

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC QUESTIONS REQUIRING A WRITTEN RESPONSE AND MEMBER REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION
12th February 2018

Minute No. 59	Public Question Time		
Following on from a public question submitted by Mr Worman, Cllr Bob Wright queried if there is any special interest on the land proposed for the UKBN mast at Cassini Drive (other than it being on a bridlepath next to a school, with a national oil pipeline underneath it).	Response requested from the Director of Digital Services and Corporate Programmes and the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Sustainability, Cllr Toby Elliott on 14 th February 2018.		On-going
Minute No. 61	Consideration of Cabinet Decisions		
Cllr Des Moffatt requested an explanation on the proposed savings expected as a result of the digital redesign of service delivery in Street Cleaning to deliver efficiency savings from the service area and the support functions.	Response received from the Acting Head of Streetsmart on 13 th March 2018 as follows: The figure has come from the initial analysis work completed by the consultants METHODS. There are now a number of workshops called the discovery phase for which Street Cleansing we be a part to ascertain a more accurate figure, following which the design work gets to a definite saving. Because of when budget setting falls the delivery of the work produced an estimate based on the consultants analysis and following discussions at CMT, the top of the estimate was targeted. If it proves that the top end estimate is not achievable then the budgets will be adjusted accordingly in year.		Complete
Request from Scrutiny to be provided with	Response requested from the Director of Digital Services and		On-going

reassurance that any learning points from Northamptonshire County Council's current situation is being considered as part of the Council's transformation and digitisation programme.		Corporate Programmes on 14 th February 2018			
Cllr Mark Dempsey requested information on: 1) The number of Borough Council employees being paid less than the 'real living wage' as set out by the Living Wage Foundation. 2) Whether the number above is lesser or greater than last year. 3) What the potential cost could be to the Council if the employees being paid less than the 'real living wage' had their salaries increased to this level.		Response requested from the Director of HR and OD on 14 th February 2018.			On-going
Further clarification was sought on the contract signed with UK Broadband Networks Ltd and the resident take up milestones that have to be achieved before the council releases payment, and the breakdown of customer numbers across the re-sellers.		Response requested from the Director of Digital Services and Corporate Programmes on 14 th February 2018			On-going
Minute No. 63	Review of the Council's Civil Resilience and Response in Emergency Situations				
Scrutiny requested further information on the regular learning sessions held following incidents within Swindon, containing detail on what is working well and what		Response received from the Director of Public Health on 10 th April 2018, as follows: The log is as follows:			Complete
		Incident Date	Incident Type	Agencies involved	

needs improvement.	3/10/2017	House Fire	Fire LA	No new learning
	15/10/2017	Road traffic collision	Multi agency	Lack of Notification by Fire and Police -include training in Multiagency training and feedback to Police and Fire
	27/10/2018	Road traffic collision	Multi agency	No new learning
	01/11/2017	Missing person	Multi agency	No new learning
	14/11/2017	House Fire	Fire, LA, Red Cross	Council telephone lines Down. Mobile phones were used as backup. Partner agencies informed by email and some did not get the message on time The learning was for the Civil Protection Unit to ensure that message like this should follow up with a phone call to confirm.
	15/11/2017	Dumped, insecure chemical drums	Fire LA	No way of removing contaminant as this was a private garage. Cordon established until specialist waste removal firm contracted. Communications, staff welfare due to location was an issue. Lone and hazardous working policies included in Incident officer training because of this.
	26/11/2017	House Fire	Fire LA	No new learning
	30/11/2017	House Fire (Hodson)	Multi Agency	Water from firefighting created hazardous driving conditions. The

