

COUNCIL

9 NOVEMBER 2023

QUESTION TIME

Question 1 – Royal Mail

1. Cllr Richard Udall will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy, Infrastructure and Skills:

"I have received a large number of residential concerns about Royal Mail service and delivery. It's clear the postal service is in crisis, with many people complaining they no longer receive a daily delivery, this is despite a legal obligation for Royal Mail to deliver post daily to every property, six days a week. Residents have missed credit card payment deadlines, job offers and hospital appointments. Many small businesses still depend on royal mail postal deliveries for payment, invoices, statements and orders. Many concerns have been expressed that the service is prioritising the more profitable parcel delivery over essential letter delivery. Will he investigate the reliability and the service provision of Royal Mail in Worcestershire, and take any appropriate action to raise these concerns with Royal Mail management and to seek assurances of any plans or proposals to improve postal services within Worcestershire?"

Question 2 – Free bus pass for Veterans and Service Personnel

2. Cllr Martin Allen will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Communities:

"Twelve months ago, this council unanimously voted through the motion to provide commencing in April 2024 that members of the armed forces and veterans who reside in Worcestershire free bus travel in line with the current pensioners bus pass.

Will the Cabinet Member with responsibilities for this matter please tell me, is the Council ready to provide these bus passes and how will the council be advertising this country leading first to the brave men and woman who have served their country?"

Question 3 – 20mph speed limit policy

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

"In January 2021 the Council agreed to set up a cross-party group to review our 20mph policy. At the full council meeting in May this year, I asked about the lack of progress, as the review had not started. I was told by the Cabinet Member with

Responsibility (CMR) for Highways and Transport that a review was unnecessary, as a new method for councillors to request 20mph zones would be added to the member portal in July, with a review of this in November.

It is now November and there is no new 20mph policy or any way for councillors to request 20mph zones via the member portal, as was promised.

Can I ask the CMR for Highways and Transport when we will finally get to see the new 20mph policy and have a way to request a 20mph zones in our Divisions?"

Question 4 – Planned highways work

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

"Whilst I recognise from time-to-time planned highways work can change date, but what more can be done to ensure local residents and members are kept up to date on when these changes are happening and for what reason?"

Question 5 – RAAC in County Hall, Worcester

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

"It was a shock to discover that County Hall is no longer safe due to RAAC (Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete), the upper floors are blocked to access and people going to the Register Office to get married now have to enter via the Lakeview Restaurant entrance. When will we be able to return to our normal Council Chamber back in County Hall?"

Question 6 – HS2

6. Cllr Natalie McVey will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways and Transport:

"Can the Cabinet Member with Responsibility tell me, and the residents of Malvern Trinity Division, how we will benefit from the unceremonious scrapping of HS2?"

Question 7 – Participation in physical activity

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

"It's a sad fact that most Worcestershire residents do not participate in any team sport once they leave school. Physical activity is not only good for the body but good for the mind, helping to also reduce social isolation and keeping people active. What action can she take to encourage participation in physical activity, especially for socially isolated individuals, who find it difficult to participate due to caring commitments?"

Question 8 – Barclays Bank

8. Cllr Matt Jenkins will ask the Leader of the Council:

"Can I ask the Leader of the Council whether there are any plans for the Council to stop banking with Barclays Bank?"

Question 9 – Flooding in Bromsgrove

9. Cllr Josh Robinson will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Environment:

"With the recent flooding in Bromsgrove which affected Burcot Lane, Shenstone Close, Blackmore Lane, Alcester Road, Littleheath Lane and Ford Road amongst others in my county division, do you agree with me that more work needs to be done to prevent this and if so what will the County Council do to prevent this from happening again?"

Question 10 – Government funding for Adult Social Care

10. Cllr Lynn Denham will ask the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Adult Social Care:

"In September, the Government announced a £600m package over the next 2 years to boost the capacity of the social care workforce in England. How much does Worcestershire expect to receive and when?"

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.