

## **COUNCIL**

### **11 NOVEMBER 2021**

## **QUESTION TIME**

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### **Question 1 – CO2 Monitors in schools**

1. Cllr Mel Allcott will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Education:

"Given that schools are now fully open without compulsory mask wearing or the operation of "bubbles", even though the Covid virus is still prevalent in the community and at 27 September 2021, 40 schools had reported positive cases in staff or pupils. Could the Cabinet Member please tell me how many Schools in Worcestershire, both LA and Academies have now received the CO2 monitors promised by the Secretary of State for Education, Gavin Williamson MP?"

### **Question 2 – Disabled Parking Spaces**

2. Cllr Lynn Denham will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways and Transport:

"What is the current waiting time between approval of eligibility for a disabled parking space and delivery on the ground outside a person's home?"

### **Question 3 – A38 Bromsgrove Route Enhancement Programme**

3. Cllr Josh Robinson will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways and Transport:

"Following recent petitions and protests against the A38 Bromsgrove Route Enhancement Programme (BREP), does the Cabinet Member still have confidence that the plans are wanted by residents in Bromsgrove?"

### **Question 4 – Review of Speed Limits on the A4104**

4. Cllr Martin Allen will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways and Transport:

"At the last Council meeting I asked the Cabinet Member if he would instruct officers to carry out a review of speed limits from the M50 to the Ketch Round about on the A38 within 3 months of the A38/A4104 new roundabout being completed. He was very gracious and said that he would. Following on from that, may I ask the good councillor if he would therefore also agree to a similar review on the A4104 from Boughton Hill in the East up to and including Tunnel Hill in the west?"

## **Question 5 – Installation of EV charge points and renewable heating systems**

5. Cllr Matt Jenkins will ask the Cabinet Members with Responsibility for Environment and Highways and Transport:

"Worcestershire is behind many other parts of Great Britain with the pace of its EV charging point rollout. At a rate of 25 per 100,000 people, this is well below the UK average, of 39.

Worcestershire is moving at a slower pace than the national average when it comes to the installation of renewable heating systems. In Worcestershire over the past year installations have increased by 13%, whereas the national average is a 15% increase.

Can I ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility what he is doing to increase the installations of both EV charge points and renewable heating systems in the county?"

## **Question 6 – Special Education Needs provision and support**

6. Cllr Richard Udall will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Education:

"On Monday 1 November, a number of parents protested outside County Hall about the Special Education Needs provision and support in Worcestershire. They reported children with autism and anxiety being out of education for two or more years, they complained of a poor service and of shocking experiences, they suggested that statutory services were not being met. Does he believe they were right to protest and has he a message to the families concerned?"

## **Question 7 – Clean waterways**

7. Cllr Natalie McVey will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Environment:

"I was disgusted by the recent decision of all Worcestershire Conservative MPs to protect water companies, rather than Worcestershire's rivers, streams and brooks. It comes after data released by the Environment Agency shows that water companies dumped raw sewage into England's waterways more than 400,000 times last year.

Campaigners have also raised concerns that only 14 per cent of rivers in England are rated in 'good' ecological health and none meet chemical standards.

When I was growing up, I distinctly remember the UK being known as the 'The Dirty Man of Europe' because of the appalling state of our rivers and beaches. Who would have thought that we would be back in that unenviable position?

My question for the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Environment is, what specifically he is doing to put pressure on the government and/or water companies to clean up their act?"

## **Question 8 – Closure of Malvern Hills College**

8. Cllr Beverley Nielsen will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy and Skills:

"Malvern Hills College has been the subject of negotiations over the past year since Warwickshire College Group (WCG) decided to close and sell it. The Bransford Trust has made an offer, but to-date this has, very regrettably, not been accepted by WCG. Could the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Economy and Skills let us know if Worcestershire County Council is prepared to step in to assist in securing the future of the College for Malvern Hills residents in the event that this deal is not secured and in particular if the County Council would be prepared to assist in achieving this, for example, by providing a public works loan to the community company seeking to run this 100-year old educational facility into the future?"

## **Question 9 – The new roundabout located on the A38/A4104 near Upton Upon Severn**

9. Cllr Martin Allen will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways and Transport:

"Following my communications to the Cabinet Member requesting that he considers if a Statue or Work of Art can be installed upon the new roundabout located on the A38/A4104 near Upton Upon Severn.

Could I please have an answer that I can relay back to Ripple Parish Council and Upton Town Council, both of whom are very keen to receive an answer?"

## **Question 10 – Cycled on the highway through St John's, The Bull Ring, Tybridge Street and New Road**

10. Cllr Richard Udall will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways and Transport:

"Can the Cabinet Member confirm the last time, if ever, he has ever cycled on the highway through St John's, The Bull Ring, Tybridge Street and New Road?"

## **Contact Points**

Contact Points for this report  
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## **Background Papers**

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Assistant Director for Legal and Governance) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report.