

Reigate and Banstead Borough Council

Meeting of Council 23 September 2021

Questions by Members

Nos.	Question by	To be answered by	Subject
1	Cllr Moses	Cllr Ashford, Executive Member for Community Partnerships	Partnerships with voluntary and community sector
2	Cllr Absalom	Cllr Humphreys, Executive Member for Economic Prosperity	Support for employment of young people in the Borough
3	Cllr Cooper	Cllr Schofield, Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Finance and Governance	COVID impact on revenue and service income
4	Cllrs Ritter and Turner	Cllr Neame, Executive Member for Housing & Support	Afghan Resettlement Programme
5	Cllr Booton	Cllr Neame, Executive Member for Housing & Support	Sustainable housing
6	Cllr Stevens, on behalf of Cllr Buttironi	Cllr Brunt, Leader of the Council	Ash dieback at land between Arne Grove and Landen Park
7	Cllr Tary	Cllr Brunt, Leader of the Council	20 mph speed limit in residential areas
8	Cllr Baker	Cllr Brunt, Leader of the Council	Support for Armed Forces veterans

9	Cllr Michalowski	Cllr Bramhall, Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services	Garden waste collections
10	Cllr Torra	Cllr Bramhall, Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services	Littering and street cleansing
11	Cllr Sinden	Cllr Bramhall, Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services	Parking on Redhill Station Roundabout
12	Cllr Hudson	Cllr Bramhall, Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services	HGV driver shortage impact on Council services
13	Cllr McKenna	Cllr Bramhall, Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services	Anti-social behaviour at Memorial Park
14	Cllr Chandler	Cllr Bramhall, Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services	Public water fountains
15	Cllr Stevens	Cllr Biggs, Executive Member for Planning Policy & Place Delivery	Delivering Change in Horley Town Centre
16	Cllr Essex	Cllr Biggs, Executive Member for Planning Policy & Place Delivery	Gatwick consultation

Councillor Moses will ask the **Executive Member for Community Partnerships, Cllr Ashford** the following question:

Question 1: Partnerships with voluntary and community sector

Could the Executive Member for Community Partnerships please outline how the Council is currently working in partnership with the borough's voluntary and community sector organisations to support our residents?

Councillor Absalom will ask the **Executive Member for Economic Prosperity, Cllr Humphreys** the following question:

Question 2: Council support for employment of young people in the Borough

With regards to local employment and especially our younger residents looking for employment, some for the first time, what are the Council doing to help?

Councillor Cooper will ask the **Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Finance and Governance, Cllr Schofield** the following question:

Question 3: COVID impact on revenue and service income

Covid has inflicted significant financial pressures on our residents and businesses alike.

People have had to cope with reduced incomes and businesses have suffered dramatic falls in trade.

Can the portfolio holder give members an update on the impact this has had on the council's revenue collections and service incomes to date?

Councillors Ritter and Turner will ask the **Executive Member for Housing & Support, Cllr Neame** the following question:

Question 4: Afghan Resettlement Programme

With regard to the Afghan Resettlement Programme, can you please inform us of:

- the Council's current position,
- what offers have or will be made,
- and how this impacts the Council -

Including:

- Provision of housing, including funding for rental properties; and,
- Funding any ongoing support, in addition to that offered by local voluntary organisations.

Councillor Booton will ask the **Executive Member for Housing and Support, Cllr Neame** the following question:

Question 5: Sustainable housing

In light of Raven Housing Trust's recent placement in the top 10 sustainable housing providers, what is the Council's understanding of the carbon footprint of our housing stock and what then is the plan to reduce this to net zero?

Councillor Stevens, on behalf of Cllr Buttironi, will ask the Leader of the Council, Cllr Brunt the following question:

Question 6: Ash dieback at land between Arne Grove and Landen Park

Will the Leader of the Council write to the landowner of the land between Arne Grove and Landen Park on behalf of the Landen Park Village Green group to ask them to actively engage with the group with regard to the issue concerning ash dieback, which could pose a danger to both human life and property on the estate?

Councillor Tary will ask the **Leader of the Council, Cllr Brunt** the following question:

Question 7: 20 mph speed limit in residential areas

I have spoken to concerned residents about speeding traffic along residential roads in Hooley, Merstham and Netherne.

I share their worries, especially during both the morning and afternoon school run.

With this in mind, would the Council support our community's call for a 20mph speed limit in residential areas?

Councillor Baker will ask the **Leader of the Council, Cllr Brunt** the following question:

Question 8: Support for Armed Forces veterans

Following recent events in Afghanistan, veterans' affairs are once again in the headlines.

I spoke recently with Johnny Mercer MP, and like him, I want to ensure the welfare of veterans and serving personnel is subject to thorough planning and forethought within a national framework.

