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Council

Wednesday, 15th November,
2023 at 2.00 pm

EXECUTIVE MEMBER QUESTIONS

This meeting is open to the public

Members

Contacts

Council Administrator

Judy Cordell

Tel: 023 8083 2766

Email: judy.cordell@southampton.gov.uk

MEMBERS' ROOM DOCUMENTS

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5 **EXECUTIVE BUSINESS** (Pages 1 - 4)

Verbal Report of the Leader of the Council.

Tuesday, 7 November 2023

Director of Legal and Business Services

Summary of Questions to Executive
Wednesday 15th November 2023

	FROM	GROUP	TO	SUBJECT	LEAD
	CLLR MOULTON	CON	CLLR KEOGH	Council transport polices	Adam Wilkinson
QUESTION 1)	In light of the Government's announcement in September of its new long-term plan to back drivers, what changes are being considered to council transport policies or schemes in Southampton?				
	CLLR P BAILLIE	CON	CLLR FIELKER	Housing voids	Claire Edgar
QUESTION 2)	We know that HRA housing is in a total mess but given that the excess time to sort out voids is costing over £3.5M per year, plus over 600 families could have been living in a council home, then what is the rationale for not making the improvement in void time the priority?				
	CLLR J BAILLIE	CON	CLLR WINNING	Child friendly city	Robert Henderson
QUESTION 3)	With the city withdrawing from the Child Friendly City process, how are you ensuring that children remain a key focus for the authority?				

	FROM	GROUP	TO	SUBJECT	LEAD
	CLLR GALTON	CON	CLLR KEOGH	Upkeep of public spaces	Adam Wilkinson
QUESTION 4)	I previously asked around the length of grass and you replied complaints were low and the service should be commended. I note in the 2 months since this, even local Labour Councillors have been using social media posts to point out that grass cutting needs to be done. Do you still feel the upkeep of public spaces is of an acceptable standard in our City?				
	FROM	GROUP	TO	SUBJECT	LEAD
	CLLR POWELL-VAUGHAN	CON	CLLR RENYARD	Anti-social behaviour in council accommodation	Claire Edgar
QUESTION 5)	Why does Southampton City Council appear to turn a blind eye to tenants smoking and taking drugs in communal blocks and single dwellings. Will you promise to ensure any Southampton City Council tenant using drugs whether impacting other tenants or not, will be held to their lease terms?				
Page 2	FROM	GROUP	TO	SUBJECT	LEAD
	CLLR BARBOUR	Green	CLLR KEOGH	Cruise liner pollution	Adam Wilkinson
QUESTION 6)	Given the recent report in the Observer about cruise liner pollution in Southampton and the impact on the health of the next generation of young people in our city what steps is the council planning to take to address this issue and can you furnish me with a timeline of strategic and tactical steps that are in process and are planned. It would appear that all the work on getting Southampton a good rating from Ofsted may be in vain if children are having to breathe in methane, nitrogen dioxide and all the other pollutants from ships. One only has to look at the plume across the city to recognise that the pollution has to go somewhere and with the prevailing winds in the city this is likely to be Bargate, Freemantle, Shirley, Weston, Woolston and Netley. Nurses in Woolston have reported to me increasing rates of asthma diagnosis in their surgeries, this is unnecessary and will build up problems for many years ahead.				
	FROM	GROUP	TO	SUBJECT	LEAD
	CLLR BLACKMAN	LIB DEM	CLLR KAUR	Transparent decision making	Mike Harris
QUESTION 7)	Could you outline the steps being taken to ensure that decisions with significant impact, such as ending contracts for services to vulnerable user groups in the city, are made transparently and with appropriate oversight?				

	FROM	GROUP	TO	SUBJECT	LEAD
	CLLR P BAILLIE	CON	CLLR SAVAGE, Chair of Planning & Rights of Way	Prevention of flooding	Adam Wilkinson
QUESTION 8)	The absorption of rain water is essential to help prevent flooding. A vital part is the absorption of rain water by front gardens. Why have so many front gardens been allowed to replace grass with impermeable material which just forces the rain water onto the road? What is your committee going to do about this problem?				
	FROM	GROUP	TO	SUBJECT	LEAD
	CLLR CHAPMAN	LIB DEM	CLLR KEOGH	Shore power for cruise ships	Adam Wilkinson
QUESTION 9)	Portsmouth International Port has secured funding of £19.8m to implement ship to shore power simultaneously for 3 ships - significantly more than our city's capacity. Can you confirm what funding has been applied for, or secured, to upgrade Southampton's to simultaneously charge multiple cruise ships and what steps are being made to ensure that where shore power is available it is being utilised regardless of cost to operators??				

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