

# Public Document Pack



Chairman and Members of the  
Council

Your contact: Stephanie Tarrant  
Tel: 07592 400115  
Date: 17 October 2025

cc. All other recipients of the Council  
agenda

Dear Councillor,

## **COUNCIL - 22 OCTOBER 2025**

Please find attached the Public and Members' Questions submitted to the  
above meeting:

### 7. Public Questions (Page 3)

To receive any public questions.

### 8. Members' Questions (Pages 4 - 5)

To receive any Members' questions.

Yours faithfully,

Stephanie Tarrant  
Assistant Director for Democracy, Elections and Information  
Governance  
East Herts Council  
[Stephanie.Tarrant@eastherts.gov.uk](mailto:Stephanie.Tarrant@eastherts.gov.uk)

**MEETING** : COUNCIL  
**VENUE** : COUNCIL CHAMBER, WALLFIELDS, HERTFORD  
**DATE** : WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER 2025  
**TIME** : 7.00 PM

# Agenda Item 7

**COUNCIL – 22 OCTOBER 2025**

## **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

<b>Question 1</b>	<b>Huw Jones to ask Cllr Carl Brittain, the Executive Member for Financial Sustainability</b>
Is the Executive Member aware of the offer made by Bishop’s Stortford Town Council in December of last year (and then repeated on several occasions thereafter) to purchase the Freehold Title of Thorley Community Centre from East Herts District Council in order to ensure that the site can continue to operate in this way by providing a much needed community service and, if so, can he say when the Council will be able to take a decision on this matter?	
<b>Question 2</b>	<b>Dr Graeme Smith to ask Cllr Ben Crystall, the Leader of the Council</b>
When EHDC disposes of Water Land Hall, whether by sale or long lease, can it commit that it will dispose of the whole of the site as originally purchased from United Reform Church (edged in red on the plan attached to its 30 September 2019 Lease Agreement with the United Reformed Church) – including the area currently allocated for parking between the hall and Old River Lane?	

**COUNCIL – 22 OCTOBER 2025**

## **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

<p><b>Question 1</b></p>	<p><b>Cllr Tom Deffley to ask Cllr Carl Brittain, the Executive Member for Financial Sustainability</b></p>
<p>In the Finance Papers presented to Audit &amp; Governance and then to the Executive earlier this month, the total aged debt still totals over £1million. Whilst this has reduced from the even greater figure of £1.8million since March, this is due significantly to the write off of over £300k which was owed to this Council. Does the Executive Member admit to the serious impact of this situation on the Council's cashflow, and can he please explain what measures are being taken to collect the remaining debt and get the situation under control?</p>	
<p><b>Question 2</b></p>	<p><b>Cllr John Wyllie to ask Cllr Tim Hoskin, the Executive Member for Environmental Sustainability</b></p>
<p>Now that the recent changes to the refuse collection have been in place for some weeks and the initial issues of the correct bins not being delivered have hopefully been resolved. Can the Executive Member advise the Council how many residents are still awaiting the correct bins to be delivered?</p>	
<p><b>Question 3</b></p>	<p><b>Cllr Aubrey Holt to ask Cllr Ben Crystall, the Leader of the Council</b></p>
<p>Since his recent election, the new Leader of the Green Party, Zack Polanski, appears to have shifted his Party's focus away from environmental priorities and towards more radical social policies. This includes supporting his Party's recent conference vote to abolish landlords, advocated for a more relaxed approach to immigration and expressed support for the complete legalisation of drugs.</p> <p>These policies would clearly place significant pressure on our local housing supply, alongside our essential local services across East Herts. Will the Leader and his colleagues be seeking to implement these Green Party policies at a local level within East Herts?</p>	
<p><b>Question 4</b></p>	<p><b>Cllr David Jacobs to ask Cllr Carl Brittain, the Executive Member for Financial Sustainability</b></p>
<p>How many of the properties owned by the District Council have energy performance certificates? Of these how many of the</p>	

properties are assessed at E or below, and what actions are the council taking to improve the energy performance of these buildings?

**Question 5**

**Cllr David Jacobs to ask Cllr Carl Brittain, the Executive Member for Financial Sustainability**

What assets has the council disposed of in 2024/25 and what plans does it have to dispose of further assets in 2025/26 and later years?