

## QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

| Question Number   | Question asked by Councillor: | Subject                                |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>CABINET MEMBER FOR SAFER CROYDON &amp; COMMUNITIES</b><br><b>Councillor Hamida Ali</b>           |                               |  |
| PQ038-18  | Alan Corline                  | Vandalism in Old Town                  |
| CQ084-18  | Pelling, A                    | Knife Crime Initiatives                |
| CQ085-18  | Pelling, A                    | Homelessness and Begging Initiative    |
| <b>CABINET MEMBER FOR CLEAN GREEN CROYDON</b><br><b>Councillor Stuart Collins</b>                   |                               |  |
| CQ100-18  | Millson, S                    | Missed bin collections (Kingswood Way) |
| <b>CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE &amp; LEARNING</b><br><b>Councillor Alisa Flemming</b> |                               |  |
| CQ099-18  | Bird, M                       | Services for Infants                   |

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**from Alan Corline**

**Councillor Hamida Ali**

**Question No. PQ038-18**

Vandals have broken the majority of the blind spot mirrors erected in the Old Town roundabout subway. I would like to know what the council's next ingenious plan is to keep its citizens protected in this unsafe subway.

**Reply**

The council has taken a series of actions to improve the subway - including improving the lighting, removing graffiti, re-painting the subway to improve its look and feel - in addition to installing the mirrors.

We installed a number of mirrors to improve sight lines for pedestrians and we are aware of the on-going criminal damage, and are currently looking at ways to make these measures more robust.

The council is also working to block off the subway and to introduce a 'Toucan crossing' – i.e. a crossing for pedestrians and cyclists at ground/surface road level.

This work has progressed and this proposal is now due to be assessed for safety which is due by the end of the year and then recommended to the Traffic Management Advisory Committee and if approved would be implemented in early 2019.

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**from Councillor Andrew Pelling**

**Councillor Hamida Ali**

**Question No. CQ084-18**

Please highlight some of the key initiatives that are being taken to combat knife crime in the Borough.

**Reply**

We are absolutely resolute in our collective efforts to end knife crime in Croydon and we are being increasingly recognised across London for taking a partnership-oriented, community-oriented and a research-oriented approach.

Our manifesto committed to taking a public health approach to tackling serious youth violence - which is long-term, preventative and evidence-led. I will be looking to learn from others, known for their public health approaches to this issue - including Lambeth and Glasgow.

In June 2017 Cabinet adopted the 2017-2020 Safer Croydon Strategy for Croydon. The strategy specified five key priorities that includes the aims to reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon; with a focus on violent crime and to improve the safety of children and young people. A multi-agency Serious Youth Violence action plan supports the Safer Croydon Board's priority on the safety of young people and includes a whole raft of actions - some of which are highlighted below.

The Croydon Children's Safeguarding Board has also commissioned a Vulnerable Adolescents Review of sixty young people - including victims

of knife crime - to identify good practice and to improve our response. The findings should be available in the Autumn and will inform the future development of processes within Safeguarding and the Safer Croydon Board partnerships including the further development of the Serious Youth Violence action plan.

#### Key Initiatives:

- Trading Standards is leading nationally by working with the Metropolitan Police Service to target the online purchasing of knives
- Free training for retailers that sell knives and 145 retailers signed up to a Responsible Retailer Agreement
- Co-ordination of the work by voluntary sector organisations to tackle knife crime
- Workshops on knife crime and gangs delivered to 1,000 pupils across Croydon
- Working with victims of knife crime
- Intervention work with first time offenders
- Two full time early-intervention workers recruited, to work with young people in schools
- Resource pack developed for schools with a menu of what support we can offer
- Funding available for mentoring for up to 60 vulnerable young people aged 8 – 18
- The Croydon Children's Safeguarding Board carrying out a Vulnerable Adolescents Review of sixty young people including victims of knife crime to identify and improve good practice.

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**from Councillor Andrew Pelling**

**Councillor Hamida Ali**

**Question No. CQ085-18**

Please detail the successes of the dedicated 14 day initiative to focus on the needs of our street homeless and associated begging.

