

Meeting of the Council

Thursday, 27 October 2016

Questions Under Standing Order A13

Question (1) by Councillor Stocks to the Executive Lead for Planning, Transport and Housing (Councillor King)	I understand that there is a £250,000 back log of lining works with TOR2 to complete. This is resulting in some of our double yellow lines being unenforceable. When will this back log of works be cleared.
Councillor King	There is a backlog if lining works, but the exact costs have not been determined. With the current allocated resources I am not in a position to confirm when or if the backlog can be cleared.
Question (2) by Councillor Darling (M) to the Executive Lead for Adults and Children (Councillor Parrott)	On the 8 February 2016 the Director of Children's Services advised Governance Support that the 'Child Poverty Commission' (a Council outside body) had been decommissioned. As the Executive Lead at this time can you explain the reason for such action?
Councillor Parrott	<p>As Councillor Darling knows, I was a founder member of the Torbay Child Poverty Commission, contributing in particular to the research for, and drafting of, the section on housing needs for the report 'Torbay Gains'.</p> <p>I am sure that our then Director of Children's Services (DCS) was totally focussed on the imperative of improvement in children's safeguarding following last November's Ofsted assessment of our services as 'inadequate', when he advised Governance Support. That said, I do not consider that the work of the Commission to have been adequately followed through.</p> <p>As you will know, there are a number of governance and improvement processes underway within Children's Services including the Children's Improvement Board, chaired by the DfE Commissioner, Torbay Public Service Trust, the Youth Trust and the work to progress the potential transfer of services to the Integrated Care Organisation. The new DCS has been tasked by me with reviewing these arrangements and ensuring that they develop in a manner that supports the service improvement programme to respond to the Ofsted Inspection. I have asked that he also considers the Child Poverty Commission within that context and come back to me with proposals on how this important initiative can be progressed.</p> <p>I look forward to updating you on those proposals in due course.</p>

<p>Question (3) by Councillor Darling (S) to the Executive Lead for Community Services (Councillor Excell)</p>	<p>Earlier this summer the memorial plaque at King George V playing field, Teignmouth Road was stolen. When does the Council plan to replace it?</p>
<p>Councillor Excell</p>	<p>Whilst it is unfortunate that the plaque has been stolen, the replacement of this plaque is not a priority given the current resource pressures. Officers will explore alternative funding options.</p>
<p>Question (4) by Councillor Sanders to the Mayor and Executive Lead for Regeneration and Finance (Mayor Oliver)</p>	<p>If he will set up a shadow administration from May 2018 consisting of the Leader and Cabinet model of local government voted for in the referendum of May 2016, to prepare the authority for the change in leadership arrangements and demonstrate that no elected Mayor means no elected Mayor.</p>
<p>Mayor Oliver</p>	<p>I was elected Mayor until 2019 and intend to undertake that role until that time. We have established a Constitution Working Party which will be reviewing and amending the constitution in order for the Leader and Cabinet model to be implemented and operating following the local election in 2019.</p>
<p>Question (5) by Councillor Doggett to the Executive Lead for Adults and Children's Services (Councillor Parrott)</p>	<p>Having read through the damning Western Rise Residential Home Serious Case Review Report a number of times, it seems the troubles started in March 2012, when a Resident with dementia choked to death. There then followed 5 inspections up to June 2014, when, due to the severity of the issues at the home, a Multi-Agency whole home large scale investigation was agreed on June 9th. This then quickly started, involving members of 18 different professions. A 6th Inspection took place in July, followed by 3 more up to January 2015! My concern is why, prior to June 2014, poor standards of care were not considered a concern, despite the regular visits of Healthcare Professionals, and can I and other Members of the Council be reassured that the 26 recommendations identified will be adhered to? Finally can we make sure that the Torbay Safeguarding Adults Board does hold agencies to account regarding their actions?</p>
<p>Councillor Parrott</p>	<p>I can assure you that the recommendations will be taken forward and adhered to. In any serious case review it is there in order to learn lessons and ensure these issues do not occur again. The Adults Safeguarding Board has an independent chair who is in a position to, and does hold agencies to account. The Safeguarding Adults Board is on a statutory basis following the care act legislation, and has the same profile and ability to hold the safety of vulnerable adults in the community to account.</p> <p>My role as Executive Lead for Adults is, of course, to ensure that our concerns are fully addressed in the work of the local Safeguarding Adults Board, through</p>

	my direct challenge as a member of that Board.
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Second Round

Question (6) by Councillor Darling (M) to the Council's Representative on the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel (Councillor Excell)	By rank, can you advise me of the number of police officers from PCSO upwards that are based in Torbay and by rank, the number of vacancies?
Councillor Excell	This information has been requested from Devon and Cornwall Police, however, the information was not available within the timescale required for this meeting. This information will be communicated to Elected Members in writing once it is received.
Question (7) by Councillor Sanders to the Mayor and Executive Lead for Regeneration and Finance (Mayor Oliver)	If he will list the dates, times and venues when and where he has met with officials of Torquay United AFC to discuss the future of Plainmoor and alternative ground locations since May 2015?
Mayor Oliver	10/06/15 – Town Hall, 2.00pm 12/10/15 – Town Hall, 4.30pm 19/01/16 – Town Hall, 4.30pm 23/02/16 – Town Hall, 3.00pm 24/05/16 – Town Hall, 2.00pm 19/07/16 – Town Hall, 5.00pm 06/09/16 – Tor Hill House, 5pm 20/09/16 – Town Hall, 8.30am

Third round

Question (8) by Councillor Sanders to the Mayor and Executive Lead for Regeneration and Finance (Mayor Oliver)	What is his latest estimate of the total gross costs incurred by a) the Air Show and b) the Screen on the Green?
Mayor Oliver	(a) The gross costs for the Air Show were reported to Full Council in July 2016. The figure is £543,000. (b) The gross cost to the Council for Screen on the Green was £10,000 which was the cost for the screen.

