

QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Questions are listed in the order in which they were received. The time allowed for this agenda item will not exceed 30 minutes. Should any questioner not have received an answer in that time, a written answer will be provided.

Questions	Answers
<p>1. COUNCILLOR JOHN SANDERS</p> <p>Now that the Council has increased parking charges at Thornhill Park & Ride, what measures does the Council now intend to take to deter drivers from avoiding these modest charges and instead parking inappropriately in the neighbouring Sandhills area?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, DEPUTY LEADER</p> <p>There are already some parking restrictions in place in the Sandhills area and we have made sure that these are fully enforceable and have instructed the enforcement team to pay extra attention to this area once charging for long-stay started at Thornhill. We will be carrying out parking surveys to see what effect the charges have had on local residential streets.</p> <p>Any extension to the current restrictions would of course need to be the subject of detailed consultation with residents and others. The Councillor will know that at the Council meeting in September I gave an undertaking to Cllr Smith that I will consider using the E&E budget for such measures rather than making local councillors have to take it from any local member's budget.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Chairman, I am delighted to see Councillor Rose's answer there. What I wanted to ask was will Councillor Rose come back to us with an update on this because it's a kind of question that unfortunately is often kicked into the long grass.</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Yes Chairman I will obviously be watching developments in that area of the City and as soon as anything does need to be reported back to local members then that will be done.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>2. COUNCILLOR JANET GODDEN</p> <p>A small local business has estimated £40 for killing weeds on a large, wide traffic island in West Way, Botley. The estimate obtained by Oxfordshire Highways is that the work may cost 'as much as £500 because of traffic management issues'. This discrepancy seems to exceed normal considerations of higher overheads from a larger contractor. Is Oxfordshire Highways confident that it is getting value for money?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, DEPUTY LEADER</p> <p>As Portfolio holder for Highways I am aware that working in a live highways environment is one of the more dangerous activities that our staff do. With this in mind I insist that full consideration is given to Health and Safety and all Department for Transport guidelines in relation to traffic management. Clearly, you could undertake this work through the parish council but I would encourage them to ensure they are recognising their Health and Safety responsibilities.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Weed killing as you know is paid for from our stewardship budget. If you were to go back to one of your parish councils recommending that they accepted the recommended sum from this authority of £500 for weed killing on a small traffic island on a long main road against the £40 that they had obtained themselves – what sort of answer do you think that you would get?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Through you Chairman, I am quite lucky that I don't have the Botley Road running through my parish So I don't need the level of Health & Safety regime in place when workmen are out on our main roads. I do think it is necessary on the Botley Road and I am sure that tender was done with Health & Safety in mind.</p>
<p>3. COUNCILLOR ROY DARKE</p> <p>I am concerned at the lack of progress towards resolving the position of "level 3" libraries which includes Old Marston Library in my division. After a recent contact with the County Council the OML support group was told that because it had not been in touch for a while the officers</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR JUDITH HEATHCOAT, CABINET MEMBER FOR SAFER & STRONGER COMMUNITIES</p> <p>Can I thank Cllr Darke for his question.</p> <p>As was always the intention, the three year process to develop our community library model began in earnest from April this year, once the budget had been approved. Conversations have been taking place between local groups, local members and the Library Service across the piece. It is important to stress that it was never the</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>assumed that there was no longer local interest in retaining the library service. Can the Cabinet Member assure all of us who believe that the Council has a duty to support and maintain libraries that there are still active processes in place to ensure “level 3” libraries are given every help to sustain this service crucial to education, health and well-being of individuals and local communities.”</p>	<p>intention that the shift in the balance of staffing in community libraries would be implemented by now.