

## Council Meeting Wednesday 24 November 2021

## Public and Councillor Questions and Responses



#### COUNCIL – 24 November 2021 PUBLIC AND MEMBER QUESTIONS

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# **Public Questions**

#### a) Question from Douglas Lumley to Cllr Hassall

Between 2014 and 2019 the budget for the A52 roadworks project went from £9M to an estimated £42M.

Can Derby Council please confirm that the project is now completed in its entirety, including the supply and erection of the footbridge, and reassure residents of Derby that the final cost was in fact £42M?

### If not, please confirm the current estimate of total cost and the reason for the difference?

The A52 Wyvern Transport Improvements project was re-financed to a total of  $\pounds$ 43.2M in April 2019. Although the pandemic had an impact on our construction programme, the scheme will be delivered well within the agreed finances.

We worked hard with our contractors to find safe systems of working in accordance with the COVID-19 legislation. Although we had to postpone the original April 2020 date for the lift of the footbridge, this was successfully completed in May and has become a well-used facility for everyone and an icon at an important gateway to the city.

The project is now substantially complete, and our officers are working through the last elements to close out the project in line with the reporting, project management, contract and governance procedures.

#### b) Question from Mair Perkins to Cllr Hassall

Please can you explain why Derby City Council's response to the Secretary of State's request for the Council to provide interested party comments on the A38 junctions scheme did not mention how the carbon emissions of this scheme would impact on Derby's ability to reduce carbon emissions by 13% each year in order to meet the carbon budgets outlined on the Council's website?

Residents of Derby have shared this information with the Council and submitted it to the Planning Inspectorate hearings, so it was available.

"So if we look at the carbon budget for Derby which has been estimated by the Tyndall Centre, this shows that for Derby to make its 'fair' contribution towards the Paris Climate Change Agreement it has to stay within a maximum cumulative carbon dioxide emissions budget of 7.1 million tonnes (MtCO2) for the period of 2020 to 2100. To do this it has to Initiate an immediate programme of CO2 mitigation to deliver cuts in emissions averaging a minimum of 13.1% per year.

In 2017 (latest figures available) Derby had carbon emissions of 1.1 million tonnes of CO2 of which 0.4 million tonnes (35%) were transport. Based on these CO2 emission levels, Derby would use up its entire allocated carbon budget in just 7 years from 2020.

Assuming that the Derby carbon budget for transport is 35% of the Tyndall budget, then this gives a total cumulative budget of 2.5 million tonnes for transport. So the additional 160,000 tonnes CO2e emissions from the A38 scheme compared to the do minimum would actually be 6% of Derby's cumulative transport carbon budget. This is not insignificant. And this should be seen in the context of the 13% year on year reduction in emissions that is needed in Derby to meet the Paris Climate Agreement.

So, I would argue that the emissions from this road scheme are so significant to Derby that it would have a material impact on the ability of Derby City Council to meet its carbon reduction targets".

The A38 Derby Three Junctions Scheme is part of a national infrastructure programme and is required to pass numerous detailed tests and assessments as part of the Development Consent Order (DCO) process.

In response to similar questions Cabinet colleagues have explained that the modelling assessment of CO2 emissions is, first and foremost, for the scheme promoter to demonstrate compliance with the UK government commitments on climate change.

It is also worth noting that the previous analysis submitted as part of the DCO process, took no account of factors such as fleet change, or the potential for travel demand changes. Many of the trips on this section of the A38 are for local journeys, so the scheme is expected to provide benefits to other communities across the city and reduce traffic on some roads which will support public transport, in terms of journey times and reliability.

#### c) Question from Simon Bacon to Cllr J Pearce

### Please can the Cabinet Member provide the blue bin contamination level for the last four quarters that are available?

Thank you for your question Mr Bacon and for giving me the opportunity to present this positive information of a reducing picture of contamination.

