

## MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Question 1</b>  | <b>Cllr Ben Crystall to ask Cllr Graham McAndrew, Executive Member for Environmental Sustainability:</b> |
| <p>In September, the World Health Organisation slashed its recommended air quality limits for six pollutants including particulate matter PM10 and PM2.5, and nitrogen dioxide. For example, the annual average recommended limit for PM2.5 has been halved, and the annual limit for nitrogen dioxide has been reduced by three quarters. This change is a response to the huge, and growing, body of evidence showing that air pollution causes serious harm at much lower levels than previously thought.</p> <p>Given that these pollutants are known to cause lung and cardiovascular disease, and play a major role in a host of other illnesses including diabetes, cancers and dementia, and given that the latest available air pollution data for a number of roads in East Hertfordshire's AQMAs shows that they breached <u>current limits</u>, what action will EHC take to cut the levels of damaging air pollution that our residents are exposed to?</p> |  |
| <b>Question 2</b>  | <b>Cllr Ben Crystall to ask Cllr Graham McAndrew, Executive Member for Environmental Sustainability:</b> |
| <p>EHC's Sustainability Action Plan is an excellent document offering many key steps towards a lower carbon district. It includes the recommended action: "Explore a pilot to incentivise EPC A properties through the council tax system". EPC is an Energy Performance Certificate and grade A is the most sustainable rating.</p> <p>The plan states this action is "COMPLETE - Reviewed and concluded not to take forward. Will retain for review. Determined other methods to incentivise domestic energy efficiency."</p> <p>Poorly insulated homes are one of the district's most significant</p>   |  |

sources of carbon emissions, and contribute significantly to fuel poverty and ill health in many residents. Why has the decision been made not to take this action forward, given it has considerable potential for helping to tackle climate change in East Herts and improving housing stock, as well as resident's health and wellbeing?

**Question 3**

**Cllr Angela Alder to ask Cllr Jonathan Kaye, Executive Member for Communities:**

As the newly appointed Executive Member for Community Engagement what initiatives are you hoping to develop in order to improve Council/resident relationships to enhance the listening role of council?

**Question 4**

**Cllr Mione Goldspink to ask Cllr Peter Boylan, Executive Member for Neighbourhoods:**

Is the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods aware of a recent Report from the LGA (Local Government Association) in which it calls on the Government to give Local Councils the powers and funding to actually build 100,000 houses for Social Rent each year? (Building these houses could potentially save the Treasury £24.5 billion over 30 years by reduction in Housing Benefits and by increase in tax receipts from the construction industry). Is this request from the LGA something which the Executive Member and East Herts Council would be willing to support?