

QUESTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE

28 JANUARY 2021

PUBLIC QUESTIONS RECEIVED AFTER DESPATCH OF THE AGENDA

None

MEMBER QUESTIONS RECEIVED AFTER DESPATCH OF THE AGENDA

EM5

Imogen Shepherd-DuBey has asked the Executive Member for Finance and Housing the following question:

Question

Looking at item 70 - the Treasury Management Report 2020-21, there are some marked differences between this report and what has been approved and recommended to Executive by the Audit Committee. This appears to be in Appendix A. There appears to have been an extra £1.06 million added from Commercial properties and £0 from the Town centre regeneration. These items do not appear in previous reports and were not part of the review by Audit.

As the Audit Committee constitutionally has the responsibility for monitoring Treasury Management decisions to ensure compliance with the approved Treasury Management Strategy, when is this updated report being brought before the Audit Committee for review and approval?

EM6

Lindsay Ferris has asked the Executive Member for Children's Services the following question:

Question

With reference to the Revenue Budget Monitoring Report, can you advise whether there is any allowance within either the Children's Services budget, or within the Government funds to WBC for Covid-19 to cover additional facilities for IT/I-pads or Laptops to our local children, who do not have these facilities and are therefore not able to learn effectively from home and whether WBC has provided any such facilities?

EM7

Prue Bray has asked the Executive Member for Environment and Leisure the following question:

Question

In relation to agenda item 75, the current contract for provision of services to counter domestic abuse expires later this year. I am pleased to see the retendering includes widening the scope of the service and additional money, which recognises the importance of this issue and the impact it has. However, I am slightly surprised that the decision on the contract rests with the Director of Community Insight and Change, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment and Leisure. I fail to understand what domestic abuse has got to do with either Environment or Leisure. Surely the Executive Members and Directors covering adult and children's social care should be the people who should control the awarding of the contract, as they are the people most likely to understand what is required?

EM8

Sarah Kerr has asked the Executive Member for Resident Services, Communications and Emissions the following question:

Question

The Wokingham Community Energy report states that WBC will be setting up WCE and undertaking publicity which would incur a cost. It also implies that WBC will be investing in the scheme itself by outlining the benefits such an investment might bring. However, the report also states that there are no financial implications for the Council for the next 3 years. Is this a mistake, or does the Council have no intention of investing in the scheme?

EM9

Paul Fishwick has asked the Executive Member for Resident Services, Communications and Emissions the following question:

Question

Agenda Item 71 – Wokingham Community Energy (WCE)

There is a skills shortage of renewable engineers. Why is this not in the list of risks associated with this scheme and how does WBC plan to mitigate this risk?