

## CITY OF SHEFFIELD

### METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

#### MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL – 6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019

#### COPIES OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS THERETO

##### Questions

##### Answers

#### Questions of Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Julie Dore)

1. The Government, in its budget last month, announced a top-up of the Transforming Cities fund to £2.4 billion. The six Combined Mayoral Authorities have each been guaranteed funding from this fund.

As I stated in the answer to the same question in December, this is Government funding and the information is available through Government publications, it is not my job to do your research for you.

You asked the Sheffield City Region Mayor about the relevant figures for Sheffield to the Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authorities (SCRMCA) Overview Scrutiny Committee on the 17<sup>th</sup> January and he gave you the information.

  - (a) How much is West Midlands set to receive?
  - (b) How much is Greater Manchester set to receive?
  - (c) How much is Liverpool set to receive?
  - (d) How much is Tees Valley set to receive?
  - (e) How much is Cambridgeshire and Peterborough set to receive?
  - (f) How much is West of England set to receive?
  - (g) How much is Sheffield set to receive?
  
2. Since the full Council meeting on Wednesday, 5th December 2018:
  - (a) what contact have you had with the other three South Yorkshire Leaders in securing their agreement to progress the Sheffield City Region devolution

I have had several contacts with the other leaders, this includes, but is not exclusive, to:  
SCRMCA Meeting – 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2018.

deal?

Sheffield City Region LEP Board –  
14<sup>th</sup> January, 2019  
SCRMCA Meeting – 28<sup>th</sup> January,  
2019

(b) please list all dates and those in attendance.

3. Have you been approached by Council officers regarding the potential use of public interests immunity orders in relation to functions of Sheffield City Council? If so, please state when and which Council officers were involved in briefing you? No

Questions of Councillor Paul Scriven to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Julie Dore)

1. What arrangements has the Council put in place in the event of a no deal Brexit? List by service the arrangements made?

The Council is taking appropriate measures to prepare for the possibility of a 'no deal' Brexit. At this stage, our assessment is that there will be little or no short term disruption to Council service delivery. We expect services to continue to be delivered as normal on 30<sup>th</sup> March. An Internal Officer Working Group is meeting weekly to review this and will update this assessment as more information becomes available, particularly any supply chain threats that may become apparent.

We are also making an assessment of the longer term risks to service delivery (i.e. month 1 and year 1 risks).

Wider issues in the city are more difficult to assess because of the uncertainties in the national position relating to EU exit, and we are therefore maintaining a risk register to identify and seek mitigation for these. These include community cohesion issues, supply chain issues (particularly food, fuel and medicines), and medium-to-long term workforce issues if large numbers of

EU nationals decide to move back to their country of origin.

2. How much has the Council allocated or budgeted for in each service in the case of a no deal Brexit?

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government have recently announced that Councils will receive £56.5m over 2018/19 and 2019/20. As a Metropolitan Borough Council, Sheffield City Council will receive £210,000 (£105k this year, £105k next year).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/councils-in-england-to-receive-over-50-million-to-support-brex-it-preparations>. This funding will be released to services to respond to specific identified issues.

3. What other public services has the Council had contact with to plan in the case of a no deal Brexit?

The multi-agency South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum, which includes all the local authorities and blue light services, as well as central Government and other key agencies such as NHS England, Yorkshire Water, Highways England, and the Environment Agency, has been working for the last few months to understand the consequences of an EU Exit, including a possible No Deal EU exit, for the South Yorkshire area and to prepare contingency plans that will be used if necessary. Sheffield City Council is participating fully in this.

In particular, we are working alongside statutory partners through the Local Resilience Forum as part of the national preparedness exercise and our duties under the Civil Contingencies Act. This is being used to inform national resilience planning, which is being coordinated by the Cabinet Office.

We are also liaising with other partners about risks that they are facing and how these might have an implication for the Council or the city

more widely (e.g. business; universities).

4. How much officer time has been spent over the last year on Brexit arrangements?

Work has been undertaken by multiple officers across the local authority in specific service areas and as part of our work to support the Local Resilience Forum and our Civil Contingencies duties. This work will continue over the coming months.

5. Which member of Cabinet has overall responsibility for overseeing that arrangements are in place for the Council for Brexit?

All of Cabinet have collective responsibility.

6. What are the major risks for each service in the case of a no deal Brexit?

*As above:*

At this stage, our assessment is that there will be little or no short term disruption to Council service delivery. We expect services to continue to be delivered as normal on 30<sup>th</sup> March.

However, we are continuing to review this and will update our assessment as more information becomes available, particularly any supply chain threats (e.g. food, fuel, medicines) that become apparent. We will also look to make an assessment of the longer term risks to service delivery (i.e. month 1 and year 1 risks).

7. How many meetings have been held with Sichuan Guodong Construction Group, over the last year with the Council? List all meetings and where the meetings took place.

No meetings have taken place.

8. List all the potential development schemes that Sichuan Guodong Construction Group have been given first sight of by the Council and/or its partners as part of the "exclusivity deal" in the last two years. List all of the projects Sichuan Guodong Construction Group decided not to take up.

Sites at Gibraltar Street, Steelhouse lane, Cotton Mill Row and Nursery Street were considered as part of the exclusivity arrangement.