				Gritting team not available because of other, higher priority jobs.		
	09/12/2017	Road traffic collision	Fire, LA	No new learning		
	09/12/2017	Road traffic collision	Police, LA	No new learning		
	23/12/2017	Building Strike (Car)	Multi Agency	SBC do not stock Reinforced Steel Joists/Acro-props for emergencies Out of Hours. Because of Christmas holidays. Difficult getting contacts especially for privately owned buildings. Work with building control to ensure that building is secure and that there is no danger to life.		
	18/01/2018	Improvised Explosive Device	Multi Agency	No notification to SBC for over three hours despite an evacuation taking place. Communications from Wilts Police. To be raised with Wilts Police via LRF and included in Multi agency training.		
	20/01/2018	Gas Leak at the Police headquarters	Multi Agency	No new learning		
	27/01/2018	House Fire in a high-rise	Fire LA	CPU not informed until 17.40 Wrong size washers on the risers (SBC) This caused flooding in communal areas. Fed back to Housing team		

				Communications to Out of hours officers- learning to be include in Control Room staff training.		
	02/03/2018	Severe weather (Snow)	LA, police, Fire, Military Highway Agency, Red Cross, parish council	Direct Access not failed over the weekend (SBC),IT could not rectify this on time. - IT working to restore this. SBC external communications through our website was identified as a weakness (no ability to update on road closures). Comms aware and working on a solution		
	04/03/2018	No Water supply to residential building	LA, Management Company	Councillor calling civil protection unit staff directly (not appropriate) Management Company not answering phones. LA should not have been involved Feedback to Elected Member and Officers involved.		
	05/03/2018	Op Fairline (Salisbury Incident)	Multi Agency	Ongoing support to the Partner Agencies involved in incident management. No Learning points for SBC		
	12/03/2018	Gas Explosion in a private house	LA, Police/Fire Ambulance, gas company & Red Cross	No new learning		

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INFORMATION
19th March 2018

Minute No. 67	Public Question Time		
Mr Roy Worman referred to the digitisation programme implemented by Northampton County Council and the discussion at the last meeting on how lessons learned from their programme might be used to inform the councils own digitisation programme. Mr Worman asked whether, given the perilous state of said council, are there any lessons that can be adapted by SBC and, if so, what?	Response requested from the Director of Digital Services and Corporate Programmes and the Director of Performance, Organisational Improvement and Communications on 22 nd March 2018.		On-going
Minute No. 69	Consideration of Cabinet and Cabinet Panel on School Organisation Decisions		
Cllr Moffatt and Cllr Wright queried the confusion over the net gain in the number of units in the Queens Drive regeneration (43 or 60) and asked why there is a discrepancy in the figures.	Response received from the Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety and the Head of Housing Management on 29 th March 2018, as follows. At Scrutiny Committee on 19 th March 2018 Cllr Moffatt referred to the accuracy of the report to Cabinet on 14 th March 2018 on the Redevelopment of Queens Drive. Specifically he advised that the number of homes that would be gained is 43 assuming a planning permission is granted for 149 new dwellings. The Head of Housing agreed to check this figure and can confirm that the net gain is 65 dwellings.		Complete
Cllr Dempsey asked how many children have gone into care in the years since the children's centres have closed, and how many had gone in to care in	Response requested from the Cabinet Member for Children's Service and School Attainment and the Director of Children's Services on 22 nd March 2018.		On-going

the two years preceding the closure of the children's centres.		
Cllr Moffatt asked if there will be any deferred payments to providers in adult social care or children's services at the end of the financial year. He asked what, if any, invoices have been delayed from this financial year to be paid in the next financial year, and what are their total value. Also what, if any, have been delayed beyond the normal settlement date regardless of the reason for such delay.	<p>Response provided by the Director of Finance on 22nd March 2018, as follows:</p> <p>For each person in receipt of care we:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pay for all invoices received by year end - Accrue for the cost of care provided but not yet billed <p>Therefore nothing will be held back from one financial year to the next.</p>	Complete
<p>Cllr Dempsey asked the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Has it been measured whether the existing transport strategy is meeting the objectives on carbon emissions, and whether carbon emissions are going up or down? 2) What happened to Bus Rapid Transit, and why is not in the updated strategy? 3) Has current investment in this strategy period been value for money? Has the impact of the projects been measured? Are they having a 	<p>Response received from the Cabinet Member for Communities and Place, and the Head of Highways and Transport, on 10th April 2018, as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The current strategy does focus on improvements in sustainable transport and on longer-term options for greener travel and greener vehicles. Inevitably however air quality is impacted fundamentally by vehicle numbers, which are increasing within Swindon on the back of positive levels of growth and economic upturn. That said air quality within Swindon generally remains good. 2) In referencing Rapid transit, I anticipate that Cllr Dempsey is referring to the ongoing Quality Bus Corridors schemes which are very much still in existence, with schemes at Mannington, Regents Circus and Pipers way on site or being mobilised at present. 3) It's not clear exactly what value for money measurements are being asked about. The council has a range of published 	Complete