The percentage of contamination present based on sampling of the blue bin in the last four quarters is reported as follows:

Quarter	% of contamination (waste or material that cannot
	be recycled via the blue bin)
July-September 2020	19.78%
October-December	22.30%
2020	
January – March 2021	18.85%
April – June 2021	18.85%

The decrease in contamination is encouraging but I do recognise that there is more to do to ensure the right waste is presented in the right bins. Education is a key part of this, and officers are currently refining their approach, whilst eagerly awaiting the outcome of the resources and waste strategy which will look nationally around consistency of collections. d) Question from Paul Tice to Cllr Barker

Historic research conducted on behalf of and by Derby City Council was flawed in respect of the history and provenance of the Allestree Golf Course. This error was perpetuated in the tender documentation issued to bidders as part of the marketing exercise.

These errors were pointed out by a key stakeholder in the process and published in the Derby Evening Telegraph within five days of the public consultation opening but ignored by Derby City Council.

The true provenance of the golf course was also not reflected in the heritage impact assessment created by commissioned representatives acting on behalf of Derby City Council, nor representatives responsible for obtaining planning consent for the refurbishment of Allestree Hall. This omission drastically affected the ability of Derby City Council officers and councillors, tasked via delegated authority, to properly assess the value of a publicly owned asset and its disposal.

The Expression of Interest process to find a private operator for Allestree Golf Course ran in parallel with the Public Consultation and documents issued to prospective bidders were not changed to reflect this important information that affected the commercial desirability and value of the community owned asset.

Can the Cabinet Member confirm whether the process been altered to ensure that Derby City Council reacts to public feedback during a public consultation process which is important to ensure proper protection/appreciation of the value of public assets, and to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework to meet their legal obligations for issuing planning consents?

I take the question to be did the Council alter the process? Categorically not!

The Council follows the National Planning Policy Framework and the interested parties were free to make whatever background investigations they chose.

#### e) Question from Mair Perkins to Cllr Hassall

As Derby City Council is in the process of updating its Local Plan and Climate Strategy, please can the Cabinet Member confirm if the Council will remove from its Local Transport Plan all road schemes and support for road schemes which will increase road traffic capacity and carbon emissions, in order for the plan to meet legally binding carbon budgets and IEA regulations as set out in the Local Government Association's Decarbonising Transport report? (https://www.local.gov.uk/decarbonising-transport)

The process for reviewing the Local Plan will of course include some level of assessment of the transport and mobility impacts and opportunities for future years.

Connectivity and mobility are essential for all aspects of our communities and the economy and it would be too blunt an instrument to suggest all road schemes need to be removed from future plans. What I can confirm is that the Council will comply with the relevant national guidance when revising future strategic plans.

#### f) Question from Simon Bacon to Cllr Smale

The UK's Information Commissioner's Office has now ruled in my favour against Derby City Council in relation to both residual waste disposal contracts and inter-authority agreements linked to those contracts regarding the Sinfin incinerator site, requesting full disclosure.

Considering this is the case why has the Council, along with the County Council, continued to withhold from the public new documents which relate to the plant and its future, such as those from the recent Cabinet meeting when previous Information Commissioner's Office rulings suggest that disclosure is in the public's interest?

There is a difference between the Council deciding whether or not to make public specific documents generally and the Council responding to requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act or the Environmental Information Regulations.

A request under the Freedom of Information Act or the Environmental Information Regulations is assessed carefully on its own merits, depending on the information concerned and the particular situation. There is no universal assessment that can be made. In some cases, several different exemptions to the requirement to disclose information may apply and there may also be a public interest test to consider.

This is an extremely complex and sensitive project. The Councils stand by their reasons for maintaining the confidentiality of information, however when we are able to share information we will do so and, to date, the Councils have shared information where legal counsel have deemed it acceptable.

g) Question from Paul Tice to Cllr Smale

At the Allestree Neighbourhood Forum in October, Councillor Webb stated in relation to the future of Allestree Park:

"The hall sale is in the latter stages of negotiation; nothing can be confirmed until that is resolved"

Cabinet previously advised that the sale of Allestree Hall would be completed by the end of September 2021. The approval at a recent Cabinet meeting to progress with rewilding options suggests that the deal for Allestree Hall is now complete.

The public has a right to know if the deal is complete. If it is not complete, what precisely is the reason for the delay, when will the deal be closed and what price has been agreed for this publicly owned asset?