**Reply**

The initiative was positively received by the partners involved as well as by individuals encountered. The group have built a rapport with the individuals identified and the teams have a greater understanding of their needs. Food and water was provided for individuals who were encountered and the nurse also provided a health check to individuals willing to engage. One individual was advised by the nurse to attend hospital due to the issues that were discovered, this may have not been highlighted without the initiative taking place.

The group engaged with 45 individuals, 15 were verified as rough sleeping by Croydon Reach, 7 new referrals were made to Turning Point and a further 8 were active cases, 2 individuals were referred to the RVMP due to concerns relating to mental health and 2 referrals were made to the Home Office.

Individuals who admitted to having drug and alcohol issues were directed to services that could help and assist them. Turning Point provided the individuals with an assessment and in some cases clients requiring substitute prescribing.

Croydon Reach verified 15 rough sleepers which resulted in referrals being made to Gateway services for individuals to be placed in accommodation. These individuals were signposted to support services that could assist them.

As a number of teams were involved in the initiative such as the NSOs and the Police, partners were able to engage with more individuals and direct them to the relevant service within minutes.

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**from Councillor Stuart Millson**

**Councillor Stuart Collins**

**Question No. CQ100-18**

Residents of 1-32 Kingswood Way recently went two weeks without bin collections, following a completely new crew introduced by Veolia on the route.

Why did this take so long to rectify, even after it was immediately reported by residents?

What penalties will Veolia pay as a result of this failure to deliver the services they are contractually obligated to?

**Reply**

I can confirm that this was first reported on the 12<sup>th</sup> July. Due to a serious incident the regular crew were unable to return and rectify this. Although another crew was sent back to empty the bins, a lack of local knowledge meant that the crew were unaware that Kingswood Way is split into two parts and unfortunately they returned to the wrong part of the street, meaning the bins remained unemptied until the 27<sup>th</sup> July.

Our contractor Veolia have taken full responsibility for this miscommunication and I would like to take this opportunity to apologise on their behalf to the residents of Kingswood Way for their inconvenience and to assure them that wherever contractual penalties are applicable we are enforcing them.

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**from Councillor Margaret Bird**

**Councillor Alisa Flemming**

**Question No. CQ099-18**

Is the Cabinet member in agreement with me that assisting and encouraging mothers to breast feed where possible gives babies a good start in life?

Can she tell me when the Baby Cafe's which have recently closed will be reopening?

Why the peer support programme in New Addington which has been running for 10 years is currently on hold?

Why there is no one to lead on Achieving Baby Friendly status, which Croydon had nearly completed?

### **Reply**

The United Nations Child's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommended exclusive breastfeeding up to six months of age, with continued breastfeeding along with appropriate complementary foods up to two years of age and beyond. The UNICEF's work to support breastfeeding is based on extensive and resounding evidence that breastfeeding saves lives, improves health and cuts costs in every country worldwide. It protects children from a vast range of illnesses including infection, diabetes, asthma, heart disease and obesity, as well as cot death. It also protects mothers from breast and ovarian cancers and heart disease. In addition, it supports the mother-baby relationship and the mental health of both baby and mother. (UNICEF, UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative Standards, accessed on 6 August 2018).

The Council supports this approach and encourages breastfeeding through our commissioned services.

One of the Baby Cafés is closed throughout the summer and this will re-open on the 2nd September. Two of the five cafes remain open

throughout the summer as is the breastfeeding clinic at Croydon Hospital. Two of the baby cafes are running a reduced service. (I attach the leaflet sent out by the service which details the arrangements for your reference). This temporary additional reduction in service was necessitated by the recent (end of June) departure of the breastfeeding co-ordinator. The service is currently recruiting to this post and another post in the breast feeding team is also being recruited to.

The Peer support programme in New Addington is not on hold, but it is operating at lower levels until the new staff mentioned above are in post.

Both maternity and health visiting are recruiting to their posts which lead on Baby Friendly. The lead role in health visiting is being covered by the operational lead until the new breast feeding co-ordinator starts in post.

