

Bexley Strategic Board – Part 1

Thursday 26th May 2022

Public Questions & Responses

Public Question/s	From	Response
<i>As we know, many people across Bexley aren't testing because they are no longer free. With the cost-of-living crisis – what does the council have in place to financially support residents from low-income households to access these tests if they need them?</i>	Councillor Zainab Asunramu	Bexley is not too dissimilar to the rest of the country regarding infection rates. Therefore, we are following national guidelines in that those who work with and look after our most vulnerable communities still have access to free testing. Residents are 'recommended' to self-isolate if they have any of the symptoms.
<i>Annual care reviews are important for the carer as well as the person that is being looked after. Can I ask that an importance is placed on the council to make sure reviews are kept up to date and conducted annually, how many are still outstanding?</i>	Councillor Stefano Borella	We entirely agree that care reviews are a vital aspect of the care and support arrangements for those receiving care and must therefore be a priority. Like many priorities, we were slightly blown off course by the pandemic, which has resulted in a backlog of circa. 600 reviews. We have commissioned a specialist organisation to assist with catching up on outstanding reviews and that should be achieved by the end of this financial year. The impact of the caring role and the pandemic on families cannot be underestimated. We have ensured that urgent and priority reviews have been undertaken.