The sale of a long lease has not completed. There have been complex legal issues to address which has slightly delayed the process. Officers and lawyers have been working hard with the buyer of the long lease to exchange contracts in the next few days.

The sale price will be made public on completion, but it is commercially sensitive information until that time. It was the best offer the Council received after a robust and properly executed process, including the use of professional agents, to seek the restoration of this historic asset which will remain as a freehold of the Council.

# **Councillor Questions**

h) Question from Cllr Skelton to Cllr Pearce

At the Cabinet meeting on 10 November, Cabinet made a decision to re-wild Allestree Park.

At point three of the decision, it states that a full consultation exercise, informed by a consultation plan, will be carried out to ensure that the details of the re-wilding are co-created with stakeholders and the people of Derby.

### Will this consultation enable stakeholders and residents to put forward ideas for re-wilding that aren't in the DWT report?

The Council is working with key partner Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, supported by Rewilding Britain and the University of Derby, to develop and implement the rewilding project at Allestree Park. The three broad options that were initially suggested, in the Cabinet Report on 10 November which could deliver the vision, are subject to the proposed consultation.

The full consultation exercise, which will be carried out for the rewilding project, will provide the opportunity for stakeholders and residents to put forward their ideas, which will be very much welcome.

From this consultation more detailed proposals will be established for the future management of the park. These will then be considered by the Cabinet in due course.

#### i) Question from Cllr Lind to Cllr Williams

## What is the view of the cabinet member responsible in relation to the recently published report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary on Derbyshire Police's safeguarding performance?

I am certain that anyone who reads the report will be concerned about the content.

The chair of the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership called a meeting of all chief officers of the statutory children's safeguarding agencies across Derby and Derbyshire last week to discuss the findings of the inspection. The Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable were both in attendance and discussed the action plan which had already been developed in response to the inspection. Whilst the inspection is focused on the practice of the Police, the Safeguarding Children Partnership is committed to working with the Police to support strategic and operational improvements.

#### j) Question from Cllr Cooper to Cllr Atwal

The Statutory taxi and private hire vehicle standards were published back in July 2020. Can the Chair of the Licensing Committee update Full Council on when all of the standards outlined in the document will be implemented by Derby City Council?

The Council has a good licensing function in place. Following the publication of the Jay Report in 2014 and Casey Review in 2016, a comprehensive review of the taxi and private hire licensing processes took place which saw many of the standards introduced.

We have reviewed our policies against the requirements set out and identified further work that needs to be considered, which we are working through. This work is due to be completed by April 2022.

The Licensing Committee have been provided with updates on progress and where necessary, have been asked to consider changes that may be required.

#### k) Question from Cllr Martin to Cllr Williams

#### With regard to school place planning, how much consideration does the Cabinet Member give, at the outset, to the environmental impact of the new school places arising from pupil journeys to and from school?

Careful consideration is given to a range of factors when planning the location of new school places when they are required, in order to meet demand.

A Travel Plan is routinely drawn up and submitted as part of any major school expansion planning application. This Travel Plan will set out the steps and measures to be introduced to mitigate any impacts arising from priority school expansion proposals.

#### I) Question from CIIr Shanker to CIIr Poulter

## What reassurances can you give me that Dubrek Studios will be adequately supported to find new premises and with relocation costs as Padley have so generously been?

Derby City Council has been in regular contact with Dubrek in support of their search for new premises since April 2021. This has included specialist advice from a commercial property consultant to identify suitable locations.

Working alongside St. James Securities, the developers of the Becketwell performance venue who have agreed a compensation package with Dubrek, the City Council has been exploring all opportunities to leverage additional financial support for Dubrek's relocation. Time limited options such as the Additional Restrictions Grant were considered, unfortunately however without appropriate alternative premises this source of support could not be committed.

The City Council will continue to work with Dubrek to facilitate appropriate financial support once they have secured premises.

#### m) Question from Cllr Peatfield to Cllr Hassall

What is the carbon footprint of the proposed new A50 junction both during construction and after? What is the predicted increased traffic flow and how does the project fit with the council's aim to reduce carbon emissions by 13% each year?

