banwait	Consultancy Costs
<b>S</b>	Councillor Harwood	Councillor Banwait	Zero-Hours Contracts
<b>T</b>	Councillor Holmes	Councillor Rawson	Public Art Installation
<b>U</b>	Councillor Keith	Councillor Afzal	Neighbourhood Funding and Political Priorities
<b>V</b>	Councillor Poulter	Councillor Afzal	Brown Bin Savings
<b>W</b>	Councillor Holmes	Councillor Afzal	Grass Cutting
<b>X</b>	Councillor Poulter	Councillor Afzal	Blue Bin Removal Impact
<b>Y</b>	Councillor Holmes	Councillor Afzal	Purple Flag Status
<b>Z</b>	Councillor Poulter	Councillor Afzal	Residual Waste Delivery Costs
<b>AA</b>	Councillor Holmes	Councillor Banwait	Cabinet Research Officer Post



**a. Question from Dorothy Skrytek to Councillor Afzal**

**In a previous question I asked for technical data regarding the loss of revenues for clean, separated paper since commingling with glass was started. Kindly provide the figures.**

There was no net revenue for the collection of paper during 2012-13. For the financial year 2012-13 the income for paper collected at the kerbside, less the gate fee at the Materials Recycling Facility, yielded the City £167,923. However the collection of paper at the kerbside cost the city £375,000 in vehicles and staff, giving a net cost to the City for that year of £207,077.

**b. Question from David Culm to Councillor Rawson**

**Many residents are concerned about the preservation of Friar Gate Bridge and the Blue Plaque site of Smith's Clocks. I am personally concerned that cultural differences and disinterest may be conflicting with political responsibility in relation to Derby's heritage.**

**Friar Gate Bridge and Smith's Clocks are iconic symbols of our English Industrial Revolution and well known landmarks in historic areas of Derby. They are also a cherished memory for many generations of Derby citizens. I believe they are worth preserving for future generations.**

**Would the Cabinet Member agree?**

Yes – I agree that both Friar Gate Bridge and the site of Smith's Clocks are definitely worth preserving and contribute significantly to the city's rich heritage.

Friar Gate Bridge is a well-loved Derby Landmark. It is a grade II listed building located within the Friar Gate Conservation Area and owned by the City Council. Within the last year the City Council have undertaken a study to investigate the various options to conserve the bridge including a schedule of works and itemised costings by a metalwork expert to look at what the options are in relation to the bridge repairs. The Council is currently investigating these options and what funding is available to tackle the repairs that are needed. This includes preparing a bid for Heritage Lottery funding which will be dependent on the cooperation of neighbouring stakeholders and partnership working with key local groups and individuals.

In terms of the Smith's Clockworks this building is not listed but is within the conservation area. The building looks to be wind and water tight so the Council could only consider using their conservation area powers of enforcement under an Urgent Works Notice [Planning (Listed building and conservation areas) Act 1990] if the building was not wind and water tight.

**c. Question from Arron Marsden to Councillor Afzal**

**Would Council please advise when they are going to adopt the roads around City Point Alvaston?**

In respect to the formal adoption of the roads, the estate roads and areas of intended highway are all currently on twelve months maintenance. There are works outstanding which the developer is aware of but has yet to address. If the developer takes action to address these outstanding issues soon then the roads could be adopted as early as next spring.

**d. Question from Kirk Kus to Councillor Afzal**

**Were 14 council staff authorised by Councillor Rawson to canvass in Derwent for 2 days a week at the expense of the public? Was Councillor Rawson involved in the door to door canvassing with council staff between mid June and mid July?**

Council staff from the neighbourhood teams were authorised by Cllr Rawson and the Council leadership to undertake community engagement in Derwent neighbourhood, to identify key issues and resident concerns. This is a role and function that the neighbourhood teams fulfil, to communicate, identify issues and work with local residents and community groups to get more involved in their neighbourhood and community.

Within the framework of neighbourhood working, the council leadership have the ability to move staff resources to target work and focus on specific neighbourhoods or particular issues. This particular work in Derwent enabled the council to engage and contact a large number of residents to identify issues and encourage people to become street champions, join the neighbourhood board and receive information about what's happening in their community.

