
Question Time: 15 July 2022

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.

Leader

The Leader answered questions on the following matters:

Coastal West Sussex Partnership, from Cllr Boram.

LGA Conference 2022, from Cllr Albury, Cllr Hunt and Cllr Oakley.

Transatlantic Ties Symposium, from Cllr Greenway, Cllr Lord and Cllr Patel.

Cabinet Member for Adults Services

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following matters:

Extra care housing development in West Sussex, from Cllr Cooper.

Carers Support Week, from Cllr Duncton and Cllr Lord.

In relation to Carers Week and a question from Cllr Duncton, the Cabinet Member agreed to send details to all members of how people can contact carers support.

The Leader and the Cabinet Member answered questions on the Shaw homes contract, from Cllr Johnson, Cllr O'Kelly and Cllr Pudaloff.

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

The Cabinet Member answered questions on kinship carers, from Cllr Lord.

In response from a question from Cllr Lord about how many kinship carers have not yet been through a foster care assessment, the Cabinet Member said she would find out and respond to her.

Cabinet Member for Learning and Skills

The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People and Leader, on behalf of the Cabinet Member, answered questions on the following matters:

Site for a possible new primary school in Broadbridge Heath, from Cllr Milne and Cllr Oakley.

In response to a question from Cllr Milne about the Department for Education's decision not to provide a new primary school for Broadbridge Heath and the fact that the land the school was due to be built on would not now be made use of for this purpose, the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People said she would ask the Cabinet Member for Learning and Skills to provide a full response to Cllr Milne.

Holiday Activities and Food programme, from Cllr Quinn.

Cabinet Member for Community Support, Fire and Rescue

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following matters:

Bell barrow west of Ifield, from Cllr Cornell.

In response to a question from Cllr Cornell about the presence of an ancient bell barrow on land owned by Homes England proposed for development, and whether it has protected status, the Cabinet Member agreed to find out and respond to her.

10 years of Community Volunteers, from Cllr Albury.

The Cabinet Member and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Property answered questions on support for schools taking on Ukrainian children, from Cllr Joy.

Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following matters:

Solar panels in schools, from Cllr Burgess, Cllr Greenway and Cllr Markwell.

Sussex-Air, from Cllr Baxter, Cllr Burrett, Cllr Cornell and Cllr O'Kelly.

In relation to the partnership with Sussex-Air, Cllr Baxter asked for details of where the particulate monitors and the network of sensors will be located and the Cabinet Member agreed to let her have details.

The Cabinet Member also agreed to let Cllr Baxter know whether it is Sussex-Air or Highways England which would need to bid for assistance around the A27 between Lancing and Worthing.

The Cabinet Member agreed to let Cllr Cornell have more detail of the trial into the needs of taxi operators in the transition to electric vehicles including the need for fast charge points and where they should be located.

Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following matters:

Bus Services Improvement Plan, from Cllr Gibson, Cllr N Dennis, Cllr Kerry-Bedell, Cllr O'Kelly, Cllr Payne and Cllr Sharp.

In response to a question from Cllr N Dennis about whether, in relation to the Bus Services Improvement Plan, the County Council would look at a network of hubs to facilitate connections between journeys or across borders, the Cabinet Member said she would look into it again as part of the pilot.

Highways depot visit, from Cllr Condie, Cllr Cooper and Cllr Greenway.

Following a recent visit to the Drayton Highways Depot and a demonstration of the Jetpatcher road repair system, in response to questions from Cllr Gibson and Cllr Cooper about whether it could be used to repair pavements in towns, the Cabinet Member said she had asked officers to investigate and would respond in due course.

Cabinet Member for Public Health and Wellbeing

The Cabinet Member answered questions on the following matters:

Smokefree fund, from Cllr Baxter and Cllr McDonald.

In relation to the Smokefree fund and a request from Cllr Baxter, the Cabinet Member agreed to look at whether an underspend in the public health grant due to the impact of the pandemic could be used to fund further smoking cessation clinics.

Rising Covid cases, from Cllr Ali, Cllr Baxter, Cllr Cornell and Cllr Pudaloff.

In response to a question from Cllr Baxter about rising Covid cases and the need for non-online methods of messaging, the Cabinet Member said he would look at what usefully can be done.

The Cabinet Member also agreed to let Cllr Ali have statistics on the uptake of the vaccination programme in West Sussex and more detail of the proposed autumn booster campaign when available.

Cabinet Member for Support Services and Economic Development

The Cabinet Member answered questions on businesses and Net Zero, from Cllr Atkins, Cllr Gibson, Cllr Kerry-Bedell, Cllr Hillier and Cllr Sharp.

In response to a request from Cllr Kerry-Bedell for there to be incentives, grants and funding to help small and medium-sized businesses to move towards Net Zero, the Cabinet Member said he would be happy to look at it.