Council will be aware that Derbyshire County Council has received £50 million from the Government's Levelling Up Fund for a new junction on the A50. This will support the development of the South Derby Growth Zone and Infinity Garden Village development.

The junction project is at the earliest stages of design and is not at a sufficient level of detail to answer the questions posed. Supporting the achievement of net carbon zero, however, is one of the stated aims of the Levelling up Fund, so this will clearly need be a key consideration of the project to ensure we comply with not only our local aims and objectives, but also those of the Government.

#### n) Question from CIIr Bonser to CIIr Smale

Does the Cabinet member concede that large scale redundancies will be required across council departments in order balance the budget for the coming year, and can he explain what the Council's strategy is in terms of seeking Voluntary Redundancies amongst staff ahead of any formal consultation?

The Council sets outs its financial plans in the Medium-Term Financial Plan and annually issues a budget for consultation and subsequent approval of a budget for the following year and setting of the Council Tax.

The Council's financial strategy looks at all the resources which the Council utilises in providing services for and with the city. This includes opportunities for efficiencies, income generation and the costs of our teams in providing services. This is the hallmark of a Council where financial strategy is constantly under review to provide the best outcomes for the city within the resources available.

The Council has an existing voluntary redundancy policy that operates throughout the year. It is likely that we'll need to consider a limited reduction in the Council's workforce through transformation programmes to become more effective and efficient, and in a limited number of areas, through changes in the service offer. Understanding whether colleagues wanted to explore voluntary redundancy options is part of being a responsible employer, working with colleagues and part of our Team Derby approach. Speculation on the size of the redundancies which are unfounded causes unnecessary concern and anxiety to our valued colleagues. As a responsible administration, we continue to plan for the future looking at all the resources the Council use in service delivery.

#### o) Question from CIIr West to CIIr McCristal

### When will the Guildhall Theatre reopen and much money will be needed to get to that stage?

There are a number of options available for the Council to consider for the repairs and potential enhancements of the Guildhall Theatre which will complement the emerging opportunities of the cultural heart of the city work.

The aim is that in the next few months, a report will be taken to a future Cabinet meeting seeking approval of one of these options, as well as the associated budget to complete the works.

The reopening of the Guildhall will happen as soon as the essential repairs and any approved improvements to the building are complete. The duration of the works will depend on the final scope of the project that is approved.

#### p) Question from CIIr Dhindsa to CIIr J Pearce

The budget decisions made by your administration for 2021-22 meant cuts in funding available to relevant departments for enabling bulky waste collection. What is the total amount of bulky waste collection before and after your decision to cut funding?

The collection of bulky waste via the paid service has been increased over the last two years, we have invested in resources to match the demand for the service.

No budget has been removed from this service and the number of collections booked by residents is as follows:

2019 - April to December inclusive – 3596

2020 - January to December inclusive - 6887

2021 - January to November to date - 7492

#### q) Question from Cllr Care to Cllr Williams

There was no reference to sprinklers in the Planning Committee report regarding the new primary school for the Snelsmoor Grange estate which was designed to the Council's specification.

#### Are sprinklers being included, and if not, why not?

Sprinklers are included within the plans for the proposed new primary school at Snelsmoor Grange.

#### r) Question from Cllr Cooper to Cllr Atwal

## Can the Chair of the Licensing Committee confirm the date on which the consultation on CCTV in Taxi and Private Hire Vehicles in Derby City will be launched?

I am not able to confirm the date on which the consultation on CCTV in taxi and private hire vehicles in Derby City will be launched.

This matter was only recently considered by the Licensing Committee on 4 November 2021. Members approved a consultation on the installation of CCTV in taxi and private hire vehicles to take place. Officers are now in the process of formulating the questions and associated paperwork for that consultation exercise to commence in the new year.

#### s) Question from CIIr Martin to CIIr Webb

### Can the Cabinet Member set out the actions he is taking to address the recruitment crisis in the Council's Home First social care service?

All providers of home care are experiencing difficulties in recruiting frontline care workers given that the competition for staff is currently extremely high. This is not just within care organisations, but retail, hospitality and leisure industries.