</p> <p>The speed at which this work will progress is governed by local factors and the Library Service Manager is meeting with Friends Groups, local members and community stakeholders and working with them and her team to develop and deliver sustainable solutions by April 2015. Solutions will be different in each case and worked on a library by library basis, reflecting local need and local circumstances and is very much by negotiation and in partnership.</p> <p>As a designated community library, Old Marston Library will receive the same level of support and resource from the Library Service as other similarly placed libraries as we now move towards the community library model.</p> <p>Possibly the "recent contact with the County Council" cited in Cllr Darke's question may have been a telephone conversation with Monika Brown and the Library Services Manager on Saturday November 3rd. Responding proactively to the need to establish proper contact with the local community of Old Marston in order to progress the development of sustainable library services there, This call was because Ms Brown was someone who had expressed an interest in supporting the library and had been active in the recent initiatives around library services locally. Following on from this telephone conversation with Ms Brown on 3rd November and email correspondence, I would advise that The Chair of Old Marston Library Group has been given the Library Service Manager's contact details in order that we can work together to deliver a future library service for the community of Old Marston.</p> <p>Many councillors have been extremely proactive within their community speaking with me, and the Library Services Manager and meetings are taking place to ensure that the community library model is not only delivered but that the service maintains its high reputation for excellent service delivery. As the meetings take place, I have emailed both Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny members and local members so that everyone is up to date.</p>

Questions	Answers
	<p>Old Marston Library recently celebrated its 50th Anniversary which gave staff, both past and present together with customers a chance to celebrate in style. There was huge support from the local community some 100-200 people attended. There was music, an illustration workshop, rhymetimes for under-fives and also the presentation of gold medals for those who had completed the StoryLab challenge. A competition is being run for children to think about what the library might look like in a further 50 years. Hardly the vision of a library where there is a lack of interest on the part of either the Oxfordshire Library Service or the local community.</p> <p>The Leader, Cllr. Hudspeth has also visited Old Marston which again confirms our support for Old Marston.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Thanks for a very full reply, Councillor Heathcoat. My question really is the issue which still worries Old Marston Library Support Group is the whole question of lone working of volunteers in a library and the question is would it not be a sensible idea to use volunteers in larger libraries where there is not a lone working issue and to think about redeploying staff into those smaller libraries where one person is in charge?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Thank you Chairman, I wonder if Councillor Darke is aware that we already have our own Library Service staff who are lone workers in some of our libraries. With regard to the appointment of a member of staff, that appointment has been made so there will be someone there to look after and assist with the work, but I am surprised that Councillor Darke actually wrote to Julia Southwold only yesterday with the same question, with the question coming up to Council today and I believe that my reply was really far from unambiguous as to how the work was going, how the project was developing but I am surprised he has a supplementary. Can I also say that I was perturbed by the tone of the question, Chairman, because I would like to repeat something that I actually put on the order paper with these questions, it says that many Councillors have been extremely proactive, could I ask Councillor Darke to be proactive with me, with officers and we will make meetings with people from Old Marston to make sure that they are fully informed as to how the project is going.</p>
<p>4. COUNCILLOR SUSANNA PRESSEL</p> <p>Some of the road surfaces in the City Centre that are very heavily used by buses are in an extremely poor state. This is unpleasant for all</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, DEPUTY LEADER</p> <p>Management of the city network is split between the City Council, who manage local roads under Section 42 of the Highways Act and the County Council who manage the Strategic Network. For both Authorities regular safety inspections are undertaken in</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>road users, but actually dangerous for cyclists, who sometimes swerve to avoid broken tarmac and sometimes risk hitting a pothole concealed by standing water. Please can you tell us what you are going to do about this?</p>	<p>the City centre, any safety defects identified are rectified, in addition any issues reported by members of the public are investigated and repairs are instigated if required .It would be very useful if Cllr Pressel could identify specific locations rather than a general statement regarding location in order to investigate her concerns in more detail.