

Public Questions

Question A – Josephine Davies, of Gillingham, will ask the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, Highways and Enforcement, Councillor Paterson, the following:

“There has been growing negative sentiment and safety concerns regarding the significant degradation in road maintenance. Particularly the now dangerous disintegration of Medway roads. These issues are not only safety concerns but are also causing additional burden of costs for repairs at a time where rising costs are applying further pressure on household budgets.

Whilst residents appreciate the Council has limited budget for road maintenance, the current roads are no longer safe, and there are concerns around quality control of contractors who fill potholes for them to only degrade weeks later.

Medway residents would like a very clear and detailed response as to how the Council will tackle this issue. In your response we would ask that the Council do not simply refer to their standard response of grading roads and inspections but rather how they will put to use the budget and identify how they can deliver on improved road maintenance: including details of the Council’s quality control standards for pothole repairs so that residents have full understanding of how funding is being used by the Council to ensure fair value of tax payer funding; and whether a full and comprehensive plan will be published publicly to Medway residents, with clearer guidelines on how residents are able to escalate concerns around Medway Council to higher authorities.”

Question B – Milo O’Connor, of Rochester, will ask the Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Strategic Regeneration, Councillor Curry, the following:

“Many residents in Cliffe and Cliffe Woods are facing extreme difficulty finding adequate public transport to get to Medway for work. They also find difficulty getting to Medway train stations to get to day jobs in London. A lot of residents consider the bus network unreliable. Do you have any long-term plans to upgrade the road and bus network in Cliffe, or work with the national government to extend the Strood Maidstone train line to Cliffe and Cliffe Woods?”

Question C – Neil Davies, of Chatham, will ask the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Homelessness, Councillor Louwella Prenter, the following:

“As part of the Cabinet meeting in January, the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Homelessness gave an update on £100,000 that had been allocated to charity and voluntary community organisations to help with homelessness and rough sleeping. Can I ask what the breakdown is with regards to which organisations were issued this money and if any of it remains?”

Question D – Elizabeth Kebbell, of Chatham, will ask the Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Murray, the following:

“Could the Cabinet Member outline the Council’s current strategic approach to improving mental health and emotional wellbeing across the area.

In their response can they please include; how success is measured; what key performance indicators are used; how progress is reported publicly; and, how the Council is ensuring that prevention and early intervention are prioritised alongside crisis response services?”

Question E – Amanda Chinnery, of Rochester, will ask the Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Strategic Regeneration, Councillor Curry, the following:

“The success of the flagship Rochester Riverside regeneration development is compromised by only having one vehicular access instead of the four that were promised.

The Rochester Riverside Residents Association would like to know what the Council will do to ensure the approved accesses, that are currently years overdue, are prioritised and delivered to a published timetable to ensure there is convenient and safe access to and from Riverside, before any further development is commenced?”

Question F – Raza Griffiths, of Chatham, will ask the Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Murray, the following:

“What are the mechanisms and means by which the users of voluntary sector services can help to inform commissioning and funding decisions?”

In answering the question does the Council agree that it is vital to meaningfully consult with the users of voluntary sector services to inform Council decisions on whether to fund a specific group which the Council either is funding, or should fund, to meet a shortfall and also consult them in setting the funding criteria defining what successful bids should look like, so that funding is aligned with the real needs of service users?”

Members’ Questions

Question G – Councillor Wildey, will ask the Leader of the Council, Councillor Maple, the following:

“As Leader of Medway Council, will you write a letter to Maidstone Borough Council supporting the allocation of £200,000 of Section 106 funding - funding that would unlock a further £1,000,000 from the Kent Youth FA - for the long planned 3G pitch at Lordswood Leisure Centre, a project supported by Lordswood Youth FC, Lordswood Leisure Centre and local councillors and which will benefit boys, girls, and young people with disabilities across Medway, given that we were told this funding will not be available unless Medway formally requests it?”

Question H – Councillor Lawrence, will ask the Portfolio Holder of Community Safety, Highways and Enforcement, Councillor Paterson, the following:

“For each month since the introduction of the School Street Scheme can the Portfolio Holder confirm the number of Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) issued? In giving his can he also include:

1. The value
2. The % paid in full
3. The % cancelled through the Council's appeals process
4. The % cancelled following an Appeal to the Independent Tribunal.”