

**Councillors' Questions
(Standing Order 15)
Full Council
20th September 2018**

Councillor Steve Allsopp has asked the Cabinet Member for Highways and Environment:

1. Can you confirm the current date for the completion of Upham Road resurfacing phases 1 and 2?
2. Can you confirm that Phase 3 of Upham Road resurfacing will be included in the next Local Transport Plan?

The Cabinet Member has responded:

1. The major maintenance work in Upham Road is due to be completed by week ending 7th October, however due to the nature of this type of work there are still a number of potential risks including the depth of concrete marked out for replacement, and depth of services, which could impact the programme. Phase 1, and 2a are complete apart from the final surface. The contractor is currently working on the foundation of Phase 2b, and the civil kerbing and driveway works. Local residents and other stakeholders will be kept informed of any changes to the programme.
2. Phase 3 of the works at Upham Road was cancelled due to a combination of the overall project budget constraints and a review of the proposed design approach once further investigations were possible on site. The Highway Asset Team will be reviewing the potential costs against the likely success and life of any joint maintenance treatment in more detail. The early opinion is that the most suitable and cost efficient treatment approach for the remainder of Upham Road is to address the joint repairs only at the point in time where the wearing course becomes life expired and needs replacing i.e. a robust repair of the joints at the same time as addressing any underlying construction together with resurfacing of the road.

This section of Upham Road is based on a stronger and thicker concrete base slab and the surface course between joints is in fairly sound condition. It is not therefore anticipated that major works will be required on this section of Upham Road for a number of years, and so at this stage is unlikely to be put forward as a scheme within the next LTP Implementation Plan 3-year programme.

Councillor Steve Allsopp has asked the Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety:

3. What date did Swindon Borough Council take possession of the 10 units for sale in Sussex Place?
4. What interest has been shown in the 190 units for sale since Swindon Borough Council took possession?
5. What date did Swindon Borough Council receive authority to sell the 10 units under an equity shares arrangement?
6. How many enquiries for sale have been received since authority to sell under an equity shares arrangement was received?
7. What valuation has been set for the 10 units?
8. What was the original date for sales for the 10 units in the Sussex Place business case?
9. How much has the delay in sales cost the Housing Revenue Account to date?

The Cabinet Member has responded:

3. June 2107.
4. Following initial marketing there is interest in these properties for sale. Full marketing will happen once the planning conditions are discharged
5. See Cabinet Report 4th February 2015
6. We have received 3 firm enquiries following initial marketing
7. 2 beds £175k, 3 beds £190k, 3 bed end terrace £195k
8. The original ambition was to sell the first units in October 2017. However sale units are dependent on planning conditions being met in full. These involve third party tests. One third party in particular has been slow to respond since initial verification of the condition being met has been supplied.
9. £25,225.30

The Housing Revenue Account has retained the units as an asset until sold. There have been holding costs such as site security and clearance of rubbish from the site, but these are minimal. The properties will be sold as a Low Cost Home Ownership to provide a mix of tenures across the development. The sales from the properties will be £1.476 million.