

QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS

Question Number	Question asked by Councillor:	Subject
CABINET MEMBER FOR FAMILIES, HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE Councillor Louisa Woodley		
PQ026-17	Sarah Bird	Social Care
CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT Councillor Stuart King		
PQ032-17	Binny Zimba	Road Repairs
PQ034-17	Norman Young	Traffic measures and tree planting

From Sarah Bird

Councillor Louisa Woodley

Cabinet Member for Families, Health and Social Care

Question No. PQ026-17

Please define social care and accountability.

Reply

In terms of social care (care and support), The Health and Care Act, 2014, defines and statutory duties and accountabilities for the Local Authority. The Local Authority is accountable for delivering the duties of the Care Act, specifically as follows:-

- The Act creates a single, consistent route to establishing an entitlement to public care and support for all adults with needs for care and support.
- It also creates the first ever entitlement to support for carers, on a similar basis.
- The Act is also clear about the steps that must be followed to work out this entitlement, to help people understand the process. It follows the person's 'journey' in the care and support system. It begins with an assessment of their needs and a decision about whether their needs are eligible, including a financial assessment where necessary. This will determine whether people need to pay for their own care.
- After this process of assessment is finished, the decision can then be made about whether the adult is entitled to care and support arranged by the local authority.
- The Care Act requires local authorities to help develop a market that delivers a wide range of sustainable high-quality care and support services, that will be available to their communities.
- Local authorities need to provide comprehensive information and advice about care and support services in their local area. This is to help people to understand how care and support services work locally, the care and funding options available, and how people can access care and support services.

The Council's statutory Director for Adult Social Care (DASS) has the overall accountability of the delivery of the above functions.

From Binny Zimba

Councillor Stuart King

Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment

Question No. PQ032-17

I have lived in Gloucester rd for 10 years and have seen all the surrounding roads around where I live resurfaced more than once. What is the policy on road repairs the road is falling apart due to the amount of non stop through traffic flowing night and day at top speed may I add.

The pot holes are damaging my car

Reply

As I am sure you will appreciate, carriageway and footway materials deteriorate for a number of reasons and as a consequence the Council receives many demands from all parts of the borough for action to be taken.

In an effort to prioritise these demands objectively the Council has a good proven system of regular safety inspection and response to ensure that all the borough's footways and carriageways are maintained to required standards. This process allows our highway inspectors to prioritise repairs as well as it ensures that the limited funds we have are directed at sites with the greatest need. Our safety inspection on our carriageway and footways happen twice a year on the majority of our roads including Gloucester Road and monthly on our busier routes, such as town and district centres, and our inspectors log and raise task orders on defects which meet our intervention levels.

In addition to the above, the council has also adopted asset management principles to manage our highway infrastructure and regularly undertake highways condition surveys to understand the state of our roads and determine which roads will be suitable for preventative maintenance

This asset management methodology enables us to adopt the "worst-first" approach to maintaining our highway network and further allows us to prioritise the allocation of resources for the management, operation, preservation and enhancement of our highway infrastructure to meet the needs of current and future customers.

In terms of the resurfacing of Gloucester Road our officers have inspected it and whilst it is starting to deteriorate it is safe. At our last safety inspection in July 2017, a number of orders were raised for localised repairs to be undertaken to the worst affected areas.

Our inspectors will however continue to carry out six monthly inspections on all our publicly maintained roads and will be monitoring Gloucester Road to see if any further localised repairs or resurfacing is required.

I am sorry that we are unable to repair every road that some level of immediate or foreseeable defect may be identified however, our Highways team continue to do our best to ensure that repairs, where identified, are prioritised and carried out as soon as practical.

From Norman Young

Councillor Stuart King

Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment

Question No. PQ034-17

1. When will the new one way system for ACR and Canning Road be implemented?
2. When will traffic monitoring be reinstated in Elgin Road so that useful data can be collected over a long period to see how the above changes make traffic flow in Elgin Road even worse (it is currently greater than any ACR, Canning, Clyde and other similar roads in the area)
3. Heard nothing about progress for tree planting in Elgin Road. What is going on?

Reply

1. The introduction of the one-way restrictions on Addiscombe Court Road and Canning Road are programmed for February 2018. The reason that this scheme will take a few months to deliver, is due to the time taken to arrange for the electrical connections to the signs and the changes necessary to the large direction signs on the A232 which is managed by Transport for London.
2. Traffic monitoring on Elgin Road, Havelock Road and Outram Road will take place again once the one-way restrictions come into operation. This monitoring will also take place on a wider number of roads throughout the area and will help identify if and where changes in the traffic patterns take place.
3. Officers attended site with residents and ward councillors which identified a number of potential locations, underground utility searches are underway which will help identify actual locations. Officers will continue to liaise with ward councillors.