9. How much direct investment has Sichuan Guodong Construction Group made in developments in the City of Sheffield since the deal with them and the Council was announced in 2016.
- Considerable sums were invested in design and feasibility studies involving a range of professionals/ advisors (such as surveyors and architects and lawyers) by Sichuan Guodong Construction Group. As these costs were solely theirs we do not have any information regarding the sums spent.
10. At the announcement of the deal with Sichuan Guodong Construction Group the Leader of the Council said "this is a real partnership". Can the Leader of the Council please list all the direct tangible benefits that have come out of this "real partnership" for the citizens of the City since 2016.
- The profile generated as a result of this announcement has put Sheffield firmly on the map in China and assisted/ led to : numerous business and trade collaborations across the City and City Region, educational partnerships and the development of the China – UK Business Incubator at the New Era development.
11. How many new jobs have been created since 2016 in Sheffield directly related to the Council and Sichuan Guodong Construction Group deal.
- We are aware that Sichuan Guodong employed numerous local professionals to assist in their feasibility studies but do not hold any information on the number of jobs created.
12. Has Sheffield City Council used public interest immunity in relation to any of its functions?
- Public Interest Immunity (PII) is a matter for the courts where cases have very sensitive evidence in serious cases which requires careful control over its use and distribution. It is the court which makes the actual decisions on PII, not the local authority.
- The PII process is available in any kind of court proceedings, but it needs to be understood that all decisions are made by the Judge.
- In Sheffield, in taxi licencing cases, there have been two cases in the last year where the process has been used. A judgement relating to a Rotherham case has recently been given by the Recorder (Senior Judge) in Sheffield confirming it is an appropriate process which is available if the circumstances are

right. Part of the Judges role is to ensure justice is done by all parties.

13. If so, please list which Departments, and on how many occasions have the City Council used public interest immunity?

See above.

Questions of Councillor Martin Smith to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Julie Dore

1. Excluding UK citizens, how many EU nationals are employed by the City Council?

We currently do not have this information. We are not required to gather this data as part of Public Sector Duty (Section 149 - Equality Act 2010), although do fully comply with all legislation, and for all employees, check documents to ensure individuals have the right to work in the UK. However, we have made the decision to ask for this question as part of our workforce census which staff are currently being asked to update. We have done this so that we can ensure we can positively support our EU national employees in the process of applying for the Settlement Scheme.

2. How has the Council been supporting them during the long period of Brexit uncertainty?

We await the official launch of the EU Settlement Scheme, which at the moment is due on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and at this point we will communicate to the organisation and possible individual employees, the information, details and process for applying for EU Settlement. The HR team will be leading on the support we will provide but also expect (and will include in our internal communications) the support of an employee's manager, their colleagues and the availability of the Employee Assistance Programme. We will use all internal communication channels available to us to promote this information as well as engaging our Equality Leads and asking them to promote the information.

3. Will the Council be offering support to any of those who decide to apply for 'Settled Status'?
- As above.

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

Over the past three years, how many days have been spent by officers on complaints about Councillors' conduct? Please provide the number of days the investigations required from opening the investigation to closing it, along with the number of Councillors who were investigated and which party they are a member of.

Complaints received about Members' alleged conduct are assessed by the Monitoring Officer in conjunction with the Independent Person. The four possible courses of action following assessment are to: take no action; take other action through informal resolution; refer the matter for investigation; or refer the matter to the Consideration Sub-Committee. Between 2016-2018, three complaints were investigated.

This is a summary of complaints by year and the time between initial assessment of a complaint and consideration of an investigation by the Consideration Sub Committee (of the Audit & Standards Committee) is also shown.

2018: Total of 11 complaints received. 1 was withdrawn. None were investigated

2017: Total of 24 complaints received. 1 complaint was not valid. 2 complaints were investigated;

1. initial Assessment on 19/06/17 and Consideration of investigation on 15/3/18
2. received on 03/07/17 and Consideration of investigation on 30/04/18

2016: Total of 21 complaints received. 1 complaint was not valid and 1 withdrawn. 1 complaint was investigated;

Initial Assessment on 22/11/16 and  
Consideration of investigation on  
25/09/2017.

**Note:**

The complaints received related to the City and Parish Councils in Sheffield. Complaints were dealt with relating to members of Labour, Liberal Democrat, Green and UKIP political parties.

The time spent on complaints by the Monitoring Officer and Democratic Services is not recorded.

Questions of Councillor Mohammed Mahroof to Councillor Jayne Dunn (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills)

1. As the Local Authority has to provide education for young people, has there been a risk assessment and what contingencies are in place if an Academy fails?

The Local Authority has a duty to ensure sufficient school places for children in Sheffield.

The Department for Education (DfE) Regional Schools Commissioner is responsible for monitoring performance of Academies and also, liaises with the Local Authority in relation to school place planning. The DfE's Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) monitors financial and governance risks through regular mandatory data returns. The DfE has a monthly liaison meeting with the Local Authority at which risks and issues are discussed and monitored.

Through these monitoring processes, it is unlikely that an Academy or Academy Trust would fail without warning.

In the event of an Academy Trust failing or becoming unviable, the Regional Schools Commissioner has the responsibility for brokering Academies to a new or successor Academy Trust, as happened with the Wakefield City Academies Trust recently. Should this pose a risk to our duty to provide sufficient places we would work closely with the Regional Schools Commissioner to ensure continuity of education.

2. SEN provision is under a huge amount of strain with assessments taking a very long time. What actions are being taken to address this major issue?

It is true that SEN provision is under a huge amount of strain, both in regards to the current financial settlement for schools and the high needs block, the impact of the curriculum and current low confidence in the support that children with complex needs will receive in mainstream school from the school and support services.

Assessment happens at many times and in many ways from many services. This could include assessment from services such as the Educational Psychology Service, Autism Education Team, Speech and Language service and many others.

