

# ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS TO COUNCIL 6 JULY 2020

## PUBLIC QUESTIONS RECEIVED AFTER DESPATCH OF THE AGENDA

### CP2

Peter Must has asked the Executive Member for Highways and Transport the following question:

#### Question

In its Report to Council the Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee says, with regard to a Borough-wide Parking Management Action Plan, that it had asked that the Executive Member for Highways and Transport engage with the Town and Parish Councils with regards to the developing plan, and the consultation be re-opened to both newly elected and existing Members. These actions were actually agreed by the Committee at its meeting on 17 June 2019. Can the Executive Member for Highways and Transport say what has been done since then to progress the preparation of a draft Action Plan with a view to it being submitted to the Executive and then put out for public consultation?

### CP3

Mike Smith has asked the Leader of the Council the following question:

#### Question

I note from the published agenda for the full meeting on the 6th July 2020 that there are a very large number of agenda items, some of which have not been addressed despite being on the agenda since September 2019. In particular there are some ten Members questions of which eight, submitted by Conservative members of Council, seem to have little useful purpose and will consume time unnecessarily, and which will probably result in none of the later agenda items such as Motions being debated.

Indeed, five of these Member questions were on the agenda for the previous meeting but were withdrawn, as they were presumably deemed unimportant then and I doubt much has changed in three weeks.

As a more specific example, Item 27.3, is a question from the Deputy Executive Member for Climate Emergency to the Lead Executive member for Climate emergency asking "...how can this Council work to continue the huge benefits that the environment has received from lower carbon emissions ..." during lockdown – surely if they both attend their sub-committee meetings and read the various reports and plans prepared for those meetings, there is absolutely no need for such a question at full Council – surely a press release would be better?

So my question is in the interests of ensuring the Council can efficiently discharge its duty to provide a public democratic process of debate on motions raised by Members, should Agenda items 27.3 to 27.10 inclusive be moved to the end of the Agenda or better yet, be withdrawn?

## **MEMBER QUESTIONS RECEIVED AFTER DESPATCH OF THE AGENDA**

### **CM11**

Shirley Boyt has asked the Executive Member for Environment and Leisure the following question:

#### **Question**

I note from Councillor Miall's report on the Wokingham Sport Sponsorship that this fund helps to provide equipment, kit and travel expenses for youngsters who are exceptional at a particular sport. As a member of the Arts and Culture Working Group I would like to ask whether the Council will consider a similar fund for young people who are exceptionally talented in the Arts.

### **CM12**

Lindsay Ferris has asked the Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Services the following question:

#### **Question**

It has been identified that there are two sets of figures for Covid-19, one called Pillar 1, which covers NHS/Hospital figures, this represents about 10% of the overall tests and has been well known and available. However there is a second set of figures, known as Pillar 2, which represents about 90% of the total testing done in the UK (done by companies and at various sites across the UK). This figure has often not been made available to local Councils and others, where it has, it has been often late. This is extremely concerning. In Leicester for example Pillar 1 indicated around 28 cases, but Pillar 2 identified 944. Hence the lockdown now occurring there.

At the last O&SC Management meeting (June 24), I asked how many Wokingham Borough residents had had Covid-19 and was advised this was on the website and the figure was 430. I also asked the number of deaths associated with Covid-19 and the figure given was I believe 130. Can you advise whether this figure is only the Pillar 1 figure, or whether it includes, or omits the Pillar 2 figures and has WBC been advised of the Pillar 2 figures during the time testing has been taking place by these bodies?

This is an extremely worrying issue and needs to be understood, and what is more residents of Wokingham Borough need to be made clear what the position is in our Borough.