

Questions From Members of the Council

Council	26 March 2020
Report Author	Committee Services Manager
Portfolio Holder	Cabinet Member for Housing and Community Services
Classification:	Unrestricted
Key Decision	No

Executive Summary:

The Leader, Cabinet Members and Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee will receive questions from Members of the Council in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.

Recommendation(s):

This report is for information.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money	There are no identified financial implications from this report.	
Legal	There are no legal implications directly from this report.	
Corporate	Council Procedure Rule 13 affords members of the public the opportunity to ask questions of Members of the Cabinet at ordinary meetings of the Council.	
Equalities Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty	Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.	
	Protected characteristics: age, gender, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.	
	Please indicate which aim is relevant to the report.	
	Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act,	
Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it		
Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.		

	There are no specific equity and equality issues arising from this report.
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CORPORATE PRIORITIES (tick those relevant) ✓	
Growth	
Environment	
Communities	✓

1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 Council Procedure Rule 14.3 states that a Member of the Council may ask

- a Member of the Cabinet; or
- the Chairman of any Committee or Sub-Committee

A question on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the district.

1.2 Council Procedure Rule 14.7 states that an answer may take the form of:

- a) a direct oral answer;
- b) where the desired information is in a publication of the Council or other published work, a reference to that publication; or
- c) where the reply cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated within three working days to the questioner.

1.3 A Member may, in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 14.8, ask one supplementary question without notice to the Member to whom the first question was asked. The supplemental question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply.

1.4 The questioner shall have two minutes for the initial question and one minute for the supplementary question and the respondent shall have five minutes for the initial reply and two minutes for the supplementary reply. (Council Procedure Rule 14.9 refers)

1.5 The total time devoted to questions from Members of the Council shall not exceed 30 minutes. Any question which cannot be dealt with during that time will be replied to in writing.

1.6 Any questions received in accordance with the Council's constitution will be available to view on the Council's website:

<https://www.thanet.gov.uk/info-pages/speaking-at-council-meetings/>

Contact Officer:	Nick Hughes, Committee Services Manager
Reporting to:	Tim Howes, Director of Corporate Governance

Annex List

None	N/A
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Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
None	N/A

Corporate Consultation

Finance	Chris Blundell, Head of Financial Services
Legal	Tim Howes, Director of Corporate Governance and Monitoring Officer