

## **6: Councillor Priority Questions to Cabinet Members**

### **From Cllr Mike Brunt to the Cabinet Member for Transport**

Can the Cabinet Member advise on the progress being made in marking out bays for charging electric vehicles in Wimbledon?

### **From Cllr Simon McGrath to the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Civic Pride**

Can the Cabinet Member please outline the responsibilities of the Safer Neighbourhood Board?

### **From Cllr Stephen Mercer to the Cabinet Member for Local Environment, Green spaces and Climate Change**

What level of expenditure does the Cabinet believe is reasonable in support of a decent level of toilet provision in Merton? If a Community Toilet Scheme is the most cost effective way of achieving decent provision, has the Council considered how much is spent by neighbouring councils in funding the same sort of schemes?

### **From Cllr Stuart Neaverson to the Cabinet Member for Local Environment, Green Spaces and Climate Change**

It's been fantastic to see the progress the Council has made on climate action, especially with the planting of 10,000 trees over the last year. How does Merton compare with other councils on climate action?

### **From Cllr Hina Bokhari to the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Civic Pride**

Would the Cabinet Member set out how we are supporting asylum seekers who could be at risk of becoming homeless in Merton?

### **From Cllr Usaama Kaweesa to the Cabinet Member for Civic Pride**

It's great to see the brilliant work being done to Vestry Hall through the Civic Pride Fund, can the cabinet member highlight other successes we have had through the fund?

### **From Cllr Robert Page to the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Civic Pride**

Only 37% of employees responded to the Council's Workforce Equality, Diversity and Inclusion survey in 2022. Would the Cabinet Member agree with me that the main driver of low survey turnouts is staff feeling that their voice doesn't make a

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difference, and that this is a situation that develops over time? Would she also agree with me that the only way to combat this is to build trust through regular, insight-driven staff communications, through taking action on staff concerns and proactively feeding back on this and if so, set out what she is doing to address this?

### **From Cllr Nick McLean to the Cabinet Member for Finance**

In a recent video the Cabinet Member said he was 'excited' to launch the Merton Young Savers accounts with the credit union Croydon Plus.

Please can the Cabinet Member tell me:

- How much money has been allocated to fund the Merton Young Savers accounts and the additional £10 for a parent or guardian to open an account?
- What is the rate of interest that is paid on the Merton Young Savers accounts?
- What is the interest rate charged by Croydon Plus on their Saver Loan and Family Plus Loan?
- Did the Cabinet Member know that at the 2023 AGM the Croydon Plus Treasurer reported that "there was an overall deficit for £21k which has resulted from charging £25k for the payment of a dividend in 2020/21"?
- What due diligence was done on the decision to partner with Croydon Plus and what alternate options were considered? Please provide all reports, correspondence and officer emails.

### **From Cllr Matthew Willis to the Cabinet Member for Transport**

We have heard that the Mayor's ULEZ scrappage scheme has now paid out £121 million or 75% of the funds available. Could the Cabinet Member please state what the equivalent is for Merton's scrappage scheme in £ and % terms?

### **From Cllr Helena Dollimore to the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care**

The St Helier Hospital impact assessment shows that there will be a huge increased pressure on local hospitals' maternity, A&E and paediatric services if St Helier's services are closed. Can the cabinet member outline how waiting times for local people might be impacted?