

COUNCIL

10 NOVEMBER 2022

QUESTION TIME

Question 1 – Dysgraphia

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

"Dysgraphia is a neurological disorder of written expression that impairs writing ability and fine motor skills. It is a learning disability that affects children and adults and interferes with practically all aspects of the writing process, including spelling, legibility, word spacing and sizing, drawing and expression. However, its mostly untreated and very few people have heard of the condition and most schools do not test for it. Can the Cabinet Member confirm the state of awareness in Worcestershire schools, how many children have Dysgraphia in Worcestershire, how many children receive help with their learning because of Dysgraphia and what advice and support is on offer to Worcestershire schools to ensure awareness of the disorder is improved?"

Question 2 – Bromsgrove District Plan

2. Cllr Josh Robinson will ask the Leader of the Council:

"Is there anything from the Worcestershire County Council side that would be delaying the publication of the Bromsgrove district plan?"

Question 3 – School and College Transport

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

"Yet again there are problems with school and college transport this academic year and the complaints are pouring in. By October half term there were still 600 students at Worcester Sixth Form College who were awaiting bus passes, for example. In the meantime, parents who have already paid for these passes are having to buy ad hoc tickets for their children, which they are struggling to afford. There are also not enough buses so students are being left stranded at bus stops and unable to get into college to attend their classes.

What is the explanation for the County Council's failure to deliver on its statutory responsibility to enable children and young people to access an education and what plans are there to compensate families who are being left out of pocket?"

Question 4 – Household Support Fund

4. Cllr Dan Boatright will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Communities:

"I have received several queries about the Household Support Fund and the fact that people cannot obtain help because there is a waiting list after 2,300 families applied for help. Given that £900,000 was allocated in the first round, how much funding would have been needed to meet the demand of all applications? I have also been informed that in the first round of funding support through the Household Support Fund was fully allocated to residents in all categories except pensioners. Does the council know why the pensioner allocation remained unused?"

Question 5 – 144 and 144A bus services

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

"Can we have an update on the 144 and 144A bus services please?"

Question 6 – Temporary classrooms

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

"How many Worcestershire Schools have temporary classrooms, how many temporary classrooms are used for education in Worcestershire schools and how many children, in a typical school week, receive lessons in a temporary classroom?"

Question 7 – Positive Activities for young people

7. Cllr Lynn Denham will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Well-being:

"I welcome the Worcestershire Joint Local Health & Wellbeing Strategy which Council has now adopted. I applaud the aspirations to improve health & wellbeing & reduce health inequalities. Given that it is reported that 80% of children & young people felt that Covid has had a negative impact on their emotional wellbeing & that the Health & Wellbeing Strategy aims to reduce crime & anti-social behaviour, does the Cabinet Member believe that the provision of Positive Activities for young people, which her department commissions is adequate to meet current need?"

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.