Sheffield's aspiration is to be a city focussed on early intervention. The pressure on services to meet the needs of the most complex makes this challenging. Ongoing work to consider and improve assessments timeliness by individual services includes:

- Options appraisal for Educational Psychology Service has been produced for consideration of different ways of working.
- Scoping of therapy provision by the CCG to ensure that there is clarity on both the provision currently in place and potential future demand. This should lead to consultation for future provision, including consideration of resource needs
- Investment in the Autism Education Team to double their staffing, providing a teacher for each of Sheffield's seven localities. Recruitment is ongoing for these posts.
- Development of Vulnerable Learner Reviews to identify with schools children that may be at risk of not having their needs met through data and discussion so that assessment can be effectively targeted.

For the most complex children a co-ordinated Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment takes place. This should be completed within 20 weeks. Sheffield has been historically

poor in meeting this timeframe. Last published data is for 2017 standing at 13%. The data for 2018 shows a significant increase to 40%. This is still not good enough and work continues to improve this. As at the end of January, there are fewer than 15 EHC Needs Assessments yet to be finalised that are over the 20 week timeframe. This is out of over 170. It should be noted that there was over a 25% increase in requests for EHC Needs Assessment in academic year 2017/18 on the previous year.

Work to improve includes:

- Increased staffing in the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Statutory Assessment and Review Service to complete assessment and review activity. A restructure took place in August, 2018 to create a more efficient staffing structure which has then received additional funding to increase capacity in the short term (two years).
- Improvement plan for the service focussed on four key priorities: (1) Compliance, (2) quality, (3) External Communication and (4) Internal Communication. This will form part of the Written Statement of Action in response to the local area SEND inspection. This is being led by the new Service Manager who started in post at the start of December, 2018. This includes pathway development within service for the assessment process
- Training programme for staff within the service to ensure an effective assessment system is in place to support children and their families.
- Project being developed around telephony responses to prevent time being diverted for other

services. Monitoring and evidence showed that the SEND Statutory Assessment and Review Service were being contacted for all SEND related queries, drawing away from the core business of completing statutory assessment work.

- Options appraisal completed in regards to development of ICT systems within the service with the intention of improving productivity.
- Bringing health single point of access within the service to streamline access to health advice for assessment. Similar work needs to be completed with care colleagues.

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

1. How much income has the City Council received to date from the concession contract for the city centre WiFi service?

2018/19 is the first year of operation of the city centre WiFi service. The City Council will receive its income for financial year 2018/19 during financial year 2019/20.
2. How many businesses have relocated to Sheffield from elsewhere in the UK in each of the last three years?

Data does not exist to be able to answer this question.

We know how many more businesses there are in Sheffield overall, and we know how many the Council has supported to locate here – but we cannot say how many businesses have moved here that we have not been involved with

*If you wanted to say more*

The Council's Inward Investment Team have directly made the difference to 35 significant businesses coming to Sheffield in the last three years – probably the highest levels of inward investment ever seen in Sheffield \* but these are just the projects the Council was directly involved in, not those that happen without any support.
3. How many lease agreements have been signed for the retail units in project Cavendish (the new HSBC building)?

At this point in time, 80% of the retail space is still under offer. Discussions continue to turn these offers into lease agreements.
4. Will the Council be selling its interest in project Cavendish on completion, or retaining it for long-term rental income?

The plan as per the Cabinet decision of March 2018 where delegated authority was granted to the Executive Director of Resources in consultation with the Executive Director of Place To determine and action the most appropriate disposal strategy for the Council for the Heart of the City II development and if necessary for the Council to sell the whole, any block or any part of a block as an investment. The Cabinet

report also stated:

*It is assumed that each property is sold on completion (on a long leasehold basis) and the capital value has been determined on the basis of full occupation and using anticipated market yields for the different types of use.*

In addition, the report stated: *The exit (sale) values have been determined based on expected yields for the different types of use. Again, these are prudent assumptions based on the current performance of similar property sales. However, given the significant period until these properties come on to the market then it is possible that lack of demand may make pricing less competitive.*

So any decision to sell Grosvenor House (as the building is now called) will be weighed up with the benefit of advice at the time regarding market conditions and a review of strategy regarding a hold or a long leasehold disposal and what the best disposal options are at the time with regard to what the investment markets would have appetite for and whether the building would need “bundling” up with other completed blocks. So, all for proper determination at the time of decision.

5. I understand that due to the triangular shape of the plot, Block C of the Heart of the City project will be built speculatively. Does the Council intend to act as the developer, as with the HSBC building? If so, what is the forecast cost of the building?

The delivery of Block C was set out in the Cabinet Report of March 2018.

That report stated : *It is imperative that the Council maintains the momentum of the Heart of the City II development on site ensuring a comprehensive redevelopment, and so it is proposed that the Council acts in the developer role with development management expertise provided by Queensberry Real Estate Ltd, to deliver the next phase of blocks as set out below in this report.*

The forecast development cost is £20m.

The Council has already received interest from investors and potential tenants ahead of marketing which will take place fully once planning consent is achieved.

Question of Councillor Mohammed Mahroof to Councillor Mazher Iqbal (Cabinet Member for Business and Investment)

The retail sector in this city, along with national trends, is seeing a major market change. One of the key issues is business rates and many more businesses will be requiring help in the form of rate relief. Clearly, this will have an impact on Council finances and the high street landscape. What help and actions are in place or will be put in place to help businesses and to transform the landscape?

