

COUNCIL 16 FEBRUARY 2023

QUESTION TIME

Question 1 – Kinship Carers

1. Cllr Richard Udall will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families:

"According to the Kinship Charity, Worcester City has 297 children in Kinship care, saving this local authority £11.88m in paying for looked after care. Is he aware that in a survey for the charity, 35% of Worcester Kinship Carers say they are worried about support they receive and claim they may have to stop caring for their child. 70% of Worcester Kinship Carers feel they do not get the support they need from their local authority. 58% are struggling to meet their Child's need due to the current financial pressures. Does he recognise these figures and statistics?"

Question 2 - Cycle Routes

2. Cllr Beverley Nielsen will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways and Transport:

"Could the Cabinet member for Highways and Transport produce the latest cycle routes across Worcestershire with timetables for implementation and proposed sources of funding? If priorities are allocated to certain routes can this also be provided so we know which routes are due for early development?"

Question 3 – EV charge points on the highway

3. Cllr Matt Jenkins will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways and Transport:

"What is the County Council's strategy for rolling out EV charge points on the highway?"

Question 4 – Assistance for teachers and pastoral staff in the education of Ukrainian children and young people

4. Cllr Natalie McVey will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Education:

"Can the Cabinet Member with Responsibility tell me whether there is a forum, or any support network, to assist teachers and pastoral staff in their education of Ukrainian children and young people in Worcestershire schools?"

Question 5 - New school in Worcester - Access to information

5. Cllr Dan Boatright will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Corporate Services and Communication:

"I have recently requested information on the various bids for the new school in Worcester. I was informed this was commercially confidential. It would be very easy to release the information without names and institutions. Given this is taxpayers money, a publicly owned school and in the public interest, why is there no mechanism to allow public scrutiny?"

Question 6 – NHS Patient Payments

6. Cllr Richard Udall will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Health and Well-being:

"A Worcestershire MP, who also happens to be a former Health Secretary, has suggested the introduction of payments for patients attending GP appointments and for making a trip to A&E. Does she share my view that this would be an extremely bad idea and would further damage relationships between Doctors and their patients and could increase health inequalities in Worcestershire, will she join me in calling upon all Worcestershire Members of Parliament to oppose such a suggestion?"

Contact Points

<u>Contact Points for this report</u> 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 Assistant Director for Legal and Governance) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report.