Agenda Item 13

Member Questions to be answered at the Council meeting on 15 October 2026.

Members of the Executive to answer the following questions submitted by Councillors in accordance with the Council's Constitution:

(A) Question not related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing by Councillor Dominic Boeck:

"Government-funded plans for the multi-billion pounds Future Materials Campus (FMC) at AWE's Aldermaston site will see planning applications coming forward soon.

How will the council support and engage constructively with residents, local councils and businesses on this enormous development?"

(B) Question not related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources by Councillor Howard Woollaston:

"Does the Executive Member regard borrowing tens of millions of pounds simply to support day-to-day expenditure as a sustainable financial strategy for West Berkshire?"

(C) Question not related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Public Safety and Capital Projects (Built Environment) by Councillor Dominic Boeck:

"AWE have compared the scale and complexity of the proposed FMC development with London 2012.

What specific assurance can the lead member give that Council has sufficient planning, emergency planning and other relevant technical resources and expertise to undertake a thorough and independent assessment of the application, including its implications for residential safety, emergency preparedness and amenity within and around the Aldermaston DEPZ?"

(D) Question not related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing by Councillor Dominic Boeck:

"How will the lead member assure our community that any significant technical issues and specialist matters identified through the processing of the FMC applications will be subject to appropriate detailed scrutiny, including where necessary through independent expertise?"

(E) Question not related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing by Councillor Dominic Boeck:

"What evidence will the Council publish to demonstrate whether its new Planning Enforcement Plan is improving the speed and effectiveness of planning enforcement?"

(F) Question not related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Children and Family Services by Councillor Dominic Boeck:

"What measures will the Council publish to enable members and residents to judge whether its SEND reforms are improving outcomes for children and young people with SEND?"

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(G) Question not related to an item of business submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Leisure, Sport and Countryside by Councillor Dominic Boeck:

"What is the Council doing to ensure that residents of rural communities have equitable access to library services?"