

COUNCIL
10 NOVEMBER 2016**QUESTION TIME**

Question 1 – Costs of suspended employees

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

"Would the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Transformation and Commissioning please inform me of the cost to this Council of workers suspended on full pay over the last two years?"

Question 2 – Number of MPs

2. Mr P M McDonald will ask the Leader of the Council:

"Would the Leader of the Council agree with me that the Government should pull back from reducing the number of MP's, which is causing confusion throughout the county because of the likelihood that residents in the county of Worcestershire could find that their MP is from a neighbouring authority, district or metropolitan area. Would the Leader of the Council also agree with me that to save money the number of unelected peers should be reduced instead of elected Members of Parliament?"

Question 3 – Term Dates 2018

3. Mr R C Lunn will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families:

"Can the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families ask the officers to reconsider the date on which the school summer term ends in 2018? Most families take holidays from Saturday to Saturday, so ending the term on Friday 20 July 2018 is preferable to the current plan of Tuesday 24 July 2018? Would he agree that such a change is likely to improve school attendance because parents are less likely to remove their children from school?"

Question 4 – Learning Support Budget

4. Mr R C Lunn will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families:

"Can Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families confirm that £300,000 was taken out of the Learning Support Budget in 2016-17 due to a legal dispute about the original contract between the Directorate and Babcock? How

is taking £300,000 away from this budget going to improve "outcomes" for children assisted by the service?"

Question 5 – Council-owned property

5. Mrs F M Oborski will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Transformation and Commissioning:

"As part of its Local Plan Review Wyre Forest District Council Local Plans Review Panel, which I chair, is assessing the Five-Year Housing Land Supply in the District. Worcestershire County Council owns several sites in the District which would appear to be suitable for some housing provision, but which are currently not being released. Three within Kidderminster are: the former Stourminster School site on Comberton Road; the former Sladen School site on Hurcott Road and the now unused Naylor's Sports field off Rifle Range Road.

Every house which can be built within Kidderminster is one less house which has to be provided on greenfield sites outside existing settlement boundaries. Will the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Transformation and Commissioning please tell me, for each of the above sites why there is a delay in releasing them for development, what constraints if any apply to each site and when they will be released?"

Question 6 – Cabinet Member visits

6. Mr R M Udall will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways:

"Does the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways have any plans to visit my Worcester - St John Division?"

Question 7 – Council and other pay rates

7. Mr R M Udall will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Transformation and Commissioning:

"Can the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Transformation and Commissioning please confirm details of the gender pay gap for employees of the County Council and for the county as a whole?"

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points

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Specific Contact Points for this report

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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.