There are a number of reliefs available to businesses, including Small Business Rate Relief and the soon to be introduced Retail Relief, which is the only relief specifically targeted at the High Street. Both of these reliefs are fully funded by Central Government so have no negative impact on Council Finances. By way of example, over 7,000 businesses currently benefit from Small Business Rate Relief with many of these having no rates to pay as a result of receiving the relief.

The National Government sets business rates and Councils up and down the land are now dependent on property taxation, be it business rates or council tax, for their income. So, this is really a national debate and a major issue for central government to deal with as either non-payment of business rates or rate relief will impact on Council finances.

In terms of retail, as per the question, wherever you look, you can see the signs that retail is changing. People's shopping patterns are changing, and the everyday use of the Internet is changing the way we interact and shop.

The retail industry itself is changing and dealing with issues that it has experienced previously, whether that is over expansion, debts or changing

customer behaviour.

However, there is still a lot to celebrate here in Sheffield – and great optimism about how we are placed to respond to the changing face of retail.

Sheffield has the benefit of Meadowhall as a super-regional shopping destination. The Moor is doing well and evolving providing entertainment to add to its long history of retail.

We believe that the overall experience will as much define the future of city centres as retail. More so, what Heart of the City II is doing is bringing people back into the city centre first and foremost through new workplaces and residential offers. Our first deals as part of the scheme have been office and residential – not retail.

Heart of The City II creates the conditions for a healthy city heart with a mix of uses that all complement each other and link to the great public realm and cultural offer we have here in Sheffield, one which we believe is truly unique. It provides a fresh opportunity for Sheffield city centre, which from a retailing perspective, will be an alternative but complementary offer to Meadowhall. Sheffield has the opportunity to make both of these retail centres work really well.

The delivery of both the Moor and Heart of The City II on a phased basis also allows time to work with an evolving market and get it right, which can be seen from the fruits being realised on The Moor.

Meanwhile on Fargate, and the High Street, the council is looking at policy

changes that should allow alternative uses that keep them vibrant and sustainable. City centre development for us is now not just about retail but about all the other key and primary uses that cause people to use the city centre – and that is what we are delivering. We will be making an application for grant as part of the Government's High Street Fund too.

All of the activity mentioned is the best way we can help Sheffield to be economically vibrant and therefore mitigate business rate issues.

Questions of Councillor Martin Smith to Councillor Mary Lea (Cabinet Member for Culture, Parks and Leisure)

The Home Office is reported to have signed a contract last year for £91m with a company to set up a service in 56 local libraries to support non-UK citizens applying for 'Settled Status' or other visas.

1. What contact has the Council had with either the Home Office or the service provider with regards to this initiative?

Libraries across the country were offered the opportunity to work with 'We Are Digital', the company contracted by the Home Office to provide support for visa applications. Sheffield did not take this up as it viewed the scheme to require large set up costs in time and training of staff with little guaranteed income (payment made on completion of the process by an individual). This proved to be the case in neighbouring authorities who took part who saw very low numbers of applicants. The EU settlement scheme is an extension of this project and also seems to be non-viable for the same reasons. Libraries Connected, the national body representing management of libraries, is seeking to negotiate different terms with central Government for future digital inclusion initiatives aimed at libraries which would be cost effective for us to take part in.

2. How many of these library locations will be in Sheffield?

None.

Questions of Councillor Richard Shaw to Councillor Mary Lea (Cabinet Member for Culture, Parks and Leisure)

1. The historic Beauchief Barns (located next to Beauchief Abbey, within the Beauchief Abbey Conservation Area) are currently being considered for potential disposal by the Council. Are you, as the Cabinet Member, in favour of selling these buildings?

The Council has no plans to dispose of Beauchief Barns which form part of a lease to SIV. We are however, reviewing options for their long term use which will secure their future as important heritage assets of the city.

2. In February 2015, a petition of more than 700 signatures was presented to this Council against the sale of council-owned land within the Beauchief Abbey Conservation Area. Will you guarantee that the Council will not sell or otherwise dispose of Council-owned land or buildings within this area?

See above, the Council has no plans to dispose of Beauchief Barns

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

In recent months, Woodseats Library has experienced a number of graffiti attacks. Who is responsible for the removal of graffiti on library and Community buildings?

Woodseats Library is within a building managed by the local GP surgery and it is they who are attending to the graffiti in this instance.

Question of Councillor Mohammed Mahroof to Councillor Chris Peace (Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care)

Elderly care providers are struggling to provide a service based on current Local Authority fees. Homes are likely to close as it becomes uneconomical for them to operate. This will clearly cause a major problem in the City. What is being done about this and how are we supporting the private sector?

The Council works intensively with local care homes to understand their costs each year. Last year we invited care home operators to open their books to the Council on a voluntary basis and a number chose to do this. This gave us an even clearer understanding of their costs and enabled us to increase fee rates by an appropriate amount that reasonably reflected their costs in providing good quality care. It has been pleasing to see the progress that local care homes have made over the last year with quality, reflected in an improving picture with regard to inspections from the Care Quality Commission. We have continued our discussions with care homes as we look to set fee rates for the next financial year and will ensure these reflect the costs of delivering good quality care and have built a positive relationship which has been reported back at the cross party Monitoring and Advisory Board (Adult Services).

Questions of Councillor Martin Smith to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

With regards to Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) income from Non-Residential Developments:

1. How much has been received to date?
  - Student Accommodation - £4.4 million (45% of total receipts)
  - Retail - £716,000 (7% of total receipts)
  - Hotels - £41,000 (0.4% of total receipts)
  
2. What is the total income forecast for the next three years?

Based on current income levels, we estimate between around £20m and £25m total receipts, which would represent between around £10m and £13m, based on the percentages above, for non-residential developments.