The Council itself has been working with partners recently to try and increase supply locally, however shortages in the workforce are a national and systemic issue affecting all parts of the country. Some of the specifics that the Council is involved in are:

- Working with Joined Up Careers which is an NHS/Council led programme looking at a range of recruitment approaches and retention initiatives
- Exploring hybrid job roles which allow staff to gain experience of a wider set of skills to enable start of a career pathway
- Using social media for advertising and engaging in local campaigns with partners.
- Working with the University of Derby's new graduates and students who may be looking for work and work placements
- Working with Derbyshire Community Health Services to share staff capacity where we can.
- Offering highly flexible contracts to attract candidates to suit their home circumstances

#### t) Question from CIIr Peatfield to CIIr Hassall

#### How will the trial school safety zones be enforced?

The School Safe Haven project trials different measures at various schools in the city to promote active school travel and reduce traffic around school gates, particularly at peak times. We started a trial on Redwood Street for Redwood Primary School on Monday of this week. Obviously, each site is unique, and enforcement will depend on the types of measures that are being tested - not all sites have the same restrictions.

Generally, there will be a mixture of on-site observation and camera monitoring to establish the level of compliance and determine if further enforcement actions are needed. Some locations already have camera enforcement of 'School Keep Clear' markings, these are unlikely to change during any trial.

Public consultation will be ongoing throughout any of the trials during the introduction of the School Safe Haven Zone. Any permanent changes will require us to demonstrate local support to Government, and this will include future enforcement measures.

Trials in other cities do suggest these types of changes do have a positive impact on safety and the environment around schools. Given that the measures are intended to benefit children, I hope that drivers will follow any new restrictions and that actual enforcement requirements will be minimal.

#### u) Question from Cllr Shanker to Cllr Poulter

## You promised that the Becketwell Arena Business Case would be open for full public and councillor scrutiny before any contracts would be signed. Why did this not happen?

In July 2020, Cabinet took a key decision on the Becketwell Performance Venue project and delegated authority to progress delivery arrangements. In line with the Council's Project Governance arrangements, Cabinet also agreed that the Full Business Case for the project would need to be considered and approved by the Programme Management Office (PMO) Board. The Full Business Case for the project has been completed, the PMO Board gave Gateway 3 approval in April this year and the delegated decision was taken to enter into contracts for the project.

Excellent progress has been made on delivery, with planning consent granted in October and announcement that ASM Global, a world-class venue operator, has been selected to run the venue.

The full business case for the Becketwell Performance Venue contained commercially sensitive details of the proposed contractual arrangements between Derby City Council, our developer partner St. James Securities and the preferred operator (now announced as ASM Global). This commercial sensitivity means the Business Case cannot be released publicly. v) Question from Cllr Bonser to Cllr Webb

Is the Council/Cabinet Member aware of the disparities in vaccination take up rates across the city's wards, and what is planned to address these issues and the consequential health inequalities across our city?

There are disparities of uptake of COVID-19 vaccination across our wards. This ranges from approximately 90% first dose uptake in Allestree, Spondon, Oakwood and Mickleover, to approximately 50% in Normanton, Abbey and Arboretum (rates adapted from <u>https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/interactive-map/vaccinations</u>).

At population level, lower uptake of the vaccination correlates with higher levels of deprivation.

There have been a number of interventions to promote vaccination confidence and uptake in those areas of the city where it has been low. These have been led by the Clinical Commissioning Group with support and advice from our Public Health team and include:

- Ongoing pharmacy offer in Normanton and Sinfin
- Promotion of walk-in vaccinations
- Vaccination pop up centre at the Pakistan Community Centre (in partnership with Community Action Derby) and Derby West Indian Community Association
- An outreach offer to the homeless population, asylum seeker population, people with Serious Mental Illness, people with learning difficulties, and the housebound population
- Ongoing community level promotion of vaccination in partnership with Community Action Derby
- Direct phone calls from primary care to non-vaccinated patients
- Promotion of vaccination as part of contact tracing response
- Ongoing promotion of vaccination via Derby City Council social media linking to local and national campaigns

All this work is ongoing, except for the pop-ups and outreach offer which are time sensitive.

