

From Councillor Macauley to the Cabinet Member for Sport and Heritage

I was pleased to see Merton announce free swimming for under-16s in our leisure centres over the summer, what has uptake of this offer been?

From Councillor Kohler to the Cabinet Member for Sport and Heritage

Would the Cabinet Member please confirm, when the Cabinet approved a capital expenditure of £2.75m on building a new running track in Morden Park, it was done:

- without a feasibility study;
- without any discussion with Hercules, the Borough's pre-eminent athletics club or any other local athletics group; and
- without reference to senior officers' previous assurances that the existing athletics stadium in Wimbledon Park would be refurbished and the running track renewed in the next 5 years, following recent measures to make the existing track useable in the short-term?

From Councillor Barlow to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services

Please can the Cabinet Member provide the costs for:

- Total cost of new council pigeonholes?
- Total cost of refurbishing the Labour offices?
- Total increase in the staffing budget for the Labour group office?
- Total cost of the proposed card access system to the 12 doors on the first floor group offices?

From Councillor Kaweesa to the Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning

It was great to see the joy and excitement of Merton students receiving their GCSEs and A-level results. How did Merton do as a borough?

From Councillor Reiss to the Cabinet Member for Local Environment, Green Spaces and Climate Change

What does the Cabinet Member consider to be their top priority challenges to improving our Open Spaces?

From Councillor McLean to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services

FOI requests show that Merton has the second highest number of requests granted for staff to work from abroad at 251 requests. Can the Cabinet Member tell me how staff are monitored to ensure taxpayers are getting value for money?

From Councillor Szczepanski to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services

It has been six months since this Administration's cost of living budget, how have the measures we introduced helped local people?

From Councillor Flack to the Cabinet Member for Housing and Sustainable Development

At its meeting on 5 December 2022, the Cabinet adopted a report highlighting the need for a "dedicated officer/contracted support" to carry out its Tenants' champion service, which should "have knowledge of landlord and tenant law", further noting that there would be "a form for tenants to complete to detail their concerns. And that "this should come in the first instance to the officer/contracted support to handle." Would the Cabinet Member state when this Cabinet decision will be followed through?

From Councillor Cox to the Cabinet Member for Housing and Sustainable Development

Providing better access to amenities will boost local business trade. An important project which can achieve this in Merton is completing the Missing Link bridges. Will the Cabinet Member please provide an update on progress on completing the Missing Link bridges, across the Wandle at Wimbledon Park to Earlsfield, and the other at Ravensbury Terrace footbridge, and confirm that the council is fully committed to the completion of these bridges within the next 12 months?

From Councillor Attawar to the Cabinet Member for Local Environment, Greenspaces and Climate Change

It is great to see the council has approved plans to refurbish play parks in the borough, which will benefit Merton residents. Could the Cabinet Member update us on where we are with the year one sites?