

<b>Question Number</b>	<b>Question asked by:</b>	<b>Subject</b>
<b>MAYOR JASON PERRY</b>		
CQ013-22	Stuart King	Cost of the South Croydon by-election
CQ015-22	Stuart King	Cost of Living Motion

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**Mayor Jason Perry****CQ013-22 asked by Councillor Stuart King:**

*“The Executive Mayor gave an undertaking to pay back the cost of the South Croydon by-election from his Mayoral salary. How much of the by election cost had been paid as of 30th September?”*

**Response**

The cost of the byelection was confirmed by electoral services at the end of August 2022 (having awaited all related invoices/costs). The total cost is confirmed as £22,815.76.

I can confirm, by instructions from the Mayor, for 2022/23 he will receive his entitled Mayor’s Allowance MINUS the total cost of the byelection (£22,815.76).

The total deduction from his allowance has been equally applied (i.e. the cost spread) over the monthly payroll runs (period Sept to March 2022/23).

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## **Mayor Jason Perry**

### **CQ015-22 asked by Councillor Stuart King:**

*“Can the Mayor outline whether he has acted in line with the Cost of Living Motion passed unanimously at Full Council on 25 July.*

*Has the Mayor published a comprehensive strategy and package of measures to support Croydon residents and businesses impacted by the national cost of living crisis, and if so, where can this be found?*

*If he hasn't, can he explain why not?”*

### **Response**

As I advised Council at our last meeting on 19th October we have updated the Council website and improved our signposting to support for those affected by the cost of living crisis.

Whilst the financial mismanagement of the previous Administration means this Council does not have the same flexibility as other Councils, we continue to provide a significant amount of support for those struggling with the increasing cost of living.

- Our Discretionary Support Fund which is open to residents who live in Croydon and are in financial hardship and need emergency support.
- The government £150 Council tax rebate - which was available to most households living in properties in Council Tax bands A to D. Those households who did not apply or not pay their council tax by direct debit will have had the £150 reduced from the council tax accounts automatically to ensure all eligible residents benefited.
- Our Household Support Fund which supports residents who are facing hardship or emergency, including struggling to pay bills or afford food. The scheme provides support, such as vouchers and other options and is expected to reopen for applications shortly, following further funding being announced by the Department for Work and Pensions.
- Our online Benefits calculator which helps residents to see what benefits they may be entitled to.
- The Holiday and Food activities programme which allows children on free school meals to sign up for free activity clubs with healthy meals over the Christmas, Easter and Summer holidays.

Details of these measures and other support available, for example through Croydon Works, our programme to support local people into jobs, training or apprenticeships;

how to access Healthy Start vouchers, free school meals and local voluntary sector services, is available to residents on the Council's Cost of Living webpage.

Details of support provided by the government and available nationally is detailed on the government's Cost of Living website which provides up-to-date information on the full range of support available.