

Item 4:

Public Questions to be answered at the Executive meeting on 12 January 2023.

Members of the Executive to answer questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules contained in the Council's Constitution.

A. Question submitted by Simon Pike to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside:

"The current Local Plan, adopted by the Council in 2012, includes an 'Area Delivery Plan Policy for Thatcham'. This states, inter alia, that the town centre will be regenerated with the redevelopment of the Kingsland Centre driving this improvement, that Thatcham's services and facilities will be improved, and that the range of leisure facilities within Thatcham will be expanded. What aspects of these objectives has the Council delivered to date, and what more does it expect to deliver in the remainder of the plan period?"

B. Question submitted by John Gotelee to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development:

"Executive members have often expressed faith in the councils drainage officers. Why are more expensive SUDs Consultants being contracted to advise on the LRIE?"

C. Question submitted by Alan Pearce to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development:

"The Executive decision EX4219 London Road Industrial Estate Project Refresh 6.11 The delivery Strategy is to redevelop the depot site by the end of 2024 and at the same time adopt a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the LRIE. Please would the Council explain the logic in redeveloping the depot site without an SPD, when there may be requirement to redevelop the site in a certain way, for instance to provide a holistic drainage strategy/system for the area to reduce surface water flooding downstream?"

D. Question submitted by Paula Sauderson to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside:

"The new Draft Strategy mentions the existing WBC Vision to 2036 which is still visible on the WBC web site with its Evidence Base, so please can you explain the Status of the new Icení prepared West Berkshire Strategic Vision 2050 which has appeared in the Local Plan Review Evidence Base, and how this will progress to replace the previous Vision?"

E. Question submitted by Simon Pike to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside:

"What were the costs to the Council and the value of Government grants for the installation, the replacement and the subsequent removal of Orcas along the A4 through Thatcham? Will any of the grant funding now need to be repaid?"

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F. Question submitted by John Gotelee to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside:

"Approximately one quarter of 322 English local planning authorities have either adopted or are preparing BNG requirements in their local plans. Is West Berkshire Council one of them?"

G. Question submitted by Paula Saunderson to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside:

"By including The new Iceni West Berkshire Strategic Vision to 2050 in the LPR Evidence Base which is about to go out to Section 19 Consultation - does this mean that the responses within the Section 19 Consultation will be the only way for the Public to respond to this new Strategic Vision, even though it will eventually be at the Top of the Hierarchy above this new Strategy 2023- 2027?"

H. Question submitted by Simon Pike to the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Leisure and Culture:

"The Area Delivery Plan Policy for Thatcham states that "The range of leisure facilities within Thatcham will be expanded, utilising those at the existing Newbury Leisure Park on Lower Way". Has the council provided any funding or other support to support this expansion, and what range of leisure opportunities are now available at the Leisure Park?"