

Council meeting – 2 Feb 2022

Rule 23. Questions for Executive Members (Agenda Item 5)

1. Question from Councillor Leech to the Executive Member for Environment

Question:

What discussions has she had with the Highways Head of Network Management regarding the decision to remove a speed awareness sign from the proposed Dene Road safety scheme?

Received 13/1/2022 @ 13:40

2. Question from Councillor Stanton to the Executive Member for Environment

Question:

Having voted for a Cleaner, Greener and Safer Didsbury last May, residents in my ward of Didsbury West have been elated to receive final confirmation of our plans to install a Vehicle Activated Speed Sign on Dene Road. Can I thank the Executive Member for delivering this much needed scheme despite a decade of Liberal Democrat and Conservative led austerity. When might we expect the sign to come online to deliver our Safer Didsbury promise.

Received 19/1/2022 @ 17:22

3. Question from Councillor Igbon to the Deputy Leader (Cllr Rahman)

Question

How is the council supporting those small groups from the voluntary sector that work in communities impacted by the pandemic to be sustainable as capacity from MACC is limited, will they have additional funding and training?

4. Question from Councillor Nunney to the Executive Member for Housing & Employment

Question

The Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery scheme, Phase 2 (LAD2), is designed to enable local authorities to deliver energy efficiency improvements to low-income households in low energy performance homes, which will also reduce carbon emissions and lower bills. Many said the fund was flawed in design, as covered by Inside Housing in May last year. The fund closes at the end of March 2022. Of the £300m in the fund, the North West was allocated £52.8m. How much of this fund was allocated to this local authority area? And how many households successfully applied for grant funding under the scheme?

Received 28/1/22 @ 12.05pm

5. Question from Councillor Nunney to the Executive Member for Environment

Question

The Manchester Climate Change Assembly in which 108 residents met over seven weeks last year, produced a mandate outlining the crucial actions the council, businesses and national government need to take for Manchester to be able to achieve our greenhouse gas emission targets. What is the Council doing in direct response to this mandate? Will the Council set up a working group to decide how these actions are to be implemented and evaluated?

Received 28/1/22 @ 12.05pm

6. Question from Councillor Stanton to the Executive Member for Housing and Employment

Question

As well as their vote for a Cleaner, Greener & Safer Didsbury last May my residents strongly supported our ambitious plans for more affordable housing not only across Manchester but on our doorsteps in Didsbury - would the Executive Member provide an update on how we intend to deliver exactly that?

7. Question from Councillor Leech to the Executive Member for Environment

Question

How many alleyways and passages, which fall under the responsibility of the Council, are not included in the Biffa cleansing contract?

8. Question from Councillor Leech to the Executive Member for with responsibility for dangerous buildings

Question

What checks have been carried out on the safety of the building next to Didsbury Cenotaph, and what action has been taken to encourage or compel the owner to carry out the necessary repairs?

9. Question from Councillor Leech to the Executive Member for Housing

Question

One of the numerous recent announcements from the Government to distract attention away from Downing Street lockdown parties was that Greater Manchester

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would receive a share of £120 million levelling up funding to transform derelict brownfield sites into housing and a share of £30 million for disused brownfield sites. What discussions has he had with the Combined Authority, Homes England and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities about potential sites in the city of Manchester that should benefit from this funding?

10. Question from Councillor Leech to the Executive Member for Transport

Question

In light of the recent changes to the Highway Code, will the Executive Member carry out a review of planned pedestrian and cycle priority schemes, to ensure that they are fully compliant with the recent changes, but also so that they minimise the potential for any confusion that may be brought about by the changes?

11. Question from Councillor Grimshaw to the Executive Member for Housing and Employment

Question

In May 2020, a housing association with the support of all three local councillors, granted planning permission to build 100 apartments for Social Rent and 39 houses for Affordable Rent on Oldham Road, Newton Heath.

You can imagine our dismay when only 6 months later, the same housing association has asked us support to them, reapply for planning permission and allow them to drastically slash the number of Social homes, down from 100 to only 6 and massively increasing the number of Affordable rented homes from 39 up to 143.

As a ward with most of its residents unable to afford affordable rent, has a ward we have hundreds of families in dispersed accommodation, hundreds of our residents homeless and tens of thousands of the city's residents on housing waiting lists, will the Executive Member join us as local councillors in rejecting this application, especially as it involves the Council using our own land as part of the development.

12. Question from Councillor Grimshaw to the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods

Question

In April 2019 Stobart Rail asked the Council to use recreational land on Iron Street, Miles Platting, as a site compound for a period of 11 months. They promised to reinstate the land and pay the Council £15,000 compensation. In agreement with local residents and councillors, officers both verbally at meetings and in writing, promised to compensate the residents affected, by investing the £15,000 in green spaces within the ward.

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After nearly 3 years of asking the officers to spend the money on our area, to our residents you can understand our anger, we have now been informed that the compensation has been taken and spent in another part of the city and as its gone they are not prepared to honour their agreement.

Does the Executive Member agree with our residents and the local councillors, that when officers agree something with residents, especially when it's in writing. that they should honour that agreement and spend the compensation due on those residents who have suffered the loss.

13. Question from Councillor Grimshaw to the Executive Member for Environment

Question

Could the Executive Member explain to my residents, why over 2 years later that the Bee Line cycle path along Rochdale Canal, has failed to materialise. We have now been told there's not enough money to fill the potholes along the towpath. Once again my area with the poorest residents, both in economic and health terms, have been ignored, not even one metre of cycle lane to cycle on has ever been provided by the Council, whilst we see the affluent areas of the South, have millions spent on them. Is this another example of a Tale of Two Cities.
