

WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting for questions submitted by members of the public who either live or work in the area of the authority.

i) The following written question has been received from Jane Thorp.

Park Court

“Residents at Park Court flats were given an estimate for a replacement roof in 2014 of £30,000. In 2018, the work is being done and the cost is £70,000. How is it that a cost can rise by more than 100% in such a short space of time?”

ii) The following question has been received from John Hadman

Solar Panels on Council Property

Households across the UK had money added to their energy bill to be used to improve efficiency of homes.

I would like to know when a council property or home is built or improved, why solar panels are not put in place.

This would provide many savings, lowering energy bills for tenants and lowering energy bills for the running of council properties. Hove Town Hall is one example of a recent renovation which has not taken the opportunity to reinstall solar panels.

What are the Councils plans around ensuring this money and environment saving solution is taken up and how are such plans to be an integral part of the HRA Energy strategy?”

iii) The following written question has been received from David Croydon.

Housing computer system

“May I ask why the IT procurement report does not mention the fact that a software professional of some 40 years experience, along with another tenant also with some decades experience, offered to help in the scoping of the new system through the Business & Value for Money SIG and that this input was refused?”

iv) The following written question has been received from Steve Parry.

Independent review of existing partnering contract for housing repairs, maintenance, planned and major works

“This report and the full publication of the 31ten report are to be welcomed. There are, however, questions (of many) that require attention at this stage; will the Committee agree

- That discussion at this meeting is the start of a process that involves the widest possible number of residents, councillors, and experts with a final response made at a future meeting?”

v) The following written question has been received from Clare Hudson.

The future of repairs and maintenance of council properties

“This report provides the remarkable and eye-opening revelation that “The primary options detailed in the report are set out as follows:

Direct delivery of the services

Outsourcing

Wholly-Owned Subsidiary/Managed Service model

Joint Venture Company”

Would it be possible to explain why consultants are paid to tell councillors and residents something of which they are aware and why this agenda item is not part of item 11?”

vi) The following written question has been received from Kenny Lloyd.

Borrowing to build

“Could the committee please explain why a potential £30 million permitted within the amount allowed by the current government limits is not being accessed by B&HCC?”

vii) The following written question has been received from Daniel Harris.

Evictions from Emergency Accommodation

“Could you confirm the breakdown showing the accommodation providers responsible for the following evictions?”

1. 1/4/17–30/6/17 (Reported 7 cases) and the same for previous period. (Reported 9 cases)

2. 1/7/17 –30/9/17 - (Reported 7 cases) and the same for previous period. (Reported 8 cases)

3. 1/10/17 –31/12/17 - (Reported 9 cases) and the same for previous period. (Reported 12 cases)

4. 1/1/18 –31/3/18 - (Reported 10 cases) and the same for previous period. (Reported 21 cases)

Of these eviction cases how many have registered disabilities? Could you also explain why the Bat Tree is not included the report?”

viii) The following written question has been received from Maria Garrett-Gotch

Malnutrition among residents in temporary and emergency accommodation

“At the committee meeting on 14 March 2018 a question was asked regarding cases of malnutrition of residents in temporary and emergency accommodation provided by B&HCC or agencies contracted by the Council? The response was

that “The Housing Needs Team has had no reports of malnutrition amongst residents in temporary and emergency accommodation”

I understand that the council is now aware of such cases. Could the Chairperson explain what action is being taken to remedy this situation?”

ix) The following written question has been received from Barry Hughes

Sheltered Accommodation/ Allocations Policy

“At one time tenants in the council’s sheltered schemes could move when vacancies occurred. Recently a scheme tenant on the third floor (who was unwell) heard that a ground floor flat had become vacant. Upon enquiring if she could move to the ground floor she was told to apply via the Homemove scheme. She was unsuccessful.

Allocations Scheme changes in 2016 included “10% council interests”. Would the Committee please rule that moves within a community qualify under this change, thus allowing tenants to identify a vacant property and apply to move to that property without going through the Homemove process?”

