

WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed for questions submitted by a member of the public who either lives or works in the area of the authority at each ordinary meeting of the Council.

Every question shall be put and answered without discussion, but the person to whom a question has been put may decline to answer. The person who asked the question may ask one relevant supplementary question, which shall be put and answered without discussion.

The following written questions have been received from members of the public.

(a) Mr Brian Simpson

"How does the council ensure that council officers consider major planning applications with due care and diligence before making their recommendations?"

Reply from Councillor Hyde, Chairman of the Planning Committee.

(b) Mr Peter Martin

"Does the Brighton & Hove City Council not agree that it is vitally important that strategic sea, cliff and coastal views are respected and fully protected for current and future generations?"

Reply from Councillor Theobald, Cabinet Member for Environment.

(c) Mr D J Lothian

"How is it possible that T-Mobile is allowed to construct a commercial development on council land with no prior permission, bearing in mind there is a covenant placed on the land restricting such development, which places a massive visual impairment on the locality, increases the perceived health risks and goes against the wishes of the community, is used as a precedent for future developments by other mobile phone companies, enables that company to extend its developments, and make profits from its illegal construction by sub-letting to other companies, whilst having been served notice to remove the original construction in 2005?"

Reply from Councillor Fallon-Khan, Cabinet Member for Central Services.

(d) Mr Christopher Hawtree

"Could Councillor Smith please tell us what proportion of the books published in a year is available at a discount to this authority's library service?"

Reply from Councillor Smith, Cabinet Member for Culture, Recreation & Tourism.

(e) Mrs Victoria Davies

"What is the current Administration's strategy to help to ensure that good quality and affordable family size housing will be available to meet the future needs of young families in this city?"

Reply from Councillor Caulfield, Cabinet Member for Housing.

(f) Mr Kenneth Kirk

"The local PCT is proposing a city-centre GP-led Clinic. Does the Council agree that the PCT hasn't held a public consultation when it is their duty to conduct one. It should include the following:

- (i) A needs assessment to justify it;
- (ii) Understanding the threat it poses to local doctors;
- (iii) Whether, in the long term, only town-centre GP clinics will be left;
- (iv) Whether as salaried employees in a large company, corporate medics will be driven by the same professional ethics as local independent doctors.

I ask the Council to urge the PCT to conduct such a public consultation exercise."

Reply from Councillor Ken Norman, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care & Health.

(g) Mr Nigel Furness

"Could Councillor Theobald please tell us what effect the drop in prices with the recession has so far had upon the city's recycling strategy and what provision this authority will be making for the changing situation?"

Reply from Councillor Geoffrey Theobald, Cabinet Member for Environment.

(h) Ms Valerie Paynter

"With the ending of the King Alfred redevelopment comes thoughts of related issues such as the ending of the need to put indoor bowling on Hove Park's Scrub Nursery.

In the working case file for refused indoor bowls application BH2006/03698, Phil Purvis, on behalf of the Engineerium's owner, conveyed their interest in having that land for The Engineerium & recently Councillor Melanie Davis has asked the Administration why the Engineerium remained closed.

Is there any reason why that now covenant-free plot, could not be used to help get The Engineerium re-opened?"

Reply from Councillor Ted Kemble, Cabinet Member for Enterprise, Employment & Major Projects.

(i) Mrs R Addison

"Will the Council confirm that no part of the cost of the proposed Community Stadium at Falmer will be borne by the Council?"

Reply from Councillor Ted Kemble, Cabinet Member for Enterprise, Employment & Major Projects.

(j) Mr Jim Grozier

"Councillor Mears, in light of the considerable local opposition to the proposed London Road Tesco by developers St. James' Investments, including large car park and inevitable accompanying air quality issues, would you and your colleagues support a master plan for the area that champions our thriving small businesses and community facilities, rather than a "clone town" development at odds with community interest?"

Reply from Councillor Mary Mears, Leader of the Council.

