

## Meeting of the Council, Thursday, 13 October 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

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| Question (1) from Councillor Kennedy to the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Community Services (Councillor Carter)         | We have a number of Members who sit on external Boards, Panels or outside bodies, such as the Torbay Economic Development Company Ltd (known as TDA) Board, Strategic Housing Board, Devon & Somerset Fire Authority and Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel. How are all Councillors kept informed as to matters raised and discussed at these meetings, and where can the general public find the printed minutes?  |
| Question (2) from Councillor O'Dwyer to the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing (Councillor Long) | I understand that the individual who has kept the Clocktower on the roundabout on Torquay's The Strand in good working order and wound up for nearly 60 years has unfortunately passed away recently. Please could you let us know what options the authority is looking at to ensure this iconic monument is kept in good working order and maintained, plus wound up now and into the future, and how has the authority recognised this individual's amazing service and passed on our condolences to his family. |
| Question (3) from Councillor Barrant to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services (Councillor Law)                         | The OFSTED inspection of Children's Services in March 2022 highlighted a lack of housing options for care experienced young people. The report did however recognise that senior leaders were actively trying to respond through a range of approaches. Can the Cabinet Member please provide an update of how this work is progressing and whether she is content that it is meeting expectations?   |
| Question (4) from Councillor Loxton to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)    | What would the annual cost to Torbay's taxpayers be if public toilets were to be free to use and would there be any one-off costs to terminate the current agreement with Healthmatic?  |
| Question (5) from Councillor Johns to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)     | There are proposals for Parking Regulations on Colley End Park and Marldon Road both in the Clifton with Maidenway and Kings Ash wards. I have been advised by Highways Officers that they do not have capacity to undertake a public consultation exercise, can I please have an explanation why a public consultation will not be undertaken?   |
| Question (6) from Councillor Atiya-Alla to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services (Councillor Law)                      | I understand that according to the National Association of Head Teachers Union that 800,000 children who live in poverty in the UK do not qualify for free school meals. How many children in Torbay would be part of those not qualifying and do you agree that these children should qualify for free school meals?   |
| Question (7) from Councillor Pentney to the Cabinet Member for  | I understand that according to the LGA there has been 22 per cent spike in the cost of road maintenance in the last six months, with a 38 per cent increase in the bill for running and repairing streetlights, with some councils  |

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| Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)   | having seen their costs double. Can you please advise me what cost increases Torbay Council may have faced in these two areas of service?  |
| Question (8) from Councillor Douglas-Dunbar to the Cabinet Member for Adults and Public Health (Councillor Stockman) | A number of local authorities are establishing warm banks for people who have difficulties warming their own home during the day to keep warm. What plans do Torbay Council have in place to achieve this with partners? |

## Second Round

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| Question (9) from Councillor Kennedy to the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Community Services (Councillor Carter)          | The Torbay Economic Development Company Ltd (known as TDA) Board membership includes one Conservative Councillor and two Liberal Democrat Councillors. How does this reflect the current political balance?  |
| Question (10) from Councillor O'Dwyer to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)   | Could the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture please provide details of the following for each of the last 5 years:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of Council Employees that have applied for planning permission;</li> <li>• The number of planning enforcement notices issued; and</li> <li>• The number of planning enforcement orders and breach of conditions notices issued.</li> </ul>           |
| Question (11) from Councillor Barrant to the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing (Councillor Long) | Can the Cabinet Member tell the Council what action he has taken, or he intends to take in response to the "Visitor Connection Torquay to Cockington" petition dated 1 August 2022, presented to him by businesses in Cockington. Does he agree that there is an urgent need for support to increase footfall in Cockington Village to ensure traders can survive and thrive?  |
| Question (12) from Councillor Johns to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services (Councillor Law)                           | According to the Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS) over 20 councils in England and Wales spent the equivalent of £1 million a year or more to place a single child in a private children's home due to the rise in the cost of specialised care. As the Cabinet Member for Children's Services do you agree that profits should be taken out of specialised care for children and that the Government should legislate on this? |
| Question (13) from Councillor Pentney to the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing (Councillor Long) | I am aware that many local authorities across the country are facing soaring inflation around regeneration opportunities for town centres. With many of the Torquay town deal projects based in the ward I represent, can you please advise how this could impact on the schemes that were originally proposed to central Government?  |
| Question (14) from Councillor Atiya-Alla to the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Community Services (Councillor Carter)      | According to a survey undertaken on behalf of the Liberal Democrats, almost a quarter of households are planning not to turn the heating on this winter. Whilst it is shocking that the Government fail to include support to households in August, can you please advise me what the council is doing to support households in need at this time of national crisis?  |

## Third Round

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| <p>Question (15) from Councillor O'Dwyer to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)</p>   | <p>Please could the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture confirm that Torbay Council has a technically "Up to date" Local Plan, if not, could the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture detail what the possible implications are in its absence for having to accept government policy and how this affects the weighting given to our other planning policies.</p> |
| <p>Question (16) from Councillor Pentney to the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing (Councillor Long)</p> | <p>I was delighted that the council was successful to secure £1.1m for the Safer Streets initiative in Torquay to make women and girls safer in darker hours. Can you please explain how this project will support residents in Torquay town centre?</p>  |