Activity for the next couple of months will specifically focus on promotion of the 'evergreen' first and second dose offer (acknowledging that the push on boosters is being led nationally).

Activity will include:

- Leaflet mail drop to postcodes where uptake is low to promote vaccination uptake in the context of keeping well during winter, led by Derby City Council
- Additional follow up phone calls from primary care (practices in deprived areas) to people who have not had a vaccination yet and are in the vulnerable cohorts: 'cohort 6' (those usually eligible for the NHS flu vaccine) and 'clinically extremely vulnerable'. This is an opt-in project funded by the Clinical Commissioning Group, one city practice has so far opted in.

#### w) Question from Cllr West to Cllr McCristal

At a previous Full Council, I was promised I would be kept updated on affordable admission prices for Moorways swimming pool; as I've heard nothing since CIIr M Holmes confirmed that, can the cabinet member update us on whether admission will be affordable for those residents who live near to the facility?

As part of the contract with our leisure operating partner, the Council still has control over core prices such as swimming and health and fitness. Concessionary prices will continue to be made available for the same target groups within the city, as are available now.

There is also an Active Communities Fund of £50,000 p.a. which will be used to help support communities to be more active.

x) Question from Cllr Dhindsa to Cllr J Pearce

Despite a Full Council resolution supporting this you continue not to increase Raynesway HWRC opening hours and booking system to enable more access and ability for Derby citizens to recycle and dispose of their waste effectively. Comparing 6 months prior to the pandemic with the latest 6 months when changes have bedded in, what are the figures and their % change to:

- A. Number of visits made to the HWRC
- B. Tonnage collected
- C. Average cost per tonne disposed

Thank you for your question Councillor Dhindsa, I am always happy to discuss the council's excellent front-line services and I am aware that waste is on the Communities Scrutiny agenda for the next meeting, which will give opposition colleagues an opportunity to speak to the officers about the service in more detail.

I will present the data requested around HWRC visits but would like to highlight that you have asked for data pre and during a global pandemic which has changed the way we live. There have been various lockdowns and different stages of the recovery roadmap and some of our residents continue to stay indoors due to health or vulnerability, therefore the comparisons will be quite different. In addition to this, the Council has doubled its bulky waste collection service to enable residents to dispose of large items at the kerbside more easily.

To respond directly to your questions:

A - Number of visits made to the HRWC:

Last 6 months prior to pandemic -116,009 (this number will have included residents from outside both Derby City and Derbyshire County Council)

Last 6 months (number of slots) - 67,392 (a reduction of 42% - and is now only used by residents from Derby City and Derbyshire County Council)

B - Tonnage collected:

Last 6 months prior to pandemic - 6,840 T

Last 6 months (number of slots) - 3,689 T (a reduction of 46%)

C - Average cost per tonne of disposal:

Our waste contract is commercially sensitive, so I am unable to share an exact cost with you. I am aware that in your role of Shadow Cabinet member officers have shared with you privately an indicative model of cost per tonne.

#### y) Question from Cllr Lind to Cllr Williams

For the municipal years 2016 - 2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021- 2022 please can you provide detail on the following:

- How many Educational Psychologists has Derby City Council employed on roll for each year?
- What are the sickness rates for Educational Psychologists employed on roll by Derby City Council for each year?
- What is the current average waiting time and longest waiting time for Derby City Council's Educational Psychologist assessment as part of the Education, Health and Care needs (EHCP) assessment process, and what is the average waiting time and longest waiting for Educational Psychology sold services for each year?
- How many Educational Psychology Assessments have been completed by Derby City Council each year, and how many of them were completed including with full report issued, within the legal timeframe for assessment for each year?

How many Educational Psychologists has Derby City Council employed on roll for each year?

- 2016-2017 12 fulltime equivalent (FTE)
- 2017-2018 14 FTE in post
- 2018-2019 15 FTE (Achieving Change happened)
- 2019-2020 10.2 FTE in post (this is the current establishment, no changes made up to 2021)
- 2020-2021 9.3 FTE in post plus vacancies up to 10.2
- September 2021 6.4 FTE in post plus vacancies up to 10.2
- December 2021 5.3 FTE in post plus vacancies up to 10.2 (of these, 3.3 FTE are on maternity leave and 0.5 FTE is expected to return in January 2022, with remaining staff by June 2022)

The current establishment is 10.2 FTE which has not reduced since 2019/20.

