

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Question 1	Jill Goldsmith to ask Cllr Eric Buckmaster, Executive Member for Wellbeing:
<p>I note the proposed Cultural Strategy references on page 67 a number of partners involved in the development of the strategy and that more are being signed up all the time. Could the Councillor responsible for this Strategy confirm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Whether and when the team developing the strategy had contact with arts organisations in Bishop’s Stortford to seek their engagement;b) What responses the Strategy group got from Bishop’s Stortford arts organisations to feed into the strategy;c) Which Bishop’s Stortford arts organisations the Strategy team are now in contact with	
Question 2	Chris Dunham, on behalf of Bishops Stortford Climate Group, to ask Cllr Jan Goodeve, Executive Member for Planning and Growth
<p>The government’s official advisory body on climate matters, the Committee on Climate Change, reported in 2019 that it costs between £16,000 and £25,000 to retrofit a new semi-detached house to be compatible with net zero carbon, whereas it costs between £3,000-£5000 to build in compatibility at the point of construction.</p> <p>The government recently announced, in its consultation decision on the Future Homes Standard, that it does not after all intend to prevent local authorities from setting higher environmental/energy standards through planning policy than are required by national Building Regulations.</p> <p>In light of this, can EHDC confirm that, if this is reinforced by a similar decision in relation to the Planning White Paper, that it will immediately move to implement a revision to the district plan to require new buildings to achieve net zero carbon in operation - and</p>	

in doing so end the perverse situation where in order to allow developers to avoid £4,000 of cost we impose £20,000 of cost on society?