COUNCIL 13 SEPTEMBER 2018

QUESTION TIME

Question 1 – Staff morale

1. Mrs R M Udall will ask the Leader of the Council:

"Can the Leader of the Council confirm if he is satisfied or has any concerns about staff morale among employees of the County Council?"

Question 2 – Responsibility for bus service provision

2. Mr R C Lunn will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways:

"Due to the 2017 legislative changes which appear to prohibit County Councils from running their own bus services, can the Cabinet Member tell us what would happen if a bus company withdrew from an area of the county and no other appropriate company wanted to replace them?"

Question 3 – Public Transport Service to the residents of Habberley Estate, Kidderminster

3. Mrs A T Hingley will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways:

"What proposals are being put forward to fulfil the statutory duty of WCC to deliver a Public Transport Service to the residents of Habberley Estate (900 properties) in light of the decline in the commercial services delivered by Diamond Buses in Wyre Forest?"

Question 4 – School Crossing Patrols

4. Mrs F M Oborski will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Communities:

"I am, of course, delighted that a reprieve has been granted to School Crossing Patrols on Zebra Crossings.

We were originally told that ceasing to operate 15 Crossing Patrols would equate to saving £45,000 pa which would seem to imply that each patrol costs £3,000.

Could she please tell us: when the actual cost per Patrol will be available and how long Community Groups will be given to arrange sponsorship?"

Question 5 – Temporary and casual workers

5. Mr P M McDonald will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Transformation and Commissioning:

"Would the relevant Cabinet Member with Responsibility please inform me of the number of temporary and casual workers employed between 2016 and 2017 and the total cost?"

Question 6 – Revenue Receipts

6. Mr R C Lunn will ask the Leader of the Council:

"Can the Leader of the Council set out what risks he sees from the proposed switch in our revenue receipts from central government funding to keeping our local business rates from 2020. Does he perceive this to be dangerous at a time of extreme high street retail pressure?"

Question 7 – Special school places

7. Mrs F M Oborski will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Education and Skills:

"Last term there was a predicted shortfall in the County in Special School Places for this term. Can the Cabinet Member please tell me: How many pupils with EHC Plans were without appropriate County SEND School places on the first day of term this September? How many have had to be placed out of County? How many are without any school place at all?"

Contact Points

<u>County Council Contact Points</u> County Council: 01905 763763 Worcestershire Hub: 01905 765765

Specific Contact Points for this report Simon Lewis, Committee Officer Tel: 01905 846621 Email: slewis@worcestershire.gov.uk

Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report.