

Members' Questions

Question A – Councillor Lawrence will ask the Leader of the Council, Councillor Maple, the following:

"Given the new Government's stated intent to redirect funding away from the South-East to support regional strategies in the North and Midlands, does the Leader agree with this approach, especially considering Medway's reliance on Exceptional Financial Support to balance the books has reached an alarming £60.6 million over the last three financial years?

In answering this question, I would like to know what personal representations he has made to the Secretary of State, Angela Rayner MP, regarding this funding shift, or whether he is finding himself as out of favour and ignored on funding as he clearly is on Local Government Reorganisation. I wonder whether we need to set up a 'Medway in the North' office just to get our national leadership to return his calls."

Question B – Councillor Finch will ask the Leader of the Council, Councillor Maple, the following:

"The Council's latest financial outlook shows a **£65.858 million budget gap for 2027/28**. Could the Leader please explain what makes up that figure?

In answering this question can he set out:

- the main service and other cost pressures;
- the savings and additional income already assumed in the figure;
- how much, if any, relies on reserves or Exceptional Financial Support; and
- whether any part of the £65.858 million is still to be fully identified?"

Question C – Councillor Burvill will ask the Leader of the Council, Councillor Maple, the following:

Could the Leader provide the projected budget gap for each of the following three years, **2028/29, 2029/30 and 2030/31**?