

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC QUESTIONS REQUIRING A WRITTEN RESPONSE AND MEMBER REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION 15 July 2019		
Minute No. 11	Leader of the Council: Annual Report	Outcome
Councillor Bob Wright requested clarification on the following issues:		
(2) How does the Council's production of the waste pellets as an alternative to solid fuel affect the Council's Climate Change agenda?	<p>Response received from the Head of Streetsmart on 12th August 2019 as follows:</p> <p>When wastes are landfilled they produce methane. If the landfill is not capturing this harmful gas it will go to atmosphere and contribute to greenhouse gases, methane is 21 times more damaging to the environment than carbon dioxide. By producing pellets out of waste these then can be used as an alternative substitute for coal.</p> <p>Pellets composition consists of around 45 to 55% of biogenic content, which result in CO₂ savings when fossil fuels such as coal are replaced. Biogenic contents comes from fractions like paper, cardboard, textiles and wood, levels as high as 1.6 tonnes of co₂ savings for each tonne of fuel replaced can be achieved. This change can affect the wider climate change agenda.</p>	Complete
(3) Is the increase in the number of rats around the Zurich site due to food waste and food wrappers and how as a street cleaning issue will this be addressed?	<p>Response received from the Head of Streetsmart on 12th August 2019 as follows:</p> <p>The discarded food waste in this area doesn't seem to be any different from other parts of the town centre. The operatives are still seeing rats in the planted areas and some of the waste bins.</p> <p>An officer had previously arranged baiting in this location.</p> <p>The responsibility for the raised bed</p>	Complete

	areas sits with the Grounds department and the shrubs are cut back on a yearly basis.	
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SUMMARY OF PUBLIC QUESTIONS REQUIRING A WRITTEN RESPONSE AND MEMBER REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION 12 August 2019		
Minute No. 17	Cabinet Member Question and Answer Session - Cabinet Member for Adults and Health	Outcome
Cllr Bazil Solomon requested a target date of when at least 50% of people with diabetes in Swindon will be expected to have enrolled on the new diabetes education programme.	<p>Response received from the Interim Director of Public Health on 16 August 2019 as follows:</p> <p>A new programme has been commissioned to replace the DESMOND Programme for structured Diabetes Education (type 2). Early observations shows that there is a 42% increase in attendance rate compared to DESMOND. A review is planned in 2020. This will inform a target for the population cover.</p>	Complete
Minute No. 18	Cabinet Member Question and Answer Session - Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Operational Excellence	Outcome
Cllr Janine Howarth queried how changes to an area will be measured (other than new builds) which will trigger the capture / review of electoral registration information.	<p>Response received from the Head of Elections and Democracy on 21 August 2019 as follows:</p> <p>Reform of the Annual Canvass of Electors is due to commence from the summer of 2020. The Annual Canvass is where the Electoral Registration Officer writes to every household to confirm the names of those occupants who should be registered to vote at the address. Under the current system, forms are sent to every property and a response is legally required, whether by returning the completed form or via electronic means (online or telephone). Non-responding properties are followed up by visits from door-to-door canvassers, whereby the</p>	Complete

	<p>information can be gathered on the doorstep. A final reminder is then issued to the remaining households, and those that have still failed to respond by the deadline are removed from the updated register and informed in writing.</p> <p>From July 2020, the use of national and local data sets will be employed to assist with this exercise. The first step at the start of each canvass will be to provide the entire register to the Individual Electoral Registration Digital Service (IERDS) who will run the data through the Department of Work & Pensions (DWP) to match names and addresses. Each elector will be matched or not matched by the DWP and there will then be the opportunity for the Electoral Registration Officer to conduct local data matching on those electors who did not match (such as council tax, benefits, education records etc.). Once all data matching is completed, the results will be aggregated by household. This will then essentially place each residential property into one of two work streams:</p> <p>Route One – The property is fully matched</p> <p>Route Two – The property is not fully matched.</p> <p>Where the property is fully matched, an e-communication or Household Notification Letter (HNL) will be sent informing the residents of the records the Electoral Registration Officer holds and with details of how to update register if any of this is incorrect.</p> <p>Where the property is not fully matched, the property will be canvassed in a similar way to the current manner, with a combination of e-communication, printed communications, phone calls and</p>	
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	<p>door-to-door visits. Canvass Reform is enabling a wider range of contact methods to better meet the expectations of the electorate.</p> <p>There will also be a third work stream involving those properties with a Single Responsible Officer (SRO), such as landlords of HMO's, care home managers and student accommodation managers. These properties will see the required information gathered directly from the SRO and Invitations to Register (ITRs) sent to the individuals directly.</p> <p>To ensure Swindon Borough Council maintains a complete and accurate register and all eligible electors are invited to register, the Electoral Registration Officer has already undertaken work to identify registered HMO's and care homes within the Borough, and is currently working on obtaining improved data from council tax to enable local data matching to take place with those records. Further work is required to access additional data (e.g. benefits and education records), and it will be vital that electoral registration is kept at the heart of future corporate developments for closer working and data sharing.</p>	
Cllr Steve Allsopp asked what proportion of the overall workforce do temporary workers make up at Swindon Borough Council.	Response requested from the Director of Performance, Organisational Improvement and Communications on 16 August 2019.	Ongoing