

# Reigate and Banstead Borough Council

Meeting of Council 1 December 2022

## Questions by Members

Verbal responses to be given at the meeting			
	Question by	To be answered by	Subject
1.	Councillor Booton	Councillor Brunt, the Leader of the Council	The climate emergency
2.	Councillor Essex	Councillor Brunt, the Leader of the Council	Home Upgrade Grant
3.	Councillor Baker	Councillor Lewanski, the Executive Member for Corporate Policy & Resources	The Armed Forces Covenant
4.	Councillor Chester	Councillor Schofield, Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Finance & Governance	Energy Bills Support Payments
5.	Councillor Ritter	Councillor Neame, the Executive Member for Housing & Support	Winter support for those who are homeless
6.	Councillor Chandler	Councillor Archer, the Executive Member for Investment & Companies	Horley Business Park
7.	Councillor Sinden	Councillor Archer, the Executive Member for Investment & Companies	Community space at the Marketfield Way Development
8.	Councillor Torra	Councillor Sachdeva, The Executive Member for Leisure & Culture	Swimming pools
9.	Councillor McKenna	Councillor Biggs, Executive Member for Planning Policy and Place Delivery	Surrey Development Forum
Written responses to be given after the meeting			
10.	Councillor Sinden	Councillor Biggs, Executive Member for Planning Policy and Place Delivery	Marketfield Way Development

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

**Question 1: The Climate Emergency**

The Chancellor, Jeremy Hunt, stated in his recent Autumn Statement that climate change was an "existential vulnerability we face".

Can this council's portfolio holder for climate change explain to the residents of this borough why this council is digging its heels in when it comes to declaring a climate emergency, not only flying in the face of the Chancellor's statements but leaving us trailing behind the numerous other councils that have already made such a declaration?

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

**Question 2: Home Upgrade Grant**

Please provide an update on the Council's plans to bid for the government's Home Upgrade Grant which closes in January 2023 and to what extent the Autumn statement has changed the amount of money allocated by government to retrofit of homes going forward.

**Councillor Baker** will ask the **Executive Member for Corporate Policy & Resources, Councillor Lewanski**, the following question:

### **Question 3: The Armed Forces Covenant**

The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise by the nation ensuring that those who serve or have served are treated fairly.

The Defence Employer Recognition Scheme encourages employers to support defence and inspire others to do the same. The scheme encompasses bronze, silver and gold awards for employer organisations that pledge, demonstrate or advocate support to defence and the armed forces community, and align their values with the Armed Forces Covenant.

Reigate & Banstead Borough Council have successfully achieved Bronze Employer Status under the Armed Forces Covenant guidelines. Will the Council commit to further development in achieving the Silver and eventually Gold employer awards?

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

**Question 4: Energy Bills Support Payments**

What action is the council taking to ensure all residents are receiving the Energy Bills Support payment? In particular in relation to residents who do not have a direct relationship with their energy supplier, such as those living in mobile home parks.

Can the council advise how many people are affected and if RBBC is the landlord for any establishments affected by this issue and what support the council is giving to these residents before they receive this payment.

**Councillor Ritter** will ask **Councillor Brunt** on behalf of the **Executive Member for Housing & Support, Councillor Neame**, the following question:

**Question 5: Winter support for those who are homeless**

Can the Executive member for Housing and homelessness share what this council is doing to ensure that residents who find themselves homeless this winter are able to access warm spaces in the day and what they are doing to support rough sleepers who would (pre-pandemic) have been given an overnight stay by the local winter night shelter?

**Councillor Chandler** will ask the **Executive Member for Investment & Companies, Councillor Archer**, the following question:

**Question 6: Horley Business Park**

Can you confirm how much the Council has spent on its Horley Business Park venture to date, where that leaves the Council now, and when the Council will update residents on its plans going forward.

**Councillor Sinden** will ask the **Executive Member for Investments & Companies**, **Councillor Archer** the following question:

**Question 7: Community space at the Marketfield Way Development**

In addition to opening dates for activities in the Rise when will the community space at the ground floor of the Marketfield Place development be opened, and what will it be used for.



**Councillor Torra** will ask the **Executive Member for Leisure & Culture, Councillor Sachdeva**, the following question:

**Question 8: Swimming pools**

Having seen the news and councils saying they may close swimming pools are our local pools at our three leisure centres affected and will the temperatures of our swimming pools be reduced?

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

**Question 9: Surrey Development Forum**

The Surrey Development Forum (see [surreydev.co.uk](http://surreydev.co.uk)) says it is bringing developers together and working in unison to build homes in Surrey. It includes all Surrey's councils and currently has 29 housing developer partners. What are the benefits to the Council of its participation in the Forum and what meetings has the council taken part in through the Forum over the past year?

## **WRITTEN RESPONSES TO BE PROVIDED AFTER THE MEETING**

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

### **Question 10: Marketfield Way Development**

Please provide an update on the development plans at Marketfield Way in Redhill.