The aggregated issues identified from the work have been compiled into an anonymised report for the Chair of Derwent Neighbourhood Board and will be discussed at the next Neighbourhood Board Sub Group Meeting to be held on 25.11.14

This work was done via existing staff resources and no extra expenditure was used.

Cllr Rawson was not involved in any community engagement with Council staff between mid-June and mid-July. However there was a Councillors on Patrol in the neighbourhood on 24th July, where officers were present.



**e. Question from Simon Bacon to Councillor Banwait**

**On 14 July 2014 the Normanton Empowerment Team attended a meeting chaired by Cllr Ranjit Banwait, Leader of the Council, in relation to serious issues in the Normanton Ward. The NET team presented the Leader of the Council with a 10 point plan to help reclaim the streets. As of 14 November, four months later, the NET team has had no feedback from either the Leader or any other council representative on the 10 point plan.**

**Why has the Leader of the Council consistently failed to engage with the NET team in relation to the plan put forward by them?**

Following the meeting with Normanton Empowerment Team on the 14th July, officers were tasked to develop a targeted and co-ordinated action plan to tackle the problems identified at the meeting and brings together the priorities and actions agreed by both Abbey; Arboretum and Normanton neighbourhood boards. This plan has been developed and implemented, the key elements of this plan are:

- Clearance of contaminated and excess bins
- Introduction of a weekly black bin service and collection of side waste in specific streets in Normanton
- Frequent compactor days
- Alleyway clearance and gating
- Introduction of 2 new members of staff, from the Roma and eastern European community to engage and educate new communities
- Targeted resident engagement and education
- Develop work with schools; local businesses; residents and landlords to work in partnership to keep our streets clean and tidy and enable education and engagement.
- Targeted work with landlords to ensure both tenants and landlords are aware of their rights and responsibilities
- Introduction of an evening environmental patrol in the neighbourhood in partnership with local police team
- Recruitment of street champions
- Information session for residents on environmental enforcement and evidence gathering
- The secondment of 2 environmental enforcement officers into the neighbourhood team to more proactively use enforcement powers.

The council is more than aware of the issues that face deprived communities and the frustration that residents have in wanting to see their community clean and safe. The new action plan is designed to combat these issues both short-term in terms of adapting services and long-term in relation to engaging and educating residents.

**f. Question from Peter Robinson to Councillor Russell**

**Please note the statement earlier this autumn by Mark Carney, Governor of the Bank of England that we can't afford to burn remaining fossil fuels. This has been reinforced by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report published at the beginning of November. Also note that the Rockefeller Foundation – inheritor of a fortune built on oil – and most recently Glasgow University, have agreed to selling their shares in fossil fuels.**

**How much has Derby City Council, including its pension funds, got invested in fossil fuel businesses?**

Derby City Council does not directly invest in fossil fuel companies as part of its Treasury Management Strategy. The Treasury Management Strategy is a public document available on the Council's website. Derbyshire County Council administers the Derbyshire Pension Fund which Derby City Council is a member of. The pension fund investments are public information, were last published with the September Pension & Investment Committee agenda and will be updated with the December agenda. This is available on Derbyshire County Council's website.

**g. Question from Dorothy Skrytek to Councillor Afzal**

**How did the Council warn residents in Sinfín about the dust, containing chromium, volatile organic compounds, dioxin etc. now settling in adult's and children's lungs from the grossly contaminated Sinfín Lane site? Where workers have also not been informed about the blood poisoning risk from nickel etc., how is the council and Shanks/Energos setting aside money for future compensation cases i.e. children born with birth defects etc.?**

Extensive testing of the site for contamination took place prior to any works starting and will continue during construction. It is not expected that such compounds will ever reach trigger levels. Once the plant is operational the emissions from the plant will be carefully monitored by Resource Recovery Solutions (RRS) the plant operator along with the appropriate environmental agencies including the City Council with any necessary remedial actions taken in advance of any issues arising.

