

Adjourned Annual Meeting of the Council, Tuesday, 17 May 2022

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

<p>Question (1) from Councillor Douglas-Dunbar to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)</p>	<p>Please could the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture explain the rationale behind the method that trees are purchased for Torbay Council. Are they purchased directly by Swisco or by a third party on their behalf. Please include in your response the following details of the purchase contract:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When was the contract instigated; • Does the contract contain a clause to ensure that where possible trees are sourced from UK growers, if so what percentage of the trees have been bought from Uk growers; • What premium, if any, is added to the cost of the tree purchase by the third party; • What has been the total cost since this practice was established; • Are the trees that have been purchased, British natives, if not why not; • Does the qualified arboriculturist employed by Swisco advise the third party on tree orders • What measures have been taken to measure the carbon footprint of transporting trees from outside the UK.
<p>Question (2) from Councillor O'Dwyer to the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing (Councillor Long)</p>	<p>The council secured funding from the Land Release Scheme a few years ago for Little Blagdon Farm, Land at Preston Down Road and Garfield Road, Paignton to support the area in providing additional homes to meet the determined need.</p> <p>Please could the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • details from the land Registry of who now owns the identified sites? • How the monies awarded were spent or are still to be spent and when they need to be spent by under the LRF scheme criteria. • Is there planning permission for any of the sites and how many new homes have been built so far and how many are anticipated to be social/affordable homes. • To aid the understanding of the level of homes required and the benefit the development of these sites would bring, could you also provide the current housing land supply in 'years' for Torbay and when will the public's response to the consultation on the five Housing Growth Scenarios be shared with Members.
<p>Question (3) from Councillor Kennedy to the Cabinet Member for</p>	<p>At the Council meeting held on 3 March 2022, I asked the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture a question regarding the LCWIP for which I have yet to receive an answer. Please would you</p>

<p>Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)</p>	<p>provide the answers required by my residents tonight and numerate the answers as shown below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Residents of the Churston with Galmpton Ward were informed that, due to separate funding having been available for some time, the improvements to America Lane for cycling and walking would be one of the first of the walking and cycling route projects in the Bay. Please provide a timeline for these works. 2. Please also provide the date by which the funds provided in a Section 106 for America Lane have to be spent as those details are still not publicly available on our website. 3. Please provide an update with timescales regarding the proposed cycling and walking routes within the Galmpton with Churston Ward and how these will connect up with the routes in the neighbouring Wards.
<p>Question (4) from Councillor Chris Lewis to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)</p>	<p>Can the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture please provide an update on the position of the North Toilets on Preston Seafront. In particular, can he confirm that no arrangements will be made to give a lease/licence on the green to the south of the toilets before a full consultation has taken place with the local ward Councillors, Community Partnership and the Beach Hut Users Group. Also, will any of the beach huts be moved to accommodate the new development.</p>

Second Round

<p>Question (5) from Councillor O'Dwyer to the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Community Services (Councillor Carter)</p>	<p>Torbay Council as one of the Bays largest employers is currently offering substantial relocation payments of up to £11k, along with £500 'golden hello's' and £500 refer a friend bonuses for specific jobs within the authority, along with a £2000 annual retention payments for some roles. It is also offering permanent home working to others who can, as well as differing pensions offers across its subsidiary companies. How is the Council currently demonstrating and evidencing job evaluation, equality and fairness within the Council and across its different subsidiary companies in hiring and retaining staff?</p>
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Third Round

<p>Question (6) from Councillor O'Dwyer to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)</p>	<p>Considering the continued struggles of Swisco in delivering waste collection services during these difficult times. Could the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture advise if overtime payments have been made to staff to ease the current service and the current or expected costs of doing so. Please could you provide a per head of population comparison with our statistically equivalent and direct neighbouring local authorities of the cost of waste and recycling services.</p>
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