What are the sickness rates for Educational Psychologists employed on roll by Derby City Council for each year?

- 2016-2017 21 FTE days lost
- 2017-2018 7.97 FTE days lost
- 2018-2019 3.7 FTE days lost
- 2019-2020 0.41 FTE days lost
- 2020-2021 33.42 FTE days lost
- Total 66.5 FTE days lost since 2016 to date

What is the current average waiting time and longest waiting time for Derby City Council's Educational Psychologist assessment as part of the Education, Health and Care needs (EHCP) assessment process, and what is the average waiting time and longest waiting for Educational Psychology sold services for each year?

- From 2016 to September 2021, timeliness of advices has been above 90%. Due to meeting statutory duty of writing psychological advices the service is not able to offer a sold service and this does not operate a waiting list.
- Locum educational psychologists have been commissioned to secure timeliness by the end of January 2022 as a short-term plan. The service is in development to ensure that the statutory duty is met efficiently again without delay.

How many Educational Psychology Assessments have been completed by Derby City Council each year, and how many of them were completed including with full report issued, within the legal timeframe for assessment for each year?

Timeliness has been continuously above 90% for psychological assessments from the educational psychology service supporting the timeliness of 20-week assessment.

- 2016-2017 334
- 2017-2018 283
- 2018-2019 377
- 2019-2020 435
- 2020-2021 397

#### z) Question from Cllr Care to Cllr Hassall

### Why is the Fire Authority not routinely included as a statutory consultee on Planning Applications for schools?

Statutory consultees in the planning process are prescribed by Government but anyone can comment on a planning application.

The issue of fire safety is considered under the Building Regulations in terms of access and water supply. However, the Grenfell tragedy prompted a review of the role of Fire and Rescue Authorities in the planning process and they now assume a role to advise on accessibility to high rise residential buildings.

#### aa) Question from CIIr Peatfield to CIIr Pearce

#### How many trees do you aim to plant in Allestree Park as part of the rewilding scheme and how much carbon will the project off-set?

Facilitating woodland creation across the site, allowing woodland to continue to develop naturally and assessing the need and opportunities for tree planting is an important aspect to consider in relation to off-setting carbon.

The actual number of trees that might be planted is yet to be determined as the details of the proposed re-wilding scheme are to be informed by a full consultation exercise involving key stakeholders and the people of Derby.

#### bb) Question from CIIr Shanker to CIIr Barker

#### When the Cabinet were privately briefed on the "We love you tent" proposals and costs, did it not occur to anyone of you that the total costs, constitutionally, needed a formal Cabinet decision so proper scrutiny could have happened?

The Derby Loves You Venue is one element of the overall Market Place offer, which has developed and evolved since the early days of the pandemic as new elements of funding have become available to the Council to support businesses in the City and the overall vibrancy of the city centre.

Officers did not know what funding packages would be announced by Government or when, therefore it was not possible to estimate what the total cost of delivering any offer on the Market Place would be. Furthermore, officers could not predict the scale of the offer over time, given that the size of future funding pots was not known.

Furthermore, no-one knew how long COVID-19 related restrictions would remain in place and therefore how long a Market Place offer would be needed for. New ideas were developed as funding became available and Cabinet received briefings on each element of the offer. The estimated costs associated with the Derby Loves You Venue were not of a magnitude to require Cabinet approval.

#### cc) Question from Cllr Dhindsa to Cllr Eyre

#### Why has the Council's Neighbourhood Team been put under Derby Homes when their responsibilities cover the whole City and not just Derby Homes properties?

Neighbourhoods are integral to the development of our plans to work differently in localities. The Strategic Director of Communities and Place has taken the decision to ask Derby Homes to lead on this piece of work due to their experience and success of working in communities through a decentralised approach to housing management.

The team remain Council employees, it is the leadership and support of Derby Homes which is being utilised to move this work forward.

Derby Homes is very much part of the Council and we are committed to delivering a joint vision for the benefit of our city.