Resource Recovery Solutions (Derbyshire) Ltd ('RRS') and Interserve Construction Ltd ('ICL') are carrying out development works on the Sinfín Lane site in accordance with accepted best practice and with due regard to the levels of all contaminants on the site. Appropriate measures have been, and will continue to be taken to ensure that dust is controlled. RRS and ICL have, in conjunction with Derby City Council, developed a robust Remediation Plan for the site that will be carefully implemented. All workers on the site receive daily "Toolbox Talks" to ensure that they are fully aware of all Health & Safety matters relating to their employment on the site – including matters relating to contamination – and are issued with appropriate instruction and protective equipment. Neither RRS nor ICL are engaging in, or planning to engage in, any activity that poses any of the threats referred to in the question.

#### **h. Question from David Culm to Councillor Rawson**

**Friar Gate Bridge is an icon of English railway industrial history. Can the Cabinet Member reveal the estimated costs/budget necessary to prevent Friar Gate Bridge from falling into further disrepair and detail when a start will be made to protect it?**

As mentioned in my response to Mr Culm's previous question regarding Friar Gate Bridge, the Council has been working with a report it commissioned earlier in the year to better understand the works that are needed to preserve and safeguard this important structure along with trying to identify how it can be brought back into use.

The report considers three main options to preserve the metalwork of the bridge: Do minimum works as a short term holding operation; stabilise the condition for the medium term (between 5 and 10 years) and restore the bridge for the longer term (10 years+). The cost for this work ranges from £22,500 to nearly £900,000 and excludes the stone abutments, drainage improvements under the bridge, the clearance of trees, vegetation, rubbish and other debris along with the removal of the safety netting. These omissions will need to be factored in to the final costings before a decision on the way forward is made.

I can give no indication as yet when work will start but we are actively looking for third party funding opportunities including making an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund which will take some considerable time to prepare. This application will need the cooperation of neighbouring stakeholders and partnership working with key local groups and individuals.

**i. Question from Arron Marsden to Councillor Banwait**

**Could Council please advise why with modern technology the Cabinet meetings cannot be recorded and uploaded to the Council website as per previous meetings?**

Council Cabinet meetings are routinely webcast live and archived on the Council website. The exception is the meeting on 22 October, which was the first 'Cabinet on Tour' event, staged at the headquarters of Enthusiasm, Cotton Lane, Derby.

There are no webcasting or videoing facilities at Enthusiasm and to have provided the latter would have incurred an expense, which would have undermined our intention that 'Cabinet on Tour' should cost no more than meetings staged at the Council House. We took the view that the improved engagement with the public and particularly young people more than offset the fact that we could not webcast or record for archive.

We have two further 'Cabinet on Tour' events during the current Council year, at Littleover School and the University of Derby. I will ask the officers, who are working with the venue managers, to ask if recording facilities can be available at no or very low cost, perhaps as a student project, but will not lose the impetus of this exciting initiative for the sake of ensuring it is recorded.

**j. Question from Simon Bacon to Councillor Afzal**

**On 2 July 2014 I asked both Councillor Asaf Afzal and the Strategic Director for Neighbourhoods via email to explain cost savings of the garden waste scheme to me.**

**Why did it take 12 weeks and a formal complaint to get the answer to my email considering the council in the media were so sure of their savings and so should have been well placed to respond promptly?**

We were under the impression that a response to this question had already been provided to Mr Bacon as part of his previous enquires. Clearly that was a misunderstanding on our part and following your complaint we did ensure a response was received. We also apologised for any misunderstanding.

**k. Question from Councillor Barker to Councillor Rawson**

**Would the Cabinet Member detail what positive action is being taken to attract new stall holders to both the Eagle and Guildhall Markets?**

Given the current uncertainty about the future of the city centre based markets, there is little promotional activity taking place. Despite this, potential stall holders are still making enquiries that are followed through to a tenancy or lease agreement. Since 1 January 2014 we have taken on 8 new traders in the Eagle Market and 11 in the Market Hall, offset by 6 and 12 respectively, who have terminated their agreements during the same period. We also have 3 traders who have applications for stalls being processed.

