

## Item 13:

### Member Questions to be answered at the Executive meeting on 9 June 2022.

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 Adrian Abbs to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transformation:**

*"How does the administration intend to support on-shore wind farms in West Berkshire?"*

**B. Question submitted by Councillor Lee Dillon to the Portfolio Holder for Leader of the Council:**

*"The 'Give My View' advert running on Facebook gives no indication that it is part of West Berkshire Council's process to fulfil the new 30-year visions that are required for substantial developments. Why have you not asked for clearer communications?"*

**C. Question submitted by Councillor Tony Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside:**

*"Noting that the Local Development Scheme on the public-facing Council website still has the next draft (Regulation 19) new Local Plan down for publication in December 2020, and that we Councillors know the date for publishing it has slipped 18 months already (to this July), how confident are you that the risks to the revised Local Plan timetable - for Adoption in late 2023 - will be met?"*

**D. Question submitted by Councillor Martha Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Education:**

*"Having accepted that education is key to reducing the littering problem in our streets and countryside, does the Council know what is being taught in our schools regarding this issue."*

**E. Question submitted by Councillor Alan Macro to the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care:**

*"How much has been spent on upkeep and improvement at the NoTrees care home over the last four financial years?"*

**F. Question submitted by Councillor Billy Drummond to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside:**

*"Can the Executive Member for Highways remind me and others of the size of potholes before they are repaired by West Berkshire Council?"*

**G. Question submitted by Councillor Adrian Abbs to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transformation:**

*"Given that improving insulation is one of the cheapest and fastest ways to reduce people's energy bills, will the Administration join the Lib Dems in urging a much greater focus from the Government on improving insulation in homes by lobbying our local MPs?"*

**H. Question submitted by Councillor Tony Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Countryside:**

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*"What lessons have been learned from the failure of one quarter of the cold-lay tarmac footway resurfacing works carried out by the Council's sub-contractor in recent weeks across the District?"*

**I. Question submitted by Councillor Alan Macro to the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care:**

*"The Local Government Ombudsman has upheld a complaint from a resident that the Council:*

- *Did not properly deal with a safeguarding matter involving her late mother;*
- *Did not provide an advocate or social worker to help her mother make decisions about her care and medication in the last weeks of her life;*
- *Did not inform the family what was happening; and*
- *Did not have an advocate contact the family until six days after her mother's death.*

*What actions are the Council taking to avoid these problems in the future?"*

**J. Question submitted by Councillor Martha Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Economic Development:**

*"Access to Council Tax Reduction (CTR) is subject to a limit of £10 per week below which this Council does not pay it. Considering this amounts to over £500 a year, how can withholding this entitlement from working families be justified"*

**K. Question submitted by Councillor Tony Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transformation:**

*"What progress is being made with the Newbury town centre Conservation Area Appraisals, which were supposed to be the first ones to be worked on by consultants appointed just before the pandemic struck?"*

**L. Question submitted by Councillor Martha Vickers to the Portfolio Holder for Leader of the Council:**

*"The pandemic and now the massively increased cost of living have resulted in many working families becoming eligible for benefits who have never had to claim before. How well publicised is CTR on the Council's website and elsewhere?"*