

WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 15 QUESTIONS – QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

Notice of the following questions has been received in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No 15:-

1. Question to the Leader from Councillor Pankit Shah

“Please can the Leader provide us with an update on the current status of Local Plan? Almost 2 months have been elapsed since the receipt of Inspector's letter on 6th September 2022. We also noted that a CPPP meeting was also cancelled where there was an opportunity to provide an update on Local Plan.”

2. Question to the Leader from Councillor Jane Quinton

“Since June 15th 2022, Part S of building regulations has been in force. This states that electric vehicle (EV) charging points are required to be installed so that every new home with associated parking has an EV charge point.

It should therefore be part of good design practice by the council to ensure that these building regulations are adhered to in any planning application assessed by the council.

Can the council confirm that all planning applications submitted since June this year have been or will be recommended for refusal (on the basis they cannot constitute ‘high quality design’ and therefore fail to meet policy D1), or have relevant conditions imposed on them if they are not compliant with these legally binding building regulations as part of their good design practice?”

3. Question to the Leader from Councillor Larry Crofton

“I would like to ask for information regarding paper recycling trays. I have had complaints that a lot going missing due to them not being returned after being emptied, indeed some residents have had theirs replaced 4 times.

I would like to know how many of these trays are being misplaced weekly or monthly? Who is paying for the replacements? How much do each of these trays cost to replace and is there any cost to the Council?”

4. Question to the Leader from Councillor Paul Zukowskyj

“At the Full Council meeting in July, WHBC promised to set up a customer services working group, which so far has met just once. What tangible steps has the council taken to speed up improving the Council's performance in relation to customer services?”

5. Question to the Leader from Councillor Lynn Chesterman

“I understand that the decision as to whether the community bus scheme will be withdrawn has been deferred for cabinet consideration for a month owing to the high number of paper responses. Recent research states over 20% of over 65s do not have access to the internet in the UK. As this is something that I have argued about for years will the Leader please confirm that the whole process of consultation is reviewed and submitted to scrutiny so that those who are unable to respond will no longer be excluded or will we continue with inequality because online is cheaper?”

6. Question to the Leader from Councillor Frank Marsh

“In view of clear evidence of anti social behaviour having taken place in Hatfield’s new car park and the fact that there has been recent anti social behaviour at Hunters Bridge Car Park in the town centre, what measures will you put in place to control ant-social behaviours in the new Campus West car park?”

7. Question to the Leader from Councillor Lucy Musk

“With the introduction of Morgan Sindall, is there a programme set up to clear the backlog of works left by Mears?”

8. Question to the Leader from Councillor Michal Siewniak

“Could the Council outline concrete steps it is taking to support the needs of asylum seekers and refugees in Welwyn Hatfield?”

9. Question to the Leader from Councillor Russ Platt

“Please can the council give a full and specific definition of the terms 'Affordable Housing' and 'Social Housing', as used in WHBC planning policies?”