Potential stall holders are signposted to the National Market Traders Federation sponsored 'Be Your Own Boss Scheme' that offers, 5 days rent free and 7 months half rent with National Market Traders Federation advice/support, once the new trader has taken membership. In addition, we place advertisements in the Markets Trade News and Markets Trader newspapers. Further promotional activity is restricted due to the lack of budget and capacity to do the work. For example, in 2014 we were unable to support the National Association of British Markets Authorities (NABMA) annual 'Love Your Market' series of events, aimed at raising the profile of markets.

Going forward, consultants have been appointed to lead a review of the markets operation and inform a strategic consideration on the best way to proceed. Additionally, the Market Service is due to start a consultation on a restructure that proposes that marketing capacity is built in. If approved further work on the budgets will need to be undertaken to enable promotional activities to be funded.

## **I. Question from Councillor Davis to Councillor Banwait**

**Can the Cabinet Member please detail the current status of average working days per employee lost through sickness absence per year and what is the financial cost including add-on costs such as training and agency workers?**

The Quarter 2 performance data for BVPI 12 – the average number of working days per employee lost through sickness absence excluding schools – indicates that for September 2014 the FTE working days lost per employee was 1.16, against a profiled target of 0.84. The rolling total for the Council at the end of October is 11.60 against a profiled target of 8.40 FTE working days lost.

In Quarter 2, the total amount of agency spend across the Council for “Cover for sickness absence” was £70265.

Direct salary costs of paying sick pay are harder to quantify as employees will receive their sick pay entitlement based on their salary, length of service, and how much sick pay they have received, if any, in the previous 12 months.

Councillor Shanker is leading a review of the levels of attendance within the Council. He is supported by senior managers from Occupational Health, Health and Safety, HR and Performance. A task group is to be created to jointly work with trade unions to look at options. This is in addition to the Health and Wellbeing Steering Group that is proposing a new strategic approach to Health and Wellbeing, through the delivery of an action plan.

A report on ‘sickness absence – current position, actions and proposals’, has recently been presented to COG and is high on their agenda of issues to tackle. Two further reports will be presented to COG in the very near future to identify further proposals.



**m. Question from Councillor Harwood to Councillor Russell**

**Would the cabinet member please provide detail of:**

**The total amount of outstanding debt the council is currently owed and detail regarding which directorate or service area the debt has arisen.**

**The total amount of debt owed to the council that was written off in each of the last two financial years.**

**The total amount of debt owed to the council that has been written off in the current financial year.**

The total amount of outstanding debt the council is currently owed is £10,047,304.37, the breakdown by Directorate is below.

<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Outstanding Debt</b>
Adults Health and Housing	£ 876,405.79
Chief Executive	£ 502,898.14
CYP – non schools	£ 1,670,719.41
CYP - schools	£ 406,186.24
Corporate and Adult Social Services	£ 3,235,246.50
Environmental Services	£ 164,300.62
Neighbourhoods	£ 2,060,949.06
Regeneration and Community	£ 156,683.47
Resources	£ 973,915.14
	<b>£10,047,304.37</b>

The total amount of debt owed to the council that was written off in each of the last two financial years is £233k.

The total amount of debt owed to the council that has been written off in the current financial year is £147,226.30.

**n. Question from Councillor M Holmes to Councillor Martin**

**How many concert events have currently been booked at the Derby Arena?**

At this time, no bookings have been confirmed however there is considerable interest in the Arena and negotiations are underway with a number of rock & pop and comedy promoters – including 3 possible dates as part of Derby Comedy Festival in July 2015.

**o. Question from Councillor Keith to Councillor Afzal**

**Ward enquires to Councillors and Streetpride are on the increase in regard to tree maintenance, pruning, crown / branch reduction and in some cases removal. In a majority of cases, very little action is being taken due to the Council's current tree policy.**

**Council officers are also now regularly proposing Tree Preservation Orders via the Council's planning control committee to pre-empt applications by residents who are turning to the formal planning system in an attempt to deal with a tree that may be genuinely impacting negatively on their quality of life / the local urban environment.**

**Whilst understanding the importance of trees and that in many cases there are good reasons to continue to protect them, does the cabinet member accept that the council's tree policy has become too rigid, lacks compromise and therefore should be reviewed?**

Tree Preservation Orders are proposed by the Natural Environment Team within the Planning Department and they predominantly only affect trees that are privately owned. Derby City Council has very few protected trees but occasionally they're protected in exceptional circumstances, such as those in Allestree Park. Trees managed on parks and highways generally do not require any formal protection as they're on our land.