Question of Councillor Mike Levery to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

There are four secondary schools in Sheffield which have to pay significant sums to maintain their school bus service, unlike the rest of the secondary schools in Sheffield. What steps have been taken to ensure that these schools are brought in line with all the other secondary schools from the start of the next academic year?

South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (SYPTTE) arrange home to school transport on behalf of the local authority for pupils that the local authority issue with zero fare passes. Brightbus (big green buses) were a school bus operator that provided services for a profit and no contracts were in place with SYPTTE.

When Brightbus ceased to trade, the majority of the services were replaced either commercially or with SYPTTE funding. Unfortunately, a small number did not fall into either of these categories and with the assistance of SYPTTE, alternative providers were found that the schools pay for directly. The three school services SYPTTE assisted the schools in providing are:

- Stocksbridge and Deepcar to Notre Dame High School
- Chapelton to Stocksbridge High School.
- Woodhouse/Richmond to Outwood

(City) School.

SYLTE do not receive any additional funding from the local authority for pupils that do not receive the zero fare pass, so, regrettably, there is nothing further they can offer, except to advise of the alternatives available or assist the schools in procuring their own services. The policy on who receives a zero fare pass is a local authority decision but is based on national guidance.

Sheffield Girls High and Birkdale procure their own transport for parental choice of school but SYLTE do not fund these services either.

Questions of Councillor Mohammed Mahroof to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

1. Car parking on grass verges is becoming an increasing problem in Crosspool and other areas. Please list the actions taken by the Council in tackling car parking on grass verges, or what actions will be put in place to tackle this issue.

Where parking is found to be unsafe or causing a significant nuisance due to obstruction, we would seek to promote yellow line waiting restrictions. However, introducing waiting restrictions in isolation can lead to displacement and problems elsewhere. This is why it is preferential to deal with parking across an area wide review. Whilst people may be parking on the verge to minimise the obstruction they are causing, the problem arising is the damage caused to the grassed areas.

Currently where verges are damaged, it will be repaired by re-soiling and applying seed in the first instance. This is the best option but in most cases the damage reoccurs and is therefore not sustainable. If the damage is persistent we can consider hardening the verge by installing road planings. This is a less aesthetic solution but will allow water to percolate through, reducing mud, and will allow parking to continue. A final option to prevent the parking is to install bollards but these need careful consideration as, in the past,

they have been illegally removed and also risk displacing the issue.

2. There is a lack of cycle parking at many shopping centres and complexes across Sheffield especially in my Ward of Crookes and Crosspool. Please list the actions that are being taken to roll out a programme of delivery in all local shopping centres?

We have a small city wide budget for the implementation of cycle stands. The budget does not cover the number of requests.

Last financial year (2017/18) we provided three stands in the Crookes area:

- Highton Street Crookes – one close to Asda supermarket
- South Road Crookes – one next to an existing stand outside Gerry's bakery/café
- Crookes – one outside Just Natural

This financial year (2018/19) we will provide one stand at the following location:

- Outside Unwrapped shop in Crookes between the zebra crossing and bollard.

In addition to this

- we will add in cycle parking along cycle routes we develop where they serve key destinations.
- cycle parking will form part of any bid for Active Travel funding.
- we will request cycle parking with new development where appropriate.

Questions of Councillor Richard Shaw to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

1. How many bus lanes and bus gates in Sheffield allow the following:

- (a) bus only;  
(b) bus and taxi only;

All  
All **except taxis** on:  
Peaks Mount, Waterthorpe adjacent to Crystal Peaks Bus Station;  
Runways B,C & D within the Sheffield Transport interchange (STI), STI Runway (unless holding a PTE pass);

- Carbrook Street – right turn lane of the offside southbound carriageway from its junction with Attercliffe Common for 25 metres;  
Tinsley Link Road – pull-in nearside southbound lane 70 metres north west of Ferrars Road for 93 metres in a north westerly direction.
- All except taxis as above and Cycles on Runways within STI**
- (c) bus, cycle and taxi only;
- (d) bus, cycle, taxi and solo motorcycles only?
2. How many fines were issued to taxis for unauthorised use of bus lanes or bus gates in:
- When a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) is issued to an unauthorised vehicle for being in a bus lane, a reason for why that vehicle is unauthorised is not recorded by the camera system. Drivers that appeal successfully to show that in fact they were authorised to use the bus lane or gate, such as private hire vehicles or motorcycles, are recorded on the system as having their PCN cancelled due to CCTV exemption. The report we can run therefore just states that a PCN has been cancelled due to “CCTV exempt vehicle”.
- This will include taxis, minibuses, people whose bus lane exemption permits have been incorrectly entered in the system, solo motorcycles and various other reasons.
- The total figures are:
- (a) 2017/18?; and 2017/18 – 5,056.
- (b) to date in 2018/19? 2018/19 (YTD) – 3,440.
3. How many fines were issued to solo-motorcycles for unauthorised use of bus lanes or bus gates in:
- Included above.
- (a) 2017/18?; and
- (b) to date in 2018/19?
4. How many reported incidents of motor

vehicles parking in cycle lanes were there in:

- |     |                     |            |
|-----|---------------------|------------|
| (a) | 2017/18?; and       | 9 Reports. |
| (b) | to date in 2018/19? | 4 Reports. |

5. For the above periods:

- |     |                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (a) | how many reports resulted in no action being taken due to the cycle lane being unenforceable? | 2017/2018: 4<br>2018/2019 YTD: 3                                                                                                                |
| (b) | how many reports resulted in fines being issued?                                              | There is no way to extract the data only for cycle lanes from the system. This will be reviewed when we refresh the parking enforcement policy. |

Question of Councillor Sue Auckland to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

Are you aware of any plans to make changes to bus services 18 and 19 serving the Graves Park Ward?

