

## **Agenda Item 5**

### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

#### **Mr John Ranford has asked the Cabinet Member for Economic Prosperity:**

Justin Tomlinson states on his website: “Here in Swindon, we should be proud of the lead we have taken. Our local solar farms generate enough energy to meet more than 90% of the town’s power requirements.”

If any of this electricity is purchased by people or businesses outside Swindon, they will be doing this largely in order to offset their emissions. Hence the benefit of the savings in carbon emissions should be credited to those external purchasers.

Can Swindon Council confirm that in all

- promotional materials,
- carbon footprint calculations, and
- in all submissions of data to government,

that savings on CO2 emissions are correctly attributed to the purchasers of that electricity, and not fraudulently double-counted in favour of Swindon Borough Council or its residents or businesses?

Could the council confirm what proportion of Swindon's residents and businesses are purchasing 100% renewable electricity?

#### **The Cabinet Member has responded:**

Swindon Borough Council can confirm that CO2 emissions from the solar systems within its control are correctly attributed. Only the schemes where the energy generated is directly used by Swindon Borough Council are claimed and reported as part of our government reporting requirements.

Also we can confirm that Swindon Borough Council has no visibility or access to data to enable us to know how many residents or businesses are purchasing 100% renewable energy.