

## Meeting of the Council

Thursday, 26 February 2015

### Questions Under Standing Order A13

<b>Question (1) by Councillor Darling to the Executive Lead for Business Planning and Governance (Councillor McPhail)</b>	<p>I understand that Torbay Council have issued contract mobile phones to a number of elected members and Council officers, and that £7,000 has been spent on phones that have never been used. Many would see this as a waste of public money. What plans does the Council have to claw back the £7,000 from those involved who have clearly wasted public money?</p>
<b>Question (2) by Councillor Parrott to the Council's Representative on the English Riviera Tourism Company (Councillor Mills)</b>	<p>Is it the intention of the English Riviera Tourism Company to move the Tourist Information Centre in Torquay from its current location at Torquay Harbourside, to the site of the Toll House on Torquay seafront?</p>
<b>Question (3) by Councillor Darling to the Executive Lead for Adult Social Care and Older People (Councillor Scouler)</b>	<p>Torbay's contracts with 21 unit, Stone Court is set to end in the next few weeks. I understand that Devon &amp; Cornwall Housing Association are negotiating with Torbay to try to fund the much valued facility through housing benefit. Can you please advise on the outcome of these negotiations and whether these facilities will remain open to Torbay families in housing need?</p>
<b>Question (4) by Councillor Stocks to the Executive Lead for Adult Social Care and Older People (Councillor Scouler)</b>	<p>The current revenue budget monitoring report indicates that the NRS Healthcare delivery of the Torbay Community Equipment Service is over budgeted at the end of quarter 3 by £300,000 (Torbay's share). This will obviously increase by the end of quarter 4 if the council continues to supply equipment to clients.</p> <p>The Director of Adult Social Care responded in writing to a previous question put by Councillor Darling in December by explaining that the new contract awarded to NRS Healthcare was based on a delivery charge per item rather than per activity which would imply that a charge per activity was common practice in the past.</p> <p>In light of this excessive over spend to date can you assure the council that each bid for this contract was evaluated around cost per delivery and cost per item and that each bidder was aware that they should submit both figures. Additionally, were the historical figures of items delivered in previous years made available to and used by the panel who assessed the bids.</p>

<p><b>Question (5) by Councillor Darling to the Executive Lead for Children, Schools and Families (Councillor Pritchard)</b></p>	<p>As part of my Corporate Parenting responsibility, in September 2014, I asked officers for the opportunity to experience some appropriate front line social work to reassure myself of the culture of our organisation. In the past this had been facilitated within a few weeks. Six months on, despite further requests to three senior officers I am still waiting. Can you please explain why?</p>
<p><b>Question (6) by Councillor Doggett to the Mayor (Mayor Oliver)</b></p>	<p>Can you provide me with a breakdown of the maintenance repairs carried out at the Oldway Mansion Estate since contracts were entered into with Akkeron, and what is the residual balance of money from the sale of the former Fernham Residential Care Home site sold to McCarthy and Stone.</p>
<p><b>Question (7) by Councillor Doggett to the Mayor (Mayor Oliver)</b></p>	<p>At the full Council meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup> 2014, Mayor Oliver answered a question from a member of the Public regarding Oldway Mansion. It was stated that “surveys were being done on the outbuildings, which should be completed soon.” He also stated that “work on Oldway itself should start in the New Year”, can you confirm whether these works were to be undertaken by Akkeron or by Torbay Council?</p>
<p><b>Question (8) by Councillor Cowell to the Mayor (Mayor Oliver)</b></p>	<p>Can the Mayor confirm what the position is with Princess Pier and has he confirmed a date for its closure as he threatened at the meeting of full council on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2014?</p>
<p><b>Question (9) by Councillor Cowell to the Mayor</b></p>	<p>Would the Mayor agree with me that the idea of a Growth Fund is a positive one that received support from the whole council?</p> <p>Can he explain why the original 2013 criteria for awarding grants was never agreed by the then Chief Operating Officer (as required by resolution of the Council), nor were amendments agreed in January 2014 as highlighted in the Monitoring Officer’s report submitted to Overview and Scrutiny this month.</p>
<p><b>Question (10) by Councillor Cowell to the Executive Lead for Business Planning and Governance (Councillor McPhail)</b></p>	<p>Can the Executive Lead for Business Planning and Governance please tell us what is proposed to be done with the report and recommendations contained within the Scrutiny Development Area – Principles of Overview and Scrutiny? Has she had any discussions with the Mayor in regard to its’ content?</p>