

**WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Monday 27 July 2015**

**AGENDA ITEM 6**

**Questions from Members**

**1. Question from Councillor R Raja to the Leader of the Council.**

Mr Chairman, it is clear that the heartless decision of the cabinet, as contained in the minutes of the cabinet meeting on 15 June, to fine rough sleepers under section 52 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, has rightly stirred up a lot of interest in the community and brought considerable condemnation for the cabinet.

In view of the leader's clarification at the cabinet meeting on 20th July, would she agree that this was a short sighted and poorly judged attempt to deal with the real problem of homeless people and secondly could she give an estimate of the number of such people for whom the 'Fixed Penalty Notices were devised?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Ms K Wood (Leader of the Council).**

**2. Question from Councillor B Pearce to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development & Regeneration**

At the AGM the chairman of the council stated that 67% of Wycombe district is rural and therefore the local rural forum is very important. Would the member agree with me that industry is also very important to Wycombe district and would it be a good idea to have an industrial forum on the same lines as the rural forum, inviting somebody from local industry and commerce to give a presentation?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Ms K Wood (Leader of the Council) in the absence of Councillor R Wilson (Cabinet Member for Economic Development & Regeneration)**

**3. Question from Councillor K Ahmed to the Cabinet Member for Housing**

What does WDC estimate will be the effect of Government policy on homelessness in Wycombe, in particular the effect of the budget and of the transfer by the Government of the responsibility of meeting the right of disabled people under the Human Rights Act to independent living to Bucks County Council without the necessary funding to meet their needs?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Mrs J Langley (Cabinet Member for Housing)**

**4. Question from Councillor Ms A Baughan to the Cabinet Member for Housing**

Firstly, may I congratulate the new Leader and the Cabinet Member and I look forward to working with you during my term as one of the Councillors for Micklefield.

As a new Councillor, given the recent discussion and public interest and debate on the areas of homelessness and housing, would it be possible for the Cabinet to provide a Briefing Paper with information and up to date figures for homelessness in High Wycombe? With, if possible, approximate breakdowns for people using Saunderton Lodge, families, rough sleepers and people who have experienced domestic violence.

It would also be helpful to have some aspects with regard to housing waiting lists and projection for future demand. I would be grateful and I am sure it would be useful to other Councillors as well. Many thanks?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Mrs J Langley (Cabinet Member for Housing)**

**5. Question from Councillor R Farmer to the Cabinet Member for Community**

Isn't it time that WDC provided a large TV screen in a public area within the town centre like most other cities and large towns, considering the large success of the temporary screen recently in Frogmoor organised by Wycombe Bid?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Mrs J Adey (Cabinet Member for Community).**

**6. Question from Councillor Ms J Wassell to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development & Regeneration**

Can you inform us of the future of the following town centre buildings? These buildings are not in use at present and there is a great deal of interest in how the Council is intending to utilise them. 1) The Reggie Goves Centre, 2) The Old Library, Queen Victoria Road, 3) The Public Toilets, Pauls Row?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor Ms K Wood (Leader of the Council) in the absence of Councillor R Wilson (Cabinet Member for Economic Development & Regeneration)**

**7. Question from Councillor B Pearce to the Deputy Leader of the Council (Cabinet Member for Engagement & Strategy)**

Does the Leader agree with me, that in view of the fact that it has been indicated that the Council will operate with openness and transparency, it would be a good idea to return to the practice of having photographs on a proper printed laminated board positioned in a prominent position in the reception area? This may sound trivial but it took me 8 years of hard work to get here in this chamber in the first place and more recently a heck of a lot of foot pounding and again hard work to return.

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor A Hussain (Deputy Cabinet Member for Engagement & Strategy) in the absence of Councillor D Barnes (Deputy Leader of the Council (Cabinet Member for Engagement & Strategy)).**

**8. Question from Councillor Ms J Wassell to the Cabinet Member for Youth**

Congratulations on your appointment to Cabinet Member for Youth.

What is the Wycombe District Council strategy for youth?

**Verbal reply to be given by Councillor R Newman (Cabinet Member for Youth)**