There are currently no plans to amend the route or frequency of service 18 and 19.

A full list of service changes for the beginning of March 2019 are available on [www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/servicechanges](http://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/servicechanges)

Question of Councillor Ian Auckland to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

The Passenger Transport Executive is projecting a revenue surplus of £600,000 - £700,000. Is this a good outcome?

SYLTE are currently projecting a revenue underspend by approximately £500,000.

The majority of this is forecast from lower than forecast price of tendered services that SYLTE operate. This is not a cut to tendered services but lower prices when the services were re-tendered for operation.

The remainder is from savings in operational departments, due to a range of issues including staff vacancies.

I am pleased that the Combined Authority and the Mayor are managing the PTE budget prudently and effectively.

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

1. In relation to the General Cemetery, has any decision been made on agreeing terms of the grant offered by the Heritage Lottery Fund?

No. We are still awaiting the final grant offer from the Heritage Lottery Fund.
2. If so, please provide a copy of the terms agreed and the record of the decision. If not, when will the decision be made and who will make it on behalf of the Council?

N/A. This will be a Cabinet decision.
3. What steps have been taken to investigate or progress a Workplace Parking Levy?

We have been considering the approach that Nottingham City Council undertook to implement their Workplace Parking Levy and we have met them to discuss their scheme and ongoing operations.

We have identified funding within the Highways and Transport Programme for the parking surveys that will be required to baseline the potential benefits and impact of a Workplace Parking Levy.
4. What progress has been made with developing a policy on the cumulative impact of off-licences in the West Street / Devonshire Street / Division Street areas?

The Licensing Committee agreed at its meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 that the Licensing Service could begin to update the evidence for a Cumulative Impact Assessment from relevant parties and if the evidence provides concerns about crime and disorder etc. the service can begin a formal consultation.

I anticipate this will begin in February.
5. What is the procedure for the Council to make decisions on spending the Neighbourhood portion of CIL and will this be made public?

The procedure for spending the Neighbourhood Portion of CIL is set out in a Councillors' Guide on Spending the CIL Neighbourhood Portion (or Local CIL) that was presented to the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee on 13<sup>th</sup>

December, 2018.

6. When is the Council going to start proactively gritting the station forecourt? To be answered by Councillor Lewis Dagnall.
7. When will this Council consider this key gateway to Sheffield, for thousands of pedestrians, cyclists and rail users every day, should have as much priority for gritting as Eastern Crescent in Arbourthorne? To be answered by Councillor Lewis Dagnall.

Question of Councillor Martin Phipps to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

When can the public expect a decision to be made on a City Centre Pavement Parking Traffic Regulation Order? This was proposed in April 2016.

This has been delayed due to the retirement of staff within the Transport Planning service.

A Traffic Regulation Order that prevents parking on footways in the City Centre is being prepared. It is expected that this will be advertised shortly and implemented by the Summer 2019.

Question of Councillor Alison Teal to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development)

The results of a Freedom of Information request has shown that the City Council have yet to commence work on developing a city wide scheme to address the parking problems in Sheffield. The level of antisocial parking has been an increasing source of distress for many residents. When will the Council begin work on a strategy to improve the numerous roads where currently pedestrians are at risk of harm as a result of drivers parking over pavements, dropped kerbs, across junction corners, etc?

A City Centre Footway Parking Prohibition is currently being prepared, as above. I set out our approach in the Parking Strategy in January 2018. This covers a number of policies and actions to address a wide range of parking related issues. In order to address inappropriate parking, our strategy sets out a priority to take action on an area wide basis to introduce new Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs), supplemented by reviews of existing CPZs.

A report is currently being prepared that will set out the areas across the city for future programme priority.

Questions of Councillor Richard Shaw to Councillor Jim Steinke (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

1. How many Tenants' and Residents' Associations hold leases with Sheffield City Council for their tenants halls and offices?

The Council has leases with 17 TARAs for specific properties. Other TARAs have access to the Council's portfolio of community buildings at nil cost.
2. Of which number:
  - (a) how many are for terms of 1 year or less?

There is some variation in the type of agreement in place for these buildings. However the majority are on long-term agreements which can be terminated by the TARA giving three months' notice.
  - (b) how many are for terms of between 1 year and 3 years?
  - (c) how many are for terms of between 3 years and 5 years?
  - (d) how many are for terms of 5 years or more?
3. What was the cost to the Council in administering renewals of leases between TARAs and the Council during:
  - (a) the 2017/18 financial year?
  - (b) to date in the 2018/19 financial year?

We have only been involved in one lease over the last 2 years and the cost was £350.

Question of Councillor Penny Baker to Councillor Jim Steinke (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

Do you believe the lack of a current area plan is impacting on services in Sheffield?

The lack of a local plan isn't impacting on Council services.

Questions of Councillor Rob Murphy to Councillor Jim Steinke (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

1. What payments has the Council received from Central Government for cladding on the Hanover tower?

The Council has not received any funding at this point for the cladding at Hanover, however, Council officers are in dialogue with Government regarding funding and the Cabinet Member is being kept informed of progress.

