

Item 12:

Member Questions to be answered at the Executive meeting on 25 March 2021.

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 David Marsh to the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Countryside/Finance and Economic Development:**

"Do you share Newbury BID's vision for the town centre as "a safe and welcoming space for visitors, residents and workers to eat, drink and relax in, enjoying an ambient, atmospheric setting without the noise and safety risks that vehicle access brings"?"

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

"What will be the carbon footprint impact of cancelled bus services proposed in West Berkshire?"

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

"What is the council doing to support Alice Bye Court Extra Care Sheltered Housing to improve its CQC rating for safety and leadership?"

(m) **Question submitted by Councillor Andy Moore to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development:**

"I am aware that the Newbury Business Improvement District (BID) has written to this Council (letter dated 1 Mar 21) seeking assistance on matters such as traffic-free timings and licences for outdoor hospitality as the COVID-19 restrictions are eased this spring. Furthermore, the BID's request and approach has been broadly supported by Newbury Town Council's Planning & Highways Committee. What actions will the Council take to respond to these requests and ensure that Newbury Town Centre is given the best chance to recover from the effects of the pandemic?"

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

"How many children in West Berkshire schools will no longer be eligible for Pupil Premium after the Government's change to the date on which eligibility is calculated now being before the end of furlough scheme, and with the effect that families where the major bread winner is made unemployed and are forced to go onto benefits will not be taken into account?"

(p) **Question submitted by Councillor Lee Dillon to the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care:**

"How many hospital referrals to West Berkshire located care homes are refused because the appropriate medical care can't be provided?"

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(q) **Question submitted by Councillor Martha Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Education:**

"In the light of continuing concerns in society regarding the attitude and behaviour of some men towards women does this Council recognise the need to begin the process of attitudinal change through initiatives in our schools?"

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

"How much has West Berkshire Council received in both Section 106 and CIL receipts since 2016 regarding all new approved developments in the Greenham Ward?"

(u) **Question submitted by Councillor Tony Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Education:**

"Why does the Council still use 'as the crow flies' distances for determining entitlement to free school travel when there is free off-the-shelf software that can calculate journey distance by bus, car, bike or on foot?"

(b) **Question submitted by Councillor David Marsh to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health & Community Wellbeing, Leisure and Culture:**

"How many members of the Executive have visited the site of the proposed sports ground at the rugby club in Monks Lane?"

(k) **Question submitted by Councillors Adrian Abbs/Royce Longton to the Portfolio Holder for Environment:**

"What consideration has been given in the Environment Delivery Plan to investigating the carbon footprint implications of home to school journeys?"

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

"When were secondary school catchment areas last reviewed and what plans does the Council, as LEA, have to review them again?"

(r) **Question submitted by Councillor Martha Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Education:**

"What evidence is there that access to the means of travel to school (perhaps through income level and employment status) is linked to educational, health or income inequalities?"

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

"The government are now offering local authorities a chance to tap into a £30m "Changing places toilet fund" - will West Berkshire Council be making a bid?"

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(v) **Question submitted by Councillor Tony Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Internal Governance:**

"Why doesn't this Council publish draft minutes of its public meetings in a timely manner, like most local councils do, so the public can see how their elected representatives debated the important matters which they were elected to decide?"

(c) **Question submitted by Councillor David Marsh to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health & Community Wellbeing, Leisure and Culture:**

"What are the estimated running costs of the proposed sports ground in its first three years of operation, and will these costs be met by council tax payers?"

(d) **Question submitted by Councillor David Marsh to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health & Community Wellbeing, Leisure and Culture:**

"If the new sports ground goes ahead, what assurances can you give residents of Monks Lane, Heather Gardens, Sutherlands and other residential roads in the area that their lives will not be made intolerable by the increase in traffic and, particularly, parking?"

(e) **Question submitted by Councillor David Marsh to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health & Community Wellbeing, Leisure and Culture:**

"What impact would the proposed floodlighting in Monks Lane have on nearby properties, ancient woodland and wildlife, and what advice has the council taken on the potential ecological impact on, for example, bats' flight paths?"

(f) **Question submitted by Councillor David Marsh to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health & Community Wellbeing, Leisure and Culture:**

"How is the location of the proposed sports ground, which will inevitably increase car use, consistent with the council's active travel strategy?"

(g) **Question submitted by Councillor David Marsh to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health & Community Wellbeing, Leisure and Culture:**

"Have the proposals for Monks Lane factored in the prospect of future success, and therefore competing at a higher level, for football, rugby or indeed both?"

(h) **Question submitted by Councillor David Marsh to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health & Community Wellbeing, Leisure and Culture:**

"What safeguards have been put in place should circumstances change and, for whatever reason, the rugby club decides it no longer wishes to rent its land in Monks Lane to the council?"

(i) **Question submitted by Councillor David Marsh to the Portfolio Holder for Public Health & Community Wellbeing, Leisure and Culture:**

"Has the council considered how it can increase the acreage devoted to community sport in Newbury, rather than concentrate it on one site?"