

COUNCIL – 13 May 2020

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Question 1

Cllr Sally Newton to ask the Leader:

How is East Herts Council working with our partners and stakeholders to respond to the challenge of the Covid 19 pandemic?

Question 2

Cllr Terence Beckett to ask Cllr Geoff Williamson, Executive Member for Financial Sustainability:

The current pandemic and resulting anxiety over the loss of income for many of our residents has driven a huge spike in enquiries to East Herts CAB, and as a council we are sending a lot of enquiries their way through our social media and individual communications.

In addition, because of national guidelines on social distancing, CAB has closed face to face communications and have had to set their teams up to work remotely in order to maintain the high standard of service our residents need and deserve.

The remote set up costs for CAB remote working has been in the region of 12K. Something no one could have budgeted for.

Therefore as it is alleviating a huge workload and expense from the council, have we any plans in place to give an additional grant to assist CAB in delivering their increased service remotely due to the COVID19 crisis, to at least meet all or part of their contingency cost for remote working?

Question 3

Cllr Ian Kemp to ask Cllr Geoff Williamson, Executive Member for Financial Sustainability:

Can the Executive Member for Financial Sustainability confirm that the Council is doing everything in its power to support local businesses affected by the Covid-19 pandemic?

Question 4

Cllr James Frecknall to ask Cllr Peter Boylan, Executive Member for Neighbourhoods:

The unprecedented time in which we are living is creating untold challenges for many residents across the district. While recognising and commending the work by officers and members alike in supporting those residents who are most vulnerable and in need, I would like to ask what the council is doing to tackle the increase in the rates of Domestic Abuse for both male and female residents. For instance, has the idea of 'safe spaces' has been discussed with local supermarkets and hubs? I recognise that much of this remit will fall to County Council, but it is to us, at the District level, to whom many residents will turn to for help first.

Question 5

Cllr Mione Goldspink to ask Cllr Geoff Williamson, Executive Member for Financial Sustainability:

Could the Executive Member give details, please, about the steps which this Council is taking to assist our Residents if they are having difficulty in paying their Council Tax?

Question 6

Cllr Mary Brady to ask the Leader of the Council:

Could you please indicate which proposed projects may be affected by the blow to the economy of the Covid-19 Virus?