

<b>Committee:</b> Ordinary Council	<b>Date:</b> 8.10.19
<b>Subject:</b> Public Questions	<b>Wards Affected:</b> All
<b>Report of:</b> Jean Sharp	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report Author/s:</b> Name: Jean Sharp Telephone: 01277 312655 E-mail: jean.sharp@brentwood.gov.uk	<b>For Information</b> (delete where appropriate)

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, a member of the public resident within the Borough may ask a maximum of two questions relating to the business of the Council providing notice has been received by 10.00am two working days before the relevant meeting.

If the person wishing to ask the question is not present at the meeting when the item is called the question(s) will be deleted from the list of questions to be asked.

Every question asked pursuant to rule 11.1 of the Constitution shall be put and answered without discussion but the Member to whom the question has been put may decline to answer. An answer may take the form of a direct oral answer at the Council meeting or where there has been insufficient time to research an answer, a written answer will be sent to the questioner.

Mrs Patricia Smith had submitted two questions:

1. *"What Equality Act, Autism Act and Care Act training, and autism / disability / hidden disability / mental health / disability and carer issues training has the council undertaken?"*

*Who provided it please? In what form? When? Is it regularly reviewed and updated? I.e.: for Officers, councillors, contractors etc.*

*From my experience as a carer, I would guess very little if any such training has been undertaken".*

2. *"Will the council please pass a motion in support of #BackTo60 1950s born women, who have had their state pensions taken away for six years, no notice, and left to pay additional Ni contributions for the full new state pension, also with no notice, leaving them and their families in dire straits, losing their homes etc. ?*

Please see <https://www.backto60.com/>

<https://davidhencke.com/2019/06/20/revealed-on-byline-timeshow-the-dwp-manipulated-the-pension-figures-to-exaggerate-the-costs-of-helping-the-50s-women/>

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/austerity-tory-government-theresa-may-philip-alston-unrapporteur-a8977251.html>

*Please read the 50s women's stories on the Backto60 website, read David Hencke's articles, and read UN Special Rapporteur's reports on poverty in the UK, the effects of austerity and particularly the effects on the sick and disabled and 50swomen."*