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Does Councillor Rose really think that I would come along here with a list of defects in my division – that would be absurd the point I am trying to make here is a general one. The question is when are you going to do something about the appalling state of some of the roads in the City, especially on the bus routes. I put forward lots of lists of complaints and I forward lost of complaints from people in my division, but the Council staff are not keeping up with the volume of problems, there are potholes, there are stretches with corrugated surfaces, they are just dreadful and they are not being dealt with, so please give them more attention and spend more money – when are you going to do that?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Chairman, this is something we do on a daily bases we inspect all the roads, we repair any defects that are notified to us, so I am very surprised that the Councillor will not advise me of what defects she is talking about.</p>
<p>5. COUNCILLOR LARRY SANDERS</p> <p>You were quoted in an Oxford Mail article as saying you knew where the areas were which posed the greatest risks for road safety but could not deal with them because of a lack of finance.</p> <p>What are the five most dangerous locations?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, DEPUTY LEADER</p> <p>The most dangerous locations’ is a very imprecise definition, open to various interpretation of the data and I would be happy to ask the Director’s staff to provide you with a fuller briefing if that is what you require.</p> <p>What we can say is that the 5 sites with the most reported injury accidents in the 5 years to the end of 2011 are:-</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>What would it cost in each instance to significantly reduce the risks?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A40 Headington (Green Road) roundabout - Oxford <input type="checkbox"/> A420 The Plain Roundabout - Oxford <input type="checkbox"/> A423 Heyford Hill roundabout - Sandford <input type="checkbox"/> A40 Cutteslowe roundabout - Oxford <input type="checkbox"/> A44 Peartree interchange roundabout – Gosford <p>Looking at lengths of road (rather than specific sites), the 5 routes with the highest rate of reported injury accidents per billion vehicle kilometres travelled in that length in the 5 years to the end of 2011 are as follows (the lengths are not standard) :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A420 Oxford High Street <input type="checkbox"/> A420 Oxford St Aldates <input type="checkbox"/> B430 Ardley to M40 <input type="checkbox"/> B480 (Cowley Road) Divinity Rd to The Plain <input type="checkbox"/> B4495 (Between Towns Road) B480 to Rymers Lane <p>That very much depends on what treatment is done at each site. For example introducing traffic signals at a roundabout might cost around £1m to £2m depending on the site but that still not remove all the accidents. Likewise a 'length treatment' could be between £0.5m and £1m again very much depending upon the site and potential schemes.</p>
<p>6. COUNCILLOR LARRY SANDERS</p> <p>There seem to have been some problems in commissioning for Independent Living for people with Learning Disabilities. What were the plans and what is the latest position?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR ARASH FATEMIAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SERVICES</p> <p>I believe that Councillor Sanders has heard about the recent decision about the outsourcing of day services for adults with a learning disability. I have provided a full briefing to members explaining this decision in the interests of service users and carers and to make sure that we are making the best use of public money.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>7. COUNCILLOR LARRY SANDERS</p> <p>What are the latest figures for the number of people receiving fully-funded NHS Continuing Care from Oxfordshire NHS and what position does Oxfordshire hold among other areas with regard to the ratio of people receiving such funding in comparison with the population?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR ARASH FATEMIAN, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SERVICES</p> <p>261 people received Continuing Healthcare payments from Oxfordshire PCT in the first quarter of 2012/13 or 4.3 people per 10,000 population. This compares with a figure of 6.9 for the South Central Health Authority and 11.1 for the country as a whole. The rate in Oxfordshire PCT is the 5th lowest in the country out of 157 PCTs.</p> <p>In the last three years the number of people receiving payments in Oxfordshire has dropped by 54%. In the SCHA there was a corresponding drop of 31%, but nationally the figure rose by 26%.</p>
