

COUNCIL
10 NOVEMBER 2016**QUESTION TIME - CONTINUED**

Question 8 – Use of County Hall

8. Mr P Denham will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Transformation and Commissioning:

"What is this Council's policy on allowing charities to raise funds in council buildings and do charities who sell items behind Reception in County Hall rent the space or is free?"

Question 9 – Provision by the Library Service

9. Mr P A Tuthill will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Localism and Communities:

"As part of the modernisation/digital update of library services the majority of magazines are now made available on line. What action is being taken to make users aware of this and guide them in access procedures, either at libraries or at home? Could the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Localism and Communities also explain to Council how the choice of on-line magazines was made and has she any recommendations for covering any gaps for specialist/minority groups?"

Question 10 – Bromsgrove Railway Station

10. Mr P A Tuthill will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy, Skills and Infrastructure:

"Putting on my anorak I went and had a look around the new Bromsgrove Railway Station. It looks as if there is a track still to be installed and at the easterly platform face - is this waiting electrification and what are the latest timescales?"

There has also been some publicity that the new station has to be closed for further work, can this be clarified please?"

Question 11 – Asylum seekers

11. Mrs F M Oborski will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families:

"Could the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families please tell the Council how many young, unaccompanied asylum-seeking young persons are now in the care of Worcestershire Social Services following the passing of the Dubs

Amendment that allows unaccompanied refugee children from across Europe to have safe refuge in the UK under the care of local authorities?

If there are no such unaccompanied refugee children in Worcestershire yet, would he tell us what the plans are for Worcestershire County Council to play its part in this on-going tragedy; how many he intends this Council to accept, and when?

Could he also give us an update on the number of Syrian refugees now resettled in Worcestershire and what future plans are for hosting further families locally?"

Question 12 – Air Quality Management

12. Mr M E Jenkins will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Environment:

"The Government is increasing the funding for local air quality management in England with £3m funding via the air quality grant for 2016/17 (after recent years of cuts). Will the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Environment tell me if we applied for some of this funding? If so, how much have we asked for? How much have we asked for over previous years?"

Question 13 – Bus Services Bill

13. Mr M E Jenkins will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways:

"An amendment to the Bus Services Bill allowing all councils to gain franchising powers without central government approval was passed by the House of Lords recently, but the Bill will now have to pass through the Commons. Does the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways support local councils, such as ours, potentially having a greater say over how bus services are run? If so, will he ask the Government to accept this amendment?"

Question 14 – School Improvement

14. Mrs F M Oborski will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families:

"Now that the Babcock's contract has been in place for a full year, would the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families please describe their approach and performance on school improvement in that time and the feedback received from schools so far?"

Question 15 – Sustainability and Transformation Plan for Health and Social Care

15. Mr G J Vickery will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Well-Being:

"Will the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Well-Being deplore the secrecy with which the Sustainability and Transformation Plan for Health and Social Care is being developed and urge NHS England to make public the full state of development of the plan for Herefordshire and Worcestershire, as has been done for the residents of Shropshire and Birmingham?"

Question 16 – Diagnosing Asperger's Syndrome

16. Ms P Agar will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Well-Being:

"It is my understanding that it can and is taking 25 months for adults with Asperger's Syndrome to receive a diagnosis. Could the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Well-Being tell Council why this is?"

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.