The 'Tree Management Policy' has not fundamentally changed since its creation and is very similar to other Local Authority policies. Each case is judged on its own merit and requests for tree work are carefully considered in line with good working practices.

We have always given priority to health and safety issues and don't do any work that will benefit an individual but which means a loss to the community.

Many requests for tree work are for cosmetic reasons to benefit only one property. These requests will commonly be for work that will be detrimental to the health of the tree and create a costly maintenance regime with the requirement for continuous repeat works in the future.

In order to have a sustainable tree population with the public health, landscape, wildlife and environmental benefits which go with that, trees need to be managed in a professional and consistent manner.

I feel the current tree policy ensures the above approach whilst trying to help residents and property holders where ever possible. However I am open to the idea of a review and this is something that the relevant Scrutiny Committee could choose to look at if members wished to do so. However as in all services at the moment this will need to be done with regard to the diminishing financial resources the Council has due to Government cuts.

**p. Question from Councillor Poulter to Councillor Afzal**

**Would the Cabinet Member please detail the volume and nature of the data collected in the course of the COPs and Neighbourhood walkabouts throughout the city. Would he also specify what measures have been put in place to ensure that the information is kept confidential and used only for legitimate means, to allow officers to address the issues raised?**

The volume and nature of data collected during COPs and walkabouts is significant, alongside the other sources of referral and work that neighbourhood officers identify. To answer the specific question, which has no timescales attached, is a resource intensive piece of work that will require neighbourhood managers and officers a lot of time to trawl the data base of neighbourhood logs. Timescales do not allow for this.

If the question is deferred until the next full council meeting a thorough and detailed response can be given.

Measures are in place to ensure that personal information is not shared with 3rd parties, in line with the Data Protection Act. Names, addresses or any identifying information is kept confidential by the neighbourhood team and not shared with 3rd parties, unless there is an information sharing agreement or it is to prevent or detect crime, under section 118 of the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act. For example personal information would be shared with the police, housing providers or other council departments to respond appropriately to crime and disorder issues.

Information from COPs, walkabouts etc. is shared with members in a de-personalised form, without sharing personal information such as name or address.

**q. Question from Councillor Barker to Councillor Rawson**

**Despite repeated statements made by the current administration that they face unprecedented financial difficulties, this Labour administration is about to award an expensive contract to consultants to advise on Derby's market provision. This is despite Derby City Council holding active membership of the National Association of British Market Authorities, whose role is to provide management, legal and practical advice as part of that membership package.**

**Can the Cabinet Member please explain why this expenditure is necessary?**

As part of the Council's membership of the National Association of British Market Authorities (NABMA) a free half day a health check is included, and the Council is taking advantage of that. The piece of work now being awarded is far more substantial, its intention being to help shape the future direction and vision for a sustainable city centre retail market offer. Such consultancy work is not included within the NABMA membership.

As part of the procurement process for that consultancy study NABMA have been invited to submit a tender. They have now submitted a tender in association with "Market Place", an independent company with whom NABMA have recently partnered to form NABMA Market Place consultancy services. Tenders have now been received and are in the process of being evaluated.

**r. Question from Councillor Davis to Councillor Banwait**

**Would the Cabinet Member detail the current costs of consultants being used by DCC and the work they are carrying out?**

The table below is the latest analysis prepared on Consultancy spend – covering the period April to July 2014. In addition to the spend up to July 2014 the Council has engaged a number of consultants to support the Pay & Reward project including the Hay group Management Limited.

