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Chairman and Members of the Council

Your contact: Stephanie Tarrant

Tel: 01992 531441

Date: 5 December 2025

cc. All other recipients of the Council agenda

Dear Councillor,

COUNCIL - 10 DECEMBER 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 (Page 4)

To receive any Members' questions.

Yours faithfully,

Stephanie Tarrant
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Governance
East Herts Council
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MEETING : COUNCIL
VENUE : COUNCIL CHAMBER, WALLFIELDS, HERTFORD
DATE : WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2025
TIME : 7.00 PM

COUNCIL – 10 DECEMBER 2025

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Question 1	Anthony Barrett to ask Cllr Ben Crystall, Leader of the Council
Please could you advise me of the detailed organisation structure of EHDC’s Planning and Enforcement Division and is it adequately and sufficiently staffed for the workload that it faces?	
Question 2	Michael E Wainwright (Dr), Chairman of Bayford Parish Council to ask Cllr Ben Crystall, Leader of the Council
<p>A development is currently underway in the parish for the installation of up to 40 luxury caravans on a site that is in the Green Belt and includes ancient woodland. This development does not have planning permission.</p> <p>Together with the neighbouring Parish of Little Berkhamsted we have for months been asking East Herts Council to enforce a stop to these works but the Council has not yet done so. When will the Council do so?</p>	
Question 3	Brian Connolly to ask Cllr Vicky Gover-Ward, Executive Member for Planning and Growth
Given the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Sport England guidance to base policies on robust and up-to-date assessments of need for all forms of sport and recreation, how does the Council justify the exclusion of speedway and motorsport from the strategy, and will it commit to a full consultation with relevant stakeholders, including the speedway community and Rye House Stadium?	
Question 4	Chris Williams to ask Cllr Vicky Gover-Ward, Executive Member for Planning and Growth
In preparing the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy, how has the Council fulfilled its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010 in relation to the omission of speedway and Rye House Stadium, and what assessment has been made of the impact on equality of opportunity for groups who may be underrepresented in mainstream sports?	

Agenda Item 8

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MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Question 1	Cllr Bob Deering to ask Cllr Carl Brittain, the Executive Member for Financial Stability
When did the cross-party asset disposal group last meet and what items were on the agenda?	
Question 2	Cllr Ian Devonshire to ask Cllr Mione Goldspink, Deputy Leader
From the recent survey report (carried out by Aecom) we understand that the repair works will cost £1.6 million to make the hall good and enable it to be reopened.	
What is the Administration's plan for the United Reformed Church Hall now that it has been closed and is unused?	
Question 3	Cllr Yvonne Estop to ask Cllr Carl Brittain, the Executive Member for Financial Stability
At the Council meeting in July, Cllr Britain answered a question about impediments to selling the former restaurant in Water Lane, Bishop's Stortford, including boundaries and access issues. This relates to land at the rear of the restaurant. In 2019, the previous administration agreed a lease for land behind the former restaurant, for the United Reformed Church (Eastern Province) to use for private parking. The lease is for a peppercorn rent, and the private car park is to be constructed and paid for by EHC. We understand officers have asked URC Regional Synod to surrender this scandalous lease.	
Precisely how much is the United Reformed Church Eastern Region demanding EHC to pay them for surrender of this lease?	
Question 4	Cllr David Jacobs to ask Cllr Carl Brittain, the Executive Member for Financial Stability
Will the Executive Member provide a progress report on the Council's property Water Lane Hall in Bishop's Stortford with specific reference to the remedial and restoration work recommended by Aecom in their report from earlier this year and any discussions with community groups or other potential tenants about the long-term future and use of the property?	