Croydon Health Services (Health Visiting and Maternity) the Council Commissioners and Public Health met in July to discuss the way forward with breastfeeding generally and specifically the Baby Friendly; an action plan is in development to meet the necessary requirements to complete the level 3 assessment.



## **FREE BREASTFEEDING SERVICES AND DROP INS – SUMMER 2018**

Baby Cafes are run by a lactation consultant and/or health professional with support from peer supporters and, at some groups, from NCT breastfeeding counsellors.

All breastfeeding support groups are free, provided by the NHS.

**Please ensure you arrive at least 30 minutes before the end of the session**

Please see our Facebook page 'Croydon Breastfeeding Support'  
Or Twitter @breastfeedcroyd for service updates/closures



### **Monday**

~~Kensington Avenue Baby Café 10.00am – 12.00pm~~

~~Kensington Avenue Children's Centre, **off Hawthorn Avenue**, Thornton Heath, CR7 8BW~~

~~020 8765 8128~~ **Please note this Baby Café will be closed from July 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> September.**

### **Tuesday**

**Sanderstead Baby Café 12.30pm - 2.30pm – OPEN throughout the summer**

Sanderstead Clinic

40 Rectory Park, South Croydon CR2 9JN

020 8714 2560

### **Wednesday**

**Woodlands Baby Café 1.00pm - 3.00pm – OPEN throughout the summer**

Woodlands Children's Centre, Gilbert Scott School, Farnborough Avenue, Monks Hill, CR2 8HD

020 8916 0543

### **Thursday**

**Woodside Baby Café 10.00am – 12.00pm – CLOSED on 12<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> July & 16<sup>th</sup> August**

Woodside Children's Centre, Morland Road, Croydon, CR0 6NF

020 8655 5655

### **Friday**

**Croydon University Hospital (CUH) Breastfeeding Clinic 10.00am – 12.00pm**

020 8401 3000 Bleep 576

Parent Education Room, Antenatal Clinic, Croydon University Hospital, London Road, Croydon, CR7 7YE

**Byron Baby Café 12.30pm - 2.30pm – CLOSED on 31<sup>st</sup> August**

Byron Children's Centre, St David's, Coulsdon, CR5 2XE

020 8763 6285

**Tongue-tie assessments can be carried out at any Baby Café or at the CUH**

To contact the Breastfeeding Team call 020 8714 2985 (Parkway Health Centre)



Croydon Health Services

NHS Trust

## Other Croydon Organisations

### National Childbirth Trust (NCT)

|               |                            |               |
|---------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Coulston      | Patricia Wise              | 01737 552 295 |
| Selsdon       | Karen Fox (evenings only)  | 020 8657 0384 |
| North Croydon | Jo Wittams (evenings only) | 020 8665 1150 |
| Warlingham    | Kate Manvatkar             | 01883 370860  |

### La Leche League

|               |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| South Croydon | Ivanka Lennon | 020 8657 9209 |
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## Helplines and Websites

### **National Breastfeeding Helpline**

9.30am - 9.30pm

0300 100 0212

[www.nationalbreastfeedinghelpline.org.uk](http://www.nationalbreastfeedinghelpline.org.uk)

### **Start4Life Interactive Chatbot 'Breastfeeding Friend'**

<https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/breastfeeding>

**Breastfeeding Helpline for Bengali/Sylheti speakers** 0300 456 2421

**Breastfeeding Helpline for Tamil/Telugu/Hindi speakers** 0300 330 5469

**BfN: Drugs in Breastmilk Information** (see also BfN Drugs in Breastmilk Factsheets on website)

E-mail: [drug-information@breastfeedingnetwork.org.uk](mailto:drug-information@breastfeedingnetwork.org.uk)

## Equipment

### Breast pumps

Breast pumps are available to use on a short term basis, free of charge, for babies in Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU), after discussion with a member of the Croydon Breastfeeding Support Team at Parkway Health Centre:

020 8714 2985

### Hire of hospital grade breast pumps

Kate Manvatkar 01883 370860

Medela Lactina or Symphony Pump Hire 0870 950 5994

Ardo Elite Pump Hire 01823 336 362