- |                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. Who was responsible for incorrect cladding being fitted to the Hanover Tower block? | The Council approved the contractor's proposal and a more detailed investigation is underway and will be available when complete. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Questions of Councillor Douglas Johnson to Councillor Jim Steinke (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. How many adults and how many children were placed in the Earl Marshall Guest House by the Council on Monday 29th January, 2019? | (a) 20 adults without children. The adults placed without children were three Council tenants who needed an emergency placement, 13 homeless applicants, three people under Weatherwatch/Rough Sleeper Initiative, 1 person with no recourse to public funds. |
|                                                                                                                                    | (b) One adult with one child. The family with a child were placed as an emergency for 1 night and moved the next day to a Refuge                                                                                                                              |
| 2. Of these:                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| (a) How many are British citizens?                                                                                                 | 20                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| (b) How many are not British citizens but have Leave to Remain?                                                                    | 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| (c) How many have Leave to Remain but with no recourse to public funds?                                                            | 0                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| (d) How many have Leave to Remain and are entitled to public funds?                                                                | 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

Questions of Councillor Martin Phipps to Councillor Jim Steinke (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. What other properties has the Council acquired, or is in the process of acquiring, to accommodate homeless or destitute families? | There are no specific plans to acquire properties for social housing for homeless or destitute housing. The Council aims to have purchased 70 homes this financial year for social housing. |
| 2. What other properties in the Council's ownership are currently being refurbished for this purpose?                                | Barnsley Road and Collegiate Crescent are being refurbished as temporary accommodation.                                                                                                     |

Questions of Councillor Alison Teal to Councillor Jim Steinke (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety)

1. What are the plans for the security of the Mount Pleasant building now the Guardian Scheme has ended and the building is no longer occupied by Guardians? There was a break-in on 26th January and Facilities Management refused to respond and asked the person reporting to call the police, who also did not attend. The building appears to be at risk of having no protection at all.

The building is covered by a video response alarm supplied by the Council's security contractor Orbis. Within the property are several motion senses, linked directly to the alarm which is linked directly to the 24 hour manned Orbis call centre.

This means that, on activation, they will attend the site and inspect the property and should secure the building when they attend.

On this occasion, the Orbis operative attended site but failed to secure the property. On Wednesday of this week we met with the Orbis account manager and reiterated and clarified our requirements on this site and others that are covered by Orbis. It was a full and frank discussion and Orbis took on board our viewpoint. He was fully apologetic and accepted they had failed in their duties but they would make sure this would not happen again.

On Monday of this week, Council staff attended the site and secured all opening windows by screwing them all down as most of them are sash windows and can be vulnerable.

2. How many reports have been received by Facilities Management of damage to the building and what responses were given?

There have been no other incidents that we are aware of, other than these over the weekend just gone. There was no damage to the property when these incidents took place, luckily, other than a light being left on and a window left open.

3. What decision has been made about the installation of lights and CCTV on Lansdowne estate?

State of the art LED lighting was installed on the Lansdowne estate approximately five years ago. There are no plans to improve lighting on the estate or install permanent CCTV.

However, we are ensuring that any faulty lighting is corrected as soon as possible and that stairwells are particularly focussed on. There may be the possibility of a temporary mobile camera.

4. When will residents know what decision has been made?

This has been discussed with Lansdowne TARA already.

Questions of Councillor Paul Scriven to Councillor Olivia Blake (Cabinet Member for Finance)

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. How many days has it taken you to give me written replies to my written questions about Council spending asked at Council on 5th December, 2018?                                                                                           | I sent you the answers last week and as I said, apologies for the delay in being able to respond. It has taken officers a lot of time and effort to draw all the information together in answer to the specific. |
| 2. Why has it taken you so long to reply to my written questions asked to you about Council spending on the 5th December, 2018?                                                                                                               | See above.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 3. Can you please explain why you didn't keep me informed about why you couldn't give me written answers to my written questions asked to you on the 5th December, 2018 within the 10 working days as laid out in the Council's constitution? | See above.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 4. Do you think it acceptable for you as a Cabinet Member to not reply to my email dated 21st January, 2019, seeking a date you will be giving me written replies to my questions asked to you on 5th December, 2018.                         | See above.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

Question of Councillor Douglas Johnson to Councillor Olivia Blake (Cabinet Member for Finance)

What proportion of the Council's expenditure has been paid to external organisations in each of the last six complete financial years?

The proportion of expenditure to external organisations was 59% in 2015/16, 57% in 2016/17, and 57% in 2017/18. Figures for the previous three years are not possible to produce within the required timescale. Officers have corresponded directly with Councillor Johnson over this matter.

Questions of Councillor Martin Phipps to Councillor Olivia Blake (Cabinet Member for Finance)

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Has the Council received the Government impact assessment on Brexit? | No. Following the Council resolution of 3 <sup>rd</sup> October, 2018, officers wrote to the Permanent Secretary of the Department for Exiting the EU |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

requesting release of the detailed impact assessments. To date, the Government has refused to release this information to us. However, Government have published technical papers for no deal Brexit and a number of Departments have issued guidance for specific local services (e.g. Health and Social Care system, schools).

2. What assessments has the Council made on the impact of Brexit and will these be published?

To date, our work in Sheffield has consisted of three elements:

1. An assessment of implications for the Council and continuity of service delivery in the event of a no deal exit, updating initial work done in October 2018
2. A wider assessment of the short and medium term economic impact undertaken by the Sheffield City Region, including putting support measures in place for local businesses (*available in SCRLEP papers 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2019*)
3. Participation in the national preparedness exercise through the Council's statutory membership of the Local Resilience Forum and duties under the Civil Contingencies Act.