<p>8. COUNCILLOR LARRY SANDERS</p> <p>My understanding is that an efficient Commissioning Body, which it appears Oxfordshire County Council is striving to become assesses in each area the best way to organise the delivery of services. These methods can include outsourcing, in-house delivery, wholly owned companies, etc. It appears that Oxfordshire County Council has a bias to outsourcing. Can you tell me what efforts have been made to use other methods and what the results have been?</p>	<p>COUCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>The Council has been moving towards becoming principally a commissioning organisation for a number of years and this continues as a direction of travel.</p> <p>The level of outsourcing varies across council services. In adult social care approximately 90% of services are provided externally. In children, education and families it is around 10%. There is no automatic assumption that all services will be outsourced.</p> <p>As part of its service and resource planning process each directorate will consider outsourcing as one option. In some cases a decision to outsource a service has been reversed following market testing, for example adult day care services.</p> <p>There is no bias towards the private sector or any particular model of provision, depending on the requirements there can be a number of options open to the council, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In house delivery including insourcing • Outsourcing to a 3rd party provider • Joint venture • Re-tender in current form

Questions	Answers
	<p>Even within outsourcing there are a number of potential structures bidders could adopt, a social enterprise is one option for example that would be considered as part of an outsourcing exercise.</p> <p>Recent examples of the diversity involved in the council's commissioning include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following consultation with local stakeholders, the council delayed the procurement of Healthwatch in order to allow time for the development of a local consortia who may wish to bid. • This year the council also tendered the new Oxfordshire Dial-a-Ride and included an in-house bid. The in-house bid demonstrated benefits above the private sector submissions and the contract was awarded to the in-house bid. In winning this contract the council insourced employees from the incumbent contractor. • This year the council established a partnership arrangement with Hampshire County Council ICT Service to improve support for key ICT systems, reducing our operational costs and increasing our ability to flex and change. <p>The main consideration in any outsourcing process is securing good quality and value for money for the tax payer.</p>
<p>9. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</p> <p>Will the Deputy Leader tell me, Cllr Chip Sherwood and the residents of our Isis division, when a decision will be made about the much-needed pedestrian crossing of Weirs Lane in Oxford? If the decision is favourable when is the crossing likely to be in place?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, DEPUTY LEADER</p> <p>The objection we have received to the proposed zebra crossing will be presented in a report to my Decisions Meeting on 3rd January.</p> <p>I am advised that if it is approved the crossing will be installed in March.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Thank you Mr Chairman, would the portfolio holder accept my thanks for holding a meeting in January to make sure that this was decided. Is he aware that the thanks to Councillor Chip Sherwood who is my fellow councillor in my division, putting his money in as well as mine, we have the money for this project. The design is there so all we need is his agreement. Will he guarantee that there will be no delay and it will be done in this financial year?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>There are two questions there Chairman, the first will I accept Councillor Tanner's thanks – yes I will. On the second one I couldn't possibly prejudge a delegated decision meeting in advance of it happening I'm afraid.</p>
<p>10. COUNCILLOR JOHN TANNER</p> <p>Will the Cabinet member explain why the County Council failed to meet its 18% target for reducing carbon emissions (and associated energy costs) between 2007 and 2012 and only managed 10%? But will she accept my congratulations on achieving a 15% reduction in carbon footprint last year?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR HIBBERT-BILES, CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH & INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>In adopting an 18% target for reducing carbon emissions in 2007 the County Council was continuing its tradition of setting challenging targets as a way of acting as a catalyst for change.</p> <p>As a result of the 2007-12 Carbon Management Programme emissions from waste-to-landfill have been reduced by over 50% through better recycling and transport emissions have been reduced by over 20%. And despite a nominal 3% year-on-year growth in street lighting, emissions have been held to a 2% increase over the five years. However, more needs to be done across the schools estate where investment in energy saving has been partially offset by much increased use of ICT.</p> <p>Financially, the total capital expenditure in energy saving measures in corporate buildings and schools during the five year programme was £2,380k.</p> <p>As a result of this and other initiatives the County Council has surpassed the Government's 28% target for the reduction in carbon emissions 5 years early.</p>

Questions	Answers
