

## Item 10:

### **Member Questions to be answered at the Executive meeting on 15 October 2020.**

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

**(a) Question submitted by Councillor Dennis Benneyworth to the Leader of the Council:**

*"Can the Leader please provide assurance that with the ending of the furlough scheme, and possibility of greater redundancies to come as a result, that the Council is ready to support those in economic hardship?"*

**(b) Question submitted by Councillor Tom Marino to the Portfolio Holder for Internal Governance:**

*"Will West Berkshire Council be signing up to the government's £2bn Kickstart scheme to help young people between the ages of 16 – 24 on Universal credit into the work place?"*

**(c) Question submitted by Councillor Peter Argyle to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Education:**

*"What is the Council's role in helping young people in to employment?"*

**(d) Question submitted by Councillor Rick Jones to the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing, Leisure and Culture:**

*"Why is the Culture Strategy and the Leisure Strategy, which is also due out shortly for consultation, being developed in the midst of Covid-19?"*

**(e) Question submitted by Councillor Garth Simpson to the Leader of the Council:**

*"What provision is still in place in the district, after the ending of government food parcels, for those in our communities who are in clinical need of further support or experiencing food poverty?"*

**(f) Question submitted by Councillor Dennis Benneyworth to the Leader of the Council:**

*"Can the Leader advise what preparation the Council has made in order to deliver the £500 Test and Trace Support Payment announced by the Government as part of the more recent response measures to Covid-19?"*

**(g) Question submitted by Councillor Tom Marino to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development:**

*"Can the portfolio holder advise how its commercial property portfolio has been performing over the sixth months or so since the Covid pandemic emerged?"*

**(h) Question submitted by Councillor Peter Argyle to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Education:**

*"Can the portfolio holder tell us how the Council is supporting young unaccompanied asylum seekers?"*

## Item 10:

### **Member Questions to be answered at the Executive meeting on 15 October 2020.**

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

**(i) Question submitted by Councillor Rick Jones to the Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing, Leisure and Culture:**

*"What reassurance can the portfolio holder give following recent shortages in Covid testing capacity in the district that this provision for West Berkshire residents will be restored?"*

**(j) Question submitted by Councillor Phil Barnett to the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside:**

*"In view of recent animal injuries along Burys Bank road, can the Executive member for Highways and the Environment identify what measures are proposed to ensure the animals on Greenham Common are safe from vehicles along the perimeter roads?"*

**(k) Question submitted by Councillor Carolyn Culver to the Portfolio Holder for Environment:**

*"Does the Executive support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill?"*

**(l) Question submitted by Councillor Steve Masters to the Leader of the Council:**

*"Does the portfolio holder agree that we should reject approaches by private security companies to be covid wardens on the streets of West Berkshire?"*

**(m) Question submitted by Councillor David Marsh to the Leader of the Council:**

*"In what ways do businesses in Newbury town centre benefit from "people driving past their shops and restaurants"?"*

**(n) Question submitted by Councillor David Marsh to the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside:**

*"The council's Speed Limit Review on 9 October 2019 (more than a year ago) agreed to reduce the speed limit along Andover Road, between Gorselands and Conifer Crest, from 40mph to 30mph. How much longer will it be before this is put into effect?"*

**(o) Question submitted by Councillor David Marsh to the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside:**

*"The 24-hour traffic-free zone in parts of Newbury town centre was introduced to "support the local economy", to "support outdoor eating space", and to "allow social distancing in a safe, traffic-free environment". Which of these targets have been achieved, and which no longer apply?"*

## Item 10:

### **Member Questions to be answered at the Executive meeting on 15 October 2020.**

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

**(p) Question submitted by Councillor David Marsh to the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside:**

*"If the Transport Advisory Group at its meeting this month recommends reintroducing the 24-hour traffic-free zone in parts of Newbury town centre, will this be put into effect as a matter of urgency, bearing in mind the continuing and indeed escalating Covid-19 crisis?"*

**(q) Question submitted by Councillor Lee Dillon to the Portfolio Holders for Adult Social Care and Children, Young People and Education:**

*"What steps has WBC taken to ensure the impact of the withdrawal of services for clients and their carers (introduced in the March Coronavirus Act) has been understood and mitigated against?"*

**(r) Question submitted by Councillor Alan Macro to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health and Community Wellbeing, Leisure and Culture:**

*"Following the Council's commitment to a local mental health concordat, what actions will it be taking with its partners to protect the mental health and wellbeing of its health and social care staff?"*

**(s) Question submitted by Councillor Lee Dillon to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing:**

*"Will this Council be submitting a response to the Government consultation paper on Transparency and Competition (a call for evidence on data on land control)?"*

**(t) Question submitted by Councillor Adrian Abbs to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing:**

*"What can be done to ensure that we don't see other developers follow the precedent set by Newbury Racecourse and North Newbury and Sandford Park building out large housing schemes with their 'local centre' delivered long after almost homes are occupied?"*

**(u) Question submitted by Councillor Alan Macro to the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside:**

*"How does the Council propose to ensure that the proposal to create wildflower verges on our rural roads doesn't threaten the safety of pedestrians and horse-riders who often need to use verges to avoid traffic?"*

**(v) Question submitted by Councillor Alan Macro to the Leader of the Council:**

*"What does the executive think about covid marshals?"*

## **Item 10:**

### **Member Questions to be answered at the Executive meeting on 15 October 2020.**

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

**(w) Question submitted by Councillor Alan Macro to the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care:**

*"How did the Council allow Walnut Close care home to deteriorate to such an extent that 20% of the rooms are unusable and it now faces closure?"*

**(x) Question submitted by Councillor Erik Pattenden to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Education:**

*"What support are children in West Berkshire getting if self-isolating at home?"*

**(y) Question submitted by Councillor Erik Pattenden to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Education:**

*"Can the executive please tell us how many early years providers in West Berkshire are at risk of closure due to financial difficulties?"*

**(z) Question submitted by Councillor Adrian Abbs to the Portfolio Holder for Environment:**

*"What additional solar capacity has been installed by the council since declaring a climate emergency that was not already planned?"*