

QUESTION No. 1
Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

22 JANUARY 2020

Question by Councillor Bernards
of Councillor McGeevor

Question

In the recent past, I have observed a regular refuse collection service being offered by unmarked trucks not owned by Lewisham Council. I understand the Council can use external contractors where our own trucks are not working but this has not been the case. Has the Council contracted these services for a fixed term and if so to which company and when? Please outline a full cost to the service alongside the previous year's cost on the same service up until 31st December 2019. For clarity, the cost of hiring replacement refuse trucks from 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018 in comparison to the cost of the same services from 1st January 2019 to 31st December 2019.

Reply

The Council has not contracted out any of the refuse collection service.

We are currently using a number of hired vehicles because before procuring new vehicles this summer as the service were waiting for the government's consultation on new environmental standards and the ULEZ standards to be published. We are now in the process of procuring a range of new vehicles to ensure that we have a fleet which is fit for purpose and meets the latest environment standards and regulations.

The hired vehicles are operated by Lewisham staff. The cost of hiring replacement refuse trucks from 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018 and 1st January 2019 to 31st December 2019 was £464,360 per year.

We will have our own new vehicles by summer at which point we will ensure that they are fully visible with the usual Lewisham logo

QUESTION No. 2
Priority 1

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

22 JANUARY 2020

Question by Councillor Curran
of Councillor McGeevor

Question

Are there before and after figures available for vehicle movements on the roads in Bellingham, Perry Vale and Sydenham Wards surrounding and entering the Bell Green Retail Park since the Aldi Supermarket opened there?

Reply

Data from the Town Planning process

Part of the Town Planning process for changing the former Toys R us store (non-food) unit into a food store (A1 food) involved the production of a Transport Assessment to forecast the effects of the change on the local transportation this report is available On the Lewisham Planning Portal.

https://planning.lewisham.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal= LEWIS_DCAPR_88583

https://planning.lewisham.gov.uk/online-applications/files/25049166E35FD4F39FB7CD382EDA2340/pdf/DC_17_100680-TRANSPORT_ASSESSMENT-556086.pdf

A PDF of the Transport Assessment is available on request.

In order to forecast the effects of the change, the local traffic system was modelled using computer software. The results of this modelling are shown in the Transport Assessment (TA). The forecast local traffic impact of the proposal can be found in Table 7.1 within the TA.

Data from the 20mph programme

Although not related to this development, the Council does carry out a large number of traffic surveys (speed and volume data) at set locations as part of its current borough-wide 20mph speed limit programme. These surveys are consistently carried

out each year in late June / early July to allow comparison and minimise the risk of seasonal traffic variations.

The Aldi Supermarket opened in October 2019 and therefore the first set of “after” data will not be known until the 2020 surveys are undertaken later this year. However it should be noted that the traffic increases forecast in the above mentioned Transport Assessment were relatively small and therefore unlikely to be reliably reflected in these general traffic surveys. The survey locations considered most relevant are shown in the table below:

Site location
SITE 93-PERRY RISE - SOUTH OF GARLIES RD
SITE 94-PERRY HILL - SOUTH OF WINSFORD RD
SITE 134- SYDENHAM ROAD - EAST OF HIGHCLERE STREET
SITE 146- BELL GREEN LANE - SOUTH OF HASELTINE ROAD
SITE 148- WORSLEY BRIDGE RD - SOUTH OF A2218
SITE 173-SOUTHEND LN - EAST OF MOREMEAD RD EASTBOUND (DUAL CARRIAGEWAY)
SITE 174- SOUTHEND LN - EAST OF MOREMEAD RD WESTBOUND (DUAL CARRIAGEWAY)

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

COUNCIL MEETING

22 JANUARY 2020

Question by Councillor Bernards
of the Mayor

Question

Given the Council's commitment to be an equal opportunity employer that reflects the diversity of Lewisham, and the fact that there is an opportunity to recruit the Director of Children and Young People in a Borough where 70% of young people are from BAME. Does the Mayor agree with me, that it is time we recruit a BAME Director of Children and Young People even if it means exercising unconscious bias.

Reply

Lewisham is one of the most diverse places in the world and that is one of our greatest strengths. One of this Council's top priorities is that we are an open borough where our diversity and cultural heritage are recognised and celebrated.

It is illegal to show bias in our recruitment process and we always seek to appoint the best candidate, regardless of background.

We are committed to making the Council's workforce more representative of our borough's diverse population at all levels, particularly at senior level where BAME staff are still unrepresented. Last year I appointed a special Mayor and Council adviser on BAME career progression, and another one BAME health inequalities, to develop our understanding the barriers that residents and staff face and how they can be overcome. I meet regularly with both advisers to discuss the progress of their work with the Council.