	<p>The new Property and Facilities contract incorporates lessons learnt from experience with the Carbon Management Programme. The new contract requires Carillion to realise a 25% energy saving in the corporate estate over the life of the contract.</p> <p>In this way the County Council will continue to provide leadership in seeking to reduce energy costs and realise savings in carbon emissions.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Yes Mr Chairman, and again I am offering thanks. Could Hilary Hibbert-Biles give us some indication of what the saving in carbon emissions and in energy is likely to be in the next financial year, if the Conservatives are still in control?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Well off the top of my head, no I can't. All I can say is that we are working towards it, we have done extremely well. We met the government target five years early, we have done extremely well, as you have actually said, you have congratulated us on what I have done. I thank you for that because it is very good that we said that we would do that. All I can say is that we are continuing working hard, we have smart meters going in, the schools and now Carillion are doing an audit and hopefully in the next year our carbon emissions will be less.</p>
<p>11. COUNCILLOR GILL SANDERS</p> <p>I have received a complaint from a constituent that, having lost his bus pass, he had to pay £10 for a replacement that he had to wait for 6 weeks for a replacement card, only to discover that his new card could not be recognized by the equipment on the buses. My husband recently received a replacement card that also was not recognized on the buses. A bus driver has told us that the chip in the new cards was the problem. Can you tell me why it takes six weeks for a replacement card and what was the cause of the problem with the faulty chips?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, DEPUTY LEADER</p> <p>There is no problem with faulty chips in cards issued by OCC. A new system called HOPS has been put in place which enables the Electronic Ticketing Machines (ETMs) on buses to talk to each other and to local authorities around the country. This fixes a flaw in the system which meant that cards that had been deactivated in one area could still be used in other parts of the country. The bus operators have only been able to apply one update a day to these ETMs, which has meant that some cards issued by OCC since 24th September 2012 have not been registering on some machines.</p> <p>This is not an issue with the OCC cards, as these have been extensively tested with the card provider. The Bus Services Team have been in constant dialogue with the bus operators and have repeatedly asked them to advise their drivers of this and that they should be accepting them as 'flash' passes and issuing a ticket to travel. There have been quite a few problems with bus drivers giving incorrect advice to</p>

Questions	Answers
	<p>concessionary bus pass holders, which has led to the misconception that it is a problem with the cards.</p> <p>It is envisaged that this will be resolved by the end of the year, and the volume of reports is decreasing as the updates are applied by the bus operators to the ETMs.</p> <p>Prior to 1st April when OCC took over the administration of the scheme, Oxford City Council were the only council in the county that issued passes on the day of application. When we took over the scheme, OCC brought Oxford City into line with the rest of the districts as this was the most cost effective way to administer the scheme for the whole of the county and also provides the most durable card available, which should last for the whole period it is issued for. Our turnaround target is 10-15 days due to all cards being issued through a third party card printing company. As far as I am aware no replacement card has taken 6 weeks to issue (as implicated by your constituent) unless there has been a problem with the information provided as part of the application process.</p>
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Yes, thank you Councillor Rose for your fairly detailed reply. Whilst I recognise that the introduction of the HOPS system will obviously be of great benefit, in view of the fact that introduced in September and even up to November at least, that I know of, there have been problems with people using the new cards. I think it might have been advisable to include some kind of note when the new cards were issued to actually inform people that they might encounter problems. Obviously the information has not got to the bus drivers because people have experienced difficulties when their bus passes have not been accepted. Understandably if the HOPS system is being</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Chairman, I am not sure I do agree with the question, I'm sure people can get them sooner if they wish too. But I will take it further if and will send you a written answer.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>introduced they may be wary that the cards are not are not the correct cards. I was very pleased to see that Oxford City Council were the only council in the county that issued passes on the day of application. Would Councillor Rose not think it would be better to issue passes earlier than 10-15 days, would he not agree that if you're a pensioner or someone who has a concessionary bus pass not to have that bus pass for at least 3 weeks is going to cost you a great deal of money and I would have thought that to introduce that would he not agree that to get these cards printed a lot quicker would be of benefit to the people who are using these cards?</p>	
