

## **Councillors Written Questions to Cabinet Members and the Responses**

### **Full Council – 16 October 2019**

#### **1. Question to Councillor Lamb from Councillor Jaggard.**

*Following the motion ‘Parking and Safety outside our Schools’ that was passed at the July Full Council meeting, where it was agreed that the Civil Enforcement Officers’ current pattern of patrols be adapted to ensure patrols outside of our primary schools during the drop-off and pick-up times, please state for the Autumn Term so far covering the months of September, October and November 2019:*

- 1. How many of Crawley’s schools have been patrolled at drop-off and pick-up times?*
- 2. The dates of these patrols?*
- 3. How many Civil Enforcement penalties were issued?*

#### **Response –**

- 1. 20 different schools have been visited over the three month period.*
- 2. Information regarding which schools were patrolled on specific dates is not retained however at least one school will have been visited on every weekday. The selection of schools visited will be in response known parking concerns or complaints received.*
- 3. Please see below table*

<b>Road</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Penalty Charge Notices issued</b>	<b>Other information</b>
<i>Barnfield Road</i>	<i>Northgate Primary School</i>	<i>6</i>	
<i>Barrington Road</i>	<i>Southgate Primary School</i>	<i>1</i>	
<i>Crawley Lane</i>	<i>Pound Hill Infant/Junior School</i>	<i>7</i>	
<i>Ditchling Hill</i>	<i>Hilltop Primary School</i>	<i>11</i>	
<i>Gales Drive</i>	<i>Three Bridges Infant/Junior School</i>	<i>14</i>	
<i>Gales Place</i>	<i>Three Bridges Infant/Junior School</i>	<i>6</i>	
<i>Grattons Drive</i>	<i>Milton Mount Primary School</i>	<i>3</i>	
<i>Green Lane</i>	<i>Northgate Primary School</i>	<i>1</i>	

<i>Hare Lane</i>	<i>Our Lady Queen of Heaven Roman Catholic (Voluntary Aided) Primary School</i>	<i>1</i>	
<i>Harvest Road</i>	<i>Maidenbower Infant School</i>	<i>2</i>	
<i>Hazelwick School place</i>	<i>Hazelwick School</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>A further 10 were issued over weekends during school events</i>
<i>Paddockhurst Road</i>	<i>Gossops Green Primary School</i>	<i>1</i>	
<i>Peterhouse Parade</i>	<i>Milton Mount Primary School</i>	<i>1</i>	
<i>Vulcan Close</i>	<i>Broadfield Primary Academy</i>	<i>8</i>	

## 2. Question to Councillor P. Smith from Councillor A. Belben.

*Since April 2015, how many planning decisions made by the Council have been appealed, and of these appeals, how many have been upheld?*

*Of those appeals upheld, what is the breakdown of how many were delegated officer decisions and how many were Planning Committee decisions?*

*What has been the total cost to the Council of defending planning appeals that were upheld since April 2015?*

*What learning has there been from appeals that have been upheld, in order to try to reduce their number in the future?*

## Response –

*A total of 113 planning decisions have been appealed since April 2015 with 26 allowed (upheld) – 23% and a further 3 (3%) subject to a “split decision”. Overall less than 1 in 4 of all appeals have been upheld with a large majority dismissed. Twice as many appeals are being dismissed as any other outcome (Further detail is in the table below)*

<b>Appeals</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<i>Total No of Decisions</i>	<i>113</i>	
<i>Allowed</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>23%</i>
<i>Dismissed</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>66%</i>
<i>Spilt Decisions</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3%</i>
<i>Withdrawn</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>3%</i>

Invalid (turned away by the Planning Inspectorate for procedural reasons)	5	4%
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*While the Council has incurred considerable costs in particular in defending appeals at public inquiries, other than Planning Officer time there have been no additional costs incurred in defending any of the appeals that were ultimately allowed.*

*To put in another way, the LPA has successfully defended all public inquiries (very expensive) and hearings (some of which have involved specialist officer time and extra cost) and every appeal has been dismissed.*

*In respect of learning from the ‘allowed’ appeals, most appeals have been lost on design arguments which officers consider are the most subjective area of planning policy. Planning Inspectors don’t always seem to ‘get’ the design points or understand the design character of Crawley – this is being addressed through the Local Plan review. Many seem to give too much weight to the permitted development fall back which allows for oversized poorly designed extensions contrary to our Urban Design SPD.*

