

Supplemental Items for Executive

Thursday 19 September 2024 at 6.00 pm
in Council Chamber Council Offices
Market Street Newbury

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Sarah Clarke

Service Director (Strategy & Governance)

For further information about these items, or to inspect any background documents referred to in Part I reports, please contact Sadie Owen (Principal Democratic Services Officer) on 07824 823 893 e-mail: sadie.owen1@westberks.gov.uk

Further information and Minutes are also available on the Council's website at

www.westberks.gov.uk

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If you require this information in a different format or translation, please contact Sadie Owen on telephone (01635) 519052.



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Item 4:

Public Questions to be answered at the Executive meeting on 19 September 2024.

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 Alison May to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Highways:

"What consequences would arise if West Berkshire Council were to improve recycling and composting rates?"

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

"Regarding the Bond Riverside updates: With the last one being in February 2024. Are we to assume economic regeneration is at a standstill and the council has run out of ideas?"

C. Question submitted by James Matos to the Portfolio Holder for Children and Family Services:

"What are the council's long-term plans to improve SEND provision in West Berkshire's schools?"

D. Question submitted by Alison May to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Highways:

"There exists evidence that some Waste Contracts dis-incentivise recycling in the form of applying a charge for under utilised originally agreed waste arisings even if it is not used. Noting the new administration's commitment to openness and transparency, how does West Berkshire Council intend to share such known challenges with the citizens they represent?"

E. Question submitted by James Matos to the Portfolio Holder for Children and Family Services:

"When the council chooses to use private or other third party provision for our SEND children, how do you ensure the standards of care adopted do not lead to the kind of horrific incidents that we have seen emerge in Walthamstow?"

F. Question submitted by Alison May to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Highways:

"How much waste does West Berkshire Council and/or their contracted Waste supplier import from other Local Authority areas?"

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Item 15:

Member Questions to be answered at the Executive meeting on 9 September 2024.

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 Tony Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Highways:

"How are we, as Highway Authority responsible for keeping roads and public footpaths open to all users, balancing the conflicting legal requirements to protect nesting birds and the literally growing problem caused by climate change of vegetation obstructing public highways, including rural road signs and footways beside roads - especially affecting pedestrians of all ages and those with mobility impairment?"

B. Question submitted by Councillor Dominic Boeck to the Portfolio Holder for Children and Family Services:

"In the light of the imminent imposition of VAT on private education fees, what assurance can the Lead Member for Education give to all West Berkshire parents that their children will be educated in a school of their choice."

C. Question submitted by Councillor Ross Mackinnon to the Portfolio Holder for Children and Family Services:

"Can you explain how clawing back over £2million from Brookfields School, a specialist SEN school, is in the best interests of pupils with special educational needs?"

D. Question submitted by Councillor Ross Mackinnon to the Portfolio Holder for Leader of the Council:

"Do you think it is acceptable that a review into clawback balances for 2024-25 is still ongoing nearly 6 months into the financial year?"

E. Question submitted by Councillor Ross Mackinnon to the Portfolio Holder for Public Safety and Community Engagement:

"Residents in Bradfield Southend have long reported poor to non-existent mobile signal in many parts of the village and surrounding areas. What can the council do to improve mobile coverage in this and other "not-spots"?"

F. Question submitted by Councillor Ross Mackinnon to the Portfolio Holder for Deputy Leader; Planning and Housing:

"What assurances can you give residents and campaigners that Pincents Hill will not be developed for housing as part of the Local Plan?"

G. Question submitted by Councillor Ross Mackinnon to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources:

"How many West Berkshire pensioners are likely to lose their Winter Fuel payments as a result of the Government's withdrawal of the allowance?"

Item 15:

Member Questions to be answered at the Executive meeting on 9 September 2024.

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

H. Question submitted by Councillor Ross Mackinnon to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Highways:

"Will you abide by the result of the consultation into the extension of pedestrianisation of Newbury town centre?"

I. Question submitted by Councillor Ross Mackinnon to the Portfolio Holder for Deputy Leader; Planning and Housing:

"If the Local Plan had completed its examination and adoption process before the Labour Government doubled its housing targets for West Berkshire, what protection would the district have had from these new targets?"