Question Time: 22 March 2024

Members asked questions of members of the Cabinet. In instances where a Cabinet Member or the Leader undertook to take follow-up action, this is noted.

Cabinet Member for Adults Services

The Cabinet Member answered questions on delays to dementia assessments, from Cllr Johnson and Cllr O'Kelly.

In response to a question from Cllr O'Kelly about the temporary suspension of dementia assessments and its impact on Council services, the Cabinet Member said she would find out and let her know. The Cabinet Member was supportive of Cllr O'Kelly's suggestion that the Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust should be invited to the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee so that the Committee could look at whether the suspension had achieved the desired outcomes.

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Learning and Skills

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following matters:

Orchard House inspection, from Cllr Burgess.

Special Educational Needs (SEND) inspection of the West Sussex Local Area Partnership, from Cllr Burgess, Cllr Cherry and Cllr Smith.

In response to a concerns expressed by Cllr Smith that the relevant scrutiny committee would not consider the result of the SEND Ofsted inspection, published in February, until June, the Cabinet Member said the report had been taken to the meeting of the Cabinet in February and that she would give Cllr Smith a copy of the address she had made at that meeting.

Education and Health Care Plans, from Cllr Lord and Cllr Smith.

Secondary school placements in relation to Forest School, from Cllr Payne.

Proposals for St Antony's and Jesse Younghusband Schools in Chichester, from Cllr Joy, Cllr O'Kelly and Cllr Oakley.

In response to a question from Cllr Joy, the Cabinet Member said that, if the decision were taken to proceed with the proposals, she would let him know whether communication with parents of the two schools would be joint, separate or both.

News schools in Burgess Hill, from Cllr Cherry and Cllr Condie.

Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following matters:

Recycling rates and booking systems for sites, from Cllr N Jupp, Cllr Kerry-Bedell, Cllr Oakley and Cllr Wickremaratchi.

Operation Watershed, from Cllr Burgess, Cllr Elkins, Cllr Kerry-Bedell, Cllr Lord, Cllr Oakley.

Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following matters:

Support for the delivery of essential bus services, from Cllr Boram, Cllr Payne, Cllr Quinn and Cllr Wickremaratchi.

Additional £4m of revenue funding to support highway maintenance, from Cllr Bradbury.

Pedestrian and cycle facilities at roundabouts, from Cllr N Dennis.

In response to a question about whether there had been an audit to see if roundabouts were safe and usable, the Cabinet Member said she would find out and let him know. The Cabinet Member also agreed to find out whether consideration had been given to replacing roundabouts with signal-controlled junctions.

Electric vehicle chargepoints, from Cllr Boram, Cllr Gibson, Cllr Kerry-Bedell, Cllr Lord and Cllr McKnight.

Cuts to Active Travel fund, from Cllr Ali, Cllr Kerry-Bedell, Cllr McKnight, Cllr Oakley, Cllr Quinn and Cllr Wickremaratchi.

Cabinet Member for Public Health and Wellbeing

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following matters:

Vaccination rates in West Sussex, from Cllr Condie and Cllr Lord.

In response to a question about the current uptake of the MMR vaccine in West Sussex, the Cabinet Member said he would find out and let Cllr Lord know.

In response to a question from Cllr Condie the Cabinet Member said he would find out the level of shingles vaccination in the county and let him know.

Your Health Matters survey and avoiding digital exclusion, from Cllr McGregor.

Cabinet Member for Support Services and Economic Development

The Cabinet Member answered questions about hybrid working, from Cllr Atkins and Cllr Pudaloff.