At this stage, our assessment is that there will be little or no short term disruption to Council service delivery. We expect services to continue to be delivered as normal on 30 March. However, we are continuing to review this in light of the evolving national situation and will update this assessment as more information becomes available.

3. Zest have generously offered to upgrade the IT facilities in the Upperthorpe Library free of charge. How long has it been since Zest first wrote to the Council to offer this, and why has this not been

Zest approached Sheffield City Council to discuss the possibility of upgrading the computers in the library. As part of that approach they were offering reconditioned PCs to

agreed by now?

be used as part of our People's Network service. We pointed out that even if this solution complied with SCCs network security requirements, it would involve a cost to Zest as the PCs would need to be rebuilt by Capita in order to function as People's Network devices. Zest have also been advised in the past that several other Associate Libraries have installed their own alternative public Internet service and these computers could be used in this way.

BCIS notified Zest in November, 2018 that the Council was planning a refresh of the People's Network service as part of the plans to move our main library management system (Symphony) out of the Capita data centre. Although we have almost concluded the contractual aspects of the Symphony move, the planning element of the People's Network refresh is still in the early stages as BCIS has had to concentrate its resources on other aspects of the Capita contract wind down. It is still our intention to refresh the People's Network in the new financial year and Zest will benefit from this refresh when it takes place. In the interim, our volunteer co-ordinator is in the process of procuring a replacement printer for Zest.

4. How much has the Council spent on agency workers over the last financial year, what has been spent this year so far and what is forecast to be spent this financial year?

April-December 2018- £6,056,044  
2017/18- £7,540,357

Questions of Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed to Councillor Lewis Dagnall (Cabinet Member for Environment and Streetscene)

1. Do you think the current blue bin provides sufficient capacity for Sheffield residents to recycle all of their paper and card now that we have moved to a monthly collection?

The new recycling service is a significant improvement for the vast majority of residents who used the blue box for kerbside paper and card recycling.

Residents also have access to the following services if they wish to recycle more:

1. Paper and card can be placed next to the blue bin on the day of collection.
2. Paper and card can be taken to a local recycling site or a Household Waste Recycling Centre.
3. A bulky waste collection can be ordered from a resident's home which could include large cardboard boxes.

Sheffield's efficient waste management system ensured 0.28% of household waste went to landfill last year.

2. Does the Council have any plans to increase the capacity of the blue bin if local residents request one?

We are committed to monitoring and reviewing the efficacy of the new system. The Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee is scheduled to consider waste management policies this Spring.

Questions of Councillor Alison Teal to Councillor Lewis Dagnall (Cabinet Member for Environment and Streetscene)

1. Did any of the Council's own Ecology Unit staff examine the Streets Ahead contract prior to it being signed in 2012 with regard to the extensive tree felling? Have staff from the Ecology Unit participated in meetings or advised the Cabinet Member in charge of the Streets Ahead contract around the impact of tree felling on local ecology?

Yes. During contract preparation Environmental Management Audit System (EMAS) co-ordinator ensured compliance with ecological best practice and worked closely with the Ecology Unit.

The Ecology Unit continue to be consulted on various topics related to Streets Ahead work including the

butterfly migration work in relation to the elm tree on Chelsea Road and also the changes to environmental maintenance introduced during 2018.

Furthermore, as suggested to me by members of STAG, I have met with independent ecologists to discuss their views.

2. What meetings were held prior to the first arrests of tree campaigners on Marden Road on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2016 to discuss the use of the Trade Union legislation to make the arrests, and who attended?

I welcome the news that a settlement has been concluded between South Yorkshire Police and the seven tree campaigners.

I hold no records from before I became Cabinet Member in May 2018. Following your question, I have made enquiries and to my knowledge there were no meetings to discuss the use of anti-union laws to make arrests. In any case, the question of which powers to use to make an arrest is a matter for South Yorkshire Police, not Sheffield City Council. However, I would reiterate that I am glad that a settlement has been reached that resolves this matter.

3. How much more is it costing the Council to retain healthy trees originally designated to be felled in the core investment period (CIP)?

Zero pounds and zero pence.

Questions of Councillor Douglas Johnson to Councillor Jack Scott (Cabinet Member for Transport and Development) to be answered by (Councillor Lewis Dagnall (Cabinet Member for Environment and Streetscene))

1. When is the Council going to start proactively gritting the station forecourt?

Like many other public areas, the station forecourt is not part of the adopted highway network and as such is not included in the Streets Ahead contract. The precautionary gritting network is one of the largest in the country and covers roads not paths, but it cannot cover every road. Amey do, however, provide a reactive service to pedestrian areas in the city centre and will attend in response to any report of ice, within one hour, as well as carrying out snow clearance in line with the wider city centre plan

for response to snow which will include further applications of grit.

The Cutting Edge water feature can spill over and freeze in freezing weather. The station forecourt and the water feature are managed by the City Centre Management Team and they will switch off the water feature in freezing weather to limit the risk of ice forming.

2. When will this Council consider this key gateway to Sheffield, for thousands of pedestrians, cyclists and rail users every day, should have as much priority for gritting as Eastern Crescent in Arbourthorne?

We do not proactively grit any pedestrian areas on the highway network, so this would be a completely new, standalone level of service that is not affordable. Eastern Crescent is included within the secondary precautionary gritting routes as it is very steep and is a route to Arbourthorne Community Primary School.

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