Will Reigate and Banstead Borough Council commit to becoming an example to the rest of the country in our efforts to support our armed forces and Veterans?

Councillor Michalowski will ask the **Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, Cllr Bramhall** the following question:

Question 9: Garden waste collection

I am aware that four Boroughs and Districts in Surrey have now stopped collecting garden waste. Can the Portfolio Holder confirm to this Chamber that this Council has not had to, nor has any current plans to suspend this service?

Councillor Torra will ask the **Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, Cllr Bramhall** the following question:

Question 10: Littering and Street Cleansing

In this age of us all getting involved with litter picking events in our borough, can we be provided with:

- a breakdown of the number of street cleaning operatives that are currently employed by Reigate and Banstead; and,
- the number of littering prosecutions that they have issued in the past year, and the extent to which these figures have changed since the start of the Covid crisis?

Councillor Sinden will ask the **Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, Cllr Bramhall** the following question:

Question 11: Parking on Redhill Station Roundabout

Over lock-down there has been an increase in illegal and obstructive parking directly near McDonalds and Roadrunners at the end of station road, around the station roundabout and into the access road into the bus station in the centre of Redhill.

While we thank the council for the installation of the pretty planters, engagement with McDonalds and higher presence by the council's parking enforcement team this problem continues often within minutes of the parking enforcement team leaving the area and at times when they are off duty.

Residents continue to express their concern for their safety when attempting to cross to the island by the bus station and traffic jams have been created such as when Sainsbury's lorries cannot access for deliveries in the evenings. I have witnessed this myself.

We have requested Surrey County Council to investigate increasing parking controls, but this would need an extension of parking enforcement to work on its own.

Can you please provide an update on what the Council is doing and how it plans to resolve the problem such as installing CCTV on the side of Warwick Quadrant or stronger enforcement of home delivery pick-ups and private hire vehicles?

Councillor Hudson will ask the **Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, Cllr Bramhall** the following question:

Question 12: HGV driver shortage impact on Council services

Can the Executive Member confirm how the Council are dealing with the HGV driver shortage, and what knock-on effect this has had?

Also, what is the Council doing to encourage other members of staff to train for, and become, HGV Drivers?

Councillor McKenna will ask the **Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, Cllr Bramhall** the following question:

Question 13: Anti-social behaviour at Memorial Park

We have been approached by residents of Ladbroke and Lynwood Road concerning anti-social behaviour including noise and drug taking in Memorial Park, particularly in the evenings and late at night.

Loud music and inappropriate language is disturbing residents often into the early hours of the morning. Notwithstanding the litter that is left to be picked up by council officers the next morning the main concern is how this new issue, is now impacting on the lives of residents living around our park.

This activity is particularly taking place near the community orchard and in/near the basketball court which are far from the CCTV and distant from the park entrances.

Please can you confirm what action the Council is seeking to take to address this, such as moving benches, locking the courts and introducing gates which can be locked at the park entrances at night?

Councillor Chandler will ask the **Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, Cllr Bramhall** the following question:

Question 14: Public water fountains

In a 2018 survey by Keep Britain Tidy 58% of people felt they were much more likely to use a reusable water bottle if there were more public water fountains available as it's hard to ask for a refill when not making a purchase.

Given that bottled water is 2000 times more carbon intense than water from a tap (as reported in National Geographic in August 2019) and the average UK resident purchases 150 bottles a year or 3 per week, if Reigate and Banstead residents purchase at this rate that's over 22 million bottles a year.

Will Reigate and Banstead follow the lead of Epsom and Ewell Borough Council who this July installed 6 public water fountains in popular green spaces such as Bourne Hall Park and Court recreation ground?

Councillor Stevens will ask the **Executive Member for Planning Policy & Place Delivery, Cllr Biggs** the following question:

Question 15: Delivering Change in Horley Town Centre

I am keen for the "Delivering change in Horley Town Centre" scheme to get underway for our town, improving the high street for residents and business owners alike, and finally sorting the long-term issue of the subway.

These changes are much overdue for our town, and I am really excited for the prospects for our community as a result.

Could I ask the appropriate executive member as to the current progress of the scheme, and if the timetable for the proposed works on the subway is still on track?

Councillor Essex will ask the **Executive Member for Planning Policy & Place Delivery, Cllr Biggs** the following question:

Question 16: Gatwick consultation

A public consultation on turning Gatwick's emergency runway into a second runway started on 9th September and runs until 1st December.

Reigate and Banstead Borough Council is one of ten councils around the airport that is being formally invited to respond.

In light of this how will the Council engage with councillors and residents to ensure an appropriate response is submitted?