

WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday 19 December 2019

AGENDA ITEM 6

Questions from Members

1. Question from Councillor M Knight to Cabinet Member for Environment

In recent months my colleagues and I have received numerous complaints from across the district about household refuse collections by our contractor, Serco.

Collections seem to be frequently missed, collection days have been changed without notice, the required location of bins to be placed for collection has been changed, again without notice, and damaged bins have not been replaced like for like.

Increasingly it would appear that collection crews are having to work late into the evening in order to complete rounds which are perhaps unrealistic. This makes me concerned for staff welfare and safety.

Can you explain to me the reasons for these changes to the service and if you find them reasonable and within the expectations set out in the contract?

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

2. Question from Councillor B Pearce to Cabinet Member for Environment

As you know, the new waste disposal contractor, Serco, only operate large collection vehicles.

This unfortunately presents a problem in two roads in the ward that I represent.

One is Squirrel Lane in Booker. The lane is very narrow and can only really accommodate large vans. Residents in this road have to struggle and put out bags which can be quite heavy, sometimes as many as eight and these obviously haven't got wheels.

When they are put out the night before, foxes and dogs tend to rip the bags open in order to obtain food items.

Another road where there is a problem is Gillfield Close in Cressex which again is a narrow road with often many parked cars and the collections are often missed due to lack of accessibility.

Would you not agree with me that it would be advantageous for this company to purchase small wheely bin type refuse vehicles similar to the ones operated by Biffa in South Bucks?

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

3. Question from Councillor T Green to the Leader of the Council

Would the Leader agree with me that given all the good work carried by Wycombe District Council on community cohesion, it was disappointing to see people encouraging residents to vote in the recent election on religious grounds rather than political ones?

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

4. Question from Councillor Ms J Wassell to the Leader of the Council

I was disappointed to read that there was not wholehearted support for suggestions for improving the Market.

Do you think themes such as locally produced products or international cuisine could be reconsidered?

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