

WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed for questions submitted by a member of the public who either lives or works in the area of the authority at each ordinary meeting of the Council.

Every question shall be put and answered without discussion, but the person to whom a question has been put may decline to answer. The person who asked the question may ask one relevant supplementary question, which shall be put and answered without discussion.

The following written questions have been received from members of the public.

(a) Adam Muirhead on behalf of Mitch Alexander

"We are to see very deep, damaging cuts in this budget. The loss of the city's Youth Service being a prime example of a cut that in the long term will end up costing the city a lot more both financially and sociably. What the residents of the city want to know is ...what is the Council actually doing to demand back the funding from Central Government? There must be a plan, or our city will bleed. Reassure us that you are doing everything possible. You must say no, as it is not enough to just 'make the sums fit!'"

Councillor Morgan, Leader of the Council will reply.

(b) Nigel Furness

"Now that Hove Town Hall is once again able to host full Council and Committee meetings, can you please explain to us why, without any apparent notice, the public have been excluded from partaking in the democratic proceedings unless they have telephoned the Council the previous day in order to reserve a ticket of admittance?"

And could you further enlighten us as to why disabled persons are no longer to be permitted access to the main Chamber downstairs; is this not discriminatory?"

Councillor Hamilton, Deputy Chair (Finance), of the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee will reply.

(c) Mr. Des Jones

"While I am aware of the financial straightjacket the Government has placed upon this Administration, it beggars belief that funds cannot be found for Cityclean to sweep up the Autumn leaves on the pavements of key roads such as Sommerhill road in Hove; a road with two schools, a heavily over-subscribed medical centre, a home for the elderly and the entrance to a very busy park.

Can I ask Councillor Mitchell whether spending our scant resources on safeguarding vulnerable residents is more important than frittering them away on wholly unnecessary vanity projects such as the Stanmer Park and Valley Gardens?”

Councillor Mitchell, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee will reply.

(d) Ms. Gail Woodcock

“Will the Chairman of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee please outline what the national legislation, regulation and guidance is on the local authority paying redundancy payments for maintained schools: and whether the position in Brighton and Hove reflects this? If there is an alternative arrangement could he please outline what this arrangement is, how it was agreed and by whom, how often it is reviewed and when it was last reviewed?”

Councillor Bewick, Chair of the Children, Young People & Skills Committee will reply.

(e) Mr. Rohan Lowe

“I would like to ask a question concerning proposal 2a of the 2017.18 budget proposal draft: The Financial Recovery Plan proposes a saving of £0.65m by reducing the spend on the Learning Disabilities Community Care Budget.

The detail of these savings is unclear and therefore the impact on people with learning disabilities is uncertain. There seems to be a commitment to provide services to those people with the most complex needs. What assurances can you give us that those of us mild to moderate learning disabilities will not lose all of our support?”

Councillor Barford, Lead Member for Adult Social Care will reply.