beneficial impact?	indicators and continues to assess and select schemes on a needs led basis assessing cost and benefit as part of the selection process. Members will be aware from the report that the council's rating for its asset management (including scheme selection and needs led investment) has moved from level 1 to level 2 in 2017 and to the highest DfT rating of level 3 in 2018.	
Cllr Heenan requested that an update be provided on the timeline for the Transport Strategy refresh.	<p>Response received from the Cabinet Member for Communities and Place, and the Head of Highways and Transport, on 10th April 2018, as follows:</p> <p>The transport strategy review is expected to be carried out over the next 2 years in order to mirror and inform the process for the next Local Plan review. Officers within highways and planning are working on more detailed timescales to ensure that these projects align. As part of the strategy development there are a range of elements that complement the overall strategy which are underway at present such as the town centre movement strategy and parking strategy review and consultation.</p>	Complete
Cllr Robbins queried whether any of the extra funding identified in the report to Cabinet on the Swindon Local Transport Plan will be used to sort out the issues being experienced on Rodbourne Road.	<p>Response received from the Cabinet Member for Communities and Place, and the Head of Highways and Transport, on 10th April 2018, as follows:</p> <p>The agreed funding for maintenance and highway improvements is detailed within the cabinet paper. However the Council are aware of the challenges with traffic levels around the outlet centre and members will be aware of the working group looking into further improvements. Cllr Robbins will be aware of the investment that has been made on signing and addition lane</p>	Complete

	capacity on Kemble Drive, parking management across Rodbourne, improvements to parking outside of Steam and proposals for options to make use of Bristol Street car park. In addition officers continue to work with the outlet centre on their longer term proposals and options to improve their parking layout, management and capacity.	
Minute No. 71	Cabinet Member Question & Answer Session – Cabinet Member for Finance and Commercialisation	
Cllr Moffatt asked how much capital has actually been invested under the commercialisation programme in Swindon or elsewhere.	<p>Response received from the Cabinet Member for Finance and Commercialisation and the Director of Finance on 22nd March 2018, as follows:</p> <p>The following commercial property purchases have been made by the Council:</p> <p>Delta 900 Business Park, Westlea (£3.745m) Lysander House, Bristol (£7.95m) Former Apostolic Church, Walcot (£140k)</p>	Complete
Cllr Robbins queried what the maintenance backlog is on the EOTAS service.	<p>Response received from the Cabinet Member for Children's Service and School Attainment and the Director of Children's Services on 10th April 2018, as follows:</p> <p>At Marlborough House Adolescent Unit School, the NHS-commissioned contractor is completing works over Easter following recommendations from an NHS Audit. This is on schedule.</p> <p>No other EOTAS Centre has any major works scheduled or maintenance pending apart from the day-to-day jobs completed</p>	Complete

	by our caretaker. All tasks where we need outside contractors (ICT, Alarms etc) have a good response time, normally same day. Larger cosmetic pieces of work (repainting of drainpipes and wooden fascia at Stratton Education Centre for example) which are part of a maintenance cycle but not compliance or safety critical are being held off ahead at SEC and Riverside ahead of the scheduled building move at the end of the academic year.	
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