

## **Meeting of the Council, Thursday, 12 September 2024**

### **Members' Questions Under Standing Order A12**

A member may only submit three questions for consideration at each Council Meeting. Each member will present their first question in turn, when all the first questions have been dealt with the second and third questions may be asked in turn. The time for member's questions will be limited to a total of 30 minutes.

#### **First Round**

##### **Question 1**

##### **Councillor Long to the Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, Public Health and Inequalities (Councillor Tranter)**

What impact has the 'Right Care, Right Person' model had on services provided by Torbay Council (e.g. Social Services, Mental Health Services or any other services), and what lessons have been learnt or changes made to the model since its introduction?

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##### **Question 2**

##### **Councillor George Darling to the Cabinet Member for Place Development and Economic Growth (Councillor Chris Lewis)**

During a failure at the Ilsham Valley Sewage Pumping Station in April, there was a continuous discharge recorded for almost 70 hours.

In a letter from South West Water they state '...failures occurred during times of heavy rainfall, and as Ilsham Valley SPS has a storm overflow there is a permit provision for the overflow to be used during rainfall, subject to specific conditions. The discharges recorded by our Event Duration Monitors ("EDMs") that occurred during the period of failures at the SPS enclosed with this letter do not distinguish between spills that occurred under 'storm overflow' provisions and those during the failures.'

Whilst South West Water state that this failure happened at a time of heavy rainfall, weather records suggest that there was only 2 hours of rain in the days preceding the failure.

What action is the council taking to hold South West Water to account to reduce the frequency of discharges like this, monitor, and improve water quality for residents using our beaches and sea.

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## **Second Round**

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### **Question 3**

#### **Councillor Long to the Cabinet Member for Housing and Finance (Councillor Tyerman)**

A number of Councillors have received casework from residents regarding the review of the Single Person Discount for Council Tax. Issues raised include the inability to contact the Council on the phone provided; the short timetable to respond over the holiday season when many residents might be away; and the threatening tone of the correspondence received from the Council. What lessons have the Council learnt via this process?

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## **Third Round**

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### **Question 4**

#### **Councillor Long to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services (Councillor Bye)**

The Council has received an offer of Grant funding from the Government's Youth Investment Fund. This grant is designed to improve the offer to young people in Torquay (which the Council acknowledges there is a shortfall in provision). The grant funding was due be spent at one of the Community Centres in one of the most deprived Wards in the South West of England. However, it appears that this grant funding may have to be handed back to the Government which would be a tragedy. What actions have the Cabinet Member for Children and the Leader of the Council taken to ensure taken to ensure the grant funding is not returned, and the projects it was due to fund actually go ahead?