<b>COMPANY</b>	<b>2014/15 Apr - Jul Total Consultancy Spend £</b>	<b>What they were used for</b>
ADDLESHAW GODDARD LLP	£8,563	Housing PFI project costs
ANARCHITECTURE LTD	£34,713	Professional advice on historic buildings and conservation projects
AQUARIUS MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS	£17,300	Pay and Reward project
ARLINGCLOSE LTD	£16,000	Treasury management advisors
ATKINS LTD FAITHFUL AND GOULD	£265,046	BSF/ Public Realm/Highways/Transport/ Design services and project delivery support including for capital schemes
BROWNE JACOBSON LLP	£11,796	Compromise agreements re voluntary redundancy
CARBON MINDED	£798	Carbon reduction/energy conservation advice
INTEGRATED TRANSPORT PLANNING LTD	£20,500	Derby Better Ways to Work
MVA CONSULTANCY LTD	£3,550	Transport planning and modelling
OVE ARUP & PARTNERS	£17,542	Pride Park reclamation
SUSAN WARD INVESTIGATIONS	£1,740	Independent investigations
SYSTRA LTD	£48,735	Transport planning and modelling
THOMAS LISTER LTD	£35,538	Consultancy support and project appraisals for DCC Regeneration Fund
URS INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT UK LTD	£50,397	Structural engineering
WEIGHTMANS LLP	£95,420	Advise re Adoption of Public Health, Pay and Reward project
	<b>£627,638</b>	

**s. Question from Councillor Harwood to Councillor Banwait**

**How many staff are employed by Derby City Council on zero-hours contracts?**

An analysis of the October 2014 workforce analysis data shows that for the non-schools workforce, there are 1339 “open/live” non-schools occupancy records, or jobs without contracted hours.

Of this number, 968 individual workers account for the above occupancies, as 227 have more than one occupancy record.

Of the 968 individual workers, 367 also have an established post with the Council and are therefore working additional hours on top of their contracted hours, rather than as a zero hours worker. This means that 535 of the 1339 occupancy records or jobs are held by workers who have an established contract with the Council.

The number of workers without contracted hours actually working in any month is less than 968. For example, of the 968 individual workers, only 416 of these individual workers were paid in October 2014. A summary of directorates, job titles and the numbers paid in October 2014 is attached.

The use of zero hours contracts will be a key topic for discussion and consideration of the Commission on Fair Employment, Policy and Practice, chaired by Councillor Eldret, in conjunction with key managers and trade unions. An inaugural meeting is due to take place on Thursday 27 November.

Facilitated discussions will cover the following key issues.

**Use of Zero Hours contracts**

- a. Consideration of circumstances when the Council will approve the use of casual and relief workers who work on a Zero Hours basis, to genuinely support the needs of the business. Current employment practice is gravitating towards a more flexible employment workforce, to meet customer demands.
- b. Establish criteria to review the use of Zero Hours working arrangements and, wherever practicable, offer appropriate employment contracts with the Council. This will be subject to the demanding budget situation. Determine staff who want to retain the flexibility of being a casual worker.



- c. Review existing documentation for relief and casual workers and make recommendations for amendments where considered appropriate.
- d. Establish mechanisms to allow for the calculation of contractual status for existing relief and casual workers for the determination of service related terms and conditions of employment and any statutory employment entitlements.
- e. Establish clear and consistent arrangements for determining commencing salaries and subsequent incremental progression for relief and casual workers, in line with legislative requirements and permanent employees.
- f. Establish arrangements to ensure that relief and casual workers are credited with appropriate leave entitlements in line with the provisions of the Working Time Directive and relevant statute and case law.

**t. Question from Councillor M Holmes to Councillor Rawson**

**The Derby Evening Telegraph recently asked if the tax payer funded artwork at a cost of £50k recently installed in Alvaston Ward was a 'disgusting waste of money and not very good?' with one reader, typical of the majority of comments, writing that it was a 'waste of money and shows how much Labour are out of touch with the public'. Does the Cabinet Member agree?**

Public art is an important element of all regeneration projects and is supported through the Vibrant City Strategy recently approved at Cabinet in October.

Public art has been used at Allenton District Centre, some years ago, and has, from my understanding, helped to maintain and add value to that regeneration.

This public art has been created with the local community and the statements used within the feature are from people who have contributed. Their statements will be long lasting and help create local ownership and enhance the setting of the district centre that is Alvaston.

The £50k investment has created some positive media exposure, such as EMT. This coverage has given the district centre regional exposure, and without the public art this exposure would not have happened. I believe that this reflects excellent value for money.

