

Full Council

8 February 2022

Question from Liberal Democrats under Standing Order 8.

1) *Cllr K Thomas to Cllr Rolf Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Stronger and Safer Communities

Why are the Scouts and Guides huts on Brackleys Way, next to Olton Jubilee Park, still threatened with demolition, four years after promises were made that leases for both Groups would be renewed and they would be able to continue operating out of their current premises?

Will Solihull Council now stop obfuscating and renew the leases for both the 1st Olton Scouts and the Olton Parks Guides without any further delay?"

2) Cllr Long to Cllr Courts Leader of the Councillor

Many residents in Elmdon have expressed concern at the launch of the Hub Prospectus Brochure (Brochure) on 26th January 2022; which includes the promotion of the green belt land off Damson Parkway (referred to as UK2) for logistics development. This has also resulted in articles in the local press and social media; including the potential relocation of the Moors football ground.

The development plan in the Brochure would require a material relaxation of the justifications stated in the Local Plan for removal of the land from the green belt; leading to yet more significant adverse impact on residents. I spoke against such a change at the Examination in Public (EIP) hearings. Given that the EIP is not yet concluded, I believe it premature for a Brochure to be actively marketing the site based on such change. Moreover, it is concerning that as a partner in the Urban Growth Company, Solihull Council appears to be directly supporting such an approach.

I note your recent statement regarding the potential relocation of the Moors. Please can you also confirm that:

- a) A Conservative administration will not support such relaxation of the "exceptional circumstances" without additional local consultation;
- b) The Brochure will be withdrawn until the EIP is complete, so that the Council is not endorsing proposals that were not part of the consulted Plan;

3) Cllr L McCarthy to Cllr Diccio Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health

Local residents across the borough are still experiencing long delays trying to get in touch with a GP - with many Elmdon and Lyndon residents contacting my colleagues and I to complain that they cannot get through to Hobs Moat Medical Centre at all. How is the cabinet member working with GP surgeries to ensure that all Solihull residents are able to access a GP when they need medical treatment?

4) Cllr L McCarthy to Cllr Rolf Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Stronger and Safer Communities

In Elmdon we have a desperate shortage of community centre buildings where residents can meet. Given the council's stated mission to tackle social isolation, what is being done to ensure that Elmdon residents have a meeting place?

5) Cllr K Thomas to Cllr Diccio Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health

With the West Midlands Ambulance Category 2 waiting times being an average of 48 Minutes against a target of 18 minutes in December and some patients in lower priority categories waiting 8-10 hours, what actions are the council taking to help get ambulance waiting times back on target?"

*There is another question from a different Group on the same subject.