<p>12. COUNCILLOR ZOE PATRICK</p> <p>Would the leader review the performance of those champions who are failing to report council?</p>	<p>COUCILLOR IAN HUDSPETH, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>I am considering a review of all the Champion positions, I would like to have a discussion with you as opposition leader and Cllr Brighthouse Leader of the Labour group to find the best way forward. I will arrange a meeting.</p>
<p>13. COUNCILLOR ZOE PATRICK</p> <p>In view of the transition from the Police Authority over to the new Police and Crime Commissioner, why did the Cabinet Member for Policing not attend important planning meetings of the Police Authority where the last meetings of the committees were taking place? These meetings included important briefings to ensure that the work of the authority would be given an efficient handover of business to the incoming</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR KIERON MALLON, CABINET MEMBER FOR POLICE & POLICIES</p> <p>I can only assume that Councillor Patrick refers to the meeting of the Authority's Transition Panel.</p> <p>Councillor Patrick should know that I am not a member of this Panel, but attended some (2 out of 6) as an observer, an opportunity that was also available to all Authority members including Councillor Patrick.</p> <p>As a member and Vice Chairman of the new Police and Crime Panel, I was fully aware and involved in the handover to the incoming PCC. The numerous informal, formal and appointment meetings I have attended across three counties on</p>

Questions	Answers
PCC.	Oxfordshire's behalf in recent months have meant I have been involved more than most of the former Police Authority members in the handover. As I informed the last Full Council following an oral question from the Leader of the Opposition the Panel has been running for some months in both shadow and formal format.
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>I wasn't actually referring to the transition panel I was actually referring to the Police Authority Committee, the Partnership Committee and in fact other police authority meetings where your absence was noted.</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>As ever, I welcome the opportunity to rise in this chamber and answer questions. I have attended meetings of this Council since 1997 and attach such importance to these meetings that I never once missed a full council meeting in 15 years. The meetings of the Police Authority the minutes and the attendance thereof of are well recorded. But the Police Authority, as I said, is dead during the same time and in the run up to the elections the Police and Crime Panel met both in shadow and in real times. During that time there are a list of attendances by me representing this authority on 20 March, 19 April, 19 July, 14 September, 6 December, 7 September, 25 September, 11 October and 30 November. I represented this Council both locally and strategically on that Panel. I refer to an answer I gave through you earlier Chairman that the Police Authority is dead and the Police & Crime Panel is taking over. The lead role that I took on that Panel meant that I was fully aware of all of the meetings of the Policy Authority the meetings open up and for the Leader of the Opposition, I have also attended briefing meetings with members of the Police Authority, with the Chief Constable, with the incoming Panel members and my peers on that panel have seen fit for whatever reason, I am only assume that they have the confidence in me to give me a strategic roll now across three counties as well as representing this authority. One of the meetings that Councillor Patrick alludes to was through illness. The serious note is that because of this answer I have not I have never claimed mileage allowance in years on this Council, I have never claimed mileage allowance on another council. I have now for the first time put a claim in so that Members can fully see where I am, what I am doing at each meeting that I attend or don't attend, I think the question, through Chairman, is an impertinence.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>14. COUNCILLOR ROZ SMITH</p> <p>Would the deputy leader agree that the new Carillion contract with schools does not always offer value for money? For example, last year under the contract with Mouchel, our nursery school was invoiced £50.00 plus VAT for a horticultural job; under the new contract with Carillion the estimate for a similar job was £267.13 plus VAT.</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, DEPUTY LEADER</p> <p>I know officers have been seeking more detail from you so that I can give you a more complete answer and once they have that information I can respond to you.</p>
