

COUNCIL – 18 JULY 2017

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Question 1

Councillor P Ballam to ask the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing:

Given that the Council's corporate priorities/objectives include "improve the health and wellbeing of our communities", and "enhance the quality of people's lives", I was surprised, indeed shocked, to learn that the members of the Council's Executive, including Councillor Buckmaster were willing to contemplate the closure of Fanshawe Swimming Pool. Since his appointment as Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing, Councillor Buckmaster has been proactive in all matters relating to the health and physical and mental wellbeing of our residents and, I am asking him how he can contemplate the closure of this extremely important facility in the town of Ware – a town of over 18,000 inhabitants, surrounded by rivers and other bodies of water? We hear of postcode lottery in relation to some services provided by the National Health Service, but this will be postcode lottery on fitness in East Hertfordshire. If you live in some of our towns you will continue to be encouraged to keep fit in this extremely valuable way – the only exercise possible for some people – if you live in Ware you will be disadvantaged. Everyone does not drive, and indeed we should not be encouraging the greater use of cars. Please Councillor Buckmaster, how can this be right?