

CABINET – 21 FEBRUARY 2023

ITEM 4 – QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Questions	Cabinet Member
<p>1. COUNCILLOR MARK CHERRY</p> <p>On the January 15th, 2023, I reported a pothole outside 52 Prescott Avenue by a traffic calming road hump via FixMyStreet.</p> <p>Nothing was marked up for repair in January 2023. Early February 2023 as local councillor for Banbury Ruscott I escalated to the North Oxfordshire Area Officers and was told due to number of potholes reported it would be a while until the pothole was marked up for repair, essentially a capacity issue as officers were investigating not just Banbury rural Villages</p> <p>At the time of writing the 16th of February 2023 and further emails to officers and two calls on the highway number I am still no clearer when the pothole will be repaired although it has been marked up for repair.</p> <p>I think all county councillors would agree how hard area officers work but there seems a capacity of repair issues with milestone, and this needs to be urgently addressed before members of the public have make compensation claims to the council or worst a cyclist hits one of the potholes and ends up in hospital.</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR ANDREW GANT, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT</p> <p>January has seen a significant increase in defect repairs. For most of the past 12 months we have seen a steady reduction in the number of defects month by month but the numbers in January have seen an approximate 50% increase compared with last year. This is predominantly as a result of the very cold snap in December, followed by a period of wet weather and then the second cold spell in January.</p> <p>We monitor the performance of Milestone through performance indicators and through this spike in numbers, they met and indeed exceeded their targets during this period. They are able to provide resources through directly employed operatives and the use of additional sub contracted suppliers to manage the peaks in demand.</p> <p>During January there were 1156 potholes that were recorded and issued for repair within a 24 hours period, all of these were completed in the required timeframe. A further 1549 were recorded and issued for repair within 28 days.</p> <p>The pothole outside 52 Prescott Avenue was logged for repair on 1 February with a 28 day repair time. The contractors therefore have until 1 March to undertake the repair but I understand this may be completed sooner subject to scheduling. I apologise however that you did not receive a more timely and</p>

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<p>Could the Cabinet Member please advise when the pothole will be repaired?</p>	<p>accurate update. This is being reviewed and officers have been reminded of the need for prompt and accurate responses.</p>
<p>2. COUNCILLOR IAN MIDDLETON</p> <p>I have received reports from local hunt monitors that The Heythrop Hunt recently rode with hounds through Dean Common which is part of the Wychwood Project which I understand is owned by OCC. Could the Cabinet Member confirm that we do not allow hunting on any of our land and specifically within Wychwood Forest?"</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR PETE SUDBURY, CABINET MEMBER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE DELIVERY & ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>I can confirm that no permission was sought/given for hunting on OCC's land.</p> <p>I want to thank Cllr Middleton for bringing this to our attention, and we will write to all parties to remind them of our procedure in requesting access to OCC land.</p>