

Report to Council

21 February 2023

Subject:	Written Questions
Director:	Surjit Tour – Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

The following written questions have been received:-

7(a) From Councillor Fenton to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Transport

It is disappointing that we did not receive government funding for levelling up. Can I ask the cabinet member for Regeneration why we did not get Levelling Up funding for West Bromwich West , West Bromwich East and Warley Constituencies when we put in bids for the funding?

7(b) From Councillor L Giles to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources

Could I ask the Cabinet Member of Finances what the implications are to the council if we have a council tax rise for the coming financial year of 0% - basically freezing council tax?

7(c) From Councillor Gavan to the Leader of the Council

Earlier this year the administration of this council passed a motion which asked the council to move from a cost of living crisis to a cost of living emergency. Can I ask the leader of the council what action has been taken since then?



7(d) From Councillor Kaur to the Cabinet Member for Environment Services

Can I ask the Cabinet member for Environmental Services or Finances what alternatives were available to the council instead of charging for Green waste collection?

7(e) From Councillor E A Giles to the Cabinet Member for Housing

Given the houses built in the last 12 months and those planned in the next 12 months, is this sufficient for the number of people on the current housing list?

7(f) From Councillor Owen to the Cabinet Member for Environment Services

Are all primary schools now in 20mph zones with flashing school signs installed as you approach the school to warn drivers that a school is ahead and children are in the area?

7(g) From Councillor Preece to the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism

Dartmouth Park in West Bromwich was opened on 3rd June 1878, according to the West Bromwich Local History Society's website over 40,000 people attended that day. In the 145 years since, Dartmouth Park and the adjoining Sandwell Valley estate, has been enjoyed by several generations of Sandwell residents as well as residents from across the region. Considering the historical and cultural significance of Dartmouth Park, Forge Mill Farm and the wider Sandwell Valley estate, could the Cabinet member outline the Council's commitment to continue investing in these much loved and well used community assets?



7(h) From Councillor Hackett to Councillor Webb

After the successful campaign led by Councillor Elaine Costigan, together with local Wednesbury residents, to keep the number 65 bus service. Local residents are now asking that the 65 bus is allowed to have both a drop off and pick up stop in Wednesbury bus station. Local residents inform me that this would be both more practical for passengers and would also create more awareness of this important bus service, which would help increase passenger numbers and protect the long term sustainability of this bus service. Can I ask our Transport Lead to take this matter up with Transport For West Midlands at the first available opportunity please and report back to Full Council. Thank you.

7(i) From Councillor Kalari to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources

Taking into consideration the growing financial gap this local authority is faced with annually, alongside the ever-increasing costs of services. What is this executive currently doing, and planning to do in the imminent future to guarantee services will be delivered to our residents without disruption?

7(j) From Councillor W Gill to the Cabinet Member for Communities

Is the Cabinet Member satisfied that the Council are doing all they can to make streets safe in Great Bridge and more widely in Sandwell?