**u. Question from Councillor Keith to Councillor Afzal**

**The deputy leader of the council recently made comments (call in meeting Nov 12th 2014) that the Labour administration's policy of targeting funding to Labour held wards (bar one recent exception in regard to district centre improvements), was not only based on the deprivation index but also Labour's 'political priorities'. Can the cabinet please explain what the administrations political priorities are in relation to targeted funding within the Neighbourhoods Directorate?**

The delegated neighbourhood funding has been allocated in line with the indices of multiple deprivation. This was approved at Cabinet and has been subject to previous questions to Council. In terms of political priorities being used to target funding within the neighbourhoods directorate, I would ask the Member to provide evidence that this has actually occurred other than a recollection of a verbal conversation.

The Labour administration has published its political priorities as part of its manifesto which formed part of the previous election and as such I am unsure as to what the Member asking the question is trying to ascertain.

**v. Question from Councillor Poulter to Councillor Afzal**

**Following a full year of the implementation of the charge for the collection of garden waste in the Brown Bins, would the Cabinet member please detail the actual savings achieved in the first full year, as opposed to the predicted savings target of £1.3m?**

**Below is the comparison model quoted prior to implementation of the brown bin charge, showing predicted weights and costs? Would the Cabinet Member please detail the actual costs and figures reported?**

Current Arrangements				Blue Bin co-mingled + Charging for Garden Waste			
Stream	Tonnes	Cost/T	Disposal Cost	Stream	Tonnes	Cost/T	Disposal Cost
Residual Waste	48,000	£100	£4,800,000	Residual Waste	53,000	£100	£5,300,000
Dry comingled	10,000	£10	£100,000				
Garden/Food	22,000	£50	£1,100,000				
Paper	4,000	£10	£40,000	CA Site	4,000	£50	£200,000
Card	2,500	-£50	-£125,000	New Blue Bin	20,500	£10	£205,000
				Home Compost	4,000	£0	£0
				Garden scheme	5,000	£50	£250,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>86,500</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>86,500</b>		
	<b>Total K/S Processing</b>		<b>£5,915,000</b>		<b>Total Processing</b>		<b>£5,955,000</b>
					(Incl element of CA)		
					<b>Difference</b>		<b>-£40,000</b>

The predicted saving modelled when the new Garden Waste Service was £1.2 million and will be achieved when the service has 20,000 subscribers.

The total savings achieved to date by the introduction of the service is approximately £1 million. Note the waste stream tonnage is yet to be confirmed.

The total number of subscribers to the service to date is currently 11,859 and the total number of bins collected from subscribers is 12,887. The approximate income is £500,000

Savings have been achieved in vehicles, crews and fuel.

The number of subscribers has increased every week of the gardening season and we expect to achieve 20,000 subscribers in the next year.

**w. Question from Councillor M Holmes to Councillor Afzal**

**Can the Cabinet Member offer any assurances that the City's grass cutting regime will not be reduced or face cuts as part of the administrations forthcoming 2015/16 budget proposals?**

There are no proposals as part of the 2015/16 budget consultation to reduce the frequency of grass cutting. However as with all budget consultations we will be guided by the public responses we receive.

In 2014/15, grass cutting of highway verges only, was reduced from 12 cuts to 6 as part of the budget saving proposals. Following concerns raised by the cabinet member funding was allocated to increase the frequency to 10 cuts. This increase in frequency caused public complaints to drop off immediately and has been permanently funded. Grass verges will therefore receive 10 cuts over the 30 week mowing season. This is effectively a cut every 3 weeks commencing on 30 March 2015.

**x. Question from Councillor Poulter to Councillor Afzal**

**Would the cabinet member please provide a detailed breakdown of what are the financial implications to the tax payer for the wards where the blue bin collections are being withdrawn in terms of the removal of the blue bins, reduction in recycling tonnage, and extra cost of residual waste to landfill?**

We are unable to measure actual tonnages taken from particular streets. The extra cost of disposal has been estimated at around £30,000 for the weekly black bin collection but this is only an estimate and will need to be monitored once the scheme is in place. This also applies to the recycling tonnages.