*Of the 113 decisions which went to appeal over the period April 2015 to November 2019, 35 of these (31%) were following decisions by Committee with the remaining 78 (69%) based on delegated officer decisions.*

### **3. Question to Councillor P. Smith from Councillor Crow.**

*Please state the extent of the recent second public consultation that was undertaken by the Council regarding the Three Bridges Station Forecourt Scheme, including what advertising and promoting the Council did, in order to inform members of the public that it was taking place?*

#### **Response –**

*The third public consultation for the Scheme ran from 7th October to 3rd November 2019.*

*The first public consultation was based on two options, this took place during Nov-Dec 2014 and also included information about a proposed traffic light upgrade scheme which was implemented by West Sussex County Council in 2017.*

*The consultation report was issued in Jan 2015 showing that Option 1 was preferred by 62% of respondents – this included a no right hand turn out of the station.*

*The second public consultation took place from 12<sup>th</sup> February to 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018, six information sessions were delivered to the general public; one in County Mall, one at*

*Crawley Library and four sessions at various times inside Three Bridges station. This option also included the no right hand turn out of the station.*

*This third publication consultation took place between the 7<sup>th</sup> October and the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2019 – also showing the no right hand turn out of the Station.*

*The Council issued a press release on 7 October 2019, as follows:  
[http://www.crawley.gov.uk/pw/News\\_and\\_Events/Press\\_Releases/PR\\_10549](http://www.crawley.gov.uk/pw/News_and_Events/Press_Releases/PR_10549)*

*The media release was tweeted and put on Facebook on 7 October.*

*On the same day a notice was posted at the Gate in Three Bridges Station and on the display in Crawley Library advertising the following dates as information sessions for the public to attend*

- *Thursday 10 October, 4 – 7pm, Crawley Library*
- *Saturday 12 October, 12 noon – 4pm, County Mall*
- *Tuesday 15 October, 6.30am – 9.30am, Three Bridges Station*
- *Tuesday 15 October, 5.30 – 7.30pm, Three Bridges Station*
- *Thursday 17 October, 12 noon – 4pm, Three Bridges Station*

*On the 7<sup>th</sup> October – officers presented the scheme at Three Bridges Forum Annual General Meeting which was widely publicised and advised that officers from the Crawley Borough Council would be there to present on the scheme.*

*It was also shared on the community notice boards and the relevant face book pages.*

*On the 10<sup>th</sup> October – officers attend the Manor Royal people event – to discuss the scheme – which was also widely publicised.*

*At each of the events the dates of future events where publicised.*

*We posted a news item on InvestCrawley on 15 October, as follows:  
<https://investcrawley.co.uk/news/have-your-say-updated-three-bridges-proposals>*

*A link to the news item was included in the Invest in Crawley newsletter, circulated in October 2019.*

*An unmanned display was in the Town Hall from the 21<sup>st</sup> October to the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2019*

*To date we have received 513 Comments from 327 participants this has been via email – comments made at events etc, the results of common questions arising will be posted on line under **Frequently Asked Questions** and the next set will be uploaded before Christmas 2019.*

#### **4. Question to Councillor Lamb from Councillor Crow.**

*For each individual neighbourhood parade in Crawley where the Council is the landlord, please list the total number of shop tenants (but not the names of the retailers) who;*

- 1. Have had a rent review in 2019 that has been resolved?*
- 2. Have a rent review in 2019 that has yet to be resolved?*
- 3. Have a rent review from 2018 or earlier that has yet to be resolved?*
- 4. Are due a rent review in 2020?*
- 5. Are due a rent review in 2021?*
- 6. Are due a rent review in 2022?*
- 7. Are due a rent review in 2023 or later?*

#### **Response –**

- 1. Have had a rent review in 2019 that has been resolved? **2***
- 2. Have a rent review in 2019 that has yet to be resolved? **15***
- 3. Have a rent review from 2018 or earlier that has yet to be resolved? **2***
- 4. Are due a rent review in 2020? **15***
- 5. Are due a rent review in 2021? **20***
- 6. Are due a rent review in 2022? **10***
- 7. Are due a rent review in 2023 or later? **16***