

## Meeting of the Council, Thursday, 3 March 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

Question (1) from Councillor O'Dwyer to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)	The recent £1 a day Christmas car parking offer, offered parking in a limited number of car parks near to the three main town centres only. Please can you provide the total use figures of the car parks, evidence of the numbers of additional shoppers encouraged into the 3 towns by this promotion and any benefit to our town centres of this scheme in terms of additional uses and income generation compared to November preceding the introduction of the offer and the corresponding months in both 2020 and 2019 pre pandemic. As a comparison with an area that did not benefit from the offer can you also include the data for the three car parks in St Marychurch and on street parking in Paignton Town Centre that was not included in the promotion.
Question (2) from Councillor Kennedy to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)	Councillors and residents have been heavily involved in the consultation on the LCWIP but have not been provided with many updates or timelines, particularly at the southern end of the Bay. I also understand that the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Community Services attended a 'Creating Better Streets' webinar on 19 November 2021 covering how our streets can be converted into shared spaces and how to promote a reduction in short car journeys locally. Please could the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture advise how the learning from the webinar will be incorporated into the LCWIP and local strategies and provide regular updates to Councillors that can be shared with our communities as to what schemes will be delivered, when they will be delivered, in particular those between Goodrington and Brixham.
Question (3) from Councillor Chris Lewis to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)	Can the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture please outline the consultation that took place before the new Zone Parking Scheme was agreed and published. Can he please advise in his response if the business community, the tourist sector and Local Councillors were consulted. If they were consulted can the Cabinet Member please advise when and what the responses were.
Question (4) from Barbara Lewis to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)	Some of the buildings on Torbay Road and opposite Paignton Train Station have trees growing out of their gutters, filthy windows and look as if they are derelict. If we are to make the Bay a Premier Resort we need to get the basics right before we spend millions of pounds. With the Government providing over £13m for the improvement of Paignton Town Centre can the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture please provide details of what action and enforcement the Council is taking to force Landlords to clean-up their buildings in the main areas of the Town.
Question (5) from Councillor Mandy	The Children's commissioner for England, Rachel de Souza has identified that during the pandemic there have been thousands of missing children

Darling to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services (Councillor Law)	from classrooms. What action is Torbay Council taking to tackle this concerning issue raised by the commissioner?
Question (6) from Councillor Dudley to the Cabinet Member for Finance (Councillor Cowell)	Treasury Minister Lord Agnew resigned from his role as the Government had shown a "lamentable" oversight of Covid loan schemes which has resulted an industrial level of fraud being committed. The National Audit Office has estimated that as much as £5bn of grants could have been fraudulently claimed. How has Torbay Council tried to tackle fraudulent claims from businesses?
Question (7) from Councillor Douglas-Dunbar to the Cabinet Member Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)	A recent study by Lancaster University found that Britain could grow up to 40% of its own fruit and vegetables by using urban green spaces. How can SWISCo nurture and allow this opportunity to flourish in Torbay?
Question (8) from Councillor Pentney to the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Community Services (Councillor Carter)	The spiking of drinks and the physical spiking of potential victims of sexual assault or robbery appears to be growing in some parts of the UK. Do we understand what prevalence there may be in Torbay of this activity and what training or awareness raising is undertaken both for our taxi trade, door staff and the community and holiday makers?
Question (9) from Councillor Johns to the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing (Councillor Long)	After successfully obtaining the CPO for Crossways, can you please advise on progress and when the demolition work will commence on site?
Question (10) from Councillor Foster to the Cabinet Member for Finance (Councillor Cowell)	At the cabinet meeting on 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2021, I welcomed the 'Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy' report including the good news of the Government money of £308,541.00 (New Burdens Money) to support the needs of victims of domestic violence and their children in safe accommodation. At that meeting, Cllr Cowell was unable at that time to confirm that all of this un-ring fenced money would be spent for this purpose. Could Councillor Cowell now confirm all the Governments allocated money will be spent to support the needs of victims of domestic abuse and their children in safe accommodation?

## Second Round

Question (11) from Councillor Kennedy to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)	In June/July last year, Ward Councillors attended a meeting at Broadsands car park regarding the proposed rewilding. No information has since been received regarding progress. Please provide our community with updates as to actions completed so far, next stages, and a rough timetable to completion.
Question (12) from Councillor O'Dwyer to the Cabinet Member for	How many children in Torbay: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are classed as missing from education,</li> <li>• what is the total school population and how does it compare to Torbay's overall Planned Admission Number;</li> </ul>

Children's Services (Councillor Law)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how many are classed as being in elective home learning; and</li> <li>• how is the overall percentage of attendance looking across the bay for primary and secondary school aged children.</li> </ul>
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### Third Round

Question (13) from Councillor Kennedy to the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture (Councillor Morey)	At the Council meeting on 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2021 the Leader of the Council stated that it was recognised that a different strategy was needed in the provision of litter bins and that a new strategy was being considered in consultation with Ward Councillors. That was five months ago. It has been recognised for three years that the bin provision at Broadsands was wholly inadequate. What is the start date for the consultation with Ward Councillors? How much longer do our residents and visitors at Broadsands have to wait for the appropriate bin provision to be put in place?
Question (14) from Councillor O'Dwyer to the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Community Services (Councillor Carter)	<p>Torbay Council recently procured the services of an entire hotel to provide temporary accommodation for families, agency and other staff contracts. Please could you provide the current figures for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the number of families supported and the average size of the family;</li> <li>• any individuals that may have been accommodated</li> <li>• the number of agency or other contracted staff housed over the 6 months;</li> <li>• the capacity of the accommodation and the average number of times that the capacity may have been reached;</li> <li>• the costs for the project so far; and</li> <li>• any learning from the scheme.</li> </ul>
Urgent Question submitted by Councillor Pentney to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services (Councillor Law)	I read on Kevin Foster's social media that Torbay Council has objected to being part of the national system for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) and that the Home Secretary has just written to Torbay to direct them "to do their bit". However I had understood that the Council was supporting these children. What is the position please?