

REIGATE AND BANSTEAD BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL: 3rd November 2016

Questions by Members

Question by:	To be answered by:	Subject:
Cllr M.J. Selby	Executive Member for Planning Policy and Finance, (Councillor T. Schofield)	Public Transport
Cllr C. Stevens	Executive Member for Planning Policy and Finance (Councillor T. Schofield)	Development Management Plan

Council Meeting: 3 November 2016

Councillor M.J. Selby will ask the **Executive Member for Planning, Policy and Finance, Councillor T. Schofield** the following question:

Public Transport between “Reigate” and “Banstead”

With the exponential rise in car usage and traffic growth in the South East of the country coupled with the fact that Surrey has the highest car ownership of any county in the country, would the Executive Member with responsibility for Transport promote the construction of a direct public transport link between “Reigate” and “Banstead” with joint funding from this Council, Central Government, European Investment Bank and the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)?

Observations

Thank you for your question, Councillor Selby.

It is certainly true that Surrey has relatively high levels of car ownership.

As you know, Surrey County Council is the transport authority for Surrey. But this does not mean that transport issues - including public transport - are not an important consideration for us as we plan for the future growth and prosperity of Reigate & Banstead.

That is why I - along with other members of the Reigate & Banstead Local Committee - work hard to shape the County Council's activities, policy and investment priorities on these things.

This involves promoting measures to make public transport an easier and more attractive alternative to the private car.

For example, the Borough and County Council have worked closely to prepare a bid to the Local Enterprise Partnership for sustainable transport measures in Banstead (including improvements to the 420 bus corridor, which is the service that runs between Reigate and Banstead). We are also together exploring options to improve the connectivity of Reigate and reduce congestion in the town.

With regard to the construction of a new public transport link between the towns of Banstead and Reigate I am not sure that this would be practical or feasible at this time, particularly given the financial constraints that face us.

But I can re-assure you that I, and officers, will continue to work with the County Council to ensure our policies and plans promote and support improvements to public transport right across the borough.

Council Meeting: 3 November 2016

Councillor C. Stevens will ask the **Executive Member for Planning, Policy and Finance, Councillor T. Schofield** the following question:

Development Management Plan

Given that the public consultation for the DMP closed on 10th October, could the Executive Member for Planning, Policy and Finance provide an overview of the number of responses received, and indicate the timescales for the next stages of the process?

Observations

The total number of responses received during the 10 week Development Management Plan Regulation 18 consultation period was just over 1,100. Around 90% of these were from individuals (mostly borough residents). The remainder were from other parties such as developers, statutory agencies and local groups and organisations.

A draft Development Management Plan will be prepared between now and next Spring, taking into account these consultation responses and other relevant new information and evidence.

I anticipate that the Executive will be asked to agree this draft in late Spring 2017, following which the approval of Full Council will also be sought. Further public consultation will be undertaken on the draft Plan, after which it will be submitted for examination by a Planning Inspector.

On this basis I expect the DMP to be brought back to the Council for adoption in early 2018.

I will be able to share a more detailed summary of the consultation responses received with members once officers have concluded their analysis.