

Meeting of the Council, Thursday, 19 July 2018

Questions Under Standing Order A13

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.

<b>Question (1) by Councillor Carter to the Elected Mayor and Executive Lead for Assets, Finance, Governance and Corporate Services, Economic Regeneration and Transformation (Elected Mayor Oliver)</b>	<b>Can you please advise me of the numbers of vacancies in the planning department on a monthly basis over the last four years</b>
<b>Question (2) by Councillor Darling (S) to the Executive Lead for Planning and Waste (Councillor Mills)</b>	<b>Can you please advise me of the average processing time of major and minor planning applications in Torbay on a monthly basis over the last four years?</b>
<b>Question (3) by Councillor Darling (M) to the Executive Lead for Adults and Children Services (Councillor Parrott)</b>	<b>Children that receive free school meals due to low family income, significantly underperform compared to other children in Torbay schools. Within the Council plans and strategies to tackle this problem, can you advise me what S.M.A.R.T targets have been set?</b>
<b>Question (4) by Councillor Lewis (C) to the Council's Representative on the Police and Crime Panel (Councillor Excell)</b>	<p><b>It has been announced that Devon &amp; Cornwall Police are considering merging with Dorset Police and are consulting on the proposal. Presumably this merger is designed to lead to an improvement in the operations of both forces with the ambition that this will increase the ability of the combined force to tackle crime rates and better serve our community.</b></p> <p><b>Could you please give your personal perspective on what the implications of such a merger would be on the style and standard of Policing in Torbay.</b></p>
<b>Question (5) by Councillor Barnby to the Executive Lead for Planning</b>	<b>In the past few weeks I have been contacted by several residents in my ward to say that recycling boxes have not been collected for 2, 3 or even 4 weeks.</b>

<p><b>and Waste (Councillor Mills)</b></p>	<p>Therefore will you please supply me with an accurate list detailing all dates on which recycling collection have taken place for the months of May and June in the following locations.</p> <p>Clennon Heights Brantwood Drive Goodstone Way Lancaster Drive The Saddle Cliff Park Road York Road</p>
<p><b>Question (6) by Councillor Thomas (D) to the Executive Lead for Planning and Waste (Councillor Mills)</b></p>	<p>Further to the answer you supplied in Council last month regarding recycling penalties I made further enquiries. I learned that the fine is capped at £1100 pounds and that such a fine applies if 25 bins are missed. This means that the fine is no greater if 1000 bins are missed than if only 25 are missed. I have also learned that a grace period of 3 days is allowed before a missed bin is recorded for the purpose of providing statistics and triggering penalties. This definition of a missed collection is not in accord with what my residents would deem to be a missed collection and can hide the fact that the service is not operating smoothly.</p> <p>Being cognitive of resources I do not wish further officer time to be spent on this question. All I am asking today is “was the portfolio holder aware of these key relevant facts when he presented his answer last month”.</p>
<p><b>Question (7) by Councillor Long to the Executive Lead for Community Services (Councillor Excell)</b></p>	<p>Starpitten Lane West in Torquay has perhaps the worst example of grass verges that have been ploughed up due to vehicles parking on them. The situation has become so bad that it is impacting on the ability of vulnerable people living in the sheltered housing units on that road to get about. This situation would not be accepted if it was on the seafront. Will the Executive Lead meet myself and Councillor Darling (S) as Ward Councillors on site to see the reality of the situation and to discuss actions that the Council could take to resolve this matter?</p>
<p><b>Question (8) by Councillor Pentney to the Elected Mayor and Executive Lead for Assets, Finance, Governance and Corporate Services, Economic Regeneration and Transformation Elected Mayor Oliver)</b></p>	<p>Storm Emma resulted in approximately £650,000 worth of damage across Torbay, to date Torbay Council has not received any funds from the Bellwin Scheme. What representations have you made to the minister demanding Torbay receives such money?</p>

## Second Round

<b>Question (9) by Councillor Carter to the Elected Mayor and Executive Lead for Assets, Finance, Governance and Corporate Services, Economic Regeneration and Transformation (Elected Mayor Oliver)</b>	<b>Can you please advise me of numbers and cost of agency workers used by the Planning Department, on a monthly basis over the last four years?</b>
<b>Question (10) by Councillor Darling (S) to the Executive Lead for Planning and Waste (Councillor Mills)</b>	<b>How many planning enforcement cases are lodged with the planning department and how many have been progressed in the last 28 days?</b>
<b>Question (11) by Councillor Long to the Executive Lead for Adults and Children (Councillor Parrott)</b>	<b>The Healthwatch Torbay Feedback Report 2017/18 for Health and Social Care reveals concerns about ‘safety of care treatment’ about social care in Torbay, and also identifies concerns about safety and staffing levels in residential care.</b>  <b>How are Torbay Council working to resolve these negative themes identified by Healthwatch?</b>
<b>Question (12) by Councillor Darling (M) to the Executive Lead for Planning and Waste (Councillor Mills)</b>	<b>I understand some local authorities set planning departments a target for the local of New Homes Bonus to be achieved. Why has Torbay chosen not to do this?</b>

## Third Round

<b>Question (13) by Councillor Carter to the Chairman of the Development Management Committee (Councillor Kingscote)</b>	<b>When was the last time that three Development Management meetings were cancelled in succession apart from 2018.</b>
<b>Question (14) by Councillor Darling (S) to the Executive Lead for Planning and Waste (Councillor Mills)</b>	<b>Can you please advise me of the average length of time to respond to correspondence in the planning department on a monthly basis over the last 4 years?</b>
<b>Question (15) by Councillor Long to</b>	<b>Two negative themes identified by the Healthwatch Torbay Feedback Report 2017/18 for General Practice (GP) Services in Torbay were for</b>

the Executive Lead for Health and Wellbeing (Councillor Stockman)	<b>‘booking appointments’ and ‘appointment waiting times’. How are Torbay Council working with Health and GP Partners in the Bay to improve the appointment booking process for local residents?</b>
<b>Question (16) by Councillor Darling (M) to the Executive Lead for Planning and Waste (Councillor Mills)</b>	<b>What targets have been set by the Local Authority for reducing those on the housing waiting list by building new homes?</b>