**y. Question from Councillor M Holmes to Councillor Afzal**

**With the closure of the Assembly Rooms likely to be permanent, the decision to close public toilets and anticipated cuts to City Centre CCTV, can the cabinet member please detail what steps he is taking to avoid Derby losing its Purple Flag status next year?**

Derby is proud of its Purple Flag. The Purple Flag is recognition that Derby city centre offers a real mix of things for families, groups and individuals to do in the evening including arts and music venues, restaurants and pubs and clubs. In the past few weeks events including Derby Festé and the Derby Folk Festival further enhance our city centre as a vibrant and lively place for people to visit.

The Purple Flag is awarded based on an assessment of over 30 criteria over five subject areas. Therefore specific issues such as the Assembly Rooms, public toilets and CCTV are only an element of the assessment and will not necessarily jeopardise our Purple Flag status. What it means is that we will continue to work hard to ensure that we meet and maintain the high standards we have previously set ourselves. In our original assessment last year we were judged to have met, and in most areas exceeded the necessary requirements. We will reapply for Purple Flag accreditation in April 2015 and fully expect to retain the award. We continue to work closely with key partners including local businesses, event promoters, Street Pastors, Taxi Marshalls, the Police and others to ensure that the city centre continues to be a safe and vibrant place that offers a varied and diverse appeal for visitors.

**z. Question from Councillor Poulter to Councillor Afzal**

**Would the Cabinet Member state what has been the increased cost of delivery of residual waste to landfill, since the withdrawal of the brown bin collections from the vast majority of properties in the city?**

There has been a general increase in residual waste collected across the country. Some of this increase in Derby will result from residents putting garden waste in their black bin, but it is not possible to measure this accurately. The net savings achieved by introducing the new garden waste collection service to date is £997,846.



**aa. Question from Councillor M Holmes to Councillor Banwait**

**In September a full time role of 'Cabinet Research Officer' was created by Derby City Council. What is the job description and salary grade of this role?**

The job description is attached below. The Grade 7 salary range is £23,945 to £27,323.

## Job Description

### 1. POST DETAILS

<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	Legal and Democratic Services	<b>GRADE</b>	7
<b>SECTION</b>	Constitutional and Members' Services	<b>REF</b>	
<b>JOB TITLE</b>	Cabinet Research Officer	<b>HOURS</b>	37 per week

### 2. PURPOSE OF POST

Work flexibly alongside other member support services to undertake a wide variety of activities which support the Leader of the Council, cabinet members and other councillors as required in carrying out their leadership roles.
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### 3. SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES

To whom:	Constitutional and Members' Services Manager
For which employees: (Summary)	None unless required to undertake initial induction training of new employees. Postholders may be required to perform some staff development duties.

#### **4. MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Support the delivery of a members' development programme and assist all councillors in identifying areas for development.
2. Support elected members by developing, managing and promoting good relationships across the authority and with a range of external public, private and voluntary sector organisations and community groups.
3. Co-ordinate and provide support to the Leader of the Council and other Council Cabinet members for internal and external meetings, including preparing briefings, presentations, reports and notes.
4. Liaise with colleagues within the Chief Executive's Office to ensure the Leader of the Council and other Council Cabinet members are fully briefed on policy developments, council performance and strategic issues.
5. Undertake specialist projects as required on behalf of the Leader of the Council, other Council Cabinet members and chief officers, including gathering information and undertaking research.
6. Provide general assistance and support to the Leader of the Council and other Council Cabinet members in the development of policies and strategies.
7. Attend meetings of Council, Council Cabinet, overview and scrutiny boards and other meetings as required, including evening meetings, identifying areas for research and development.
8. Liaise with the Executive Support Officer to coordinate or create appropriate responses to correspondence as required.
9. Election work as required to support the wider Democratic Services Division
10. Understand and comply with the council's environmental policies.
11. Comply with all Health and Safety policies and legislation in performance of the duties of the post.
12. Work with information technology and associated systems in accordance with the council's policies and procedures.
13. Comply with standing orders, financial regulations and Departmental instructions.
14. Carry out duties and responsibilities of the post in compliance with the council's Equality and Diversity policy.

15. Take part in the council's Managing Individual Performance Scheme

**This is a politically restricted post under the terms of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.**

Date job description compiled: August 2014