

## EALING COUNCIL

### WRITTEN COUNCIL QUESTIONS: 19 SEPTEMBER 2023

<b>Deputy Leader and Lead Member for Climate Action</b>			
<b>From Cllr</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Officer Contact</b>	<b>Response</b>
Athena Zissimos	Please can you reassure residents that there is no plan to close the Greenford waste and recycling centre to public access on certain days of the week?	Earl McKenzie, Nicky Fiedler	<p>The council introduced an appointments system at Greenford waste and recycling centre, which has been working well and has enabled us to better understand how residents use the site.</p> <p>The appointments system means that residents no longer face long queues on the Greenford road and peak times, so the site is safer. Council staff are also able to assist residents to divert more waste from landfill.</p> <p>The appointments system has also demonstrated that there are certain times and days of the week when the centre is not at all well-used, and therefore the council is looking into focusing our resources on the days which are most popular with residents (including weekends). On days where site access will no longer be available at Greenford, partner boroughs across West London will allow access for Ealing residents in a reciprocal arrangements.</p> <p>As a borough, we are focussed on reducing how much waste we all create. So we are looking forward to outlining exciting proposals which will make it easier for Ealing residents to recycle, upcycle, reuse and avoid waste in the first place.</p>

<b>Questions for the Lead Member for Safe and Genuinely Affordable Homes</b>			
<b>From Cllr</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Officer Contact</b>	<b>Response</b>
Seema Kumar	Post its self-referral to the Regulator for Social Housing, what measures have been taken to improve the poor state of repair in much Council-owned residential property?	Jon Maxwell / Dawn Kent-Payne, Nicky Fiedler	<p>The council has been working hard to maintain high standards in council-owned property.</p> <p>Our self-referral to the regulator was made with specific reference to health &amp; safety issues. The council has therefore created a Building Safety Team to deal with all compliance matters relating to building safety.</p> <p>Performance has seen significant improvement, and this is routinely reviewed as part of a 3-year improvement programme including agreed milestones.</p> <p>Additionally, in June 2023 we appointed a new term contractor to deal with day-to-day repairs.</p> <p>This contractor (Wates) is co-located with the LBE Repairs Team in Perceval House, which is working well in terms of service delivery and contract management.</p>

<p>Andrew Steed</p>	<p>Can the Council provide a breakdown on the number of outstanding housing maintenance/repair jobs within the Council's property estate with numbers broken down in 3/6/9 month categories.</p>	<p>Dawn Kent-Payne, Nicky Fiedler</p>	<p><b>Jobs 0-3 months</b> 1,303</p> <p><b>Jobs 3-6 months</b> 5 (3 from previous contractor)</p> <p><b>Jobs 6-9 months</b> 7 (all from previous contractor)</p> <p>Our new contract commenced in early June 2023.</p>
---------------------	--	---------------------------------------	---

<b>Questions for the Lead Member for Good Growth and New Homes</b>			
<b>From Cllr</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Officer Contact</b>	<b>Response</b>
Jon Ball	Please outline how the Council is co-operating with its partners to identify the scale and impact of the RAAC crisis in Ealing in non-Council-owned buildings.	Amanda Askham / Peter George	<p>The council has been proactively engaging with partners across the borough with regard to RAAC.</p> <p>For example, the Chair of the Health and Adult Social Services Scrutiny Panel has written to NHS partners for updates on issues regarding RAAC in their properties.</p> <p>The council has, in addition, contacted the care home sector to establish their overall position and is actively monitoring progress.</p> <p>In relation to education settings, the council is liaising with the various responsible bodies for schools in the borough and has offered support, including assistance with checks and surveys, to determine the likelihood of potential risks. We are in close contact with the Foundation school in the borough dealing with the presence of RAAC, although we're not the responsible body for that school. We will continue to offer support to them on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>The council will continue to closely monitor the situation.</p>

<b>Questions for the Lead Member for Inclusive Economy</b>			
<b>From Cllr</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Officer Contact</b>	<b>Response</b>
Jon Ball	What is the projected lost revenue from external bookings and the cost of hiring external venues for council events per year due to the closure of Ealing Town Hall. Please break down by Victoria Hall Trust revenue and LBE revenue.	Ed Axe, Emily Hill	<p>As the recent Tribunal judgement makes clear, the purpose of the Victoria Hall Trust is to make rooms available to the public for their use at affordable rates.</p> <p>While the Town Hall is closed for health and safety reasons, the council is relocating that function to the ground floor of Perceval House, with rooms available for the public and community organisations to book.</p> <p>Currently, the closure of the Town Hall is creating a financial gap of c. £95,250, though we expect this to be made up (in full or in part) by bookings within Perceval House and other council venues.</p> <p>The breakdown in usage of Victoria Trust and LBE revenue is not available as a reconciliation is undertaken at year-end.</p>
Fabio Conti	Given the recent health and safety inspection found that the Town Hall's fire stopping measures do not meet the current standard, when was the building last inspected and what were the findings? If there were any concerns in the last inspection what action was taken to address these?	Ed Axe, Emily Hill	<p>The last Fire Risk Assessment for the building was undertaken on 7 February 2023. The subsequent report stated that aspects of the fire safety arrangements were lacking and that fire compartmentalisation was breached in several locations.</p> <p>As a result, the council's Head of Fire Safety reviewed the fire escape routes for the building in March 2023.</p> <p>A more detailed building fabric survey was then commissioned, which was undertaken in May 2023. The</p>

			report of the building fabric survey led to the decision to close the Town Hall.
Anthony Young	What are the annual running costs of The Town Hall, the Gurnell Swimming Pool, and Perceval House?	Ed Axe, Adam Whalley, Emily Hill	<p><b>Ealing Town Hall</b> £632,729 (based on 2022/23 outturn)</p> <p><b>Gurnell</b> £347,915 for 2022/23. Of this, it is important to note that £269,992 was for security costs to enable Gurnell to be used to support rough sleepers as part of the borough's Severe Weather Emergency Protocol. A further £26,787 was a one-off capital cost to protect the building from further vandalism. Therefore, the balance directly related to running costs is £51,136.</p> <p><b>Perceval House</b> £2,774,223 (based on 2022/23 outturn). Parts of Perceval House generate income (from, for example, leasing of office space to partners), which has not been netted off this figure.</p>

<b>Questions for the Lead Member for Thriving Communities</b>															
<b>From Cllr</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Officer Contact</b>	<b>Response</b>												
Jon Ball	Are there any unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in hotels in Ealing since the July high court ruling?	Gill Reavey, Nicky Fiedler	No.												
Gregory Stafford	Would the portfolio holder please supply precise and up-to-date usage figures for the Perivale Park Golf Club?	Chris Bunting, Peter George	The below table displays unique user data for Perivale Park Golf Course, year on year from 2020 and broken down by month.												
				<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>
			<b>2020</b>	197	155	191	0	456	579	532	468	530	407	120	269
			<b>2021</b>	100	0	153	478	364	381	370	357	336	291	235	198
			<b>2022</b>	232	211	291	340	365	411	386	400	343	350	257	246
			<b>2023</b>	250	328	341	384	466	468	452	415				