

Health and Wellbeing Board

18 May 2018

Questions and Answers



WestBerkshire
C O U N C I L

Public Questions as specified in the Council's Procedure Rules of the Constitution

(a) Questions submitted to the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board by Mr Steve Masters:

"With the publication of the rough sleeping report would the Health and Wellbeing Board please confirm which of the recommendations they will be endorsing and adopting?"

The Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board answered:

The Healthwatch Homeless and Rough Sleepers Report 2018 appears on the agenda for this meeting as item 9. The Steering Group have recommended that the Homelessness Forum, subject to some changes, is invited to become a sub-group of the Health and Wellbeing Board to consider the report, review the evidence and to develop a long-term strategy.

The Chairman asked: *"Do you have a supplementary question arising directly out of the answer to your original question. A supplementary should be relevant to the original question and not introduce any new material?"*

Mr Masters asked the following supplementary question:

"In trying to tackle an issue such as rough sleeping, is it not the case that you need to find the cause of the problem? I recall Councillor Boeck participating in the Radio Four panel show, Any Questions, earlier this year and he asked when the Government would be acknowledging the shortfall in government funding of local government. Does Councillor Boeck still believe the underfunding of local government to be unacceptable and an issue that can cause major problems such as rough sleeping?"

The Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board answered:

It remains a challenge certainly for this authority and that challenge we have responded to by looking for savings in other services than those that we deliver to the most vulnerable of our community. I think that situation is going to prevail for some time to come in my opinion.
