

Report to Council

29 October 2024

Subject:	Written Questions
Director:	Mike Jones – Assistant Director Legal and Assurance

The following written questions have been received: -

5(a) From Councillor Justyna Kordala to the Cabinet Member for Children and Families:

A recent Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO) report has found fault with how the Council has actioned and implemented an Education Healthcare Plan (EHCP) for children with SEND. Failure to keep minutes of the appeal hearing is one of many faults parents of children with SEND face in Sandwell.

Can the Cabinet Member confirm what actions the Council will now be taking to respond to the LGSCO decision – including keeping clear minutes and records of appeals hearings - and when will these changes come into effect? It's important that we give assurance to families of children with SEND and the wider public that we act to learn lessons and improve how we work to ensure transparent and fair decision-making.

5(b) From Councillor William Gill to the Cabinet Member for Adult Services, Health and Wellbeing:

At a full council meeting in February 2023, Full Council unanimously approved an amended motion which focused on the accessibility of bleed kits and defibrillators across our Borough.

Can the Cabinet Member provide an update on the report that had been commissioned for Council to receive?