<p>15. COUNCILLOR ANNE PURSE</p> <p>Following the welcome news to the recent Growth and Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee that our rates of energy saving are on target, it seemed right to probe a little deeper in some aspects in order to avoid the myth (we hope) of the Council that was applauded for saving energy which it had achieved by closing libraries.</p> <p>Can figures be made available to distinguish between what energy has been saved by positive action by the County – e.g. the programmes available to schools to monitor energy use, and which are occurring due to fewer staff working for the Council, and whether or not the energy used by contract workers is included in our figures, and the impact that has on our statistics.</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR HIBBERT-BILES, CABINET MEMBER FOR GROWTH & INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>The carbon emission figures, which we reported to the Growth and Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee at its last meeting, were overall figures. As such, they do include the energy used by contract workers who are based in our offices and/or depots. In fact, they capture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the impact of changes in energy behaviour; • the savings from investing in energy measures (part-year savings on investments made last year and the first full-year savings of investments made in the previous year); • any changes in building numbers and sizes (and for travel, staff numbers); • the impact of changes in opening hours and IT equipment; • and the impact of the weather. <p>Unfortunately, our monitoring systems are unable to separate out these different factors as the Councillor requests.</p> <p>As part of the new contract with Carillion, we are agreeing a Monitoring and Verification Strategy which will go some way to enabling us to answer this sort of question in the future. It will lead to a starting baseline, which includes information on</p>

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	the weather, opening hours and IT equipment as well as building numbers and sizes, as well as energy consumption. Using a standard methodology, we will then be able to calculate the energy savings due to each investment, making allowance for the other factors.
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Thank you for your reply, it stills seems to me even given, and I am a great admirer of the work that the team have been doing for example in schools and in other things, that there does seem to be a problem in not knowing why we are not saving more electricity when we have fewer people working for the County Council and when there is more outsourcing – which is not coming off our figures. I note what you are saying, but I think that we really do need something urgently. I know we have asked questions for years about the impact on energy loss because of the work down near the front door of the main entrance of the County Council. So could you give me some idea of the timescale when these changes you are talking about should take place because I think there is an urgent need for more clarity?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Thank you Chairman, as I have said previously in my response to Councillor Tanner, there is an audit taking place over all our properties at the minute by Carillion and as on as we have the responses to that I am sure will be able to let you know some more detail.</p>
<p>16. COUNCILLOR ANNE PURSE</p> <p>Given that LTP3 is already being drawn up, and could contain issues with wide reaching effect across the County, it seem desirable that the LTP Working Group drawn from members of the Growth and Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR RODNEY ROSE, DEPUTY LEADER</p> <p>The LTP Working Group was helpful in preparing the content of the LTP3. As I confirmed at the meeting of Growth and Infrastructure Committee held on 17 September, it would indeed be helpful to reconvene the working group in order to assist with future updates. A date for a meeting of the working group will be identified as the programme of work to review the LTP3 is developed.</p>

Questions	Answers
<p>(of which I am one) should meet again if still in place, or be re-convened if not. With that in mind, please can the Deputy Leader please inform us of when the next meeting of the LTP working group will take place?</p>	
<p>SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION</p> <p>Thank you for your answer, I would like to know however, when this meeting is going to reconvene because my recollection of LTP2 was that there was involvement from quite an early part of LTP2 and it was regularly carried on that the group that the scrutiny group met. We are hearing all sorts of rumours about LTP3 I think it would be very good to have scrutiny involvement sooner rather than later. Have you any idea of timescale, please?</p>	<p>SUPPLEMENTARY ANSWER</p> <p>Chairman, first LTP3 is already in place so it would only be a matter of amendments in future which in the very short term the Deputy Director and myself are empowered to do although that would be reviewed by Full Council at the moment. The rest of this question really should be addressed to the Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee – the Growth and Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee which is in fact the working party. How they choose to do that work and whether they use the whole committee or set up a separate working party is in the gift of the Chairman of the Growth & Infrastructure Scrutiny Committee and he is the only one that can answer when and how it will meet.</p>