

## Council Meeting – 20th February 2023

### Remaining Written Answers Provided To Members' Questions

(Published on 4th April 2023)

#### Question of Councillor Roger Davison to the Leader of the Council and Chair of the Strategy and Resources Policy Committee (Councillor Terry Fox)

**Q.2** How are the non-Councillor nominees appointed by the Council selected for the theatres, museums and City Trust?

A.2 (Answer awaited)

#### Question of Councillor Mike Chaplin to the Chair of the Housing Policy Committee (Councillor Douglas Johnson)

**Q.3** What is the current average waiting time to have repair work to stabilise properties adversely affected by subsidence to be carried out?

A.3 All structural work of this type requires a structural survey to determine the work required. The average time to undertake a structural survey itself is now around 6 weeks, although we are working hard to reduce this to 4 weeks following recent discussions with the team who commission this survey work.

The length of works to properties where structural work has been found to be necessary can vary widely. Often work is undertaken but then requires further monitoring to ensure no further movement has taken place. Often other non-building-related remedial works are also required, e.g. tree pruning, and this can severely impacts the duration of work, as arboriculturists will generally want to monitor movement over a full growing season of 12 months before undertaking work of this type.

We currently estimate however, that the most severe of remedial works, e.g. complete underpinning and/or foam injection/stabilisation works, should be completed within three to six months of commencement, following survey.

#### Question of Councillor Kurtis Crossland to the Co-Chairs of the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee (Councillor Julie Grocutt and Councillor Mazher Iqbal)

**Q.1 Is the renewal period for a blue badge set by the local authority or by the Government?**

A.1 The Council follows Department for Transport guidelines when deciding eligibility for a Blue Badge.

We don't automatically renew Blue Badges, but customers can reapply near to the date that the existing badge expires, and their eligibility is re-assessed based on their current circumstances. Where a successful application is made, badges are generally awarded for 3 years. I reference the relevant section from the guidelines below-

Period of issue

6.30 In accordance with the regulations that govern the scheme most badges must be issued for three years. However, certain exceptions apply, which are explained below:

- in the case of children under three, the badge should be issued for a maximum period ending on the day immediately following their third birthday
- where entitlement for a Blue Badge is linked to an award of the Higher Rate of the Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance (HRMCDLA), War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement (WPMS) or Personal Independence Payment (PIP) the period of issue should be linked to the period of receipt of that allowance, where that period is less than three years.

In this specific context there is no minimum period of issue for a Blue Badge. For example, a badge can be issued for 9 or 12 months if this corresponds with the period of issue of HRMCDLA, WPMS or PIP.

***(The answer supplied to the following question did not include reference to the South West Local Area Committee. The full answer is set out below)***

**Question of Councillor Denise Fox to the Chair of the Waste and Streetscene Policy Committee (Councillor Joe Otten)**

**Q.2 Can you please break this [fines issued for litter, graffiti and fly-tipping] down for each LAC?**

<b>A.2</b>	<b>LAC</b>	<b>Number</b>
	Central	20
	East	18
	North East	44

North	5
South East	30
South	6
South West	0
Total	123

**Written Answers Provided To Members' Supplementary Questions Asked At The Meeting**

**Supplementary Question of Councillor Kurtis Crossland to the Chair of the Communities, Parks and Leisure Policy Committee (Councillor Richard Williams)**

**Q. Is the implementation of the Leisure and Entertainment review on track?**

A. The implementation of the Leisure Review is currently still on track, in that the current arrangements do not come to an end until August 2024.

**Supplementary Question of Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed to the Co-Chairs of the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee (Councillor Julie Grocutt and Councillor Mazher Iqbal)**

**Q. Was the 2015 Sheffield Housing Land Availability Assessment & its 2016 update shared with MP's and, if so, when?**

A. The Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) was published on the Council's website in November 2015. This provided information on housing land supply as at 1 April 2015. The document was not sent directly to MPs.

A 2016 SHLAA Position Paper (providing an update on the 5-year housing land supply at 1 April 2016) was published in 2017. This was also published on the Council's website but, again, was not sent to MPs.

In 2020, we published a Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) alongside the Sheffield Plan Issues and Options document. This replaced the previous SHLAAs – the HELAA performs the same purpose as the SHLAA but includes information on employment sites as well as housing sites. The [2020 HELAA](#) is still available on the Council's website but the earlier SHLAAs were removed because they were superseded by the 2020 document.

**Supplementary Question of Councillor Shaffaq Mohammed to the Chair of the Waste and Streetscene Policy Committee (Councillor Joe Otten)**

**Q. Please provide more details on the consultation with Volker Rail and liaison with the residents in Millhouses affected by the rail maintenance work.**

A. It is worth noting that this improvement scheme was first mooted in 2015. Our more recent involvement with the contractors involved is as follows:-

- August 2021, EPS meeting with MottMacDonalds re process pending submission of a COCP (Code of Construction Practice) and subsequent use of Section 61 application process.
- Sept- Oct 2021 - 21/03385/COND2 application to approve the COCP – discussion on clarity/ suitability of background monitoring submitted – EPS weren't happy with some of the monitoring locations and results. EPS also sought clarity on 'standard working hours' and the routing of complaints, access to the Network Rail complaints information. This was all done via planning and resolved before discharge of condition.
- Jan 2022 first Section 61 submitted – by MottMacDonalds.
- April 2022 site meeting (with MottMacDonalds and Volker Rail) and further Section 61 submitted by Volker Rail now talking lead in liaison/ communication with EPS.
- May 2022 updated Section 61 submitted.
- Jan 2023 submission of section 61 for next 6 months.

A section 61 is a mechanism for a contractor to apply for prior consent for noisy works. The application is very detailed and includes a management and communication plan. If the Councillor wishes to see this, we can share it. I would reiterate that this relates to the Hope Valley Scheme - Dore Section. I do not know if the complaints received from the residents in Millhouses related to this scheme, or were connected in some way, or whether it was a separate issue altogether. As I outlined in my initial response, if we have more detail about the residents affected we can make some enquiries and find out what happened on this occasion.