

Cabinet

23 September 2025

Questions to the Cabinet

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Maple, Leader of the Council

Report from: Bhupinder Gill, Assistant Director Legal and Governance

Author: Vanessa Etheridge/Jon Pitt, Democratic Services Officers

Summary

This report sets out the questions received for this meeting.

1. Background

1.1. At its meeting on [23 January 2025](#), Full Council was advised and noted that a 6 month trial of taking questions from members of the public and Councillors relating to Cabinet (executive) functions would commence in the new municipal year (June 2025), with relevant parts of Sections 8.3 and 9.1 of the Council Rules applying. It was agreed that a maximum period of 20 minutes would be allowed for this agenda item, with any questions not dealt with at the meeting receiving written responses.

1.2. Subject to sections 2 and 3 below, questions received will be taken as follows

1. Questions relating to items on the Cabinet Agenda, in the following order:

1a. first time public questioners

1b. repeat public questioners (since May 2023 at full Council)

1c. Councillors

2. Other questions relating to Cabinet functions (using 1a. 1b. and 1c. as above to order them).

1.3. Deadlines for submitting questions have been published on the [Council's website](#), (no later than Midday, three working days before the Cabinet meeting) with any questions received for a meeting being published in a supplementary agenda.

2. Public Questions

2.1. Section 8.3 of the Council Rules, sets out the rules for the receipt of public questions and the following are applicable to this trial:

- At any one meeting no person or organisation may submit more than one question. Members of the public who have not submitted questions before will be given priority over those who have. Any questions that have not been answered at the meeting within the time limits will be answered in writing after the meeting.
 - The questioner is entitled to put one short supplementary question arising from the response at the meeting and have one supplementary reply. The time allowed for the answer to each supplementary question shall not exceed three minutes.
- 2.2. Any questions received for this meeting will be set out in Appendix 1 of the supplementary agenda, in the order they were received, allowing for the rules above.
3. Councillor Questions
- 3.1. Section 9.1 of the Council Rules, sets out the rules for the receipt of Members' questions and the following are applicable to this trial:
- At any one meeting no Member of the Council may submit more than one question. The time allowed for answers to each question at Council meetings shall not exceed three minutes. If a Member who has submitted a question is unable to be present, the question will be answered in writing. There is no provision for supplementary questions.
- 3.2. Any questions received for this meeting will be set out in Appendix 1 of the supplementary agenda, in the order they were received, allowing for the rules above.
4. Record of questions
- 4.1. Questions taken at the meeting will be noted within the Cabinet record of decisions, and the full response attached as an Appendix to this report at the subsequent meeting.
- 4.2. Any unanswered questions will receive a written response outside of the meeting. All questions and responses will be attached as an Appendix to this report at the subsequent meeting.

Lead officer contact

Vanessa Etheridge/Jon Pitt, Democratic Services Officers

democratic.services@medway.gov.uk

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Schedule of questions relating to items on the Cabinet Agenda, and Cabinet functions (to follow in a supplementary agenda)

Appendix 2 – Questions with responses given at the last meeting of the Cabinet

Background papers

[Council – 23 January 2025 Agenda and minutes](#)
[Council Constitution](#)